

# Alumni network user manual 2021

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Alumni corporation



<https://github.com/Alumni-Network-App>





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# Getting started

## Cloning the repository

To get started right away, you will need to begin by cloning the latest version of the application on GitHub.

Start by heading to the following repository:

***<https://github.com/Alumni-Network-App/alumni-network-client>***

After locating the repository, the next step is to **clone** the project.

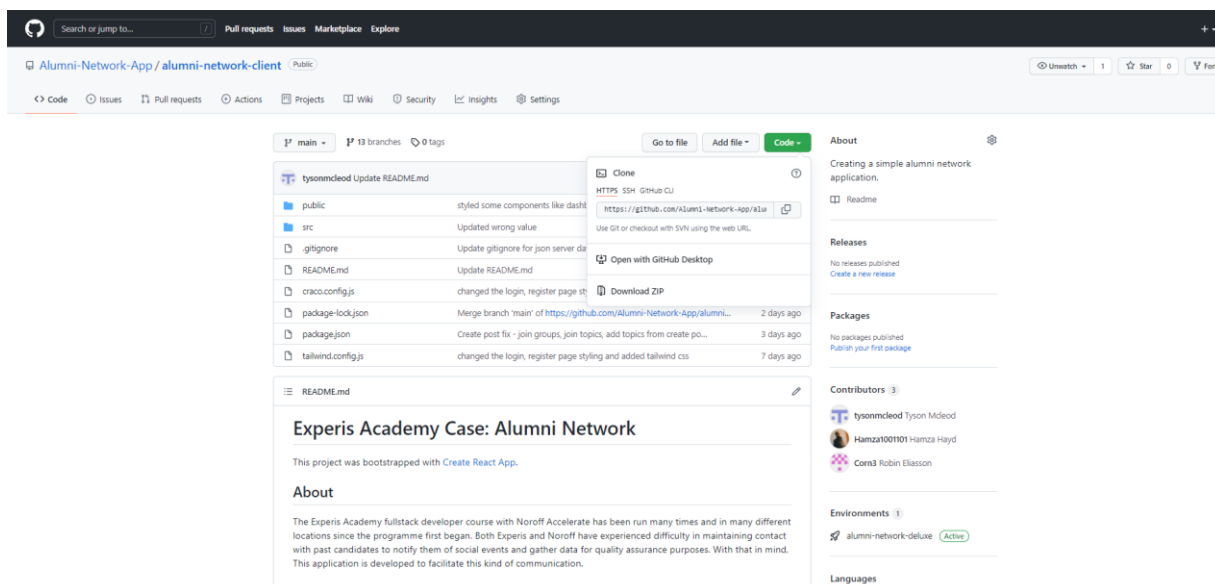


Figure 1 alumni-network-repository

# Installation

## Installing dependencies

Upon successfully cloning the repository from GitHub, your task is now to install dependencies. To do this, make sure you have a working version of node and npm (see: <https://nodejs.org/en/download/>).

Now locate to the root of the application in a command line or terminal and run the following command:

