



Discovery Week 2026

What we learned, and what we're doing next

A note from Imani

I joined Mastodon in the summer of 2025 as the first full-time design hire. I have an extensive background in improving software usability, diversity and belonging for online communities, but I was new to Mastodon and the fediverse.

Immediately, I was impressed with the richness of this decentralised space, the passion of the open-source community, and the near-endless capabilities of the software itself. Moreover, I was inspired by the engineering team's ability to build and maintain such complex and important software – and to do so in a way that supports other softwares (through FEPs and FASPs). The shared commitment to a thriving fediverse was clear.

What I also saw, though, is that our team was overwhelmed with the volume of user feedback we receive – through Discord conversations, Github issues, third-party audits and studies, thinkpieces in personal blogs, and of course, Mastodon posts. As I write this, our Github repository has 4.3K open issues and 1,000 open discussions, many of which include ideas and complaints related to the user experience. This is more than any team of our size could reasonably manage. And this overwhelm often manifests in a lack of clarity on how to move forward.



What should we prioritise? As we moved from [project](#) to [project](#), these four words kept emerging in the least-expected moments. We were beginning to find our way in terms of creating a [development roadmap](#), but beyond major projects and obvious requirements (based in security, compliance, and grant-based deliverables) it was often unclear which feedback to take action on first.

This challenge isn't unique to Mastodon, by the way – but it *is* made more complex due to the nature of the software and its surrounding culture. Currently, our most vocal community members tend to be the most technically-minded ones, and are often Github contributors themselves. However, if we only listen to Github feedback, how will we learn the needs of non-technical users? If we respond immediately to every feature request, what might we be missing about the underlying needs, values, and goals of our community? In short, *what actually matters, to whom, and why?*

This is how the idea for Discovery Week emerged. As we gazed ahead at Mastodon's 10th anniversary and prepared for our next major release, I saw an opportunity to cut through the clutter and invite the community to talk with us.

Discovery Week was informal and tightly scoped. It was pulled together in weeks, without funding earmarked for research. It was also massively insightful. The stories and feedback shared by our community helped us understand many perspectives more deeply. I particularly enjoyed witnessing community members with different perspectives engaging



collaboratively in the live roundtables – to me, these moments highlighted Mastodon’s potential to bring out the best of online discourse.

My deep gratitude goes out to everyone who completed a survey, volunteered for a roundtable, or shared the Discovery Week post so others could participate. Additional thanks to those of you who shared existing publications and Github issues that were particularly relevant to the themes explored. And it’s worth acknowledging that Discovery Week wasn’t the beginning. Thanks to the community who has contributed feedback and ideas over several years, many of which are simply confirmed in this document to help our team make sense of what matters.

Discovery Week has already proven to be tremendously helpful in guiding our direction for Mastodon v5.0 and beyond. Some changes will take weeks, and others, years. Overall, we hope that the upcoming improvements to the Mastodon experience reflect what the community wants to see. Here’s to this being the first of many Discovery Weeks for Mastodon!

Onward and upward,
Imani Joy
Head of Design, Mastodon



About Discovery Week

Discovery Week was a 5-day informal research event that took place on 11-15 May, 2026. Through surveys and online roundtable discussions, it explored people's experiences on Mastodon and their sentiments about the fediverse.

102

Survey
Respondents

27

Roundtable
Participants

48+

Servers
Represented

700+

Unique
Data Points



The Surveys

Participants were invited to complete an introductory demographic survey, followed by four topic-based surveys. Respondents who indicated they are not Mastodon users were sent a tailored version of each day's survey. Rather than collecting email in the topic-based surveys, respondents entered their unique ticket code from the Discovery Week event. This allowed for cross-survey analyses per respondent without each survey requiring personally identifiable information.

The Roundtables

We held five two-hour roundtable discussions via OpenTalk. Each roundtable followed a similar structure: Silent pain-point mapping, participatory consolidation & theming, dot voting on themes to explore further, and facilitated brainstorming around chosen themes.



Limitations & Considerations

- Short time frame for outreach → participant pool that's more plugged into the fediverse than the general public
- Outreach and research was conducted in English only; roundtable times were optimal for a Western audience
- Relatively low sample size; many findings lack statistical significance.¹
- Lack of global ethnic and cultural diversity; especially for South Asian, Southeast Asian, Black/Afro-Diasporic, and Pacific Islander identities which were each represented less than 2% in the data set.²
- Focus was on end users, not on admins or moderators.

