



Deliverable:

D4.3. Final report on the quantity and quality of content

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eContentplus

¹OJ L 79, 24.3.2005, p. 1.

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1 Introduction

This final report intends to provide some figures and some statements about the quantity and the quality of the contents uploaded in the Archives Portal Europe. The partners are still uploading and indexing data, therefore, the amounts of data mentioned are not definitive.

2 Quantity of data

In the document of work of the project, the partners had indicated the amounts of descriptive units and linked images that they intended to upload in the portal within the lifetime of the project.

Different indicators had been included in the same document, in order to monitor the project with regard to its contents:

- 12 countries
- 50 000 institutions accessible via the portal

and

- 17 millions descriptive units
- 31 millions digitised documents accessible via the portal

At the date of the 15th January, the Archives Portal Europe offered the following:

- 14 countries representing 62 archival institutions uploaded content: the 12 partners plus Ireland and Belgium that joined the project shortly after its launch;
- 34 283 institutions are accessible via the directory of the portal.

The archival content itself, as available by the 15th of January, provided access to :

- 14 501 301 descriptive units
- 63 781 468 digitised documents.

So, basically, the target for the descriptive units has not yet been reached (but the institutions are still uploading content and no doubt that the amount of descriptive units will increase) whereas the second one has already been doubled.

The descriptive units:

This corresponds to the way archival material is described by the archivists, following the international standards (ISAD(G) and EAD). Depending on the software used by the participants, the figures provided in the APEnet description of work more than four years ago could only have been indicative because:

- some countries experienced internal delays in their own project for different reasons, and could not provide the expected amounts in time, but will do so in the near future. For instance, the project for the National Archives of France, including a new building, a new website and a new data management system was supposed to be finished and open to the public at the beginning of 2012, and it will be only in 2013;
- some countries manage their archives with databases and not with files; therefore, they had, during the project, to come up with specific exports, a task that was more or less difficult or expensive to do than foreseen, depending on the local situations, software used etc. The figures given at the beginning of the project were only estimations and/or the partners concerned could manage to handle different amount of data than expected: for two countries, the final amount of descriptive units is much more important, for one it is much less important.

Nevertheless, a solid basis for the Archives Portal Europe has been achieved jointly by all partners, and the amount of descriptive units will only increase.

The digitised documents

The amount of digitised documents made accessible via the Archives Portal Europe is very impressive. The extra-amount compared to the foreseen amount is due to the huge contributions of mainly three countries: Sweden, Finland and Spain.

The delicacy of the archival material lies in the fact that you can link one or several digitised images to one description, like books that have a different amount of pages, but in order to do this, you can provide one or several links, at different levels of the description. Besides, a link by itself does not indicate the final number of images that you will see on the original website of the partner.

For instance:

- Collections of maps or posters are usually in a 1:1 relation: one descriptive unit equals one image, therefore only one link leading to only one image is needed (like the maps of the Nationaal Archief, see figure 1).
- Most other types of archival documents are usually in a 1:n relation: one descriptive unit equals several images (up to several hundreds), but for each descriptive unit, you can either have several links (like the church records of Finland, see figure 2), or only one link (like the records of the Archivo de la corona de Aragon, Spain, see figure 3).

Therefore, the number of images indicated cannot be calculated automatically and is provided by the partners themselves who host the digitised documents.













