HWC.Brussels – WHAT?

- HWC = Homebrew Website Club
- Inspired by Homebrew Computer Club
- Informal gathering
- Exchange, teach each other
- Focus on Indie web, self-hosting, decentralization & privacy
HWC.Brussels – WHY?

- Learn how the Internet works
- Internet hijacked by Silicon Valley giants
- Reclaim control over our online identities and privacy
- Apply new technologies to the founding principles of the Internet
HWC.Brussels — Solutions

- Self-hosting
Self-hosting

What is the issue?

- On Facebook/Twitter/Gmail … you don’t own your content! They do.
- Blog posts, conversations with friends, calendars, contacts can all disappear and be exploited
- No data mobility
- Lack of privacy
HWC.Brussels — Solutions

• Self-hosting
  • Host your own solutions
  • Control your data
  • Keep it private
  • Mobility / Data portability
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

- Self-hosting
- Cloudron
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

- Self-hosting
  - Yunohost
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

- **Self-hosting**
  - Host your own website
  - Own your content
  - Have 100% control
  - Publish to your favorite social networks
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

• Self-hosting

• Nextcloud (file sharing)
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

- Self-hosting
- Rocket.Chat
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- Self-hosting
- Email/Contacts/Calendars
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- Decentralization
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- Decentralized vs Centralized
HWC.Brussels – Solutions

• Centralization of the Internet
  • Internet was decentralized from the beginning
  • Things are changing
  • Information concentrated in silos
  • Loss of control by the users
  • Censorship
  • A screw-up can block a whole continent’s Internet
HWC.Brussels — Solutions

• Decentralized solutions
  • Different instances of a service run separately & talk to each other (ex: email)
  • No central point of control -> no censorship
  • Apply your own rules on your own instance
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- Decentralized solutions
  - Mastodon
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- Decentralized solutions
- Diaspora
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• Security
  • Encryption not always easy
  • PGP works fine but not accessible to non-geeks
  • End-to-end encryption now standard
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• Security
  • Mobile communications inside the family
  • Use Signal!
  • Not Whatsapp
  • Not SMS
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- Security
  - VPN
  - Surf the web securely
- Freedome VPN
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• Hardware
  • Internet Cube (Brique Internet)
  • [https://internetcu.be/](https://internetcu.be/)
  • Self-hosting
  • VPN
  • All in one box
HWC.Brussels — Solutions

- **Hardware**
  - Nextcloud Box
  - Cloud storage in your living room
  - [https://nextcloud.com/box/](https://nextcloud.com/box/)
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- Monthly meetings in Brussels
- Mutual aid – exchange - discussion
- Open to everyone (!)
- Beers and chips
- Website: https://hwc.brussels
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Reclaim control over your online identity and data!

Join us!