¹ This report focuses predominantly on Mastodon users because the sample size for non-users was too low to draw meaningful conclusions.

² Intro Survey Q8



Findings



Random but interesting facts about survey respondents' use of Mastodon

- Respondents said they still commonly use other platforms often seen as antithetical to the fediverse – including YouTube (61%), Instagram (34%), WhatsApp (30%), and Facebook (15%).³
- 1 in 5 respondents post both personally and on behalf of an organization or brand.⁴
- 38.6% of respondents reported posting to Mastodon a few times a month or less (excluding replies).⁵
- 60.9% percent of respondents would like all AI-generated content hidden by default, if filters allowed for it.⁶

³ Intro Survey Q2

⁴ Survey 3 Q5

⁵ Survey 3 Q4

⁶ Survey 4 Q13



The insights that follow are distilled into a simplified user journey:

1. Discovery (finding people and content),
2. Reading (or interacting with other forms of content, mainly on one's feed), and
3. Engagement (posting, replying, messaging).

Key goals of Mastodon users

DISCOVERY

Find and sustain meaningful communities

People want to identify and stay connected with people whose posts they genuinely want to read, organised around specific interests or identities.



READING

Control the feed, rather than being controlled by it

People want to select options to curate their feeds, and to see content from people they chose to follow. They want to feel in control of their own attention, not like they're being sold to or optimised against.

ENGAGEMENT

Post freely, without pressure to perform

People want to share things without negative consequences or expectations to maintain a certain presence. They want the convenience of sharing privately with closed groups of specific people, in the same platform they use to post more publicly, without the friction of switching apps or accounts.



DISCOVERY

“I feel like I’m in a desert.”

– Roundtable 2 Participant

Key challenges with discovery

On a five-point ease-of-use scale, survey respondents rated discovery lower than any other experience in the user journey.⁷

1. Search is stunted by federation limitations
2. Insufficient options for exploratory discovery
3. Lack of onboarding for decisions that impact discovery

⁷ Survey 1 Q3



DISCOVERY: CHALLENGE #1

Search is stunted by federation limitations

Sentiments about Mastodon's search experience ranged from confusion to resignation, underscoring the importance of the work our team has already started with Fediscovery.

- | "Servers aren't all connected, so search only goes as far as my server connections go."⁸
- | "Search seems to find less things from other servers? Which is a bummer."⁹
- | "Hashtag search does only search posts that my instance already knows about."¹⁰
- | "Sometimes, search doesn't seem to be really cross-instances, like we're not getting the full results."¹¹

⁸ Survey 1 Q4, Response 6; a mas.to user

⁹ Survey 2 Q16, Response 13; a different user of mas.to

¹⁰ Survey 1 Q4, Response 44; user from an unknown server

¹¹ Survey 1 Q4, Response 24; a user of a small server in France



DISCOVERY: CHALLENGE #2

Insufficient options for exploratory discovery

Exploratory discovery refers to moments when people vaguely know what they might like, but not how to articulate it well enough to search.¹²

People in the fediverse might not want the same type of suggestions that feel invasive on other social platforms, but they do still desire more ways to be guided through discovery.

¹² Donna Spencer, "Four Modes of Seeking Information and How to Design for Them," Boxes and Arrows, March 14, 2006, <https://boxesandarrows.com/four-modes-of-seeking-information-and-how-to-design-for-them/>.

- | "Sometimes I would love to get kind of an overview: Not necessarily what are the top hottest posts on Masto right now etc, but more like, what are other "bubbles"/communities?"¹³
- | "It's hard to find people who post things about specific topics and interests. Searching hashtags just provides a firehose of random posts. The Trending tab doesn't show things that are trending among smaller/niche topics and interests."¹⁴
- | "As much as not having an algorithm is nice, it would be cool to have an optional "For You" page to make discovery easier."¹⁵

¹³ Roundtable 1 Participant

¹⁴ Survey 1 Q4, Response 17

¹⁵ Survey 1 Q11, Response 45



DISCOVERY: CHALLENGE #3

Lack of onboarding for decisions that impact discovery

Both server selection and configuration of privacy settings are introduced early on, when users have the least understanding of Mastodon. These touchpoints have major influence on how people discover, and are discovered, within the fediverse.

People reported desiring more guidance from Mastodon when getting started.