<p>Text (2) Video (2) Sound (1) Dates : Aucune date (57540) Date normalisée (3377) Date au format texte (93) Date de début : 1000-1199 (1) 1400-1599 (126) 1600-1799 (898) 1800-1999 (2352) Date de fin : 1000-1199 (1) 1400-1599 (92) 1600-1799 (872) 1800-1999 (2412)</p>	<p> A plan of the attack of fort Sullivan, the Key of Charles Town, in South - Car... 1776. Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 524 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A Plan of the City and Environs of Philadelphia. 1777. Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 1397 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A Plan of the Town and fortifications of Montreal or Ville Marie in Canada. 1758. Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 1388 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A Sketch of the Battle near Camden in South-Caroline, 16 Aug. 1780. 1780. Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 1409 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A Survey of Lake Champlain, including Lake George, Crown Point and St. John e... 1775. Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 1391 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A.H. Ruibing archiefjaren 1938-1948 betreft: Ambon en omstreken, Ternate, Zui... 1938-1948 Titre : Inventaris van het archief Losse Aanwinsten Indische Bestuursambtenaren Référence du fonds : 2.22.09 - Cote : 2.22.09 - 10 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> A Map of the British Empire in America, with the French, Spanish and Dutch Se... Titre : Inventaris van de verzameling Buitenlandse Kaarten Leupe, Référence du fonds : 4.VEL - Cote : 4.VEL - 1379 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> Aagtekerk, Aalsum Titre : Inventaris van de archieven van de Commissie voor Aangehouden Lading (COVAL) en de Netherland Shipping and Trading Committee (NSTC), 1939-1957 (1966) Référence du fonds : 2.06.084 - Cote : 2.06.084 - 182 Pays-Bas Nationaal Archief</p> <p> Aalkeet-Binnenpolder gem. Maasland, Vaardinger-Ambacht en Maassluis. 1907, 1961 Titre : Inventaris van de Polderreglementskaarten, behorende tot het archief van het Provinciaal Bestuur van Zuid-Holland, 1857-1974 Référence du fonds : 4.ZHPB2 - Cote : 4.ZHPB2 - 1</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: right;">4.VEL - 1397  </p> <p>A Plan of the City and Environs of Philadelphia. 1777.</p> <p>Présentation du contenu Hierop: the Elevation of the State House. Producteur des documents Provenance originale : M.A. Lotter</p> <p>Particularités de certains types de documents Schaal van 2 m. = 76 strepen. Particularité physique Koperdruk Dimensions Groot 0.49 - 0.48 El. Archives numérisées</p>  <p>Historique du producteur Vervaardigd door Engr. M.A. Lotter. Uitgegeven door Mathew Albert Lotter.</p> </div>
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Figure 1. One descriptive unit links to one image – view in the list results (National Archives of the Netherlands)











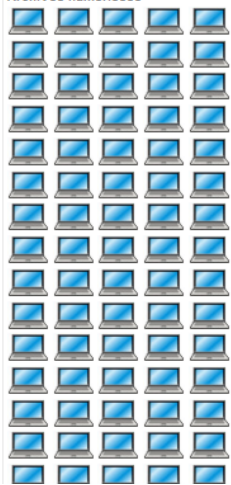
<p>Triez les résultats : Pertinence Date Titre Cote Référence du fonds CRITÈRES SÉLECTIONNÉS : Avec images numérisées </p> <p>Affinez les résultats : Date de début : 1600-1799 (20) 1800-1999 (57) Date de fin : 1600-1799 (15) 1800-1999 (62)</p>	<p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1851-1860 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:1 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1860-1870 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:2 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1871-1879 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:3 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1880-1890 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:4 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1880-1890 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:5 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1891-1900 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:6 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p> <p> Pää- ja rippikirjat 1891-1900 Titre : Pääjärven seurakunnan arkisto Référence du fonds : FVFI-HeNAF/223495.KA - Cote : FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:7 Finlande National Archives of Finland</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">FVFI-HeNAF/ Aa:2  </p> <p>Pää- ja rippikirjat 1860-1870</p> <p>Archives numérisées</p> 
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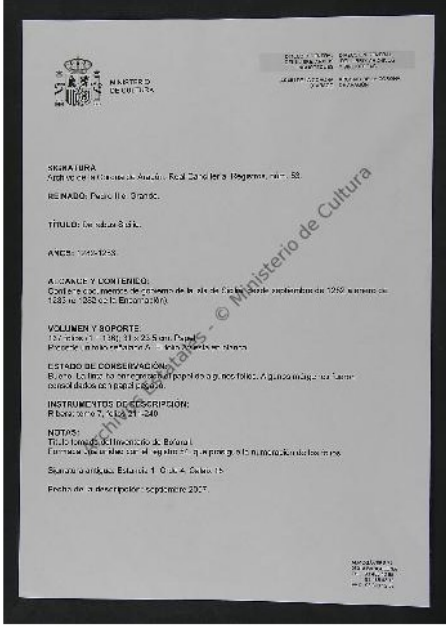
Figure 2. One descriptive unit links to several images through several links – view in the list results (National Archives of Finland)