**npm install**

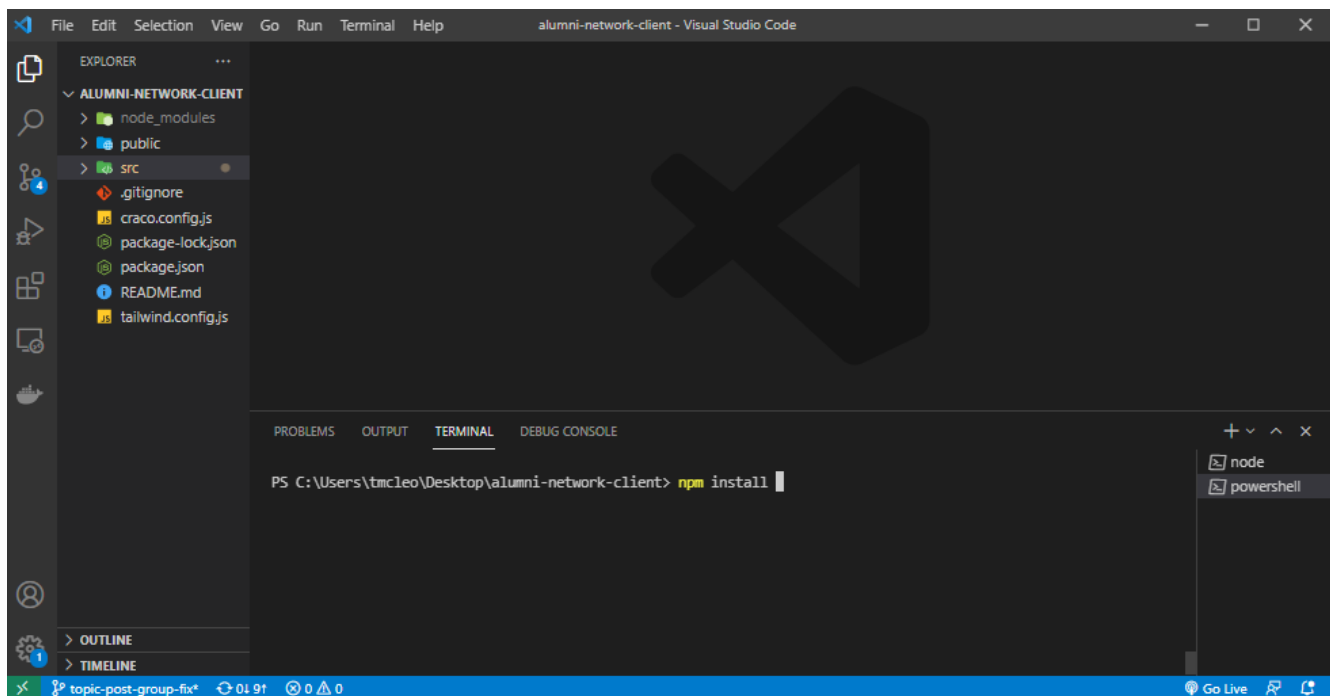
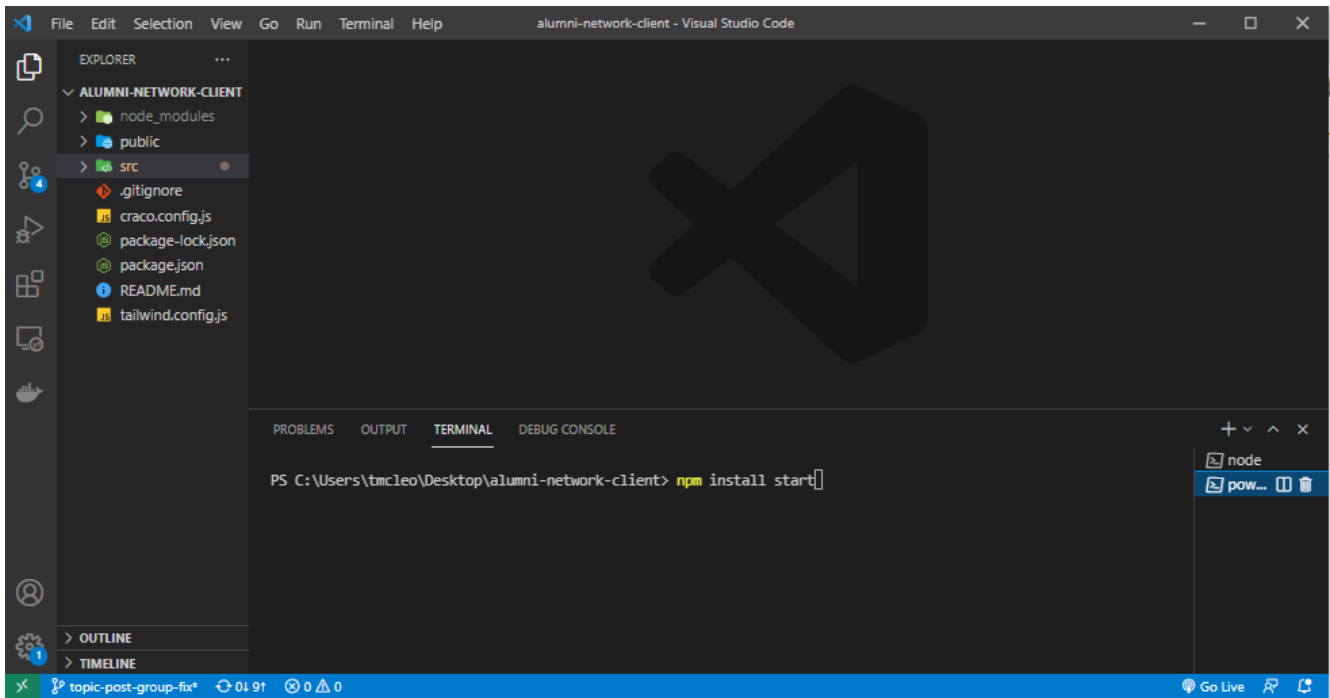