- | "I don't want to think about which instance is the most popular or consider if I'm penalized by joining a 'less popular' server."¹⁶
- | Using simpler terms for those who came from other platforms. Like 'server' instead of 'instance'. Discoverability may = Learnability for new users."¹⁷
- | "I'd be happy to be as discoverable as possible by default ... it would be a real bummer to realize later on that I should've toggled on a few settings."¹⁸

¹⁶ Roundtable 2 Participant

¹⁷ Roundtable 2 Participant

¹⁸ Survey 3 Q3, Response 4



READING

“I'm in a vortex that cannot be stopped.”

– Roundtable 1 Participant

Key challenges with reading & the feed

Discovery Week participants frequently described their Mastodon feeds as a “firehose”, “overwhelming,” and full of “noise”.¹⁹

1. Unintuitive threading
2. Boosted posts repeat too frequently
3. Hashtags add value, but also noise
4. Muting is so unintuitive, it's invisible
5. Chronology has limitations

¹⁹ Survey 1 Q10



READING: CHALLENGE #1

Unintuitive threading

Survey respondents reported confusion around the way replies are displayed within Mastodon's main feed.

Opinions on how to remedy this varied: Some respondents desire more context and clearer ordering, while others prefer to have replies entirely hidden from the feed. 1 in 2 survey respondents wished to see post grouping improved.²⁰

- | 'Even if I turn 'don't show replies to posts', I feel like posts aren't grouped nicely. I go through a lot of replies that seem out of context."²¹
- | "I don't want to see replies, and my own posts, in my timeline."²²
- | "I think replies should not be displayed out of context on my main timeline, there is little value in seeing "@foo @bar Agreed!" without also seeing what they replied to."²³
- | "On the home feed, replies should be grouped with the post they are replying to."²⁴

²⁰ Survey 1 Q10

²¹ Survey 1 Q11, Response 1

²² Survey 1 Q11, Response 44

²³ Survey 2 Q8, Response 6

²⁴ Survey 2 Q8, Response 25



What's particularly noteworthy, though, is that the lack of a proper UI solution for replies is so severe that it has actually influenced creators' behaviour.

Survey respondents were asked about the circumstances in which they typically limit their posts' visibility. The #1 reason reported was to avoid spamming others when replying.²⁵

- | "If I'm replying to someone, I try to always use "quiet public" to be considerate of others, since they may not be interested in the conversation."²⁶
- | "Not wanting to flood timelines with replies to my own posts"²⁷
- | "Limited interest for others. I find it boring (best case) or confusing (worst case) to discover bits and pieces of discussions in the public timeline and want to avoid posting like this."²⁸
- | "To stop replies to threads ending up randomly spawning / spamming on my instance's timeline, ending up being interspersed with other people's posts but now appearing out of context"²⁹

²⁵ Survey 2 Q3

²⁶ Survey 2 Q3, Response 7

²⁷ Survey 2 Q3, Response 12

²⁸ Survey 2 Q3, Response 20

²⁹ Survey 2 Q3, Response 21



READING: CHALLENGE #2

Boosted posts repeat too frequently

Users appreciate discovering new content through boosts but don't want to see the same post boosted multiple times.

Mastodon already has a timed threshold to prevent boosts from repeating too often, so this feedback suggests that it's worth expanding the time window or exploring other ways to calculate frequency.

- | "Often see the same post being boosted over and over."³⁰
- | "Showing multiple copies of the same post when multiple people have boosted it."³¹
- | "A popular post easily appears a lot of times on my timeline when boosted by multiple people I follow."³²
- | "I get the feeling I'm missing a lot of people with interesting things to say who are not boosted as much."³³

³⁰ Survey 1 Q11, Response 21

³¹ Survey 1 Q11, Response 23

³² Survey 1 Q11, Response 34

³³ Survey 3 Q8, Response 2



READING: CHALLENGE #3

Hashtags add value, but they also add noise

Hashtag search ranked as the third most popular discovery method.³⁴ Users clearly find value in hashtags, but they also want options for separating hashtags from the main feed.

- | "Following hashtags leads to a lot of spam from automated accounts to filter through, and I'm unable to add them to lists to parse through over time."³⁵
- | "Hashtags can't be put in a list, to separate them."³⁶
- | "I want to keep up with hashtags, but I can't make a list of them. If I try to follow them they just show up in my timeline and that's useless. I love hashtags, but I need to be able to make a list with several of them and keep them out of my timeline."³⁷

³⁴ Survey 1 Q1

³⁵ Survey 1 Q4, Response 54

³⁶ Survey 1 Q11, Response 19

³⁷ Survey 1 Q11, Response 42



READING: CHALLENGE #4

Muting is so unintuitive, it's invisible

Several respondents expressed that they'd like easier and more powerful ways to mute specific posts, keywords and accounts.

