

✉ contact@pep.foundation (<mailto:contact@pep.foundation>)



(<https://twitter.com/pEpFoundation>)

ENIGMAIL/P≡P: CURRENT RELEASE FOR WINDOWS IS FAULTY — SOLUTION IN PROGRESS [UPDATE: ISSUE FIXED — UPDATES EXIST]

>>> Please see blog post ([../enigmailpep-current-update-1024-fixes-bug-under-windows/index.html](https://pep.foundation/blog/enigmailpep-current-update-1024-fixes-bug-under-windows/index.html)) on solution, background, extent of damage and error avoidance. <<<

The German magazine (<https://heise.de/ct/>) for computer technology ("Magazin für Computertechnik", c't magazine) has drawn our attention to the obviously faulty **update 1.0.23 of the pEp distribution** ([../enigmailpep-version-1023-of-pep-distribution-for-enigmail-208-and-higher-is-live/index.html](https://pep.foundation/blog/enigmailpep-version-1023-of-pep-distribution-for-enigmail-208-and-higher-is-live/index.html)) for Enigmail under **Windows**. As a result, users of the pEp distribution published a few days ago can only reliably encrypt and decrypt e-mails in the classic Enigmail mode. A solution for the Enigmail/pEp mode will follow as soon as possible.

Only Enigmail/pEp on Windows Is Affected

The update of the pEp distribution in version 1.0.23 for Enigmail/pEp, available since September 26, causes such problems **only** under Windows systems. On Linux and macOS systems the Enigmail/pEp mode works as expected. Also not affected are the products of **pEp security** (<https://pep.security/>): pEp for **Android** (<https://pep.software/software-android.html.en>), **iOS** ([../pep-for-ios-beta-try-out-now/index.html](https://pep.software/software-ios-beta-try-out-now/index.html)) und **Outlook** (<https://pep.software/software-outlook.html.en>) (see also pep.software (<https://pep.software/>)).

Known Symptoms

The following symptoms of the faulty update for Windows are known:

- Attached keys of other PGP and pEp users are not imported.
- Messages to oneself or to existing contacts, where a key is actually available, are not always encrypted, especially not to oneself — despite correct color coding / Privacy Status (see *Figure 1* and *Figure 2*).
- Existing encrypted messages are not decrypted (see *Figure 3*).

Workaround

Until a new update for Enigmail/pEp is available under Windows, the classic Enigmail mode can be used to encrypt and decrypt messages. For that, you have to change Thunderbird's Privacy settings to the mode "S/MIME and Enigmail" (see *Figure 4*).

Solution in Progress

We are working hard on a new release of the pEp distribution, which will make Enigmail/pEp usable again under Windows. We apologize for the problems and we will make sure that this does not happen again in the future. We

would like to thank the c't magazine for the timely reports — and the patience!

Update 1: Oct 3, 9pm CEST

Since around 5 pm CEST on October 3, new users are being supplied with version 1.0.8 of the p=pep distribution, where these errors no longer occur: see also the **update of heise security article** (<https://www.heise.de/security/meldung/c-t-deckt-auf-Enigmail-verschickt-Krypto-Mails-im-Klartext-4180405.html>) (DE).

Update 2: Oct 5

The problem has now been basically isolated. The p=pep distribution 1.0.23 delivered on Windows was shipped with a DLL file for **libetpan** (<https://github.com/fdik/libetpan>), which in turn depends on the **libiconv** (<https://www.gnu.org/software/libiconv/>) library: however, it was not linked in. This leads to undefined libetpan behavior, which eventually leads to OUT_OF_MEMORY errors in the **p=pep-JSON adapter** (<https://pep.foundation/dev/repos/pEpJSONServerAdapter>); those errors are clearly visible in Enigmail logs, in attempts to encrypt and decrypt messages. Under these circumstances, due to a lack of error handling, Enigmail version 2.0.8 always blindly sends out the emails — even unencrypted if keys are present.