Figure 2 installing dependencies

## Starting the application in development mode

After installing the dependencies, you are now able to start the project locally in development mode. To do this, run the following command in your command line or terminal:

**npm start**



*Figure 3 starting the application*

You should be able to access the application by opening localhost:3000 in your browser.

# Using the application

## Login and Sign Up

The first page you will see is the login and sign up page. On this page you can:

- Register a new account using email
- Register a new account using a google account
- Login in with existing user credentials

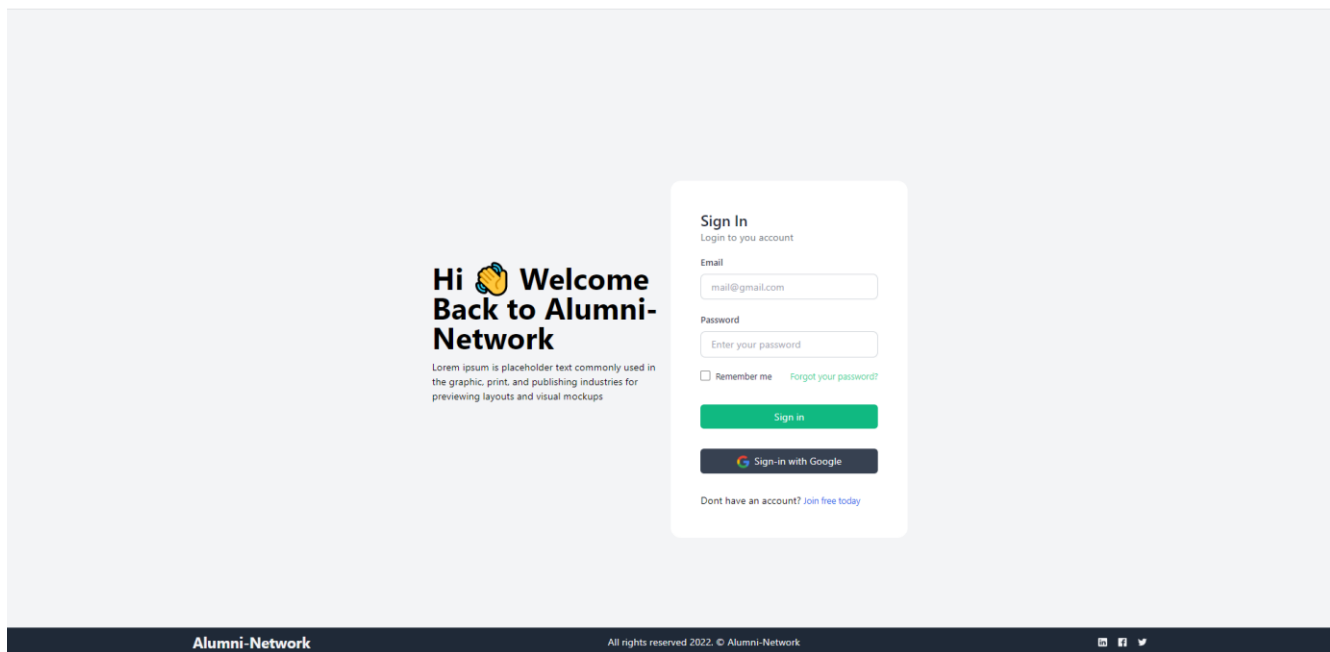


Figure 4 login and registration page

After a successful login, you will be redirected to the user dashboard page.