This functionality already exists on Mastodon, mostly through the creation of filters. This suggests that the real problem lies in poor usability of the muting and filtering flows. Clearer labelling, consistent entry points, and a single place to manage all muting-adjacent behaviour, would help to bring visibility to Mastodon's robust muting options.

- | "Filters should be easier to add directly from the toot."³⁸
- | "Sometimes I'm in moods for not-politics. If I could have a toggle to temporarily mute some keywords, that'd be really nice."³⁹
- | "Maybe, have the ability to mute boosts from particular folks - like you can with completely muting accounts"⁴⁰
- | "Being able to choose quick muting/muffling/hide boosts directly from the timeline so you can quickly manage things in context."⁴¹

³⁸ Survey 1 Q11, Response 16

³⁹ Survey 1 Q11, Response 22

⁴⁰ Survey 1 Q11, Response 20

⁴¹ Roundtable 1 Participant



READING: CHALLENGE #5

Chronology has limitations

Mastodon's simple, reverse-chronological feed is one of its strengths – there's no hidden algorithm that's selling your attention to someone else.

At the same time, chronology as the *only* means of sorting leads to interesting posts going unread. Discovery Week participants mentioned feeling inhibited by the chronological feed, especially when trying to catch up on posts from 'quiet posters' and people in other time zones.

- | "No easy way to catch up if I haven't been logged on for a day or so. Phanpy's 'catch up; mode, Bluesky's For You / Popular With Friends / Quiet Posters feeds are all helpful here."⁴²
- | "I would like the timeline to "understand" (sorry no concrete suggestion how, yet...) who are those who I am interacting a lot - if they say / recommend something, I think I'd love to see that prominently."⁴³
- | "I'm getting real tired of chronological being the only option for the Home timeline. It causes me to only see posts from the same few people who tend to post just before I look at Mastodon, and miss posts from people in different time zones."⁴⁴

⁴² Survey 1 Q11, Response 23

⁴³ Roundtable 1 Participant

⁴⁴ Survey 1 Q11, Response 39



These requests make sense, as a purely reverse-chronological sort only magnifies the imbalances in frequency of posting. Among respondents who reported using the Lists feature, many mentioned using lists to restore balance between 'quiet posters' and louder voices.

Reasons for using lists on Mastodon:

- | "To ensure I don't miss posts from people who post less frequently"⁴⁵
- | "to create a feed of people i like and whose new content i definitely don't want to miss so they're all in one list i can navigate through reading all posts in it since the last check when i have time"⁴⁶
- | "To group people that post a lot of threads into a separate feed"⁴⁷
- | "To separate out people who post too much, into their own Verbose list."⁴⁸

⁴⁵ Survey 1 Q6

⁴⁶ Survey 1 Q6

⁴⁷ Survey 1 Q6

⁴⁸ Survey 1 Q6



ENGAGEMENT

“To engage is to be exposed.”

– Roundtable 5 Participant

Key challenges with engagement

Participants were overall more satisfied with the composing experience than with other aspects of Mastodon.⁴⁹ The bigger issues impacting engagement exist at a higher level: harassment, self-censorship, and a lack of felt privacy and belonging.

1. Lack of reply controls
2. No infrastructure for smaller, private communities
3. General confusion about visibility options & consequences
4. Lack of consensus on posting etiquette

⁴⁹ Survey 3 Q12, Q14



ENGAGEMENT: CHALLENGE #1

Lack of reply controls

There was one issue that was mentioned on all five days of Discovery Week, and that was Mastodon's current lack of reply controls.

Specific complaints included an inability to fully detach replies from blocked users and a fear of followers-only replies leading to harassment.

Additionally, respondents expressed expectations of a different reply architecture, one in which the top-level post controls the visibility of all replies to that post. What's important to note is the architecture isn't specific to Mastodon – it's a current default *across the fediverse*.

