

Integrating comments via the Fediverse

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Abstract

My old blog had (has) comments via the Blogger.com platform, but I did not have anything for the new blog. A couple of options are used, like Disqus and comments via GitHub. However, these both have the downside of a vendor lock-in and the whole point of moving my blog was to break out from such lock-ins.

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chem-bla-ics

My [old blog](#) had (has) comments via the Blogger.com platform, but I did not have anything for the new blog. A couple of options are used, like Disqus and [comments via GitHub](#). However, these both have the downside of a [vendor lock-in](#) and the whole point of moving my blog was to break out from such lock-ins.

Almost half a year ago I read [this post](#) by [Bastian](#) about, well, *integrating comments via the Fediverse*. He explains a solution worked out in 2021 by [Robert W. Gehl](#). I liked this idea and had the blog post bookmarked for some time. But I did not get around working it [out until Monday](#). I had to do some [CSS fixing](#) after that, but I can now have fediverse-powered comments in my blog by adding a bit of YAML, like this:

comments:

```
host: social.edu.nl
username: egonw
id: 115009169485329450
```

I have annotated a few posts now, and will have some curation to do. But when I have made such a link, the this is what it will look like by default:

Comments

You can use your [Mastodon](#) or other *ActivityPub*-based *Fediverse*-account to comment on this article by [leaving a publicly visible reply to this associated post](#). Content warnings are supported. You can also delete your comments at any time by deleting your post on the Fediverse.

[Load comments from Fediverse](#)

After clicking the button (I want to style that a bit better), it shows the fediverse reactions:

Comments

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[Egon Willigh@gen](#)  @ 2025-08-11

I am trying the [#fediverse](#) commenting [@gedankenstuecke](#) blogged about some months ago. See <https://tzovar.as/commenting/>

And it works, this reply should show up at <https://chem-bla-ics.linkedchemistry.info/2025/08/11/the-internet-journal-of-chemistry.html>

↩ 1 | ↻ 0 | ★ 0



[Bastian Greshake Tzovaras](#) @ 2025-08-11

[@egonw](#) looks like it works, but might be missing some styling still? :)

↩ 1 | ↻ 0 | ★ 0



[Egon Willigh@gen](#)  @ 2025-08-11

[@gedankenstuecke](#) yes, indeed :) Fixed now.

↩ 0 | ↻ 0 | ★ 0

There are some things that I like to improve. For example, clicking the *reply*, *boost*, or *like* buttons doesn't do anything yet. But there is code around that will show a popup box to redirect you to your home fediserver. Let's see how this evolves.