## User dashboard

From the use dashboard page you will be able to:

- View a list of topics
- View your user profile card
- Update your user profile card
- Create a post
- Create a group
- View all groups
- Log out

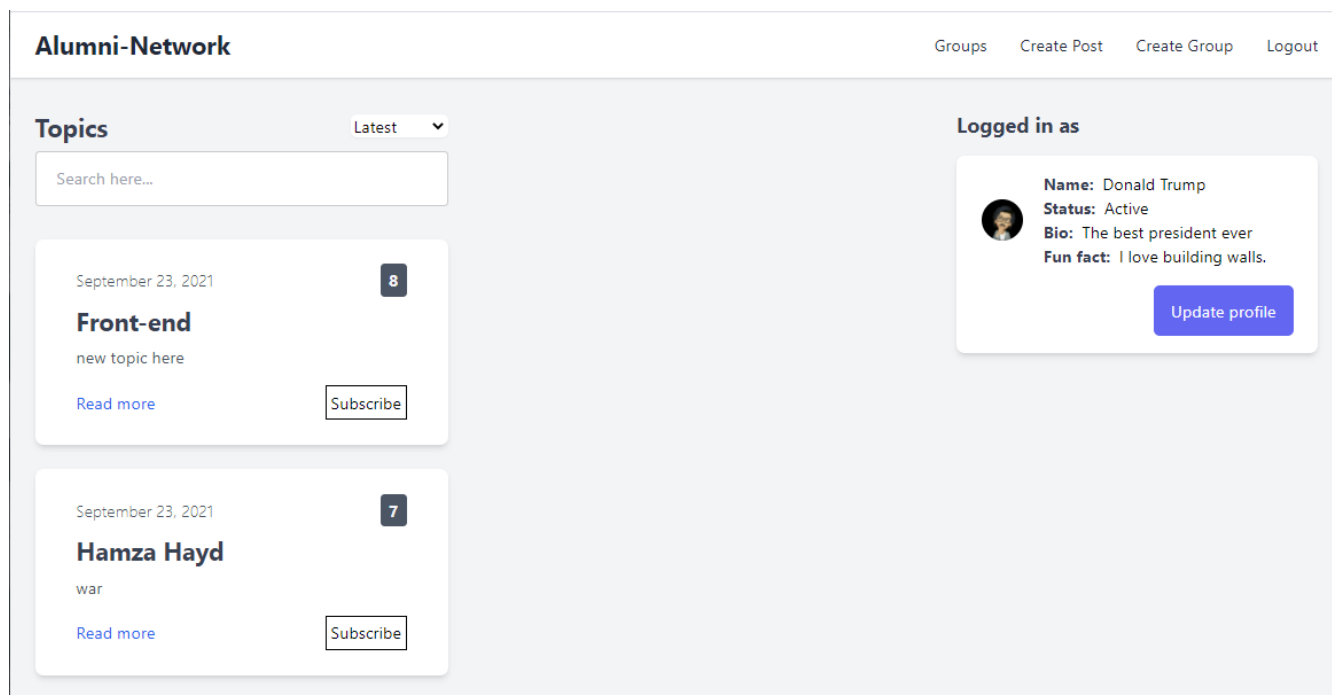
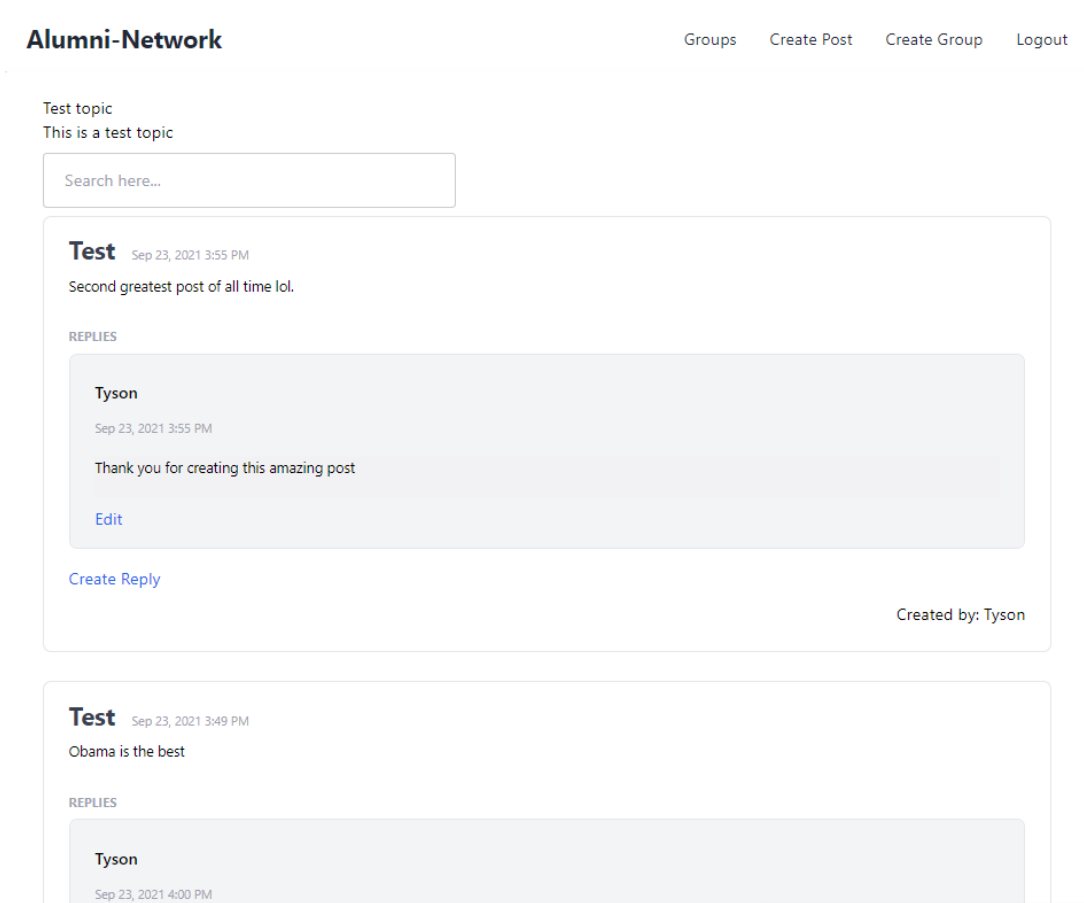