Update 3: Oct 6

Since noon on October 3rd we are testing **version 1.0.25 of the p=pep distribution** (<https://software.pep.foundation/enigmail/1.0.0/testing/1.0.25/>) which contains libiconv in libetpan. However, we have noticed that on Windows 10 — on 32-bit systems — public keys are not imported if they come from PGP users who have them attached to their emails. This will be investigated before an update can be made available. If you want to help with testing, you can manually install the provided XPI with a fresh Thunderbird profile **without** previous Enigmail addon present. The p=pep distribution 1.0.25 will automatically be downloaded from our servers (instead of Enigmail infrastructure).

Caution: No automatic updates exist with this XPI. Please use it **purely** for testing purposes.

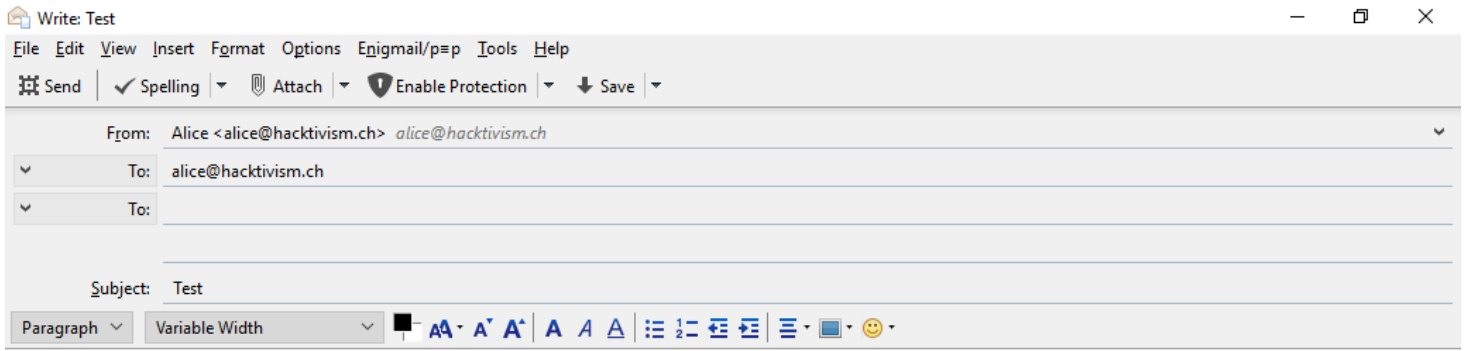
Update 4: Oct 12, 10pm CEST

Version 1.0.24 of the p=pep distribution, which fixes the problem for Windows users, has been released around 10 pm CEST. From the end of September to early October, a maximum of 6,000 (from around 145,000) Enigmail/p=pep users under Windows got affected by this bug.

Important: Users are requested to follow Enigmail's update request and install the offered p=pep update. Please note that p=pep under Windows 7 x32/x86 (32-bit) only works with Service Pack 2 or higher. Otherwise Enigmail will automatically switch to the classic Enigmail mode, because the p=pep service **does not** start under Service Pack 1 (or any older) of Windows 7.

In short: Please have your Windows up-to-date, too.

