

NAME

curl_multi_timeout – how long to wait for action before proceeding

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <curl/curl.h>
```

```
CURLMcode curl_multi_timeout(CURLM *multi_handle, long *timeout);
```

DESCRIPTION

An application using the libcurl multi interface should call *curl_multi_timeout(3)* to figure out how long it should wait for socket actions – at most – before proceeding.

Proceeding means either doing the socket-style timeout action: call the *curl_multi_socket_action(3)* function with the **sockfd** argument set to `CURL_SOCKET_TIMEOUT`, or call *curl_multi_perform(3)* if you're using the simpler and older multi interface approach.

The timeout value returned in the long **timeout** points to, is in number of milliseconds at this very moment. If 0, it means you should proceed immediately without waiting for anything. If it returns -1, there's no timeout at all set.

An application that uses the multi_socket API SHOULD NOT use this function, but SHOULD instead use *curl_multi_setopt(3)* and its `CURLMOPT_TIMERFUNCTION` option for proper and desired behavior.

Note: if libcurl returns a -1 timeout here, it just means that libcurl currently has no stored timeout value. You must not wait too long (more than a few seconds perhaps) before you call *curl_multi_perform()* again.

EXAMPLE

```
struct timeval timeout;
long timeo;

curl_multi_timeout(multi_handle, &timeo);
if(timeo < 0)
    /* no set timeout, use a default */
    timeo = 980;

timeout.tv_sec = timeo / 1000;
timeout.tv_usec = (timeo % 1000) * 1000;

/* wait for activities no longer than the set timeout */
select(maxfd+1, &fdread, &fdwrite, &fdexcep, &timeout);
```

RETURN VALUE

The standard CURLMcode for multi interface error codes.

TYPICAL USAGE

Call *curl_multi_timeout(3)*, then wait for action on the sockets. You figure out which sockets to wait for by calling *curl_multi_fdset(3)* or by a previous call to *curl_multi_socket(3)*.

AVAILABILITY

This function was added in libcurl 7.15.4.

SEE ALSO

curl_multi_fdset(3), curl_multi_info_read(3), curl_multi_socket(3), curl_multi_setopt(3)