Figure 5 User dashboard



## View topics

On the dashboard, a user is presented with a searchable list of topics. To view the content, a user must first click on the subscribe button. Upon subscribing to a topic, a user will then be able to see a topic's post's and their replies.

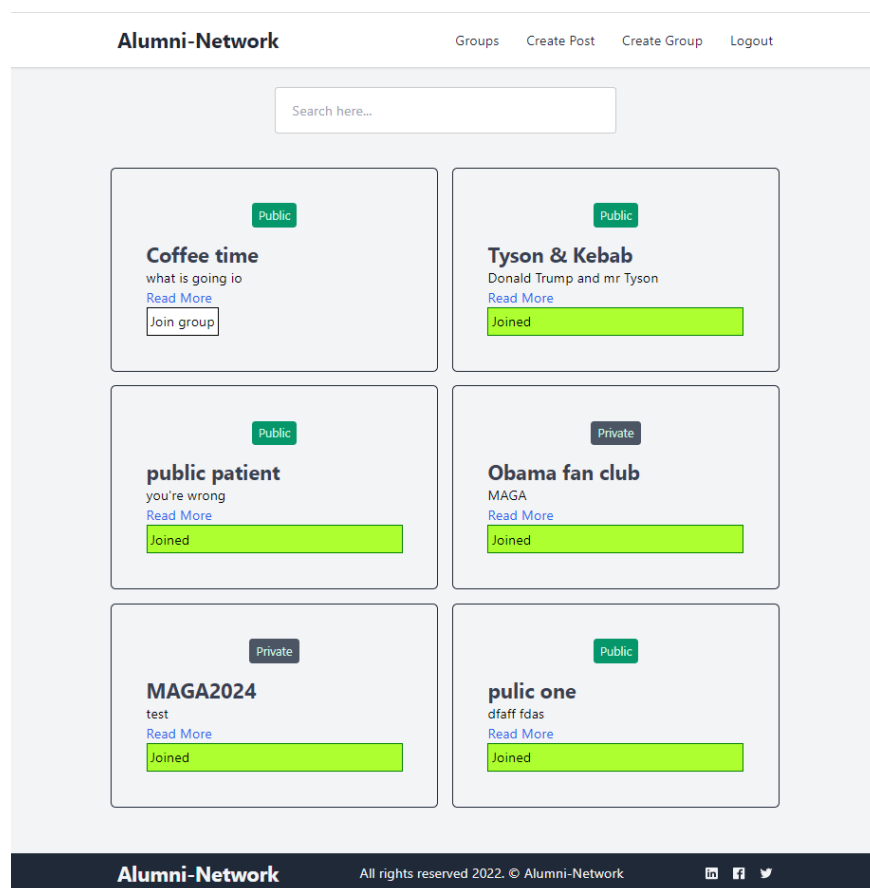


**Figure 6** list of topics

A is also presented the option to reply to posts.

