

Interoperability of Events in the Fediverse

status quo and vision

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Why the Event Object matters in the Fediverse

Social Media Like

- Interaction: boost, like, reply, join, etc.
- **Discovery:** search, trends, timelines

Beyond typical Social Media

- aggregated calendars ("push-iCal")
- attendee management

Screenshot 1: Gancio Admin UI

Federation



Turn on federation

It will be possible to follow this instance from the fediverse



Show federated events on the home page

Incoming events from trusted federated sources will be shown by default on the home page. To only show some events you can use collections



Turn on resources

Allows adding audio, images and comments to the event from the fediverse



Hides boost/bookmarks

Hides the small icons showing the number of boosts and bookmarks coming from the fediverse

Default fediverse hashtags





The specified tags will be added to events sent to the fediverse

Navigation label for trusted federated sources

Externe Veranstaltungsquellen

The default label is 'Other locations'



Screenshot 2: Gancio Admin UI

+ ADD TRUSTED FEDERATED SOURCE

Name ∨	Info ∨	URL V	Following ~	Actions
APORON 21 @wordpressadmin@www.aporon21.org		https:// www.aporon21.org/ author/aporon-21/		×
Schaumbad @schaumbad@schaumbad.mur.at	Freies Atelierhaus Graz We are a self-organized platform of artists working in all artistic fields. There are permanent studios for about 50 artists & amp; a venue for exhibitions.	https:// schaumbad.mur.at/ @schaumbad		×
Offensive gegen Rechts Steiermark @ogr_steiermark@www.ogr-stmk.at	Offensive Gegen Rechts Graz - ein überparteiliches Bündnis gegen die FPÖ, Rechts und Faschismus	https://www.ogr- stmk.at/ @ogr_steiermark		×
PyGraz @pygraz@events.graz.social	<a <br="" href="https://pygraz.org">target="_blank" rel="noopener noreferrer ugc">https://pygraz.org	https:// events.graz.social/ <u>@pygraz</u>		×
Empty Closet Graz @empty_closet_graz@events.graz.social	Lokaler Verein von und für die queere Community in Graz	<pre>https:// events.graz.social/ @empty_closet_graz</pre>		×
Alternativreferat ÖH Uni Graz @alternativreferat@events.graz.social	Alternativreferat Referat für Menschenrechte, Gesellschaftspolitik und Ökologie E-Mail: alternativ@oehunigraz.at	https://events.graz.social/@alternativreferat		×

Mobilizon















Interoperability

Other applications receiving remote data:

- can't interpret
- partial interpretation
- misinterpretation

In federation those can confuse users!

Visibility

Platform	Visibility Rules		
Mobilizon	Actor type of publisherIf remote: only announced events are listed		
Gancio	All equal with requirement: as:Public		
LAUTI	Idea: feature events by certain conditions		

⇒ Different approaches and **no shared advanced specification for discoverability**

Visibility

Event applications have different needs:

- Timeline is not that important
- Lists are mostly sorted by start time
- Filters are important: location, categories, etc.
- Trending/Featured events

Event Organizer(s)

Mobilizon

- Groups, Persons, Relay
- publisher = organizer = attributedTo

Gancio

- Single ActivityPub profile per instance
- No concept of organizers
- ⇒ Publishing profile **might not be** the organizer!

Physical Location

Platform	Where is the address			
Mobilizon	sc:address as sc:PostalAddress			
Gancio	sc:address as string			
Friendica	as:name as string			
WordPress	Depends on used event plugin			

sc: https://schema.org/

as: https://www.w3.org/ns/activitystreams#

Online Location

Platform	Address Type			
Gancio	sc:VirtualLocation			
WordPress	sc:VirtualLocation			
Mobilizon	mz:isOnline with as:Link as attachment			
Friendica	_			

Not-implemented: "mainly online"

sc: https://schema.org/

as: https://www.w3.org/ns/activitystreams#

mz: https://joinmobilizon.org/ns#

Start and End Time

Special cases:

- whole day
- open end
- postponed event with no new start time, but just https://schema.org/previousStartTime
- multiday-events with opening hours
- recurring events

Event Status

Platform	Status Information			
Mobilizon	ical:status: CONFIRMED, TENTATIVE, CANCELLED			
Gancio	_			
Friendica	_			
WordPress	depends on event plugin			

⇒ iCal misses: moved online, postponed or rescheduled

ical: http://www.w3.org/2002/12/cal/ical#

More Metadata in Mobilizon

```
"type": "Event",
"attachment": [
    "propertyID": "mz:accessibility:wheelchairAccessible",
    "type": "PropertyValue",
    "value": "fully"
    "propertyID": "mz:accessibility:live:sign_language",
    "type": "PropertyValue",
    "value": false
```

Intermezzo: Non-Event-Focused Fediverse

Mastodon

• Converts Event to Note -like status:

```
<br/>
<br/>
SUMMARY
<a href="ID">URL</a>
```

• Did not support Update on Event objects until 2025-10-28

Sharkey

Always interprets summary as content warning

Mobilizon















Problem Conclusion

Event implementations across federated applications:

- Serve different purposes
- Operate at different scopes
- Contain different levels of detail
- **⇒ Different assumptions for an Event object**

Mobilizon















Vision

Different event applications:

- small big world-wide
- recurring events
- attendee management
- online events
- organizer(s)
- Invite VS Announce

All are valid use cases!

⇒ They should **coexist** as well as possible

Fediverse Enhancement Proposals (FEPs)

Screenshot: https://codeberg.org/fediverse/fep

Title	Status	Tracking issue	dateReceived	<pre>dateFinalized (or dateWithdrawn)</pre>
FEP-a4ed: The Fediverse Enhancement Proposal Process	FINAL	#201	2020-10-16	2021-01-18
FEP-8fcf: Followers collection synchronization across servers	FINAL	#6	2020-10-24	2022-02-07
FEP-f1d5: NodeInfo in Fediverse Software	FINAL	#50	2020-12-13	2023-06-02
FEP-400e: Publicly-appendable ActivityPub collections	FINAL	#5	2021-02-16	2022-02-04
FEP-8c3f: Web Monetization	WITHDRAWN	#3	2022-01-18	2023-10-27

FEP-8a8e: A common approach on using the Event object type

Design guidelines

- Be a friendly guide for developers
- Be the least common denominator to avoid false assumptions
 ⇒ value all the different needs
- Machine readable, resolveable term definitions
 e.g. https://w3id.org/fep/8a8e/upcomingEvents
- Does **not** cover: recurring or sub-events

What's Next?

- **FEP-8a8e** is open for review and feedback
- Implementations: Mobilizon, Gancio, WordPress, and possibly LAUTI
- Gather: All are invited to join: Friendica, Hubzilla, Plemora etc.
- More FEPs: e.g. recurring and events with multiple occurrences
- Explore FASPs for Events: Fediverse Auxiliary Service Providers

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