WELCOME TO THE FEDIVERSE

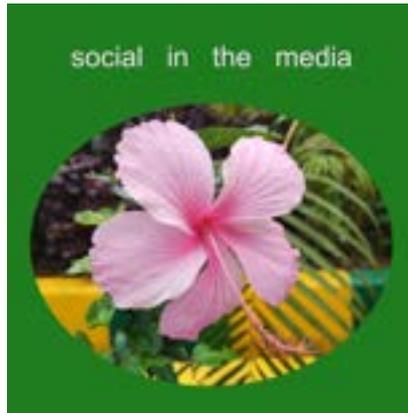social in the media

Are you wanting to escape the reactionary platforms of technofascists, such as X/Twitter, Instagram or Meta? Have you heard of alternatives such as the fediverse or Mastodon?

Have you looked into them but still don't understand what the heck is the fediverse no matter how many times someone explains it to you?

Then this list of guides is for you! Like any new skill or practice, it takes time to get used to a different routine until it becomes a daily habit. Why not start now?

Another social media is possible!

Fediverse
The fediverse is a distributed ensemble of social
networks and online communities that can all
communicate with each other. Together, they form this
"federated universe". It includes social media
projects such as Mastodon or Akkoma, media sharing
platforms such as Pixelfed or PeerTube, certain
WordPress blogs, and many others. If you're a member
of one of those, you can follow and interact with
anyone on any other. (from https://
symbol.fediverse.info/en)

Server
A computer that makes information available to other
computers

Instance
While a traditional social networking service will
host all its content on servers managed by the owner
of the website, the decentralized structure of the
Fediverse allows any individual or organization to
host a social platform using their own servers
(referred to as an "instance"). (from wikipedia)

Protocol
The underlying language that allows for users and
instances to interact with one another.

Handle
A handle is a choosen name that is used to identify
and represent your profile. On the fediverse, a handle
combines your username with your server name, for
example like this: username@servername.org.

Mastodon
Mastodon is a decentralized microblogging social
network run on independent servers. This means that

Mastodon is a piece of software that people install on their servers that allows users on different servers to connect to one another.

CHOOSING A FEDIVERSE SERVER

One of the first steps to take is finding a suitable server for yourself. Your server choice influences the local timeline view (a timeline of the posts of the users on a particular instance), the federated view, which servers you see (some servers choose to block other servers), the moderation frameworks that are used

- Fedi.Garden https://fedi.garden/
    - "An easy and stress-free way of choosing a Fediverse server"
    - "Fedi.Garden is a small human-curated list of nice, well run servers on Mastodon and the wider Fediverse. All of them have opted-in and promised to obey specific standards of reliability and responsible moderation"
- Fediverse.party https://fediverse.party/en/portal/servers/
    - "Themed servers: Unsure where to register to join Fediverse? Choose a website from this curated list."
- Monoskop's fediverse list https://monoskop.org/Fediverse

FEDIVERSE GUIDES

- An unofficial guide to Mastodon and the Fediverse https://fedi.tips/
- How to get started on Mastodon / The Fediverse https://www.kristofferlislegaard.com/blog/2025-01-25-how-to-get-started-on-mastodon-fediverse/
- How to Make the Fediverse Your Own https://

wiki.social.coop/wiki/
How_to_Make_the_Fediverse_Your_Own
- Fediverse projects https://fediverse.info/
  explore/projects
- Transferring your Mastodon account to another
  server https://fedi.tips/transferring-your-
  mastodon-account-to-another-server/
- The Counterforce Guide to Mastodon and The
  Fediverse (for punks!) https://the-
  counterforce.org/guide-to-mastodon-fediverse/
- Mastodon starter packs https://fedidevs.com/
  starter-packs/

