A TimeBanking application

Lab5 – Chat, ratings and aesthetic

Learning objectives

- Implement a simple chat
- Add a rating system
- Take care of usability and look and feel

Description

You will improve the app created in the previous lab by adding a communication channel among system users in order to agree on a time slot and a mechanism to rate users.

When a time slot is available, there will be a way to open a chat between the current user and the time slot offerer in order to set up an agreement. When a chat message is sent, it is stored on Firebase and displayed on the other user screen provided that the app is opened. The chat will give the possibility to accept the incoming request or reject it. When a request is accepted, the status of the time slot is updated accordingly and no other user will be able to request it. Furthermore, a time slot credit is transferred from the requesting user to the other. If this is not possible, the request is canceled and the status of the time slot becomes available again.

The app must show two new screens: the first one will show all the offers the user is interested in and the second one contains a list of the time slots assigned to him or accepted by him.

After the work is done, the two users can rate each other with a number (collected using the five-star methodology) and, optionally, a textual comment. This rate can be given only once for each service. Update the user profile so that user rating is shown, both as requesting and offering the time slot.

Furthermore you will finalize your app improving its look and feel to make it consistent and appealing. Choose a logo if you still don't have one, be sure that your product has consistency, both in each single page and through pages (icons, buttons, colors, text, language, …), make the contents simple and flowing. Finally make some tests with potential users and use their suggestions to improve your app. Now your project is ready to be presented.

Submission rules

- Lab must be submitted by next lab
- The functionalities implemented in your code as well as the design of the user interface will be evaluated
- Before submitting, clean the project using *Build -> Clean Project*
- Create a zip file with your project and name it groupXX_lab5.zip
- Upload it on the Polito web portal (only one student of the group must upload it); for multiple uploads, only the most recent file will be evaluated