

THE FEDIVERSE IS QUIET

Let's Fix That!

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NodeBB

- v4.0.0 released recently
- Made in Canada! 🍁
- Brings federation to traditional forum software



Short → Medium → Long

- Mastodon
- Misskey (& derivatives)
- Other microblogs

- NodeBB
- Discourse
- Lemmy
- mBin
- Piefed
- Other threaded software

- Ghost
- WordPress
- Write.as
- Other blogs

NodeBB

nodeBB v4.0.1 Latest 3 days ago

Buy Hosting DEV GitHub Mastodon Bluesky

Home → NodeBB Development

ActivityPub

Focused discussion related to ActivityPub integration in NodeBB

138 topics 2.0k posts

Subcategories

- Forums and Threaded Discussions Task Force**
Discussion and announcements related to the SWIGG Forums and Threaded Discussions Task Force. This profile is a discussion forum category and shares content from users who post in its discussions.
41 topics 919 posts 2 Jan 2025, 09:56 @dmitri@social.coop do you mind cancelling the meeting for today?

Tracking All tags Recently Replied Topic Tools New Topic

- Why I think that #NodeBB's latest release can be a game changer for the #Fediverse**
4 votes 5 posts 89 views 32 minutes ago @kichae I agree with that, and I have no knowledge of whether LemmyBB works...
nodebb fediverse firefish catodon 8 days ago
- Any plans to add 'actor' to Create activities from nodebb users?**
1 votes 7 posts 150 views 2 days ago @jullian @darius @j12t @NGZero happy to see you all in person
Watching 12 days ago
- See you at FOSDEM!**
28 votes 8 posts 125 views 4 days ago @jullian @darius @j12t @NGZero happy to see you all in person
Watching ninet fosdem nodebb

nodeBB v4.0.1 Latest 3 days ago

Why I think that #NodeBB's latest rel...

Why I think that #NodeBB's latest release can be a game changer for the #Fediverse For years, before social media came along, forums were the main place to discuss with others on the internet. Communities were built, ...
ActivityPub 33 minutes ago

General Discussion

A place to talk about whatever you want

NodeBB Development

Stay tuned here to hear more about new releases and features of NodeBB!

- NodeBB Blog
- Bug Reports
- ActivityPub
- NodeBB Localization

Feature Requests

You have a cool idea about NodeBB? Post it

4 3 1

Now Federating...

The screenshot displays the NodeBB forum homepage. At the top, the NodeBB logo is on the left, followed by the version 'v4.0.1' with a 'Latest' badge and '3 days ago' text. On the right, there are links for 'Buy Hosting', 'DEV', and social media icons for GitHub, Mastodon, and Discord. A left sidebar contains navigation icons for home, menu, notifications, search, and various forum functions. A right sidebar shows a search icon, notification bell, and a '1' badge. The main content area lists several discussion categories, each with a description, topic/post counts, and a recent post snippet.

Category	Description	Topics	Posts	Recent Post
General Discussion	A place to talk about whatever you want	4k	24k	BB about 11 hours ago @julian is so excited to be presenting at #fosdem2025 alongside other leaders fro...
NodeBB Development	Stay tuned here to hear more about new releases and features of NodeBB! ▶ NodeBB Blog ▶ ActivityPub ▶ Bug Reports ▶ NodeBB Localization	3k	19k	about an hour ago @kichae I agree with that, and I have no knowledge of whether LemmyBB works...
Feature Requests	You have a cool idea about NodeBB? Post it here.	833	5k	about 5 hours ago @DownPW said in Discouragement and user discipline: I have already had spammers w...
NodeBB Plugins	Discussion regarding NodeBB Plugin development. ▶ Plugin Development ▶ Plugin Requests	2k	15k	about 23 hours ago Saw that. Still an issue to me though. I think having the ability to do both would be the...
NodeBB Themes	A public listing of community themes created by the NodeBB community.	48	1k	14 Dec 2024, 09:56 @baris Thank you, yeah I already did that, fork will make the modification once I move...
Technical Support	Need help with installing or configuring NodeBB? Look here. ▶ Answers ▶ Developer FAQ ▶ Tutorials	5k	27k	about 7 hours ago hello, I am looking for a plugin that will allow me to add a personalized medal (image,...

/world

nodeBB v4.0.1 (Latest) 3 days ago [Buy Hosting](#) DEV

World

Topics that do not strictly fit in with any existing categories

[Popular topics](#) [All topics](#) [? Help](#)

[Tracking](#) [fosdem](#) [New Topic](#)

The #infrastructure of #Hachyderm was discussed at #FOSDEM in a Birds Of A Feather. 0 votes 5 posts 0 views 3 minutes ago @thisismisse @esk @stamp @hazelweakly this also reminds me that we need to move...