"When a post breaches containment and a bad actor posts on my thread, my blocks don't remove their post from my thread. Which means their harm, and their followers' harms are perpetuated. I've had to delete posts to isolate their replies."⁵⁰

"Making a reply visible only to the replier's followers... breaks the obvious expectation AND allows bad actors to limit the visibility of their attacks to only people they're already friends with."⁵¹

"On Facebook, you have the option. But on Twitter and also Blue Sky, you also have the option to prevent non-followers to respond. So that is part one. If that was already possible then it will be huge win."⁵²

⁵⁰ Roundtable 3 Participant

⁵¹ Survey 2 Q7, Response 26

⁵² Roundtable 4 Participant



ENGAGEMENT: CHALLENGE #2

No infrastructure for smaller, private communities

There's strong evidence of a desire for tighter-knit communities. In fact, half of respondents use lists to keep up with communities⁵³ – but this isn't a full solution, as lists only serve as filters for the timeline, not as containers for more private conversations.

Notably, very few respondents requested a multi-feature community interface in Mastodon. An expansion of post visibility controls would be enough for many.

| "sometimes feels overly public. i spend more of my online time now in smaller, private communities, like discord and slack."⁵⁴

| "Many of my users are frustrated/discouraged by the difficulty and lack of options for how to control who can see/interact with their post. Often wishing for more options (local server only, or "circles")"⁵⁵

| "I would like the option of having "friends-only" posts, visible only to people I have added to a list (or followed). This would open Mastodon up to more personal connection, facilitating for people to engage in the kinds of conversations they might not want to be visible to strangers."⁵⁶

⁵³ Survey 1 Q6

⁵⁴ Roundtable 1 Participant

⁵⁵ Roundtable 2 Participant

⁵⁶ Survey 3 Q3, Response 12



ENGAGEMENT: CHALLENGE #3

General confusion about visibility options & consequences

Mastodon has more post visibility configurations than many other platforms, and this flexibility is part of what many enjoy about the fediverse.

However, Mastodon's current UI makes it difficult for many to understand (and trust) the available visibility settings.

Confusion about 'quiet public'

- | "I'm not sure I understand it well, but I don't want my replies in a conversation to appear to people who follow me but not the other person, and I believe "quiet public" is the way to do that"⁵⁷
- | "It feels like it's encouraged behavior to mark replies to public posts as "quiet public" ... truth be told, I can't explain exactly what that even does, but it seems to be the right thing to do."⁵⁸

⁵⁷ Survey 2 Q3, Response 27

⁵⁸ Survey 2 Q3, Response 63



UI-induced panic about private messages appearing alongside regular posts

- | "DMs as posts seem risky to me personally, especially with brand accounts for example."⁵⁹
- | "Private mentions should be totally separated in the UI conceptually. It's still too prone to mix it up in the "normal" timeline and between different replies."⁶⁰
- | "I also don't feel confident about how private/direct mentions/messages work and whether they're truly private, so I avoid using them"⁶¹
- | "I really want direct messages to work as a separate use case, e.g. I don't get a heart attack because it's in the feed"⁶²

⁵⁹ Roundtable 2 Participant

⁶⁰ Survey 2 Q8, Response 1

⁶¹ Survey 2 Q8, Response 2

⁶² Survey 2 Q8, Response 3

Misunderstanding of 'followers-only' visibility option on replies

- 1 in 3 survey respondents did not understand what would happen if they selected 'Followers' visibility when replying to someone's post (even with a typo in the survey question that made the answer glaringly obvious).⁶³
- | "I expected it to be visible to followers of both, and I feel like the replies are probably more relevant to followers of the original tooter than to my followers."⁶⁴

⁶³ Survey 2 Q5

⁶⁴ Survey 2 Q7, Response 4



ENGAGEMENT: CHALLENGE #4

Lack of consensus on posting etiquette

Decentralisation brings freedom of choice: Pick a server, and you're also picking a code of conduct that matches your own ethos. But with over 7 thousand active Mastodon servers,⁶⁵ vast differences inevitably exist and create tension.

Differing expectations, paired with a strong callout culture on Mastodon, leads some people to self-censorship.

- | "There are some strong opinions about how to "do it right" and I don't agree with some of them. You can get quite harsh push-back."⁶⁶
- | "friends I had convinced to try [Mastodon] were scared away by the HOA"⁶⁷
- | "I feel like people have strong opinions about what they believe appropriate behaviour is on Mastodon. Sometimes the culture could be a bit more welcoming."⁶⁸

⁶⁵ Mastodon metrics pulled on Jul 29, 2026
(<https://joinmastodon.org/about>)

⁶⁶ Survey 4 Q12, Response 2

⁶⁷ Survey 4 Q12, Response 9

⁶⁸ Survey 4 Q12, Response 16



The answer doesn't lie in forcing the fediverse to act like a centralized platform.