REFERENCES

- Seven Theses on the Fediverse https://
  monoskop.org/images/c/cc/
  Mansoux_Aymeric_Abbing_Roel_Roscam_2020_Seven_Theses_on_the_
- ATNOFS - LURK (page 59) https://
  hub.vvvvvvaria.org/rosa/pdfs/atnofs-compiled.pdf
- Social Media Principles: The Myth of Reach
  https://www.viennawriter.net/blog/social-media-
  principles-the-myth-of-reach-en/
- Fed Up! poster https://gitlab.com/lidia_p/
  fediposter/-/raw/master/fediposter.png?
  ref_type=heads
- Meta Exodus https://erinstorm.eu/blog/2025/meta-
  exodus/
- On not scaling LURK: a tale of maintenance,
  federation, and governance https://txt.lurk.org/
  on-not-scaling-lurk/
- How to run a small social network site for your
  friends https://runyourown.social/
- Social media is cooked https://dark.properties/
  social-media-is-cooked/
- Howtspot - https://howtspot.ungual.digital/

FEDIVERSE INSTANCES

These are some instances which host people that the makers of zines follow.

Kolektiva.social
https://kolektiva.social/about
https://kolektiva.social/public/local
Description: "Kolektiva is an anti-colonial anarchist collective that offers federated social media to anarchist collectives and individuals in the fediverse. For the social movements and liberation!"
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Todon.eu
https://todon.eu/about
https://todon.eu/public/local
Description: "Todon.eu is a radical leftist anti-authoritarian Mastodon server. We welcome anarchists, socialists, (climate) activists, the LGBTQIA+ community, environmentalists, anti-racists, anti-fascists, anti-capitalists, intersectionalists, vegans, human rights activists, etc. As far as they are radical, leftist and anti-authoritarian."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Todon.nl
https://todon.nl/about
https://todon.nl/public/local
Description: "Radical leftist anti-authoritarian. For anarchists, socialists, (climate) activists, LGBTQIA+, anti-racists, anti-fascists, anti-capitalists, intersectionalists, human rights, animal rights, etc. Anno 2017."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Solarpunk.moe
https://solarpunk.moe/about
https://solarpunk.moe/public/local
Description: "Welcome to Moé for Solarpunk! This instance of Mastodon is a small, friendly server run

by a group of optimistically-utopian LGBT+ individuals. Please check out our companion instances for Bookwyrm and Pixelfed. You may also want to peruse our Gitea instance. We dream of a diverse, anarchist, solarpunk future in which humankind collaborates to live in harmony with the environment sustainably. In fact, we have a strong affection for such a future. The future we dream of is inherently anticapitalist, and we are thus not capitalism's biggest fans. Given that the vast majority of adopted cryptocurrencies currently rely on proof of work to function, cryptocurrency goes completely against our dreams. So we have no interest in it here."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Social.coop
https://social.coop/about
https://social.coop/public/local
Description: "A Fediverse instance for people interested in cooperative and collective projects. If you are interested in joining our community"
Open for subscription: yes, through registration form

Sunny.garden
https://sunny.garden/about
https://sunny.garden/public/local
Description: "sunny.garden is a community for indie creators who draw, paint, sculpt, write, design, program, play, sing or build, and anyone else who thinks that sounds like a nice place to be."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Sciences.social
https://sciences.social/about
https://sciences.social/public/local
Description: "sciences.social is an online community for social scientists. Users here can connect with one another and the millions of other Mastodon users who have opted for social media that is ad-free and actively moderated to keep bad actors at bay. Here's

how to get started."
Open for subscription: yes

Tldr.nettime.org
https://tldr.nettime.org/about
https://tldr.nettime.org/public/local
Description: "tldr.nettime is an instance for artists, researchers, and activists interested in exploring the intersections of technology, culture, and politics. It has grown out of nettime-l, one of the longest-running mailing lists on the net with a focus on the 'cultural politics of the internet'. nettime.org"
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Rage.love
https://rage.love/about
https://rage.love/public/local
Description:
"The Rage
We have enough of all the systematic bias that destroy lives.
We had enough of the patriarchy.
We had enough of the colonialism and the racism.
We had enough of the capitalistic system.
No TERF, no SWERF, no Nazi, no Centrist
The Love
We care for each other
We care for the living
We care for the land
We remember who we lost and what they fought for"
Open for subscription: only for Black and Indigenous people, and people of color, through manual review