## View groups

By clicking the groups button in the navigation bar, the user is redirected to a page which shows a list of groups. To view the content, a user must first click on the join group button. Upon joining a group, a user will then be able to see a group's post's and their replies.

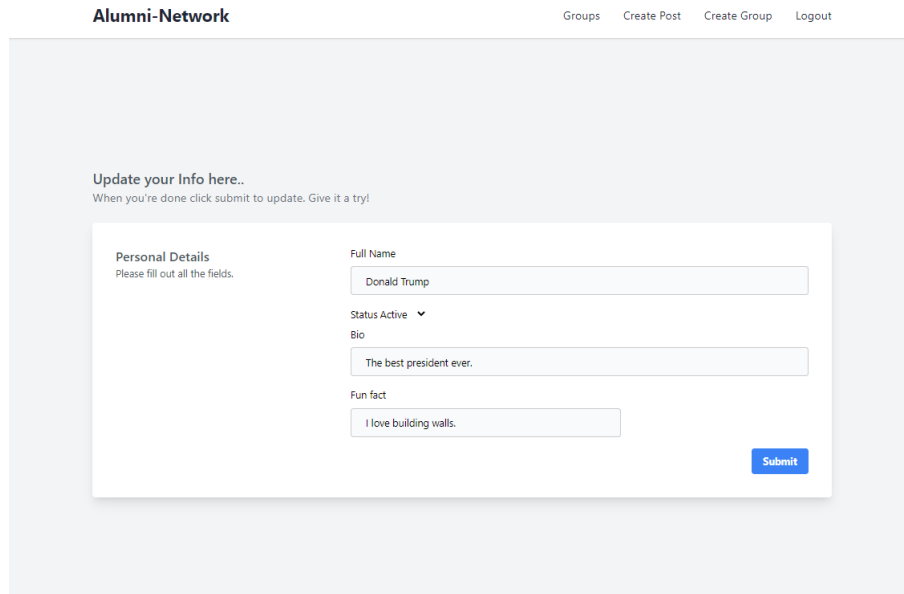


*Figure 7 list of groups*

A is also presented the option to comment by pressing the create reply button.

## Updating your profile

Once a user has logged in, a user details card is shown on the dashboard. The user can update their profile by changing their display name, status, bio and fun fact.

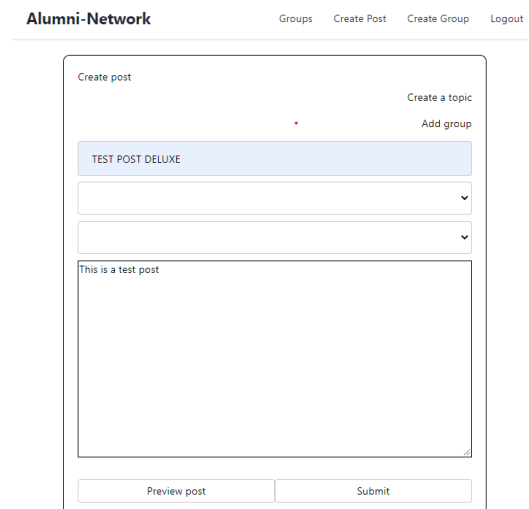


The screenshot shows the 'Update your Info here..' form in the Alumni-Network dashboard. The form is titled 'Personal Details' and includes a sub-header 'Please fill out all the fields.' It contains four input fields: 'Full Name' (with the value 'Donald Trump'), 'Status Active' (a dropdown menu), 'Bio' (with the value 'The best president ever.'), and 'Fun fact' (with the value 'I love building walls.'). A blue 'Submit' button is located at the bottom right of the form. The dashboard header includes the 'Alumni-Network' logo and navigation links for 'Groups', 'Create Post', 'Create Group', and 'Logout'.

*Figure 8 update user settings page*

## Creating a Post

A user can create post by following the link in the navigation bar. On this page, the user can choose or add groups, as well as choose or add topics. All fields are required when creating a post.



