

To the CIDOC Board

04.09.2011

Summary report of activities of the CIDOC-coreference group

This report reflects the period from the CIDOC Shanghai conference, November 2011 to the conference in Sibiu, September 2011. During the reporting period the CIDOC-coreference working group has been focusing on the following areas:

Generic goals

- Building a network of partners representing different types of data relevant for development of an infrastructure benefiting from coreference relations and amenable to developing methods for coreference disambiguation.
- Building a project base where the functionality of the coreference infrastructure for URIs can be further developed using real life cases relevant for museums and memory organizations
- Selecting data sets from the repositories curated by the partners
- Within the specific project types developing infrastructures to enable identification and targeted mark-up of resources, URI management and coreference resolution using the data sets provided by the partners.
- Contributing to the creation of persistent, public, resources to enable identification and targeted mark-up or resources, URI management and coreference resolution.

Main focus areas during the reporting period

CIDOC Linked Open Data Guidelines

- Contributing to the CIDOC Linked Open Data Guidelines for non-digital resources (also called "non-information resources"). Participating in the initial formulation of the text in Shanghai 2010. Reflecting and getting feedback about the recommendation from small museums.

Prehistoric Rock Art

- Reasons for selecting rock art as data: sufficient mass – tens of millions of images, covers all inhabited continents, not overcrowded project-wise, realistic starting point with limited local material.
- Creating URIs for prehistoric rock art images. Main partners Swedish rock art archives (Ulf Bertilsson, also member of the UNESCO working group on creating the World

Rock Art Archives), Finnish society for prehistoric art, GIS and 3D experts from Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences, Academic partners. Approached by the eminent French archaeologist, geologist and pre-historian Henry de Lumley, introducing his writings related to the Mont Bego site.

- Building a thematic portal for Nordic and Arctic prehistoric rock art (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Russia, Canada). Technical platform in use including tools to handle maps, images and text (including the TEI format).

Work with text corpora

- Patching and taking into use the Scholarly Digital Publisher server software for publishing TEI-formatted texts on the web; networking with the developers of the software.
- Investigation in connecting museum objects with original texts: the Gudea statues in the Louvre, the Sumerian Gudea texts i.a. in the Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature, relevant studies including archaeological materials.
- Taking first steps with processing text corpora: The State Archives of Assyria. The digital transcriptions of the texts are administered by the University of Helsinki (professor Simo Parpola, Head of Department, Dr. Raija Mattila). Agreement to use a selection of texts for initial experimentation and demonstrations for scholars. The texts are integrated in the The Open Richly Annotated Cuneiform Corpus <http://oracc.museum.upenn.edu>.
- Networking in Finland with researchers and institutions in Finland committed to using the TEI-format. Key contact internationally: the TEI Ontologies Special Interest Group, Øyvind Eide.

Participating in projects

- Processing two-volume monograph “Giuseppe Acerbi, Travels through Sweden, Finland, and Lapland to the North Cape in the years 1798 and 1799” digitized with industrial methods by the Finnish National Library. Creating methods for targeted, layered annotation of text using TEI and creating local authorities.
- “Journey in the Landscape” a project with several academic, museum and SME partners related to creating a GIS-enabled information system for materials about rock art, landscape painting and churches in Finland.

CIDOC related teaching

- The University of Jyväskylä, Department of Art and Culture
- The University of Tampere, School of Information Sciences

Participating in events

- "The statues of Gudea in the Louvre – Contextualization of Artifacts and Texts in Digital Environments" at the symposium “The Message of the Old Book in the New Environment, L'Institut Finlandais en France, Paris, 18–19.3.2011”. Other partners close to the coreference work also participated including Øyvind Eide.

Participating in applications for funding

- MEMORLINK – Context and Relevance in Linked Data Infrastructures. Academy of Finland call for researchers within the thematic areas of the Strategic Centres for Science, Technology and Innovation. Core partners the Industrial Ontologies Group, Library of the University of Jyväskylä, participants from The University of Tampere, School of Information Sciences and the National Archives of Finland.
- CultureCloud, an EU project proposal in the ICT PSP 2011 “Aggregating Content for Europeana”.

Sibiu, 4th September, 2011

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