Triez les résultats : Pertinence | Date | Titre | Cote | Référence du fonds

CRITÈRES SÉLECTIONNÉS : Avec images numérisées 

Affinez les résultats :			
Dates :			
Date normalisée (9971)	 De rebus Sicilie	1282 - 1283	ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327154  
Aucune date (418)	Titre : 3. Registros del reinado de Pedro II el Grande		De rebus Sicilie
Date de début :	Référence du fonds : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - Cote : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327154		1282 - 1283
0001-0200 (1)	08019-UD-4327154		
1000-1199 (9)	Espagne Archivo de la Corona de Aragón		
1200-1399 (4449)	 De rebus Sicilie	1283 - 1283	Présentation du contenu
1400-1599 (3595)	Titre : 3. Registros del reinado de Pedro II el Grande		Contiene documentos de gobierno de la isla de Sicilia, desde septiembre de 1282 a enero de 1283 (o 1282 de la Encarnación).
1600-1799 (1323)	Référence du fonds : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - Cote : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327159		Remarques générales
1800-1999 (594)	08019-UD-4327159		Pulse aquí para acceder a la ficha descriptiva en el portal PARES
Date de fin :	Espagne Archivo de la Corona de Aragón		Archives numérisées
0001-0200 (1)	 Donaciones de denariis, equitaturis, vestibus et aliis mobilibus	1281 - 1285	
1200-1399 (4452)	Titre : 3. Registros del reinado de Pedro II el Grande		
1400-1599 (3578)	Référence du fonds : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - Cote : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327152		
1600-1799 (1327)	08019-UD-4327152		
1800-1999 (613)	Espagne Archivo de la Corona de Aragón		
	 Exercituum et redemptionum	1281 - 1284	
	Titre : 3. Registros del reinado de Pedro II el Grande		
	Référence du fonds : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - Cote : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327144		
	08019-UD-4327144		
	Espagne Archivo de la Corona de Aragón		
	 Graciarum	1278 - 1284	
	Titre : 3. Registros del reinado de Pedro II el Grande		
	Référence du fonds : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - Cote : ES-ACA-08019-UD-4327009 - ES-ACA-08019-UD-4326814		
	08019-UD-4326814		
	Espagne Archivo de la Corona de Aragón		


De rebus Sicilie
 Archivo de la Corona de Aragón,ACA,CANCILLERÍA,REGISTROS,NÚM.53





1-8 imágenes de 275  


Elegir de la lista:


O ver imagen n°:



Caratula
Imagen Núm: 1



Ar
Imagen Núm: 2


Av En blanco
Imagen Núm: 3


1r
Imagen Núm: 4


1v
Imagen Núm: 5


2r
Imagen Núm: 6


2v
Imagen Núm: 7



3r
Imagen Núm: 8

Figure 3. One descriptive unit links to several images through one link – view in the list results and view on the original website (Spain)

3 Quality of the data

3.1 The portal in itself ensures a general level of quality...

In order to index and publish content in the Archives Portal Europe, all partners have to provide data that are compliant to a certain number of standards and rules. If the data are not compliant to these standards and rules, they are rejected and will need to be converted to a common EAD XML profile, that has been defined by the project for finding aids and holdings guides and can be seen as a pivot format. The same goes for the EAG files used to describe the archival institutions.

The portal ensures thus a basic general data quality for all finding aids and holdings guides published that allows having a common search and harmonised presentation of the data. This point is very important for the final user of the portal.

Each partner can use the tools provided by the project in order to first check its own data (for instance check if their EAD is valid, if they use UTF-8 encoding etc.), and/or prepare and improve them by converting, adding or completing them, before uploading them in the Archives Portal Europe.

As a result of this efforts to ensure the quality of the data within the Archives portal Europe, the user can benefit from a joint search and common display of the search results, as well as a unique and harmonised display of the data (see figure 4). The major interest of the chosen display is to allow the user to navigate within the finding aids from any particular place in it.

Unique and harmonised display of the data in the Archives Portal Europe (see figure below): the major interest of the chosen display is to allow the user to navigate within the finding aids from any particular place in it.

