Digitised Manuscripts to Europeana

October 2014 Newsletter

In this October 2014 edition of the DM2E newsletter you can find a roundup of the activities of the project since the summer of 2014, as well as a look ahead to the upcoming final months.

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Final round of DM2E events

Since the project start in February 2012, the partners in the DM2E project have been working on opening up prominent manuscripts and developing open workflows for migration of this data to Europeana and the wider Linked Open Web. Before the project closes, in February 2015, the consortium is organising a final series of events to demonstrate the progress that has been achieved as well as to inspire future research in the area of Linked Open Data.
Join us at one of the following events to hear more!

- 18 November 2014: Putting Linked Library Data to Work: the DM2E Showcase (ONB Austrian National Library, Vienna, Austria): registration and agenda
- 28 November 2014: Open Humanities Hack, London
- 1-3 December 2014: workshop 'RDF Application Profiles in Cultural Heritage' at the SWIB2014 Semantic Web in Libraries conference (Bonn, Germany)
- 11 December 2014: DM2E final event (Pisa, Italy): the programme includes the presentation of the final DM2E results, a keynote talk from a prominent researcher from the digital humanities field and talks from the winners of the second round of the Open Humanities Awards. The agenda and registration information will be available soon through the DM2E website.

First reports of Open Humanities Awards round 2 winners

The winners of the second round of the Open Humanities Awards started their projects over the summer: a first series of blog posts has been published on their achievements so far. Apart from posting monthly updated of their work, all of the winners will be at the DM2E final event on 11 December in Pisa to share their final results.

- **Open track 1: SEA CHANGE**
  This project aims to facilitate the mass annotation of places in Historic Geospatial Documents (both geographic texts and maps) in two hackathon-style annotation workshops. The first of these has now been planned for 30-31 October at the University of Heidelberg. Read more
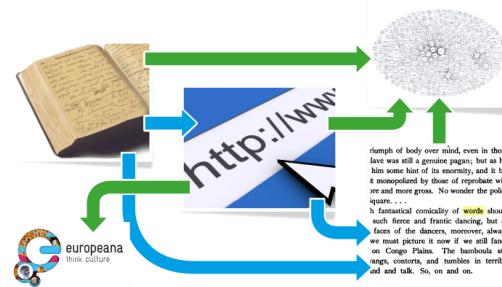- **Open track 2: Early Modern European Peace Treaties Online**
  The Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG) has a comprehensive collection of about 1800 bilateral and multilateral European peace treaties from the period of 1450 to 1789, published as an open access resource. After getting off to a rocky start, the team for this project initiated work on the first goal, the publication of the treaties metadata as Linked Open Data. Read more
- **DM2E track: FinderApp WITTFind**
  The research team working on this project was extended with three members and visited the University of Bergen to transfer all 5000 Pages of the free available part of Wittgenstein's Nachlass into their storage area. Work then started on extending the FinderApp to this material. Read more

Update on DM2E data and data model

Work package 1 was mainly concerned with preparing the large-scale ingestion of DM2E data to Europeana. In cooperation with work package 2, the workflow for converting metadata from the DM2E model to the Europeana Data Model (EDM) was finalised and combined with NTUA's EDM validation workflow from their MINT package. Preliminary ingestion tests yielded valuable feedback for refining both the DM2E ontology and the respective data mappings. By September 2014, data from three providers was readily ingested to Europeana and the remaining datasets will follow soon.

The DM2E model meets Dublin Core

Once the DM2E model was stabilised in version 1.1 (the version used for the ingestion to Europeana; the specification of the model is at wiki.dm2e.eu), DM2E's contribution to the Dublin Core RDF application profile task force (short: RDF-AP) began. Application profiles mix and match external vocabularies and combine them to new schemas. Often additional definitions are added to the reused elements. This is exactly what we have done with the DM2E model. The RDF-AP was initiated by Kai Eckert and is co-chaired by Karen Coyle and Antoine Isaac. Its

aims are to define what application profiles are when using RDF, how they can be validated and documented. Starting point of the task groups work is the comparison of elements and validation rules in EDM, the DM2E model and the EDM application profile of the German digital library (DDB). Application profile use cases from other projects and institutions, like the DPLA metadata application profile, followed. Different case studies and their validation use cases have been collected in a database and connected to more generic requirements.

Everyone interested in the work of the group can participate in the biweekly open calls, see the results and the validation database or join the mailing list:
- RDF-AP wiki: http://wiki.dublincore.org/index.php/RDF-Application-Profiles
- RDF validation database: http://lelystad.informatik.uni-mannheim.de/rdf-validation/
- Join the mailing list

In addition, a workshop on 'RDF Application Profiles in Cultural Heritage' will be organised at the SWIB2014 Semantic Web in Libraries conference (1-3 December, Bonn, Germany).

JudaicaLink: pioneering initiative to link reference works on Jewish culture and history

The DM2E project has provided the inspiration for two of its partners — Dr Kai Eckert of the University of Mannheim and Dov Winer of the European Association for Jewish Culture and Judaica Europeana — to embark on an initiative to publish existing reference works on Jewish history and culture as Linked Data under the name JudaicaLink.

