Abstract  In recent times, a topic of increasing relevance in discussions on the future of \TeX{} has been the number of different extensions to Knuth’s orginal work, and the possibility of bringing them all together in a single program. In particular, on the one hand we have the features introduced in $\varepsilon$-\TeX{} which are almost essential to developers of modern formats (Con\TeX{t}, \LaTeX{}3); on the other hand, the advanced multilingual typesetting features present in $\Omega$ are of vital importance, especially for \TeX{} users using non-Latin scripts.

This talk presents $\varepsilon$-$\Omega$, a project whose aim is to provide a stable, fast variant of $\Omega$ supporting the $\varepsilon$-\TeX{} extensions. We will present a short history of the project (focusing in particular on the reasons behind some debatable choices), its current status and the ideas for the project’s future.