**Technical information**

**Introduction**

CivilHub is a free and open-source platform written in Python & Django for the purpose of collaboration on both local and national level.

**Functions**

1. **Places** - each country, town, district and housing can have their own place that allows people to collaborate.
2. **Ideas** - users can propose what should be improved in our environment, law or community.
   * Everyone can vote for ideas. Vote Yes or No,
   * Anyone can check who voted Yes and who voted No,
   * You can add photos and use a rich-text editor to create content,
3. **News** - a simple and powerful way to inform users what has happened in our community,
4. **Discussions** - a multithreaded forum for places, has categories and tags,
5. **Polls** - users can create polls for people in Places. All answers and statistics are public,
6. **Projects** - one of most the most important part of our platform. I believe that Ideas on their own can't change the World. We have created a tool that allows to transform ideas into local civil projects. Users can create and divide tasks to bring the project alive. All of this was made in order to implement our ideas into life.
7. **Map** - all content types can be marked on a map. You can see all the initiatives, discussions, projects and locations in a fully interactive map. Due to limitations in Google Maps (not a good solution for Clustering and displaying more than 100 thousand points on a map). We had to write our own solutions.
   * We used the Open Street Map - Taile are currently downloaded from Mapbox, in the future we will possibly implement our own server with map tails,
   * PostGIS for PostgreSQL database,
   * Our overlay clustering, server-side filtering displays only those points that you currently see on the screen.
8. **Guides** - a system of user-written guides available for each location. An example of such a guide would be an instruction on how to register an organization,
9. **City and organization module** - users can create organizations (both for the official local authorities or for NGOs). Organizations have a special site with their information (they can also post e.g. news there). Members of such organizations gain a special badge and have their organization name displayed with each post,
10. **Badge system** - organization members, moderators and regular users can have badges that display their status,
11. **Comments** - Disqus was our inspiration, the best comment system that exist. You can comment on all of the portal’s content,
12. **User profiles** - You can see all user activities and all users in the location you belong to.
    * Login and registration via Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Google+
13. **Messages between users** - a simple system for communication between users, with anti-spam security,
14. **Categories** - all content can be categorized,
15. **Tags** - all content in the portal can be tagged,
16. **Bookmarks** - all types of content can be bookmarked and later on accessed,
17. **Filter and sort** - all content type,
18. **Search** - the ability to search through all of the portal's available content is possible thanks to Xapian & Haystack,
19. **Redis cache** - for each language version we cache most of the content through Redis,
20. **Mail** - we have created a simple and automatic, cyclic system that allows to send emails with information to users about locations they are currently following,
21. **Notification system** - an easy way to see whether something has changed in the content you are following,
22. **Follow other users** - see the activities of your friends,
23. **Embed content** - the ability to post ideas, news, discussions etc. right into facebook, twitter and linkedin.
24. **Invite friends** - from Google+ contacts,
25. **Multilingualism** - both the whole structure of the portal and the database models can be translated.
26. **REST API** - Access to all data stored in [https://civilhub.org](https://civilhub.org/)