Tilde.zone
https://tilde.zone/about
https://tilde.zone/public/local
Description: "Welcome to the tildeverse, a digital community of linux servers for socializing, learning, and making cool stuff. This instance is hosted by tilde.team. Stop by and sign up if you want to make

some cool stuff with us :)"
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Climatejustice.social
https://climatejustice.social/about
https://climatejustice.social/public/local
Description: "This is a Fediverse/Mastodon instance
for climate justice activists and everybody who feels
they belong to the climatejustice movement and follows
our rules and principles as described below."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Zirk.us
https://zirk.us/about
https://zirk.us/public/local
Description: "Literature, philosophy, film, music,
culture, politics, history, architecture: join the
circus of the arts and humanities! For readers,
writers, academics or anyone wanting to follow the
conversation."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Assemblag.es
https://assemblag.es/about
https://assemblag.es/public/local
Description: "assemblag.es is a Mastodon instance for
people interested in thinking creatively and
critically about technology, in the broadest sense.
The only requirement is that you keep to the code of
conduct!"
Open for subscription: "we've paused new signups for a
few days while we deal with the #twittermigration
influx - please do request an invite, but be aware
that for now functions more like a 'waiting list' than
a knock on the door, until our numbers stabilise again
:-)", yes, through manual review

Indieweb.social
https://indieweb.social/about
https://indieweb.social/public/local

Description: INDIEWEB.SOCIAL is an instance focused on the evolution of #Openweb, #Indieweb, #Fediverse, #Mastodon, #Humanetech and #Calm technologies.
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Typo.social
https://typo.social/about
https://typo.social/public/local
Description: This place is a home for type designers, typographers, letterers, fontworkers, calligraphers, tool builders, foundries, historians, scholars, students and enthusiasts. Typo.social is run by a federation of international independent typo communities and stammtisches. If your community or organisation wants to help, support or join please let us know!
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

Sonomu.club
https://sonomu.club/about
https://sonomu.club/public/local
Description: "We are a mastodon instance for musicians, sound-artists, producers of any kind of aural noise, songwriters, bedroom producers, sonic manglers and algorave livecoders. Please do not ask for account here just to try out Mastodon. Our resources are scarce and we'd like a close-knit community of fediverse-active music-makers who are already familiar with fediquette and in need of safe space that they can and know how to use.
When you request a new account on our instance, make sure you introduce yourself thoroughly - as a sound-maker, AND as user of fediverse. Again, please don't ask for an account here if you don't know what are content warnings (CWs) and ALT image/media descriptions for within the fedi/masto culture and you are annoyed at people trying to make safer and better spaces for those less privileged. We take moderation seriously. You can support this service by donating

via LiberaPay: liberapay.com/SoNoMu.club" Open for
subscription: only through invitation

Post.lurk.org
https://post.lurk.org/about
https://post.lurk.org/public/local
Description: "LURK is both a collective and a
community of communities. We host, facilitate and
archive discussions around net- and computational
culture and politics, proto- and post-free culture
practices, (experimental) (sound) (new media)
(software) art, and things like that…"
Open for subscription: paused, but applications can be
sent

Mastodon.design
https://mastodon.design/about
https://mastodon.design/public/local
Description: "Mastodon.design welcomes all makers and
designers who love to build things and talk about
them. We stand for an open, independent, sustainable,
inclusive, and accessible web."
Open for subscription: yes, through manual review

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1. Creative Crowds https://cc.vvvvvvaria.org/↵

2. Octomode code on the Varia git https://git.vvvvvvaria.org/varia/octomode↵