

Twitter exits FAIR and is no longer a dissemination solution



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Keywords

Twitter, Mastodon, Wikipathways

Abstract

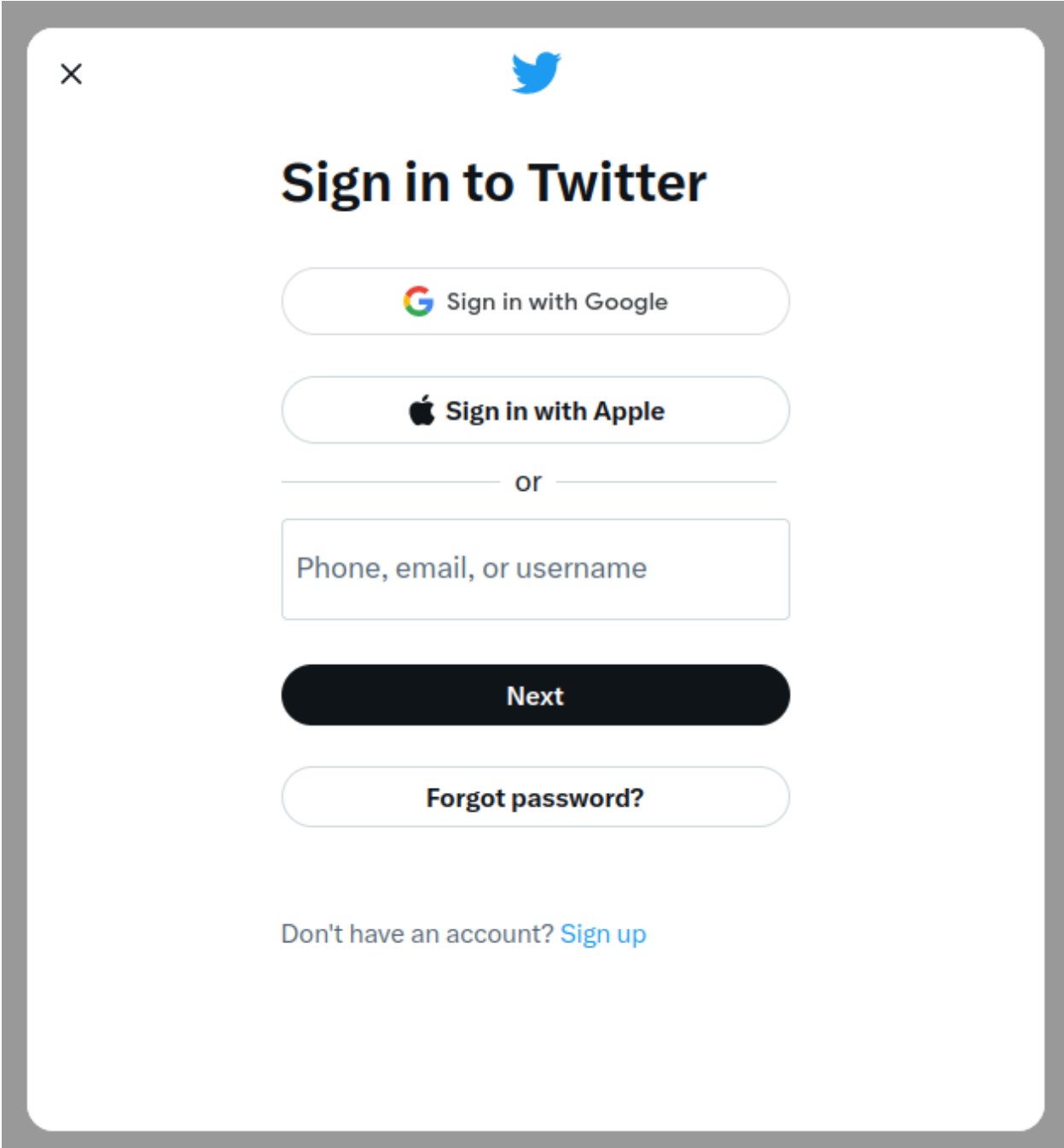
And just like that, without a warning, Twitter changed policies again, and you now need a Twitter account and be logged in to see public tweets: Twitter has started blocking unregistered users (The Verge). Though I learned it first via Mastodon, of course.

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For example, this is what happens when you go to twitter.com/wikipathways:

A screenshot of a Twitter sign-in modal. At the top left is a close button (X). At the top center is the Twitter bird logo. Below the logo is the heading "Sign in to Twitter". There are three rounded rectangular buttons stacked vertically: "Sign in with Google" (with the Google logo), "Sign in with Apple" (with the Apple logo), and a separator line with the word "or" in the center. Below these is a rectangular input field with the placeholder text "Phone, email, or username". Under the input field is a dark blue rounded rectangular button labeled "Next". Below that is another rounded rectangular button labeled "Forgot password?". At the bottom of the modal is the text "Don't have an account? Sign up" where "Sign up" is a blue link.

Fortunately, [WikiPathways](#) does have a [Mastodon account](#), that anyone can see without having a Mastodon account. You can even follow WikiPathways's account with [its RSS feed](#). Dissemination should not be paywalled.

Maybe Musk has been talking to Elsevier and Springer Nature.

Tip: [Finding Mastodon accounts with Wikidata \(a few SPARQL queries\)](#)

chem-bla-ics

Update: Musk said this was a temporary measure. The problem was scraping of content, you know, the content we openly share on Twitter. Maybe they could have done this with APIs. Oh wait, they closed those behind a very expensive paywall.

Update 2: Another rumor is that they forgot to make a deal with a cloud provider and suddenly were left with a fraction of the computing power.

Update 3: The access has been restored, so you can start scraping/archiving all interesting tweets again.