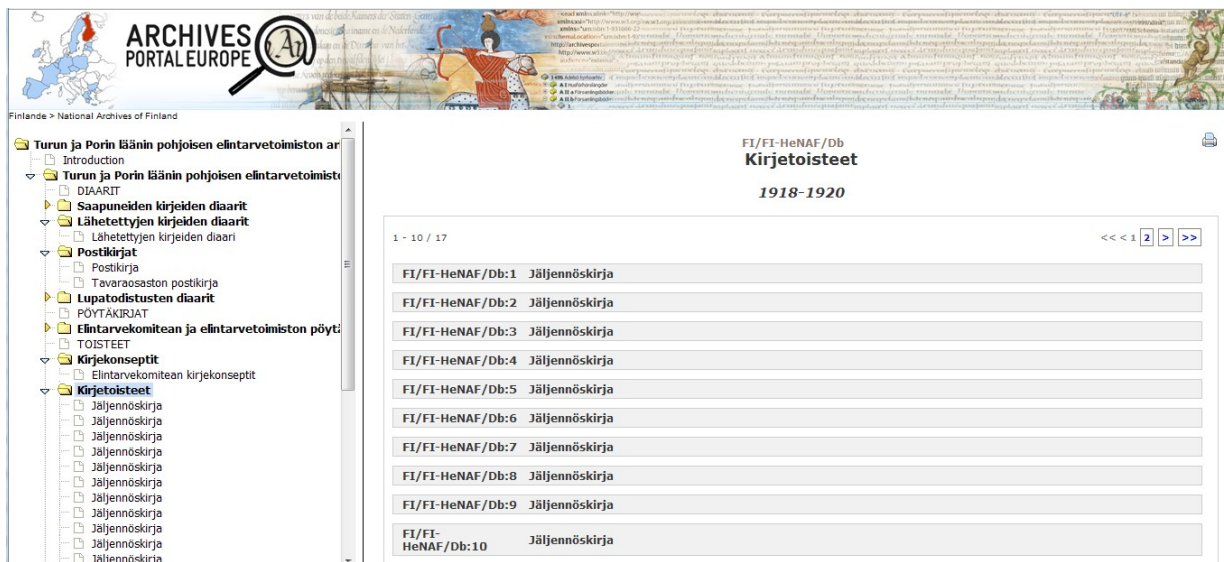
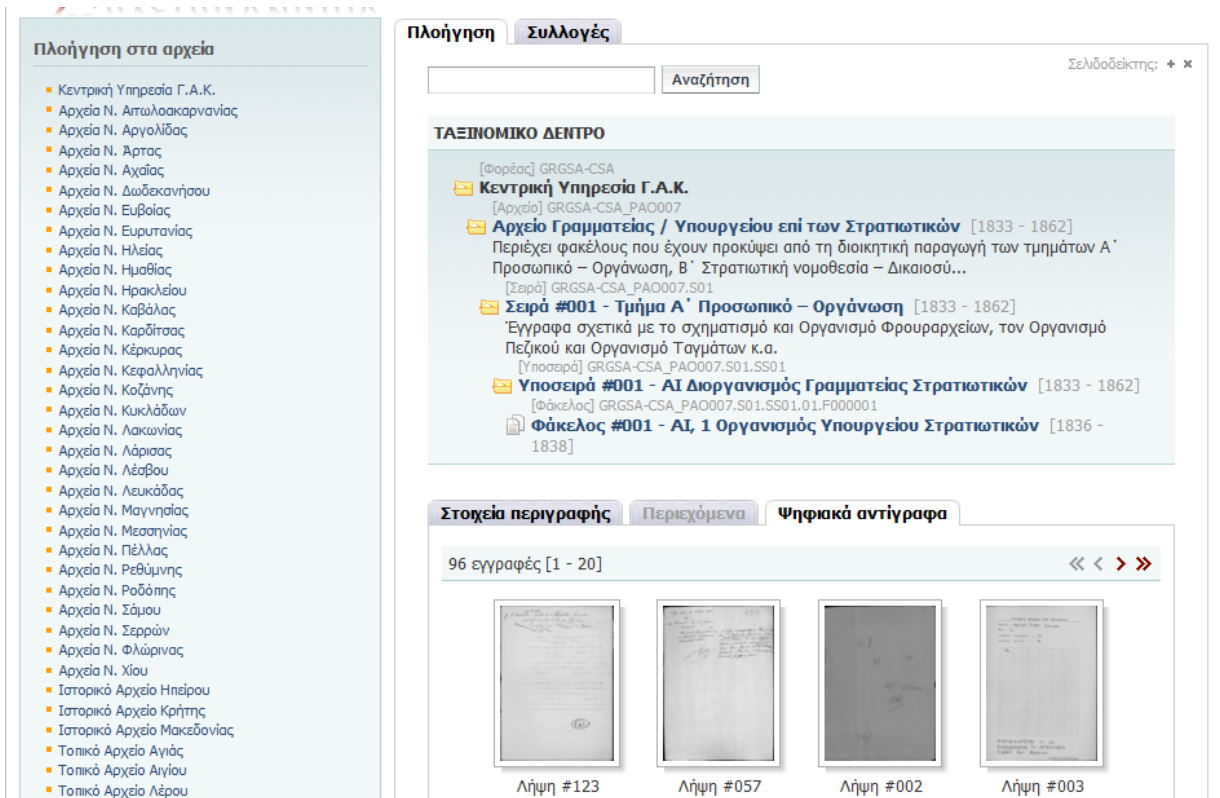


Figure 4. Display of the data in the Archives Portal Europe

Some examples of the different ways of displaying the data in the archival institutions' own webservices throughout Europe :



The screenshot shows a search results page on the Greek archival website. On the left, there is a sidebar titled 'Πλοήγηση στα αρχεία' (Navigation in archives) with a list of various archival collections. The main content area is titled 'Πλοήγηση Συλλογές' (Navigation Collections) and features a search bar with the text 'Αναζήτηση'. Below the search bar, there is a section titled 'ΤΑΞΙΝΟΜΙΚΟ ΔΕΝΤΡΟ' (Taxonomic Tree) showing a hierarchy of collections. The selected collection is 'Κεντρική Υπηρεσία Γ.Α.Κ.' (Central Service G.A.K.), which contains several sub-collections, including 'Αρχειό Γραμματείας / Υπουργείου επί των Στρατιωτικών' (1833 - 1862). Below this, there are tabs for 'Στοιχεία περιγραφής' (Description details), 'Περιεχόμενα' (Contents), and 'Ψηφιακά αντίγραφα' (Digital copies). The 'Ψηφιακά αντίγραφα' tab is active, showing a list of 96 documents (pages 1-20) with four thumbnails and their respective identifiers: 'Λήψη #123', 'Λήψη #057', 'Λήψη #002', and 'Λήψη #003'.