[infrastructure](#) [hachyderm](#) [fosdem](#) about an hour ago

THANKS FOR EXISTING @cwebber 0 votes 2 posts 1 views 11 minutes ago @tommi

[fosdem](#) [socialwebfosdem](#) [socialweb](#) about 7 hours ago

I am in the Social Web room at FOSDEM. 0 votes 45 posts 0 views about 4 hours ago #FOSDEM #FOSDEM2025 #SocialWebFOSDEM #Fediverse

[socialwebfosdem](#) [fosdem](#) [fosdem2025](#) about 10 hours ago

Featured Job from @fosdem: #Mozilla is seeking a staff software engineer. 0 votes 1 posts 0 views about 6 hours ago

[mozilla](#) [osjh](#) [jobs](#) [career](#) [fosdem](#) about 6 hours ago

Really had an amazing day at #FOSDEM today. 0 votes 1 posts 0 views about 3 hours ago

[fosdem](#) [linuxonmobile](#) [asteroidos](#) [sailfishos](#) [mobian](#) about 3 hours ago

Hard Problems on Fedi

The Fediverse is Quiet

Where have all the good people gone?

Fediscovery

Lackluster content search

How can I follow people when I can't find them?
Why are there no posts on topic X, Y, Z?

Social Web Foundation

Advanced Moderation

Reply controls, federate blocklists, etc.
Look no further than the SWICG Trust & Safety
Task Force!

SWICG Trust & Safety Task Force

What is an instance?!

If you have to explain it, you've already lost.
Better onboarding for the layperson.

The Fediverse is Quiet

- Spoken by those new to the fediverse
- Content discovery is driven by follow relationships
- “Algorithmless” – missed content due to time zones, no centralized authority for content discovery

Myth: Your instance is a window to the fediverse

This is an elegant idea with a simple promise — that instances don't matter, and **every instance sees the "same fediverse"**.

Single user instances suffer greatly from **diminished network effects**; they see less, and they're heard less.

Minimalism by Design

- High SNR
- Less chance of smaller instances overwhelmed by protocol noise
- AP sends what it needs to send and no more
- Disconnect between what protocol deems sufficient and what the end user does

EXAMPLE TIME!

... with our friends Alice, Bob, Carol, Dan, and Eve.

ALICE MAKES A POST

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet

BOB REPLIES TO ALICE

@alice great placeholder!

CAROL REPLIES TO BOB

@bob actually I think it is totally overused

DOES ALICE SEE CAROL'S REPLY?

EXAMPLE TIME!

... with our friends Alice, Bob, Carol, Dan, and Eve.

ALICE MAKES A POST

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet

DAN ALSO REPLIES TO ALICE

@alice I prefer real latin myself.

EVE REPLIES TO DAN

@alice @dan that's not the point though...

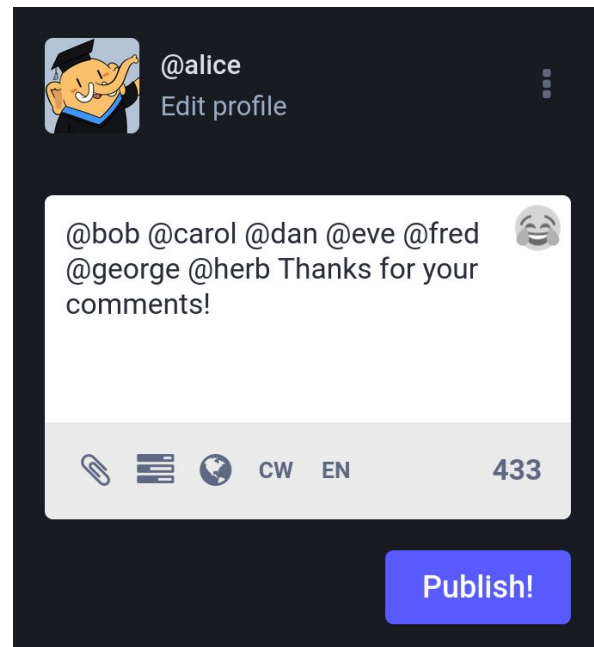
DOES CAROL SEE THIS EXCHANGE?

Mention spam

X/Twitter's simplified UI – later adopted by Mastodon – was not originally conceived as a minimalist UI innovation, **it was a restriction due to Twitter's initial ties to SMS.**

@ Mentions were used by its users later on, and support was added after-the-fact.

Intentional and unfortunate collision of notification and addressing.



[View Original URL](#)

Considered Harmful

View Original URL

- There are legitimate reasons to visit the original URL

FOMO is not one of them.

“Conversational Context”

A conversational context is an intentional, explicit grouping of objects together, as managed by some party (the context owner).

e.g. reply trees, forum topics, comment stream.

EXAMPLE TIME AGAIN!

I RECEIVE AN OBJECT

A single object is received through an activity like a Create or Announce (aka boost)

CONTEXT IS FOUND

Inspection of the received (or retrieved) object shows `context` is set as a potentially resolvable URL.

CONTEXT IS RESOLVED

The resolved context contains the entire conversation (hundreds of posts!), so I can retrieve the entire conversation all at once.

THIS IS CONVERSATIONAL BACKFILL

Recommendation

Contexts can provide a thorough, comprehensive way to backfill an entire conversation. **This is the biggest step we can take** towards tackling the “fediverse is quiet” problem. Use context resolution **in conjunction with a fallback method** such as `inReplyTo` traversal.

Questions?

SWICG Forum and Threaded
Discussions Task Force

FEP 7888 <https://w3id.org/fep/7888>



THANK YOU

Find me on the fediverse!

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