# NEPC Joins Bluesky



When we shut down our @NEPCtweet account on Twitter 16 months ago, <u>we explained</u> that the decision was "straightforward but not easy." We couldn't abide participation in a platform where "[d]isinformation and conspiracy theories, as well as bigotries of all sorts, . . . moved from tolerated to celebrated."

We also explained that we wouldn't move to Threads, a "privacy nightmare" run by Meta. But we would, we said, keep an eye on Mastodon and Bluesky.

We're now happy to announce that we're back on social media, @nepc.bsky.social.

Bluesky is growing at an astonishing rate. It had 10.85 million users in mid-October. By mid-November, it had passed 17 million users, emerging as a <u>clear alternative</u> to Twitter/X. It now has approximately 25 million users. Because Bluesky is unusually transparent, up-to-date statistics on usage are public and summarized by user "Jaz" at <u>https://bsky.jazco.dev/stats</u>.

In our first days on the new platform, we've found none of the ugliness that had come to plague Twitter—no unpleasant musky smell of trolls. Bluesky also has a "Moderation Lists" feature, whereby users can choose to opt into privately maintained lists of accounts to block (e.g., accounts using Nazi symbols).

For those interested in joining Bluesky, there is now quite a bit of helpful information available online. For a backgrounder, we suggest this recent <u>article from TechCrunch</u>.

Please do follow @NEPC.bsky.social and let us know when you arrive.