Figure 5. Display for Greece



The screenshot shows the Finnish archival website 'ARKISTOLAITOS' (ARKIVVERKET). The header includes the logo and navigation links for 'HAKU', 'OHJEET', 'UKK', and 'PALAUTE'. Below the header is a banner for 'DIGITAALIARKISTO' (Digital Archives) with a map background. The main content area is titled 'Arkistoyksiköt: Pää- ja rippikirjat 1851-1860 (I Aa:1)'. It features a 'LINKIT' (Links) sidebar on the left with various navigation options. The main content displays a list of 'Digitoidut jaksot' (Digitized sections) as a grid of numbers from 1 to 185, arranged in rows of 15 numbers each.

Figure 6. Display for Finland

201 Fi 2 - Affiches modernes hors département de la Manche



Sommaire



Description physique

Document iconographique

45

- ☐ Journée Nationale du 11 novembre. Bleuets de France emblème du combattant et des victimes de guerre. – Paris : Office National des Anciens Combattants et Victimes de guerre, - (Imp. Les Presses Artisanas, 45, rue N. D. de Nazareth, Paris, 3e)., Sans date.

Description physique

Document iconographique

1 estampe (affiche)

39,1 × 30,1 cm (image)

en couleur

Documents numérisés : 1 document



1 image

- ⊕ Achetez tous le Timbre Antituberculeux. – Paris : Comité National de Défense contre la Tuberculose, 1957-1958.
- ⊕ Le V véritable Camembert vient de Normandie. Exigez son Label de Garantie. [ca 1950].









Figure 7. Display for France

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA KULTURO
ARHIV REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE




Act

Interrogations en ligne des fonds d'archives

Recherche
Résultats précédents
Documents de travail
Panier de commande
Informations










-  Basculer vers la liste
-  Basculer vers la liste d'images
-  Basculer vers l'aperçu d'images
-  Afficher en format PDF
-  Déposer dans le panier
-  Déposer dans le document de travail
-  Localiser dans le plan d'archivage
-  Aide

Navigaton

-  Passer à l'entrée précédente dans la liste des résultats
-  Passer à l'entrée suivante dans la liste des résultats
-  Vers l'entrée du niveau hiérarchique supérieur

SI AS 100 Vseučiliška komisija pri Deželni vladi za Slovenijo, 1905-1920 (F

Contexte de plan d'archivage

-  SI AS Arhiv Republike Slovenije
-  A UPRAVA
-  AA Naivšije državne in avtonomne oblasti
-  AAB Naivšije državne in avtonomne oblasti od 1918 do 1941
-  AAB1 Od 1918 do 1923
-  SI AS 95 Zdravstveni odsek Ministrstva narodnega zdravja za Slovenijo v Ljubliani (1918-1924)
-  **SI AS 100 Vseučiliška komisija pri Deželni vladi za Slovenijo (1905-1920)**
-  SI AS 100/1 Vseučiliška komisija - vodenje (1905.02.27-1939.10.14)
-  SI AS 101 Višji šolski svet v Ljubliani (1919-1925)

Elementi identifikacije

Signatura PE:	SI AS 100
Signatura PE AP:	SI AS 100
Prejšnje signatur PE:	AS 100
Naslov PE:	Vseučiliška komisija pri Deželni vladi za Slovenijo
Čas nastanka PE:	1905 - 1920
Obseg PE:	1 škatla
Obseg (tekoči metri):	0,10
Zvrsti arhivskega gradiva:	Spisovno gradivo

Elementi izvora

Ime ustvarjalca AG:	Vseučiliška komisija pri Deželni vladi za Slovenijo (1918-1919)
Čas obstoja ustvarjalca:	1918 - 1919
Historiat ustvarjalca:	Po razpadu Avstrijske monarhije se je pojavil problem slovenskih študentov, ki niso mogli

Figure 8. Display for Slovenia

 Das Bundesarchiv

Protokolle des Zentralsekretariats der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands
DY 30 Zentralsekretariat
Sitzungen 1946
April

