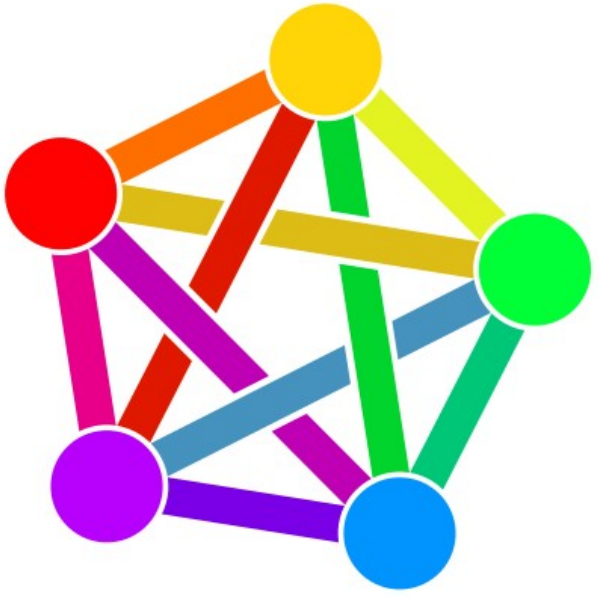
Fediversum 21 EN. Part 2

Better network infrastructure for the social sector



Communication, information and cooperation under community control

Technical interoperability for social interoperability

In the previous episode...

- We described how Facebook (the dominant corporate medium on the planet) rules us and how it affects our lives.
- How it increasingly restricts our freedom of action - unless we pay to be exempt from some of the restrictions.
- What kind of networks do we need for the social sector to operate freely.
- How the fediversum works and why it is a better environment for social activities.

Part two - what we will talk about

- Why it's not easy to go out on your own.
- But that it can be done, provided we create an open alliance for the Fediverse.
- How the 'ecosystem' of decentralised social networks (not just) in Poland might look like.
- How a platform co-operative can become a neutral entity to support the development of Fediverse.
- What further practical action is needed.

Difficult to break free from addiction

- User habits
- Supported by the networking effect
- And a consciously shaped *user experience*
- They make it difficult to exit the artificial reality.
- **Neuromarketing is used to make us addicted to using a particular platform**

On the other hand

- Fediverse platforms are free and open source software that do not attract investors.
- They are mainly developed by volunteers and rarely have a significant budget.
- They have a fairly uneven level of technological maturity.
- They require more involvement from the user.
- From the user's point of view, open source software is mostly less convenient and less attractive, **even if it is functionally better than "nonfree" software.**

And yet...

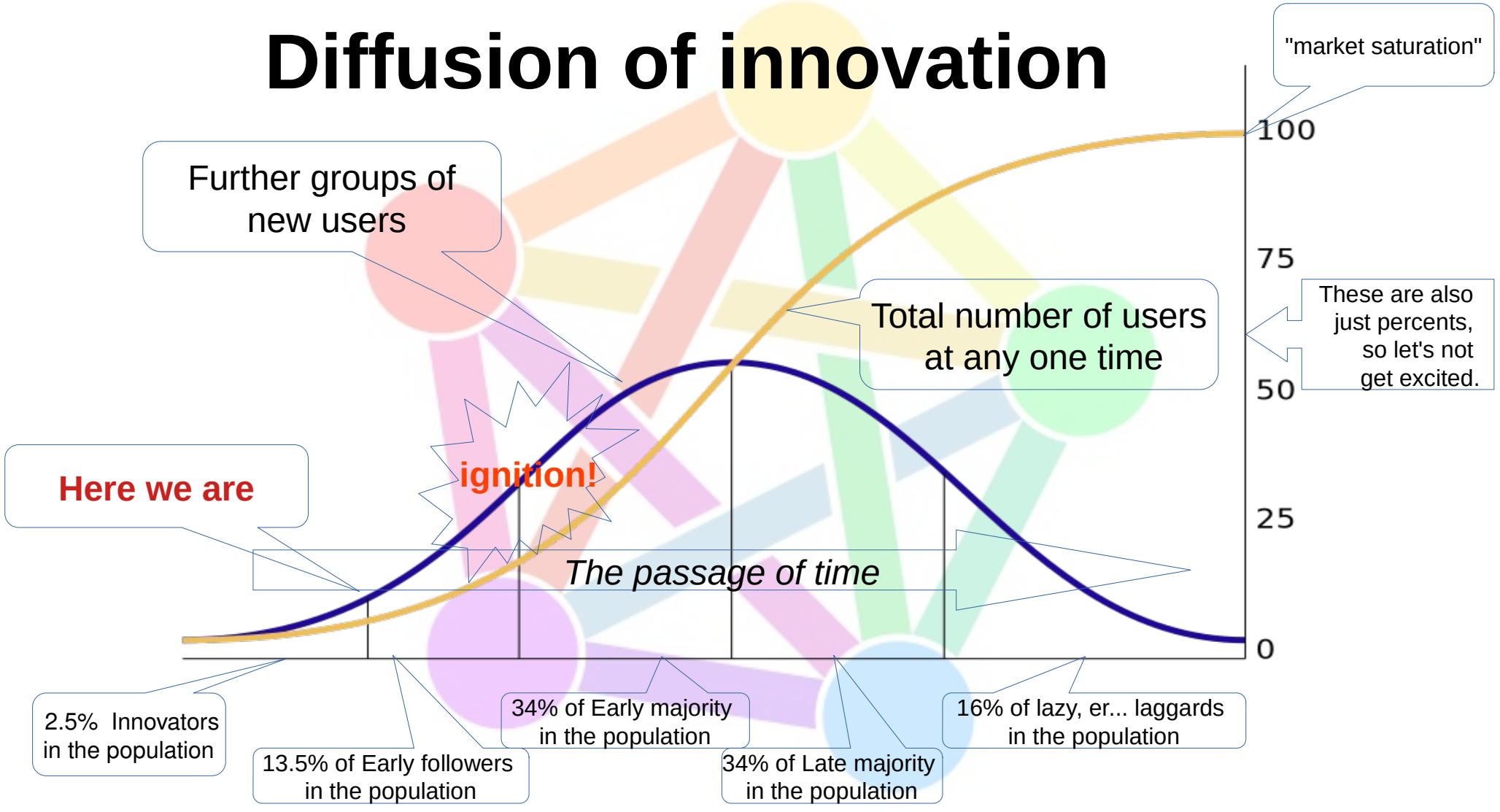
- Corpomedia have been building infrastructure for decades.
- They are among the richest companies on the planet.
- They not only make money out of us, they rule us, overtly and covertly.
- They scare, manipulate, discourage on a massive scale.

