Contributions

Thank you for contributing to the development of CONSUL. You do not have to be a programmer to be able to help; just proposing something to improve on the platform, or pointing out a problem you already are making an important contribution.

Here you have a small guide on how to suggest changes and improvements to the project.

Repository on Github

The entire CONSUL code is hosted on the Github platform ([https://github.com/consul/consul](https://github.com/consul/consul)), if you need help with the platform you can read its help section at [https://help.github.com/](https://help.github.com/).

How do I propose an improvement to the code or notify a problem?

These proposals or problem notifications are called "issues" and are all published openly on the same website where the CONSUL code is posted, so we can discuss them together and any programmer can solve any of these issues.

Before proposing a change or making a notice of a problem (a bug) please take some time to check the existing issues and make sure that what you are about to report has not been previously reported by another person. If that is the case, if you have more details about the issue you can write a comment on the page of that issue - a little help can make a big difference!

In our Github repository we always use English as the main language, keep this in mind when creating a new issue, although if it is impossible for you, do not stop creating an issue or add a comment in other language.
Although this we explain now is completely optional (skip this paragraph for the moment if you find it confusing), you should know that to format the text you write on Github is used something called "markdown". This is a form of writing in which we use special characters to define the style of the text; for example if we want a word to appear in italics we put it between asterics (*italics_word*). You can see a complete guide here: https://guides.github.com/features/mastering-markdown/

To create a new issue, visit the issues page at https://github.com/consul/consul/issues and click on the "New issue" button.

This will take you to the next window:
- Try using a descriptive title that is not too long. Divide the issue by sections. We suggest you use the following sections (not all are mandatory, but remember that the better explained and detailed is a issue the simpler to be developed):

**Background**

Here you can contextualize the issue, explain what it is about. It may be to create a new functionality, improve an existing one, or perhaps fix a *bug* in the application. If you think it is a security flaw, do not hesitate to ask us privately before creating the issue.

**What**

If you do not need to add a context, for example because it is something about an existing part of the application, you can go directly to explain what is needed.

**Why**

Here you can explain why this improvement / functionality is necessary.

**How**

Maybe you already know programming or have an idea of how it could be solved in the code, do not hesitate to fill in this section of how it can be solved.

**Screenshots**

The screenshots are images that are made showing how the platform would look once the improvement is made (and also also how it looks now with respect to this issue).

This section is highly recommended if the issue affects the user interface; in addition makes it much easier to visualize for the developer.
Screenshots do not need to have a lot of details, a visual scheme (what is called wireframe) or an image that tries to look more like what it would look like (mockup) but simplified can be very helpful.

Once completed click on "Submit new issue" and that is it. You have sent your issue to CONSUL.

Below we share some examples of well-defined issues in case they serve as a model:
- Accessibility focus message: https://github.com/consul/consul/issues/1850
- Legislation proposals: https://github.com/consul/consul/issues/1856
- [BUG] Fix in-app notification's exception: https://github.com/consul/consul/issues/2166

Remember that an issue is not something definitive, sometimes doubts arise that are discussed in the comments of the issue, the main team of developers and other contributors share their ideas to improve or detail an issue and make it easier to carry it out.

Again, thank you very much for your interest in improving CONSUL. 

CONSUL Team

CONSUL on the Internet

Github: https://github.com/consul/consul/
Technical documentation: https://consul_docs.gitbooks.io/docs/content/es/
Gitter: https://gitter.im/consul/consul
Twitter: https://twitter.com/consul_dev
Consul project: http://consulproject.org
Comunidad: http://community.consulproject.org/

Code of conduct

The members of the project and the community of people who contribute to it adhere to a code of conduct that can be consulted in this file.