

# THE STATE OFFICER FOR DATA PROTECTION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

## PRESS RELEASE

Press Office of the State Commissioner for the

Data protection and freedom of information

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<https://bawu.social/@lfdi>

LfDI Brink uses and supports social media platform

mastodon

Stefan Brink: "Digitization and data protection belong together. Social media can also be privacy compliant function."

The State Commissioner for Data Protection and Information freedom of Baden-Württemberg Stefan Brink is now using the Social media platform Mastodon. Users can dem Follow the state representative at [@lfdi@bawu.social](https://bawu.social/@lfdi).

The state representative Stefan Brink: "Digitization and data protection belong together. We privacy advocates in particular have ben the task, the population for topics of the digital To sensitize to change and also use modern ones for this purpose

possibilities of social networks. Social media is a

Part of our awareness and public relations work and will

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used by us in accordance with data protection regulations. Therefore we from

Twitter switched to Mastodon and for legal reasons

taken a step that is now more socially comprehensible

is pulled. In the Mastodon network we remain in the digital re-

gene exchange with people, without our or the data

of the users into the hands of a commercial company

to give mens that deals with the personal data

power. We would be pleased if as many as possible to data protection

compliant communication platforms - from public

We require this in some places. That's why we go in the year

2021 towards the public authorities in Baden-Württemberg.”

For the data protection-compliant operation of the account, the

State Commissioner own Mastodon instance and hosts it

itself. Public authorities from Baden-Württemberg should

tig can set up an account on the bawu.social instance

and above that directly and in accordance with the law with the citizenry

communicate. The instance cannot serve private users

be opened, you can open an account with one of the

enough to create additional Mastodon instances.

Unlike Twitter, Mastodon is organized decentrally. It

there are therefore no central servers that all users

measure, but a large number of small servers,

that are networked with each other. The fed-

verse - a federated network in which various platforms can connect with each other. Mastodon is part of this Fediverse.

Further information

At the beginning of 2020, the state representative Brink will be there left Twitter. According to judgments of the European

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Court of Justice and the Federal Administrative Court are under other authorities when operating a fan page or a Twitter accounts to be seen as co-responsible as well the platform operators themselves. They are accountable and must be able to explain what data is on the account or the fan page and how they are processed.

That also causes common between the two a contract pursuant to Article 26 DS-GVO must be closed, in which the performance of the obligation by the parties, such as the information requested towards those affected, is regulated transparently and unambiguously.

Since such contracts are not available in a data protection-compliant form gene and are not available to this day, so it remains unclear what happens with data that ends up on Twitter, the country withdrawn from there.

The microblogging platform Mastodon is an alternative to Twitter. Short messages, called "tweets" on Twitter, are ate on mastodon "Toots" (German: "Tröts"). The maximal Message length is 500 characters. pictures and videos

can also be shown here. You can use other

address zer\_innen directly with an @ sign and with

Hashtags (#) tag content. The platform is subtle-

ral - basically like an e-mail service. On 12/28/2020

is the state representative on the social media platform in the

Test phase started. The account is now in regular operation.