So why struggle?

- Some people need independence and their own space to live, also virtually.
- Others do not want their lives to be used as free raw material for a commercial company.
- Still others see an opportunity to break up a monopoly and develop a new sector of the economy.
- And there are those who simply want to try something new.

There are many motivations and needs
that can be met by the development of Fediversum.

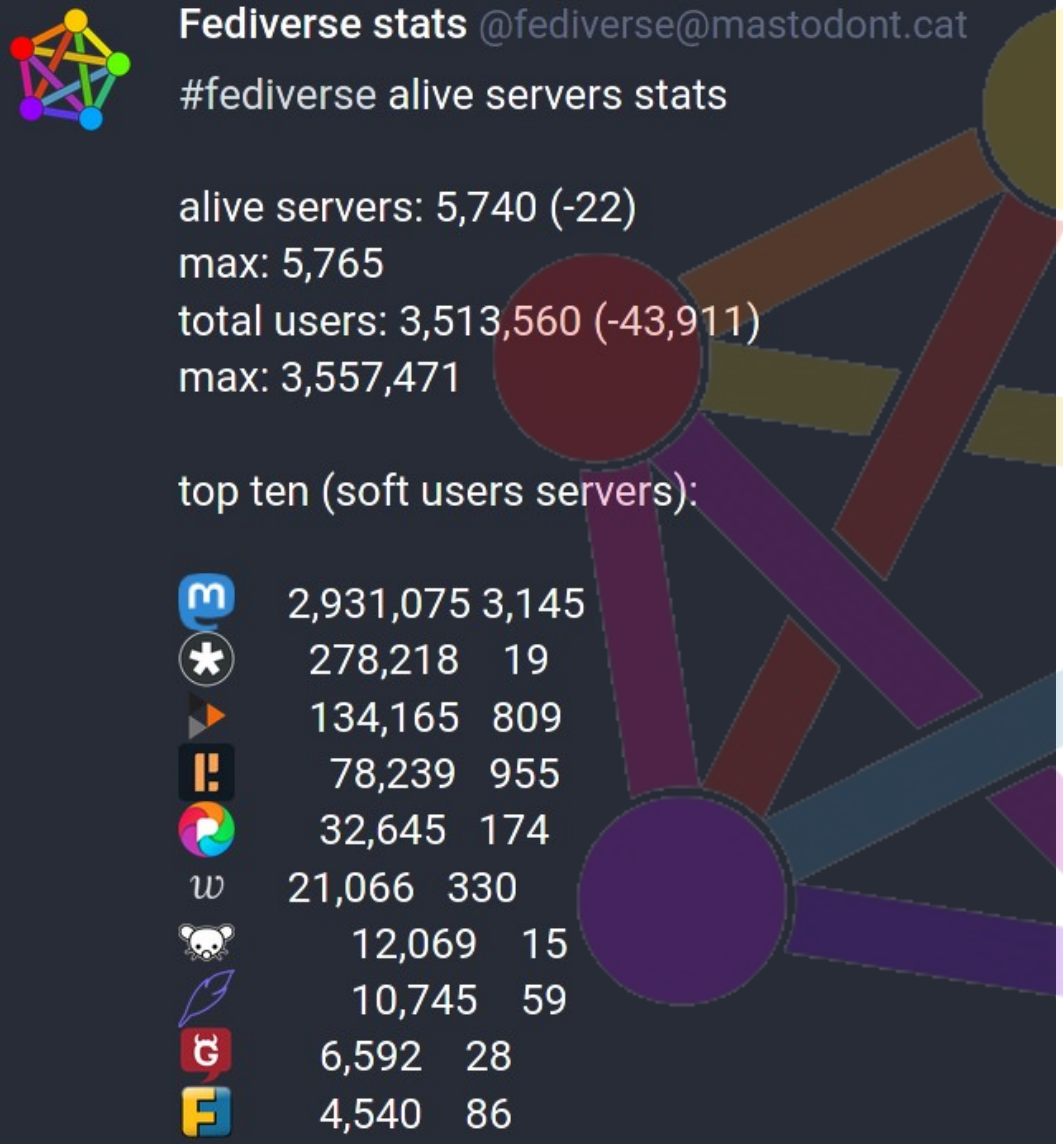
Diffusion of innovation



What can we achieve?

There is a group of people in Poland who will be willing to use the Fediversum for social activities.
Together we can build the facilities that will help this innovative concept:

- spread faster and with less resistance, thus reducing the time to "saturation".
- reach more people and tailor the fediverse tools to their needs, thus increasing the total number of users (the magic "100%" in the graph).
- remain open and universal, equally accessible to all individuals, communities and political groups.



How is it?

- Individuals and groups are moving to existing instances abroad. The most popular is Mastodon.
- There is still a habit of joining large instances where "someone" makes decisions and takes care of the infrastructure.
- There are no developed standards and habits of sharing infrastructure costs, resulting in administrators working socially and covering costs from their own pockets, collections or advertising.
- Resources needed for software development and long-term educational activities are lacking.

101010.pl

Home to
1.03K
users

Who authored
21.4K
statuses

ADMINISTERED BY:

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Zasady instancji

Instance Rules

Zasady instancji