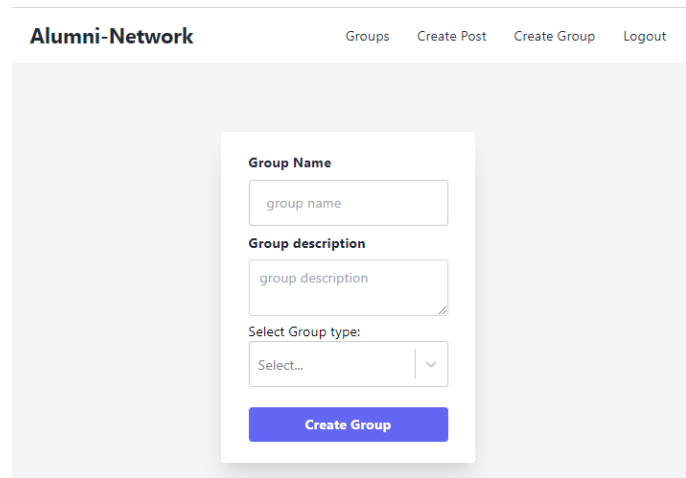
The screenshot shows the 'Create post' form in the Alumni-Network dashboard. The form is titled 'Create post' and includes a sub-header 'Create a topic' and 'Add group'. It contains three input fields: 'TEST POST DELUXE', a dropdown menu, and another dropdown menu. A large text area for the post content is also present, with the text 'This is a test post'. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Preview post' and 'Submit'. The dashboard header includes the 'Alumni-Network' logo and navigation links for 'Groups', 'Create Post', 'Create Group', and 'Logout'.

*Figure 9 creating a post*

## Creating a Group

A user can create a group by following the link in the navigation bar. All fields are required when creating a group.

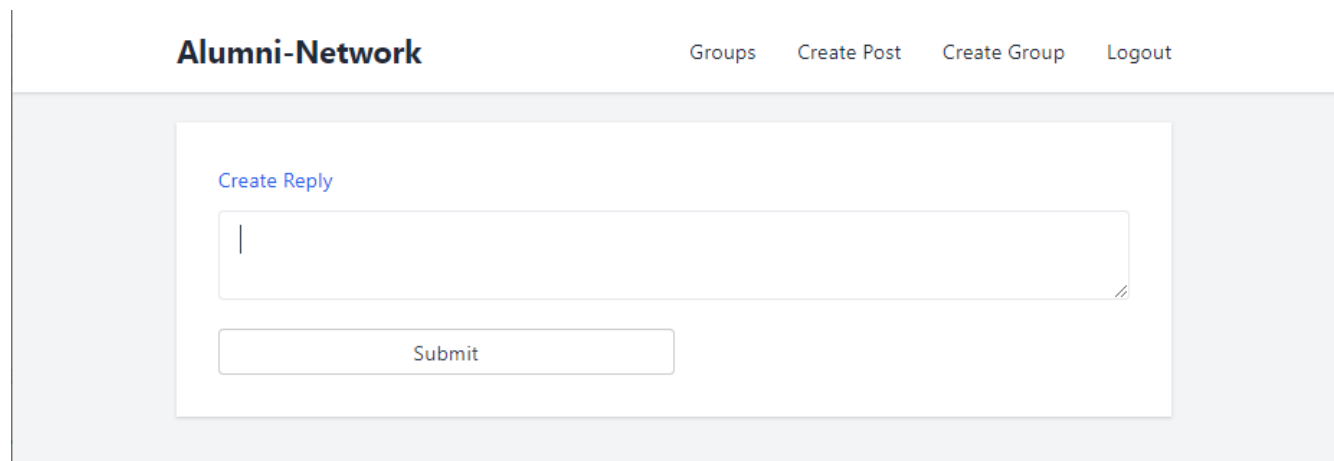
*Figure 10 creating a group*



The screenshot shows the 'Alumni-Network' web application. The navigation bar at the top includes 'Groups', 'Create Post', 'Create Group', and 'Logout'. The main content area displays a 'Create Group' form with the following fields: 'Group Name' (text input), 'Group description' (text input with a rich text editor icon), 'Select Group type:' (dropdown menu), and a 'Create Group' button.

## Replying to posts

Once a user has subscribed to a topic or group, they will now be able to see the respective topic and group posts. A user is also able to create a comment by creating a reply.



The screenshot shows the 'Alumni-Network' web application. The navigation bar at the top includes 'Groups', 'Create Post', 'Create Group', and 'Logout'. The main content area displays a 'Create Reply' form with the following fields: 'Create Reply' (text input), and a 'Submit' button.

