

Roman Ekimov

DevOps Lead & Senior SRE / Infrastructure Engineer

✉ roman.ekimov@gmail.com 🌐 Belgrade, Serbia 🇷🇸 Serbian permanent residence • Russian citizen
📍 @toywar 🌐 [linkedin.com/in/roman-ekimov](https://www.linkedin.com/in/roman-ekimov) 🌐 toywar.ru



🔧 TECHNICAL SPECIALTIES

Operating Systems & Linux: Ubuntu, Debian, RHEL, CentOS, Kernel Tuning, Systemd, Performance Profiling

Containerization & Orchestration: Kubernetes (GKE/On-Prem), Docker, Docker Compose, Helm, ArgoCD, Docker Swarm, Nomad

Security & Secret Management: HashiCorp Vault, OpenBao, PCI DSS Compliance, Network Segmentation, RBAC, Audit Logging

Databases, Proxies & Brokers: PostgreSQL, ClickHouse, Redis, MongoDB, Apache Kafka, Nginx, HAProxy

Cloud Platforms & Bare-Metal: Google Cloud (GCP), AWS, DigitalOcean, Servercore, Yandex Cloud, Bare-Metal Fleets

Infrastructure as Code & CI/CD: Terraform, OpenTofu, Ansible, Chef, Packer, GitLab CI/CD, Jenkins, GitOps

Observability & SRE: Prometheus, VictoriaMetrics, Grafana, ELK Stack, Graylog, Zabbix, SLO / SLI, Postmortems

Development & Scripting: Go (Golang), Bash / Shell, Custom CLI Tools, Metrics Exporters, REST APIs, Automation Scripts

📁 PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DevOps Lead — Finharbor

January 2026 – Present

Fintech company providing global payment and financial infrastructure

- **Function Ownership & Technical Leadership:** End-to-end owner of the DevOps & infrastructure function — technical roadmap, sprint planning, and prioritization — leading infrastructure workstreams together with the backend, security, and product teams; onboarded and mentored a DevOps engineer and codified runbooks, on-call, and IaC standards so practices outlive individuals.
- **Infrastructure Strategy & Architecture:** Driving infrastructure architecture for fintech microservices, ensuring high availability, disaster recovery, and compliance readiness.
- **Flagship Delivery — Asterium (Uzbekistan):** Led the infrastructure workstream behind the hybrid neobank & digital-asset platform delivered for **Asterium**: environment topology, regional hosting and data residency, capacity planning, and production go-live readiness across the platform's full IT estate — core banking, card issuing, the exchange, and KYC/AML services — under Uzbekistan's NAPP-regulated framework.
- **PCI DSS & Security Governance:** Owning the infrastructure side of **PCI DSS** compliance — maintaining certified scope and network segmentation, secret & key management (**HashiCorp Vault / OpenBao**), centralized audit logging, periodic access reviews, and evidence collection for annual re-certification audits.
- **FinOps & Cost Reduction:** Cut monthly cloud spend by ~30% — imported every pre-existing cloud resource into **Terraform** state to get complete spend visibility, then decommissioned orphaned resources, right-sized **Kubernetes** node pools, and trimmed log ingestion and retention.
- **Client & Partner Engagement:** Directly communicating with enterprise clients and partners regarding infrastructure integrations, security requirements, disaster recovery, and SLA guarantees.
- **AI-Assisted Delivery:** Adopted AI coding agents into day-to-day infrastructure work — IaC changes, pipeline scaffolding, runbook and documentation drafts — to shorten delivery cycles on routine tasks; contributing to an internal initiative building a fleet of agents wired into the task tracker to pick up tickets and prepare changes for human review.
- **Process Standardization:** Standardizing GitOps, CI/CD, and IaC practices across engineering squads to accelerate product release velocity and ensure deployment consistency.
- **Incident & SRE Governance:** Establishing on-call schedules, incident response protocols, and postmortem workflows to maintain high reliability.

DevOps Engineer — Finharbor

May 2024 – December 2025

Fintech company providing global payment and financial infrastructure

- **Multi-Cloud & Hybrid Infrastructure:** Designed, deployed, and scaled multi-cloud infrastructure across **Google Cloud Platform (GCP)**, **Servercore**, and **DigitalOcean**, alongside bare-metal and VM environments.
- **Infrastructure as Code:** Implemented and managed IaC using **Terraform**, **OpenTofu**, **Helm**, **ArgoCD**, **Ansible**, and **Packer** for fintech microservices.
- **CI/CD & GitOps:** Built automated CI/CD pipelines in **GitLab CI** and GitOps workflows via **ArgoCD**, creating **Helm** charts to deploy polyglot microservices (**Java**, **Kotlin**, **JavaScript/TypeScript**, **Rust**, **Go**) into cloud **Kubernetes (GKE)** clusters.
- **Asterium Platform Build-Out (Uzbekistan):** Delivered the cloud infrastructure for the **Asterium** hybrid neobank & digital-asset platform — provisioned multi-environment **Kubernetes** landing zones with **Terraform**, **Helm**, and **ArgoCD**, plus CI/CD pipelines, secret management, and observability for the platform's entire service estate — core banking, card issuing, exchange, and KYC/AML/KYT microservices.
- **PCI DSS Compliance:** Participated in the PCI DSS audit and certification process: enforced infrastructure security controls, network isolation, audit logging, and secret management using **HashiCorp Vault / OpenBao**.
- **Observability & SRE:** Designed and maintained comprehensive observability and monitoring stacks (**Prometheus**, **VictoriaMetrics**, **Grafana**), implementing SRE practices to ensure 99.99% uptime for core financial services.
- **Data Stores & Streaming:** Managed and tuned data stores and streaming platforms including **PostgreSQL**, **Redis**, and **Apache Kafka** for low-latency transaction processing.