1. 101010.pl jest instancją udostępnioną dla wszystkich dążących do swobodnego przepływu wiadomości, wiedzy, opinii, sztuki i żartów. Nasz serwer i społeczność są do Twojej dyspozycji. Czytaj, pisz, uczestnicz i rozwijaj się wraz z nami. Jako serwer krajowy preferujemy język polski, lub angielski.
2. Administracja 101010.pl szanuje [illegible] światopoglądową i popiera wolność słowa. Wierzymy, że sieć jest miejscem dialogu pozwalającym na wymianę różnorodnych poglądów.
3. Masz prawo do własnego zdania. Możesz mieć lewicowe, prawicowe albo centrowe poglądy polityczne. Możesz wyznawać dowolną wiarę, albo być ateistą. Możesz reprezentować dowolną orientację seksualną.
4. Twoje prawo do wolności to jednocześnie obowiązek. Szanuj innych, jako ludzi, nawet jeśli nie podzielasz i nie szanujesz ich poglądów. Nie agituj nachalnie, dyskutuj korzystając z argumentów i uznając prawo innych do posiadania własnego zdania. Szanuj prawo do prywatności. Pamiętaj, że nie każdy musi się z Tobą zgadzać, możesz spotkać się z krytyką. Krytyka nie jest tożsama z nietolerancją. Na tym polega wolność.
5. Nie zostaniesz zbanowany za poglądy, ale musisz stosować się do kilku zawartych tutaj zasad. Nie bądź agresywny, nie obrażaj innych i nie groź im. Erotykę i inne treści przeznaczone dla dorosłych wstawiaj, jako treść ukrytą (przycisk CW). Powstrzymaj się od agresywnej reklamy (produktów, polityków, ideologii i

Poland's largest instance of Mastodon

lhub.social

Z serwera korzystają 83 użytkowników

Są autorami 3,49tys wpisów

ADMINISTROWANA PRZEZ:

Piotr Sikora
@piotrsikora

KONTAKT:

kontakt@lhub.social

Zasady instancji Lhub:

- Szanujemy innych - każda osoba powinna się tu czuć mile widziana

- żadnej bigoterii - w tym rasizmu, seksizmu, homofobii, ksenofobii

- żadnego porno

- żadnych komercyjnych reklam/spamu

SECOND biggest Polish instance...