- Protokolle des Zentralsekretariats der
 - Vorwort
 - Einleitung
 - DY 30 Zentralsekretariat
 - Sitzungen 1946
 - April
 - Mai
 - Juni
 - Juli
 - August
 - September
 - Oktober
 - November
 - Dezember
 - Sitzungen 1947
 - Sitzungen 1948
 - Sitzungen 1949
 - Hinweise zum Index

Index Gliederung Home Beständeübersicht

DY 30/ IV 2/2.1/ 1

Protokoll Nr. 2
Sitzung am 25. April 1946
Tagesordnungspunkte: 1. Zur Protokollführung - 2. Organisation des Apparats des Zentralsekretariats - 3. Die Parteipresse - 4. Raumverteilung im neuen Parteihaus
[Akte einsehen](#) 1946

DY 30/ IV 2/2.1/ 2

Protokoll Nr. 3
Sitzung am 26. April 1946
Tagesordnungspunkte: 1. Protokollbestätigung - 2. Erklärung von Meier zum Verzicht von Dr. Mund-Heller auf die Mitarbeit am Zentralorgan - 3. Ausschuss der Einheitsfront der vier antifaschistisch-demokratischen Parteien Deutschlands - 4. 1. Mai - 5. Über das Ergebnis der Durchführung der Bodenreform - 6. Rückkehr von 400.000 deutschen Kriegsgefangenen aus der Westzone in die Sowjetzone - 7. Mitteilung des Verbindungsbüros der Einheitsfront der antifaschistisch-demokratischen Parteien Deutschlands - 8. Vorbereitung der nächsten Sitzung des Parteivorstandes am 14. - 15. Mai 1946 - 9. Sonderberatungen der Abteilungen - 10. Presse-Kommunique über die Sitzung des Parteivorstandes - 11. Kuratorium für die "Volksolidarität" - 12. Raumverteilung im neuen Parteihaus
[Akte einsehen](#) 1946


DY 30/ IV 2/2.1/ 3

Protokoll Nr. 4
Sitzung am 29. April 1946
Tagesordnungspunkte: 1. Protokollbestätigung - 2. Vorbereitung für den 1. Mai - 3. Verteilung der Parteigebäude - 4. Dr. Mund-Heller - 5. Parteitag der schwedischen KP am 15. bis 18. Mai 1946 in Stockholm - 6. Anstellungsfragen - 7. Gehaltszahlungen - 8. Verpflegung - 9. Autofragen - 10. Herausgabe von Plakaten - 11. Dekoration des Parteihauses - 12. Leitung des Verlages "Einheit" - 13. Wendenbewegung - 14. Frauentagung - 15. Zulassung der SED in Groß-Berlin - 16. Zentralverwaltung für Arbeit und Sozialfürsorge - 17. Parteischule - 18. Fürsorge für Partei-Veteranen

Figure 9. Display for Germany

Koloniën / Stamkaarten Oost-Indische Ambtenaren Zoeken

Naar collectie Archiefinventarissen

Zoeken naar: Periode van: tot: ?
 Nummer archiefinventaris: Inventarisnummer:
 Volledige tekst Reacties
 Aantal resultaten per pagina: Zoeken 

[Archiefinventaris](#) | [Archiefbeschrijving](#) | [Archiefbestanddelen](#) | [Bestanden](#) | [Alle scans \(29.177\)](#)


2.10.36.21
 André Tempelaars en Henny van Schie
 Nationaal Archief, Den Haag
 (c) 1994  pdf  ead / xml


- Beschrijving van het archief
- Archiefvorming
- Inhoud en structuur van het archief
- Aanwijzingen voor de gebruiker
- Verwant materiaal














Beschrijving van de series en archiefbestanddelen

- 1-14 [Stamkaarten, serie 1](#), 1917 - 1949 14 kaartenbakken
 - 1 [A-Bi](#)
 - Kaart 001 t/m 099: Amahorseja t/m Arnout
 - Kaart 100 t/m 199: Aroe t/m Bakker

Figure 10. Display for The Netherlands


 PRQ/PLRS17 Paróquia de Unhos 1576/1911

 001 Registo de baptismos 1668/1905

-  B1 Livro de registo de baptismos 1668/1701
-  B10 Livro de registo de baptismos 1902/1902
-  B11 Livro de registo de baptismos 1903/1903
-  B12 Livro de registo de baptismos 1904/1904
-  B13 Livro de registo de baptismos 1905/1905
-  B2 Livro de registo de baptismos 1701/1736
-  B3 Livro de registo de baptismos 1736/1770
-  B4 Livro de registo de baptismos 1770/1791
-  B5 Livro de registo de baptismos 1792/1836
-  B6 Livro de registo de baptismos 1837/1883
-  B7 Livro de registo de baptismos 1884/1890
-  B8 Livro de registo de baptismos 1891/1900
-  B9 Livro de registo de baptismos 1901/1901

REGISTO DE BAPTISMOS



DESCRIPTION LEVEL

 Series

REFERENCE CODE

PT/ADLSB/PRQ/PLRS17/001

DATE RANGE

1668-00-00  to 1905-00-00 

DIMENSION AND SUPPORT

13 livros

Record not reviewed.