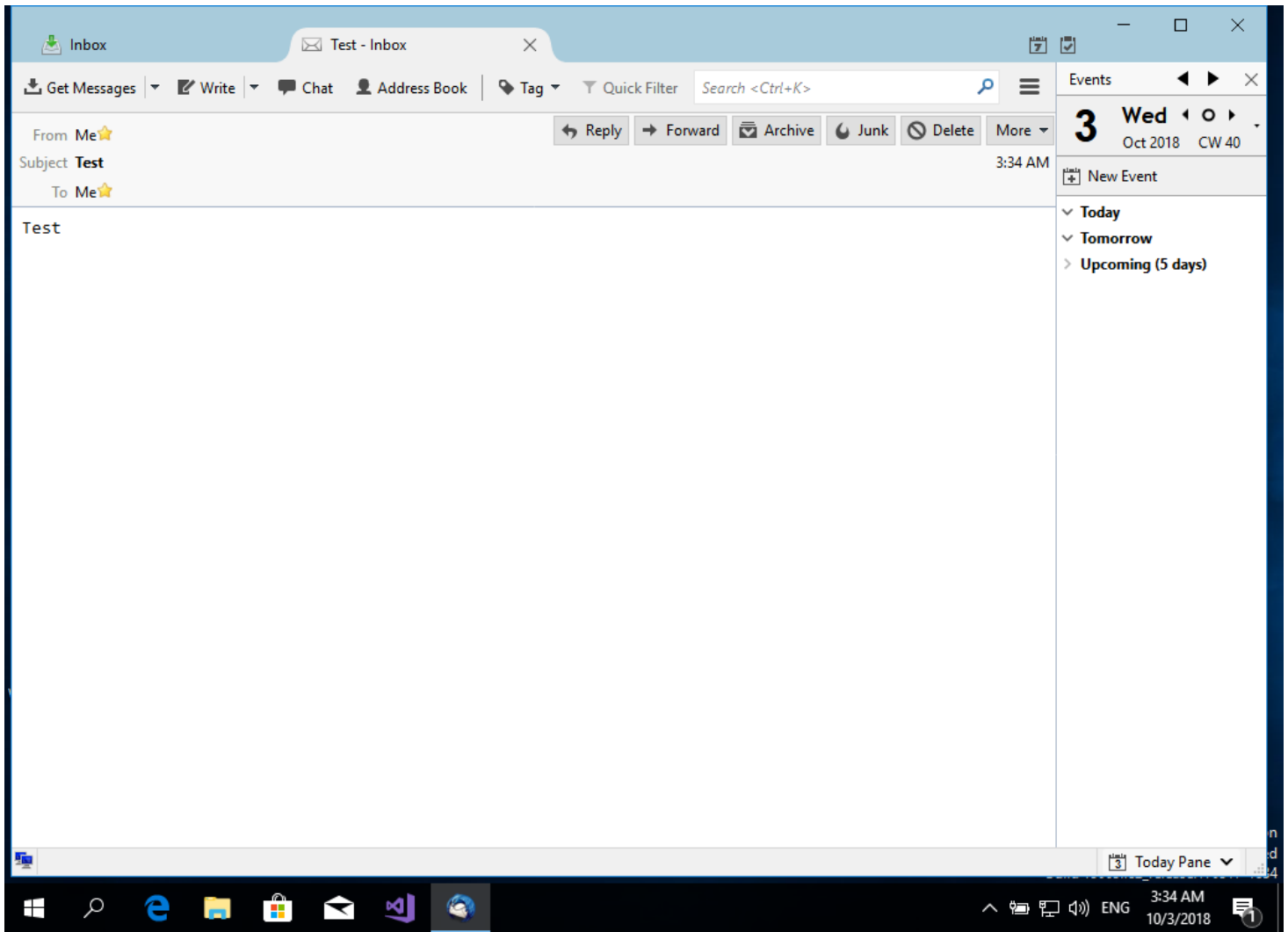
Figures for Illustration



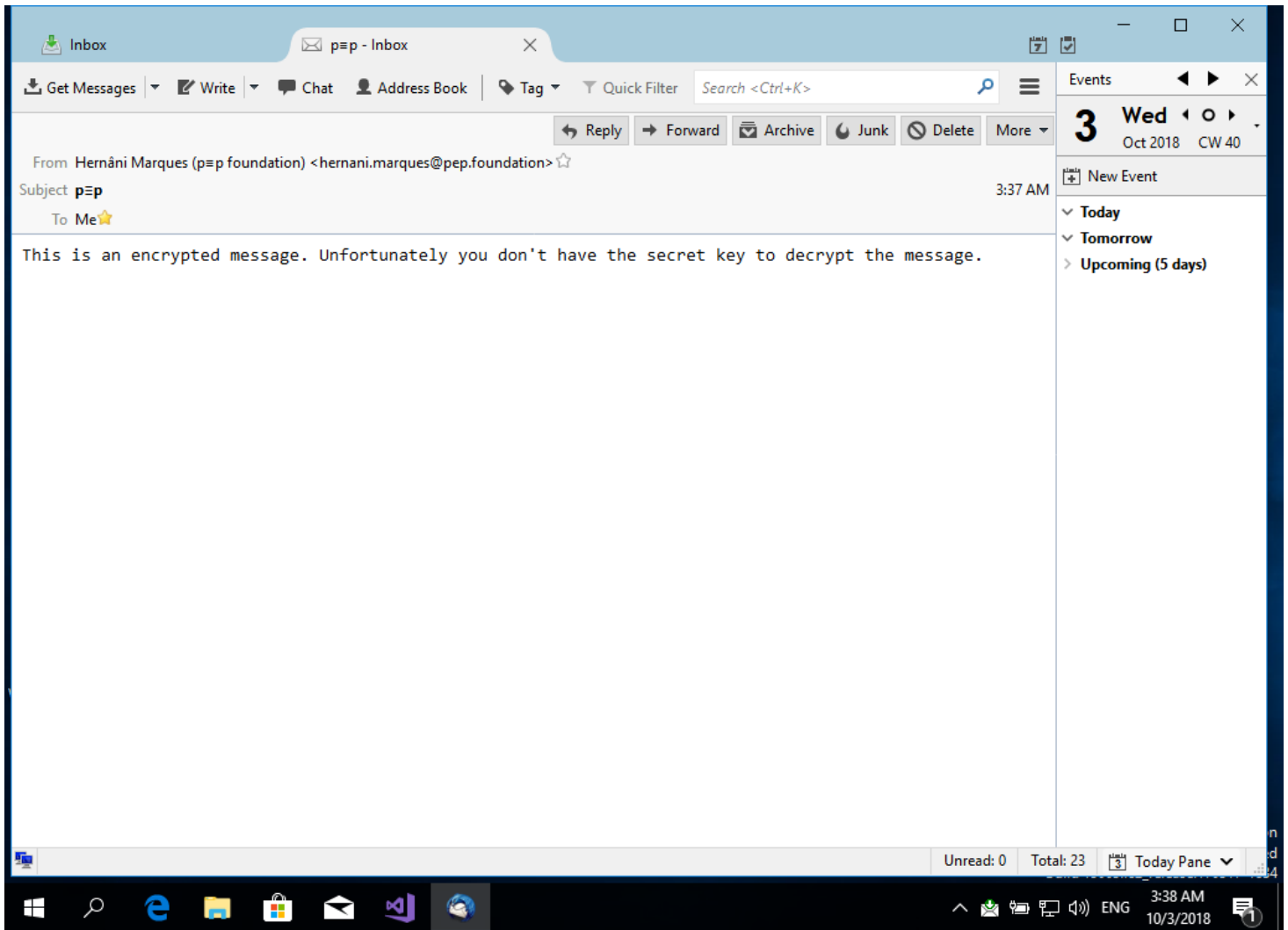
Test



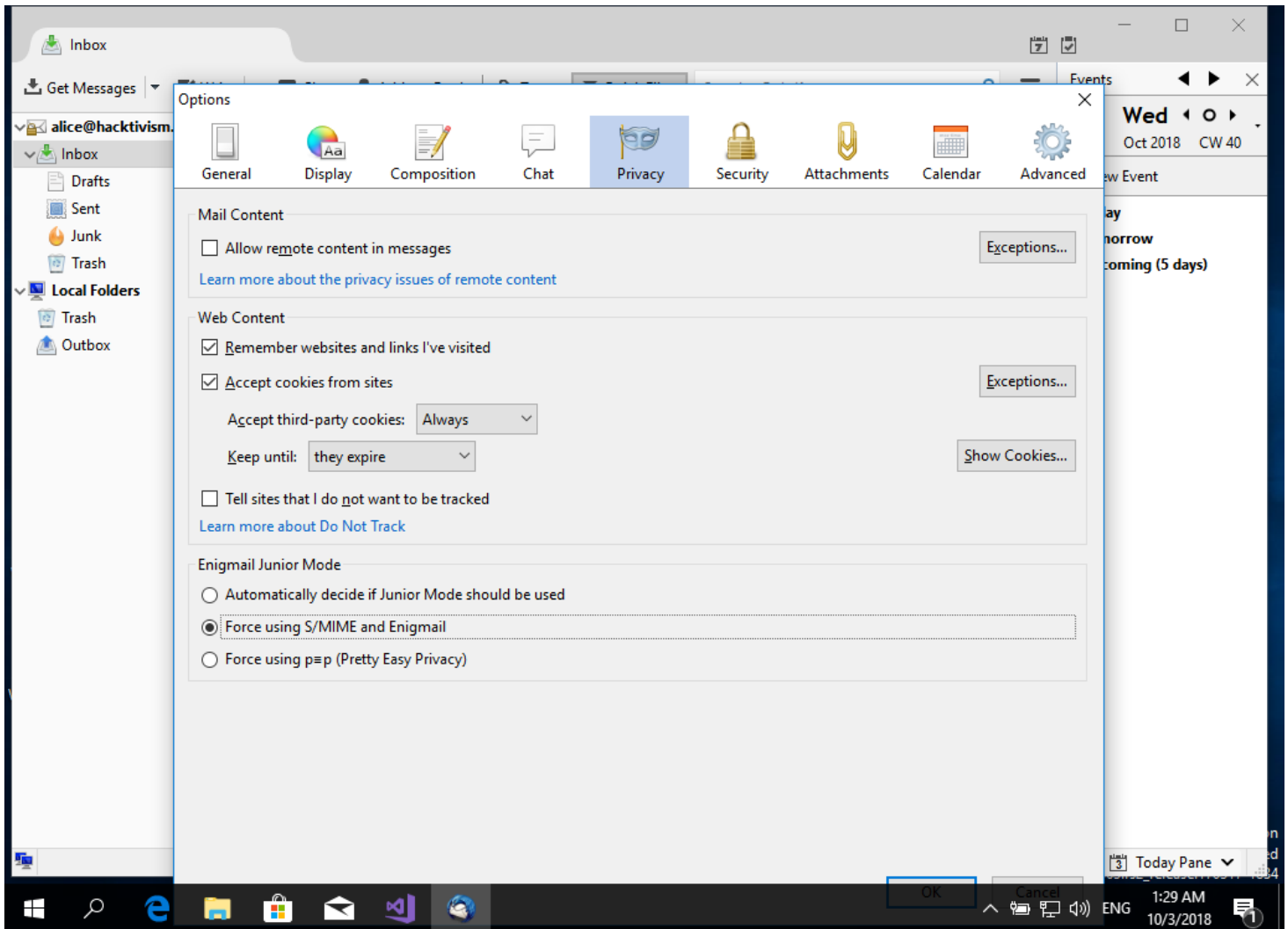
(Figure 1: Mail to oneself — displayed as Secure and Trusted.)



(Figure 2: Mail to oneself — arrives unencrypted.)



(Figure 3: Encrypted e-mail with private key available — no decryption takes place.)



(Figure 4: Workaround — switching to the classic Enigmail mode.)

Posted on October 3, 2018

By [Hernâni Marques \(../author/hernani/index.html\)](#)

← [Enigmail/p=pp: Aktuelles Release für Windows fehlerhaft - Lösung in Arbeit \[Update: Problem behoben - Updates sind vorhanden\] \(../enigmailpep-aktuelles-release-fuer-windows-fehlerhaft-loesung-in-arbeit/index.html\)](#)

[20-jährige trash.net-Jubiläumsfeier: Bilderstrecke jetzt verfügbar → \(../20-jaehrige-trashnet-jubilaeumsfeier-bilderstrecke-jetzt-verfuegbar/index.html\)](#)

ARCHIVE

2019

- [March \(../archive/2019/3/index.html\)](#) (1)
- [February \(../archive/2019/2/index.html\)](#) (1)