Alliance for free social networks

- **Quest: to** build a strong support in the Polish environment for decentralised social networks of the Fediwersum standard.

War cry: technical interoperability
for social interoperability!

- **Method:** education, agitation, organisation, technology.
- **Aim:** to free independent social initiatives from the oligopoly of the corporate media.
- **Tool: a platform cooperative** controlled by social sector users.

Ecosystem structure

- Education, agitation, organisation.
- Software development and technical support.
- Reference installations and hosting services.
- Second level services (for the whole environment).
- Standard distributions for stand-alone installations.

Each of these elements can be run separately but synchronising and combining them will give additional benefits for all.

Education, agitation, organisation

- Polish translations: documentation, software interfaces, training materials.
- Organisation of training courses for users and instance administrators. Production of original educational and propaganda materials.
- Work with users to define a core portfolio of applications and technical recommendations for developers.
- Supporting and networking grassroots initiatives in the Fediverse field.

Software development and technical support

- Establishing cooperation with "upstream" -- authors and managers of individual packages.
- Running mirrors / forks and trusted repositories.
- Launching a federated ticketing system and other tools to engage the community in the development of the environment.

Reference installations and hosting services

- Commissioning of installations managed by a permanent technical team that host model instances of individual applications.
- Users will be able to open temporary or permanent accounts in these instances to explore their capabilities and decide whether to continue using them.
- Hosting services including shared hosting and virtual servers optimised for fediverse applications.

Second level services

- Identify a portfolio of services that are too resource intensive, or too demanding, to offer to non-technical users for self-management.
- Launch servers offering these services to all users of the Fediversum network with priority given to co-op members.
- Examples: teleconference server, video streaming, machine translation.

Standard distributions for stand-alone installations

- Propose a software standard for users who prefer to manage their own installations on their own hardware.
- Software maintenance, updating and support.
- Training for 'barefoot admins'.
- Example: Yunohost with a selected application portfolio.

Platform co-operative

Platform co-operatives are businesses that use a website, mobile app or protocol to sell goods or services. They are based on democratic decision-making and co-ownership of the platform by employees and users.

https://platform.coop/pl/

Platform Cooperativism Consortium

Platform co-operative principles

Navigating capitalism

- Salary limits.
- Redistribution / reinvestment of balance sheet surplus.
- Reducing capital investment.
- Alternative sources of funding (grants, fundraising, members' fees).

Social commitment

- Supporting the open source community.
- Maintaining access to conflict resolution spaces.
- Collective decision-making.
- A culture of consensus building.

Democratic participation

- Democratic values embedded in legal documents.
- One member is one vote.
- Liability of the board of directors to co-op members.
- Management autonomy: in the interests of the members and the ecosystem as a whole.

Mandatory transparency

- Publishing information about business activities.
- Communication of data management activity.
- Members have the opportunity to monitor and audit.

The Fediverse cooperative?

- **Legal form:** registered association, carrying out economic activities and paid public benefit activities.
- **Economic form:** mixed co-operative (*multistakeholder*) -- social enterprise.
- **Members (stakeholders):**
  - **persons employed by the cooperative;**
  - natural and legal persons developing, managing and operating nodes on the Fediverse network used for social activities.
- **Funding**: private and public grants, subsidies and donations; subscriptions and other membership benefits; income from commercial activities (services to external clients).
- **Prohibition of monetisation of the** co-operative's **common resources** (applies primarily, but not exclusively, to advertising and the sale of information).
- **Freemium" business model:** free package of basic services and discounted prices for premium services for co-op members, full prices for external customers.
- **Redistribution of surplus:** reinvestment in infrastructure and fixed costs, educational and social activities, solidarity aid.

Practical actions

- Let us count each other out and establish who sees themselves in relation to this project. Not everyone has to be involved from the beginning and not everyone in the same role.
- Let us establish what fediverse is already happening in the Polish environment.
- Let's create an initiative group to 'push things forward'.
- Let's create grant consortia to raise money to launch the various components of the ecosystem.
- Let's start designing the rules of the co-op and gathering people interested in starting it.
- Let us let the world know we are coming.

If you want to help develop a Fediversum for the social sector in Poland, speak up!

- Telegram: private group
- DeltaChat/email: tepewu@riseup.net
- Fediwersum: TePeWu #Fediwersum21PL

Thank you for your attention.

Petros

Let us do it together!

Mutual Assistance Society

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