

Question-Answer with Emma-Jane MacKinnon-Lee

What drove the decision to make the protocol CC0?

Everything we've built points toward autonomy. All our code, FGO and most designs were totally open source from day one, so making the protocol CC0 shortly after wasn't some dramatic pivot—it was just aligning the surface with the core. If the only thing keeping something alive is copyright or legal gatekeeping, then it was never real infrastructure to begin with. It was brand theatre. And honestly, if the protocol can't survive being open, then it was never strong enough to matter.

This space doesn't need more fenced-in playgrounds pretending to be public goods. It needs real systems—ones that can be forked, remixed, rebuilt, improved. Not controlled, licensed, and drip-fed by a “foundation.” That's not decentralisation.