 Add to my list

Figure 11. Display for Portugal

3.2 ...and reveals at the same time some issues that have to be solved.

Depending on regional or national traditions in the archival description, depending on the compliance to standards, and depending also on the software used, archival content is used and displayed quite differently in the content providers' own systems. When bringing the content to one joint publication and research platform – *i.e.* the Archives Portal Europe – however, this action might reveal gaps in the original data,, that are due to specific information necessary in a central system, but probably not needed that much in the system of only one institution, or due to the local systems specifically taking care of certain aspects in the set-up of the data, which might not be recommendable in the same way when gathering data from a lot of different sources in one joint access. These gaps and differences are not major ones, *i.e.* they are not hampering the joint presentation and overall search at the Archives Portal Europe in general, but they reveal aspects for possible future enhancements. They can be divided in four main groups: dates, titles, thumbnails and links.

3.3.1 The dates:

Normalised dates following ISO standard 8601 are the only ones that currently can be used for faceting and searching the data on the Archives Portal Europe. The current content has normalised dates for more than 75% of the total, representing a high proportion. But – due to various reasons – some documents either might not have any information on dates, or might only contain textual information on dates, that would need human input in order to be normalised.

Therefore, the Archives Portal Europe offers different date-related facets for the refinement of search results in the “List view”, covering all different types of dates. The refinement of search results is a good option to detect possible gaps in the date information.

Start timespan:
0001-0200 (5198)
0400-0599 (4)
0600-0799 (2)
0800-0999 (10)
1000-1199 (820)
1200-1399 (5654)
1400-1599 (166396)
1600-1799 (476115)
1800-1999 (6617183)
2000-2199 (38971)
End timespan:
0001-0200 (11)
0200-0399 (1)
0400-0599 (2)
0600-0799 (6)
0800-0999 (13)
1000-1199 (611)
1200-1399 (4733)
1400-1599 (160419)
1600-1799 (417263)
1800-1999 (6664399)
2000-2199 (57138)

Figure 12. We can see here that the amounts of “suspect” dates – in the archival European world, this would generally means prior to 800 – is really small compared to the

total amount of dates.

Besides, the dates are sometimes wrongly built, because of a typo in the date information, and among millions of data, it is difficult to isolate these errors, whereas the conversion into APEnet EAD (which includes a normalisation of dates) combined with the functionality of refinement developed for the “List view” at the Archives Portal Europe allow to do so.

SORTING YOUR SEARCH: Relevance | Date | Title | Reference code | Finding aid no

SELECTED CRITERIA:

REFINING YOUR SEARCH:

Start timespan:

0001-0200 (1)

1800-1999 (84)

End timespan:

0001-0200 (1)

1800-1999 (84)

Degiorgio, Joseph Charles

Title: Passport 1921-1938
Reference code: 9701_36.0
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

05/01/1925

Degiorgio, Maria Concetta

Title: Passport 1921-1938
Reference code: 30908_13126.0
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

28/06/1934

Degiorgio, Maria G.

Title: Passport 1921-1938
Reference code: 12265_2574.0
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

23/11/1925

Degiorgio, Mary N.

Title: Passport 1921-1938
Reference code: 11151_1422.0
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

06/07/1925

Degiorgio, Joseph Charles

Title: Passport 1921-1938
Reference code: 31856_14079.0
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

04/02/1935

Joseph Charles, **Degiorgio**

Title: Passport 1915-1920
Reference code: 1826
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

29/07/1919

Louis John, **Degiorgio**

Title: Passport 1915-1920
Reference code: 2131
Malta L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

29/08/0190

Figure 12 bis. wrong date due to a typing error (0190 instead of 1919), therefore easy to correct in the original data.

Sometimes the normalised dates can be misinterpreted when not in their original website context.