Reference works such as encyclopedias, glossaries, thesauries or catalogues function as guides to a scholarly domain as well as anchor points and manifestations of scholarly work. On the web of Linked Data, they can perform a key function of interlinking resources related to the described concepts. In effect, this means they can be enriched by creating new links between and within different encyclopedias. This function could revolutionize the work of digital humanists' and become the bread and butter of their research diet. JudaicaLink is the first such initiative and platform in the field of Jewish studies. Read more

Digital Humanities Advisory Board call

On 2 October 2014 the DM2E Digital Humanities Advisory Board held their fifth meeting through Skype. This Board is responsible for steering the research direction of the DM2E project and ensuring that the technical development on the project responds to the needs of scholars. In this meeting, Christian Morbidoni (Net7) presented the latest developments of Pundit 2 and its new features, which include an improved usability interface and added flexibility, which now makes it easier to adopt Pundit for specific needs such as user experiments. Steffen Hennicke (Humboldt-Universität) then talked about the user experiments that are currently ongoing with Pundit2 and the new version of Korbo. More information on this meeting and the presentations that were given is available from the DM2E blog.

Open Data in Cultural Heritage workshop at OKfestival

On the morning before the start of the Open Knowledge Festival, a group of nearly 60 open culture enthusiasts from all over the world gathered at the Wikimedia offices in Berlin to discuss the situation around open cultural data in Germany and to start up a local German OpenGLAM group.
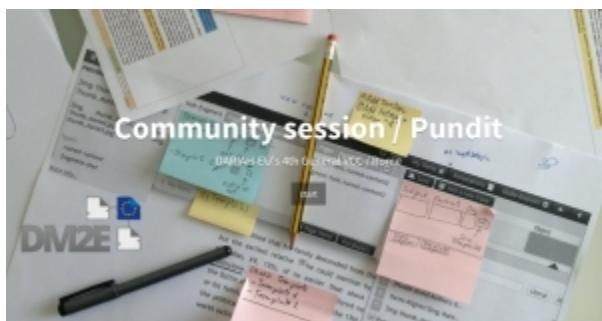

After an inspiring series of lightning talks, and presentations by two of the other local OpenGLAM groups from Finland and Switzerland, participants were asked to share what they see as the most positive contribution that Germany has made towards opening up cultural data, as well as the three most pressing issues which stand in the way of further opening up. In smaller groups, a first brainstorm was then held on what kind of activities the German OpenGLAM group could start around topics such as data quality, copyright / licenses, access to and use of data, and sharing use cases & best practices.

In the future, the German OpenGLAM network will hold regular meeting and calls to work together on improving the situation around open cultural data in Germany. More information (in German) will also be shared through http://okfn.de/openglam/ - a full report of the workshop, with all presentations embedded, is available here

Pundit community session at DARIAH VCC meeting

On Thursday 18 September the DM2E team from Net7 conducted a community session at the DARIAH-EU's 4th General Virtual Competency Centre (VCC) meeting where they presented the beta version of Pundit2.

After a short presentation of the main features of the Pundit software and its components, some practical exercises were carried out. The People Time Person (PTP) experiment allows users to annotate snippets of text expressing the concept that a person has been in a certain place at a certain time. The Annomatic experiment allows users to create annotations semi-automatically. After creating annotations some visualization tools have been used in order to display the "knowledge" created during the experiment. A special website was used to facilitate the experiment conduction: the presentation slides are available from the DM2E blog.

Publications & presentations

In this last period, members of the consortium presented updates on the research being done in the DM2E project in various conferences in the field:

- Alois Pichler, Rune Falch, Heinz W. Krüger, Deirdre Smith (WAB, Bergen), [Work on Wittgenstein primary sources and Wittgenstein secondary sources metadata](#), "Digital Wittgenstein Scholarship" Sommerschule (5-6 June 2014, Munich, Germany)
- Dröge, E., Iwanowa, J. and Hennicke, S., [A specialisation of the Europeana Data Model for the representation of manuscripts: The DM2E model](#), Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA) (16-20 June 2014, Zadar, Croatia). The publication is available [here](#).
- Stanley-Clamp, L., [New perspectives on Jewish and non-Jewish relations in modern European culture based on Judaica digital collections](#), 10th Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies (21 July, Paris, France)
- Kneppe, M. and Charles, V., [Making library linked data using the Europeana Data Model](#). IFLA 2014 Satellite Meeting: Linked Data in Libraries: Let's make it happen! (14 August, Paris, France)
- Pichler, A., [Paratext in Wittgenstein's Writing](#). Paratext in Digital Culture: Is Paratext Becoming the Story? Pasts, Presents and Futures of Paratext in Digital Culture (28-29 August 2014, Bergen, Norway).
- Baierer, B., Dröge, E., Petras, V. & Trkulja, V. [Linked Data Mapping Cultures: An Evaluation of Metadata Usage and Distribution in a Linked Data Environment](#). International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications DC-2014 (8-11 October 2014, Austin Texas, USA). The publication is available [here](#).

Details on all project outputs are available online as well through http://dm2e.eu/outputs/

Stay tuned to more DM2E project updates via our blog at http://dm2e.eu and follow us on Twitter [@DM2Europeana](#)!