It's not a matter of how to enforce homogeneous rules across servers, but rather, how the software might support readers' various preferences without placing excessive restrictions on creators.

| “Mastodon has a very robust filtering system. It's rare to see a social media service give you the ability to write what keywords you don't want to see and hide them entirely, but I feel like it's underutilized. Every day I see people requesting others to be more specific with their usage of content warnings because some posts show content they don't want to see, however I think those folks should just add a filter... that's functionally the same as a content warning without putting the burden on to others... It's surprising how many users didn't seem to know that such a feature existed when I describe it as one of the best features of Mastodon.”⁶⁹

⁶⁹ Roundtable 4 Participant



Additional, in-depth insights can be found in the survey results and roundtable findings.

Discussion



“I feel like I’m in a
desert.”

“I’m in a **vortex** that
cannot be stopped.”

“To engage is to be
exposed.”

Mastodon is a powerful ecosystem. But to many, it currently feels like a *wilderness*.
What would it take to turn Mastodon into an *oasis*? What changes would make users feel
more guided, protected, and in control?



Immediate wins

In Discovery Week, you reminded us that although the fediverse has unavoidable complexity, there are plenty of opportunities to make things *feel* simpler through Mastodon's UI. In the next few releases, we'll introduce more clarity through clearer labels, entry points and visual affordances.

In late 2026, keep an eye out for upgrades to navigation and the composer. If time permits, we'll also make it easier to access existing filters and actions to control your feed.

In early 2027, we plan to build a better experience for new user onboarding, the display of threaded conversations, and user settings.



Exploring next

There's much to improve about search and discovery on Mastodon, and we finally have the technical foundation to build a better solution. Expect an upgrade in the first half of 2027.

Search and discovery are deeply impacted by user privacy settings – and the entire settings experience is running on legacy code. In 2027, we also plan to ship a redesign of the settings experience that will benefit end users as well as system admins and moderators.

Some of the most-requested features during Discovery Week already exist on Mastodon: Namely, advanced filters and pinned (no, not followed, *pinned*) hashtags. If resourced, we'll be able to bring these power features to the forefront in new and simpler ways.

Meanwhile, additional aspects throughout the interface (e.g. notifications) may get a UI makeover, aiming once again for increased usability and clarity.



Bigger bets

Unsurprisingly, many of the problems most worth solving are also the most complex to address. Some of these initiatives will require fediverse-wide collaboration, and we might actually need to break a few things in order to reconstruct them in a way that matches what people actually need. Fortunately, in Discovery Week, you helped us build a compelling case for prioritising the complex backend work necessary to make progress on these initiatives over the next few years.

Sizeable undertakings include changes to the post-reply architecture, reply controls, better content filters/warnings, posts scoped to closed groups/communities, and end-to-end encrypted messages.

This is by no means an exhaustive list, nor is it a set-in-stone roadmap. As future discovery reveals important community needs we haven't identified, we'll revisit and reprioritise accordingly.



Beyond the tech

Try as we may, we won't solve all of Mastodon's problems through design and code alone. Several challenges hinted at during Discovery Week are not technical, but cultural: Safety scored several points lower for LGBTQIA+ survey respondents, and Black users were notably absent from the participant pool.⁷⁰

Techno-elitism and norms policing make it harder for non-technical newcomers to thrive in the fediverse.⁷¹ Meanwhile, a longstanding overreliance on server governance as a solution for protecting users of color, LGBTQIA+ folks, sex workers, and other marginalised users facing harassment, ignores the fact that these very communities often lack the resources necessary to sustainably host and govern their own instances.⁷²

These issues won't be solved overnight. What's worth keeping in mind now is that the choices we make when engaging with each other online can either contribute to a thriving, diverse fediverse or a dwindling, homogeneous one.

We're in it for the thriving version, and glad to be building it alongside you.

⁷⁰ Intro Survey Q8

⁷¹ Thomas Struett, Aram Sinnreich, Patricia Aufderheide, and Robert W. Gehl, "Can This Platform Survive? Governance Challenges for the Fediverse," *International Journal of Communication* 18 (2024): 5614.

⁷² Justin Hendrix and Johnathan Flowers, "The Whiteness of Mastodon," Tech Policy Press, November 23, 2022, <https://techpolicy.press/the-whiteness-of-mastodon/>.

