

Social Media for iKnow – Andreas Kuckartz

A project idea regarding Social Media was briefly presented by Andreas Kuckartz. The idea is based on an FP7 proposal which was submitted in January 2012 which Mr. Kuckartz has helped to develop.

By using Open Source software it is possible to establish a distributed Social Media platform which is not dependent on proprietary services (such as Facebook, Google+, Twitter). Nodes of such a platform can be installed for example on servers in universities, public administrations or companies.

Each node has a set of users which could be iKnow users. Users of one node of the Social Media platform in one university can communicate not only with each other but also with users of a node operated by another university (maybe in a different country). This enables networking effects.

The servers can be on premise or in the cloud. Different scenarios are possible regarding administration and moderation. Joint operations by a group of several universities can be considered. But a university can also decide to operate the platform for its users alone.

Such a distributed Social Media platform can be created in a way which conforms to European data protection legislation, which is a hot topic in the European Union and the European Commission.

Contact: Andreas.Kuckartz@QuinScape.de