SORTING YOUR SEARCH: Relevance | Date | Title | Reference code | Finding aid no

SELECTED CRITERIA: Germany Start timespan: 0001-0200

REFINING YOUR SEARCH:

Start timespan:

0001-0020 (102)

0021-0040 (16)

Staatl. **Komitee** für Rundfunk- **Komitee**-Sitzungen 02.11. - 31.12.1971

Title: Staatliches Komitee für Rundfunk
Finding aid no: DR 6 - Reference code: DR 6/704
Germany Bundesarchiv

2. Nov. - 31. Dez. 1971

Staatl. **Komitee** für Rundfunk- **Komitee**-Sitzungen 03.01. - 31.01.1972

Title: Staatliches Komitee für Rundfunk
Finding aid no: DR 6 - Reference code: DR 6/704a
Germany Bundesarchiv

3. Jan. - 31. Jan. 1972

Protokolle und Vorlagen

Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V
Title: Ministerium für Land-, Forst- und Nahrungsgüterwirtschaft
Reference code: DK 1/12018
Germany Bundesarchiv

17. Okt. - Dez. 1969

Vorlagen für DB

Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V
Title: Ministerium für Land-, Forst- und Nahrungsgüterwirtschaft
Reference code: DK 1/12019
Germany Bundesarchiv

13. Jan. - 28. Apr. 1970

Vorlagen und Protokolle

Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V Staatl. **Komitee** A u. V
Title: Ministerium für Land-, Forst- und Nahrungsgüterwirtschaft
Reference code: DK 1/12020
Germany Bundesarchiv

5. Mai - 1. Sept. 1970

Figure 12 ter. Wrongly normalised dates due to the first part of the date being interpreted as the year instead of the day and month during normalisation. Solving the issue might take more time since it implies changes in the software used locally.

The dashboard and the Data Preparation Tool already offer some facility to improve this. But one challenge for the future will be to insert a conversion tool from textual dates to normalised dates, whenever it is possible to do so: for instance, 14th century could be turned into 1301/01/01-1400/12/31. But this means a rather huge work, that cannot completely be automated.

3.2.2. The title of the low levels of description:

As the archives are described hierarchically, they usually are following the principle of internally inheriting information from higher to lower levels. Therefore it often happens, for repetitive or serial documents, such as correspondence, church records, atlas, minutes etc., that the title is not repeated in the lowest level of description, because only the date and/or the place for instance are the necessary information for the user allowing him to select and understand the document.

Generally, the descriptions fit a particular web environment developed on purpose. Once in the Archives Portal Europe, with other rules to display the archival description, this becomes a challenge: the choice has been made to display the default text “No title” where there is no title, in order to avoid blank clickable lists, and following this something usual seems to appear as an error.



The screenshot displays a digital archive interface. On the left, a hierarchical tree of folders is shown, expanded to 'Död- och begravningsböcker'. Under this folder, several sub-items are listed, each with a small icon and the text 'No title specified'. The tree also includes other categories like 'Kartor och ritningar', 'Husförhörlängder', and 'Övriga längder'. On the right, a metadata panel is visible, showing the identifier 'SE/LLA/13126/F/- [H0001]' and the date range '1690--1716'. Below this, there are sections for 'Conditions governing access' (Nej) and 'Other descriptive information' (Se C:1).

Figure 13. Death and burial records of Sweden - the only interesting information at the low level is the date that changes from one descriptive unit to the next and there is no need to repeat everything of the upper levels (place and type of document that can be seen on the left)

This issue concerns all partners, and we could not find any completely satisfactory solution during the lifetime of the project. This has to be solved in the future at the lowest possible cost: we cannot ask our partners to redo for instance their database simply for the sake of a central presentation.

3.2.3. The thumbnails:

Some institutions can provide thumbnails, while others cannot, for technical reasons, or do not like to due to the type of digitised documents they have. Therefore, the display for indicating digitised documents in the Archives Portal Europe can be seen as not harmonised with this regard (see figures 1 to 3 above).

The project has to find an easy way to create/store thumbnails for the partners that do not have them themselves, but would like to include them in the Archives Portal Europe. Some ideas have already been explored, but were discarded so far because their implementation would have been too time-consuming in the course of this project.

3.2.4. The links:

Lots of different links can be found within the finding aids and holdings guides. The most important ones are the ones linking back from a search results to the original display in the websites of the partner. The difficulty is that the links lead to different places: either a finding aid, either a record, either a digitised document... It is not always possible for the partners to provide direct links to the precise item needed, because of security rules of their host for instance. Besides, links have a tendency to change and very few of the partners at the moment are using permanent links. Therefore, it might happen that the user comes across broken links and cannot access, for instance, to the digitised images he wanted to see. This situation is a rather common one within big portals dealing with millions of items. No doubt that in the future, the use of the permanent links will be the rule and will help to solve these problems.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, all the raised issues will be addressed in the future, either by improving the original data or the export of it, or by improving the conversion to the common European format, or by improving the display and layout of the Archives Portal Europe. Most probably, a combination of these different possibilities will be the solution, adapted to the different questions, and in close cooperation with each institution thanks to a permanent and fruitful dialogue that has permitted during this project to solve all major issues.