

Social Media - Instant Messaging (Telegram, Matrix, Threema)

Post by “stpeter” of August 18, 2023 at 6:25 PM

Hi [Cassius](#) thanks for including me in this thread. As you've noted, there are countless chat technologies, each with its good points and bad points. Much depends on what we're trying to accomplish, how many people need to use the system, what security properties we want it to have, etc. If it's simply a backup system for administrators to use for coordination purposes during forum outages, something like Signal seems fine to me. If it's to be used for more frequent communication among a wider array of forum participants, perhaps even as a replacement for the forum, then I'm not convinced that *any* of the systems you've mentioned would fit the bill (see <https://philosopher.coach/2023/07/31/the...lic-of-letters/> for related musings). Over time I've become less enamored of what we used to jokingly call "interruptive messaging" (IM). A forum interface strikes me as a healthy balance between immediacy and reflection, plus it's easy to use and doesn't force people to install a new app. Then again, some people only have a smartphone and perhaps the web forum doesn't work so well on a phone. There are tradeoffs on all sides...