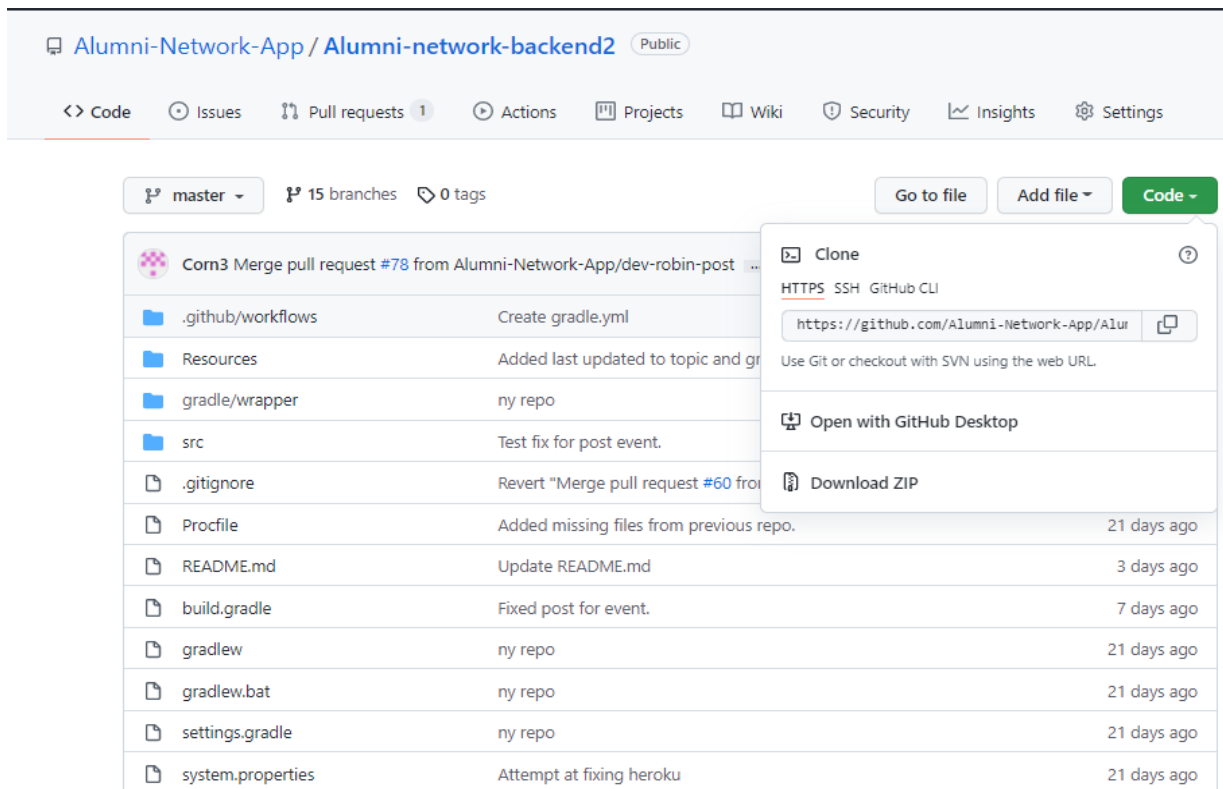
*Figure 11 creating a reply*

# Optional

## Running the backend locally

To run the backend locally rather than our perfectly crafted web API, start by cloning the following GitHub repository:

***<https://github.com/Alumni-Network-App/Alumni-network-backend2>***



**Figure 12** backend repository

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Upon successfully cloning the repository from GitHub, you will now have to:

- Install **PostgreSQL**
- Set up a **Firebase account**



After creating a firebase account, you will need to follow the steps described here:

<https://firebase.google.com/docs/auth/web/start>

Note: remember to set up authentication for **Email/Password** and **Google**  
The credentials from your firebase account will then need to be added to the files:

- **firebase.js** (frontend application)
- **firebase\_config.json** - (backend application)

The last step is to copy the contents of the file **application.properties.example** in to the file **application.properties** located in the backend repository. Now enter the information needed in the empty fields. Now you can build your application using a program capable of building **gradle** applications. In the frontend application, change all occurrences of the predefined API routes to the localhost route your backend application is running on.

More information regarding the API can be found here:

<https://github.com/Alumni-Network-App/Alumni-network-backend2/blob/master/README.md>