

«APOLLONIS Greek Infrastructure for Digital Arts, Humanities and Language Research and Innovation»

Sub-project 8

Action EE4: «Epistemology of Cultural Information Systems»

1st Workshop

« Historical content metadata »

Centre for Cultural Informatics – Institute of Computer Science
Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas
21st October 2019
Heraklion, Crete

INVITATION

In carrying out their primary research, historians increasingly create databases of information about historical events, actors, places, documents, objects and more, transcribing and extracting information from primary sources, either manually or semi-automatically. Such work begins to replace traditional notes taking and file card style fact management. Such historical databases, however, are generally created on a personal, project or, at most, institutional level, meaning the information held therein is limited in its impact and reusability by lack of visibility, accessibility and interoperability.

The practice of carrying out primary historical research could be greatly aided and facilitated by having access to large data stores of semantic linked open data that represented such information in a common schema and made it available for reuse. To arrive at this end, however, agreed common modelling of basic entities in historical discourse must be achieved, while a good practice for how information generated from primary sources should be managed and preserved needs to be agreed.

This being said, a widely recognized and adopted standard for representing and sharing primary historical research data has not yet been achieved. This owes in part to the seemingly daunting nature of the task of modelling any potential fact in history and partly to the lack of interdisciplinary knowledge between historians and computers scientists and each other's domains.

This workshop will create a forum to engage in an exploration of the modelling challenges for historical data, as well as its correct handling. Inviting historians from on-going international projects, and other interested researchers who are working with or aim to work with semantic data, we will look at the challenges and possibilities of creating models for semantic linked open data in history.

Participants are invited to present on any topic within the domain of semantic modelling and historical data. Such topics could include:

- the modelling of specific historical information
- methodology for managing semantic historical data
- questions of collaboration in historical research using semantic data
- tools for capturing and presenting historical data as semantic data
- project presentations related to the adoption of historical semantic data

The workshop will be up both of presentations by participants and include a collaborative session to look at requirements and solutions for the effective management of historical information extracted from primary sources and represented in semantic models, potentially aiming at a position paper or action plan.

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