DevOps Engineer (Fintech Team) — Blockchain Family

November 2022 – April 2024

Blockchain integrations and decentralized fintech infrastructure

- **Cloud & Container Infrastructure:** Managed and scaled **GCP** cloud infrastructure and Docker Compose environments across bare-metal and VM platforms.
- **IaC & Automation:** Developed and maintained **IaC** for fintech and blockchain projects in GCP using **Terraform, Ansible, and Packer**.
- **CI/CD Pipelines:** Engineered **GitLab CI** pipelines and **Helm** charts to deploy **Java, Rust, and Go** microservices to cloud **Kubernetes (GKE)** clusters.
- **Decentralized Messaging:** Implemented DevOps practices, containerization, and deployment automation for a secure messaging platform based on the **Matrix** protocol.
- **Reliability & SRE:** Established infrastructure observability and SRE practices to ensure service stability, fault tolerance, and high availability.

DevOps Engineer / SRE — Tinkoff Bank

June 2021 – October 2022

TOP-10 Bank & Fintech Ecosystem (Processing Systems Infrastructure Team)

- **Core Banking Infrastructure:** Maintained and optimized enterprise **Linux (RHEL, CentOS, Ubuntu)** infrastructure supporting mission-critical 24/7 payment processing.
- **Anti-Fraud Tooling in Go:** Developed custom monitoring, diagnostic, and automation utilities in **Go (Golang)** for the bank's **anti-fraud** unit — exporting processing-system metrics and alerting signals that helped analysts spot and block fraudulent activity earlier, alongside general banking infrastructure operations.
- **Observability as Code:** Implemented **IaC** for enterprise observability and logging stacks (**Prometheus, ELK Stack, Zabbix**).
- **CI/CD & Orchestration:** Built CI/CD pipelines (**GitLab CI, Jenkins**) and deployment manifests (**Kustomize, Helm**) for **Java, Rust, and Go** applications across on-premise and cloud **Kubernetes / Docker Swarm** clusters (bare-metal, VMs, AWS).
- **Acting Team Lead & Mentoring:** Deputized for the team lead of the processing-systems infrastructure team during absences — running daily priorities and task assignment, coordinating on-call coverage and incident escalation, and representing the team in cross-department change reviews; onboarding mentor for a newly joined engineer (environment ramp-up, runbooks, first on-call rotations).
- **SRE & 24/7 Operations:** Served as an **SRE** ensuring 24/7 reliability and uptime of high-load transaction processing systems (on-call rotations, SLA/SLO tracking, incident troubleshooting, and root cause postmortems).

Infrastructure Engineer — EXANTE

December 2018 – May 2021

Global Investment Company (OPS Team)

- **Centralized Logging:** Designed and deployed a high-availability centralized logging platform (**Elasticsearch + Graylog + Fluentd**) with **HAProxy** load balancing across all company services and servers.
- **Bare-Metal Kubernetes:** Built and managed an on-premise **Kubernetes** cluster on bare-metal hardware for core trading and internal systems.
- **CI/CD Modernization:** Migrated legacy pipelines from Jenkins to **GitLab CI**, improving build efficiency and deployment consistency.
- **Configuration as Code:** Automated server provisioning and maintenance across Debian/Ubuntu fleets using **Chef**.
- **HR Automation:** Automated HR onboarding and offboarding workflows with custom integrations between **BambooHR** and **Google Workspace**.
- **Exchange Connectivity:** Supported low-latency market connectivity tools and trading infrastructure (**FIX protocol**, trading terminals) connected to major global exchanges (NYSE, NASDAQ, LSE).
- **Acting Team Lead:** Stood in as acting lead of the Operations (OPS) team during the team lead's absences — owning sprint priorities, task distribution, incident response, and infrastructure maintenance for the duration.

IT Support & Network Engineer — Center for Pedagogical Excellence

September 2011 – November 2018

IT & Network Operations Team

- **Systems & Workstations:** Administered **Linux and Windows** servers along with all organizational workstations (**Windows, macOS**).
- **Campus Network (NOC):** Configured and maintained **Cisco, MikroTik, Extreme Networks, and HP** networking hardware; established site-to-site connectivity across three campus buildings in Moscow.
- **Automated Provisioning:** Built an automated mass-provisioning system for rapid OS deployment and software configuration across hundreds of laptops for academic olympiads and training sessions.
- **Monitoring Stack:** Implemented infrastructure-wide monitoring and dashboards using **Observium, InfluxDB, Telegraf, and Grafana**.

EDUCATION

Moscow University for Industry and Finance

2007 – 2012

Specialist / Master's Degree in Applied Informatics in Economics (Faculty of Information Technologies)

Languages: **Russian** — Native • **English** — Advanced (C1) • **Serbian** — Conversational