



Extending the multilingual capacity of The European Library: results & findings

Maja Žumer (NUK) Genevieve Clavel (SNL)



Goals

Develop the European library network's localisation and multilingual capabilities, improving access for end-users through multi language interfaces and advanced search mechanisms in a standardised way.



Localisation

- Adjustment of software or hardware to cultural characteristics of a particular language and/or region
- EDLproject:
 - 9 additional countries
 - 2 scripts
 - Additional diacritics
- Unicode questionnaire to analyse character sets, their management and display



Findings

- No major problems for the languages of the EDLproject partners
- The European Library office has set up a character sets working group to ensure on-going compatibility
- User interfaces translated



Multilingual capabilities and improved access

- Analyse existing access points
 - Subject access
 - Full text
 - Name authorities
- Attempt to define standardised approaches
 - Searching (across libraries)
 - Interoperability (across institutions)



Subject access

- Overview of subject access in European Library partners
- Tools to be tested:
 - MACS (Multilingual access to subjects); including additional languages
 - MSAC (Multilingual Subject Access)
 - Criss-Cross (linking subject authorities and Dewey classification)



Results

- 127'000 linked subject-headings (English-French-German) loaded into prototype
- Feasibility of additional languages tested and proven using Italian subject headings
- Prototype search interface available for testing
- Can be extended to other mapped headings



Results

- Prototype interface designed to accommodate other mappings, names, subjects, classifications
- Manual mapping gives good results, though is labour intensive

BUT

- The extensive data now available (critical mass) and the prototype will enable control testing in future projects working on automatic mapping (TELPlus, CACAO))

absolutismus

Search

MACS

CRISSCROSS

VIAF

All Reference

Search Results

Results 1 – 3 of 3 for *absolutismus*. (0 seconds).

MACS - [Select this item to query in TEL](#)

English:	Despotism
French:	Monarchie absolue
German:	<i>Absolutismus</i>

MACS - [Select this item to query in TEL](#)

English:	Despotism
French:	Despotisme
German:	<i>Absolutismus</i>

MACS - [Select this item to query in TEL](#)

French:	Despotisme éclairé
German:	Aufgeklärter <i>Absolutismus</i>

Selected items to search in TEL

clear

search in TEL

Search Results

Results 1 - 3 of 3 for *absolutismus*. (0 selected)

MACS - *Select this item to query in TEL*

English: Despotism
 French: Monarchie absolue
 German: Absolutismus

MACS - *Select this item to query in TEL*

English: Despotism
 French: Despotisme
 German: Absolutismus

MACS - *Select this item to query in TEL*

French: Despotisme éclairé
 German: Aufklärer Absolutismus

Search SRU urls for TEL

[Hide]

Library: SNL

[query=\(subject all "Absolutismus"\)](#)

Library: BNF

[query=\(subject all "Monarchie absolue"\)](#)

Library: BL

[query=\(subject all "Despotism"\)](#)

Library: DNB

[query=\(subject all "Absolutismus"\)](#)

Selected items to search in TEL

MACS - *Remove this item from the selection*

English: Despotism
 French: Monarchie absolue
 German: Absolutismus

SEARCH

Options

- search within results
- exclude from results
- [Advanced search \(more options\)](#)
- [Change the collections selection](#)

DIAGNOSTIC DISPLAY

MATCHES FOR:

(subject all "monarchie absolue")

YOU ARE SEARCHING IN:

FR **BN-OPALE PLUS, the catalogue of the Bibliothèque nationale de France**

BN-OPALE PLUS, le catalogue de la Bibliothèque nationale de France - FR -

62 objects with (subject all "monarchie absolue") have been found in BN-OPALE PLUS, le catalogue de la Bibliothèque nationale de France.



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1 [Politique tirée des propres paroles de l'écriture sainte à Mgr le dauphin](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: fre

2 [La raison du prince l'Europe absolutiste, 1649-1775](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: fre

3 [La Monarchie absolue en Europe du V- siècle à nos jours](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: fre

4 [L'Europe absolutiste raison et raison d'État, 1649-1775](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: fre

5 [Le Despotisme éclairé](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: fre

6 [The Making of Russian absolutism, 1613-1801](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: XXX

7 [Stato e società nell' Ancien régime](#)

Document type: Texte imprimé, text | Language: XXX



Name authority control

- Overview of partners' authority control : rules, formats, contents and extent
- Before analysing clustering: test planned for the Virtual International Authority File data



Findings

- Name authority control in all partner institutions
- Widespread use of AACR2 or similar
- Some differences in scope and mode of implementation
- Overall, relatively high level of standardisation with scope for interoperability e.g. VIAF or extension



Full text

- Partners and TEL Office identifying tools :
 - Stemmers,
 - Automatic translation
 - Language identification tools
 - General data dictionaries



Findings

- Initial analysis of contributions from partners
 - Wide range of tools in each country
 - Many subject-based (not general)
 - Careful selection needed for testing in TELPlus



Interoperability (libraries and other communities)

- Test new conceptual models of bibliographic information to combine data from different sources
- Explore options of interoperability with museums, exploring particularly the ongoing work CRM/FRBR (Conceptual reference model/Functional requirements for bibliographic records) harmonisation



Results: libraries

- Testing FRBRisation of Norwegian and Slovenian national bibliographies
 - Consistent data
 - Good identification of translations, illustrations, introductions
- Next steps: combine the output for both national bibliographies
- → Post project: test applicability in the European Library



Results: other communities

- Ongoing involvement with CRM/FRBR harmonisation
- Interoperability of library and museum documentation
- FRBRoo first draft published
- Core FRBRoo is being developed for easier implementation



General conclusions (also from workshop, Stockholm November 2007)

- Large amount of potential data – controlled vocabularies, mappings
- Much emphasis on manual intervention: need to use as control data
- The more bibliographic data is brought together, the better indirect linking and clustering may work cf Worldcat (critical mass)



Conclusions

Libraries have

- Powerful controlled and semi-controlled Authority files
- Powerful standards to build, maintain and exchange Authority Data
- Algorithms for merging and harmonising name Authority Files of different origin and language
- Techniques for linking Subject headings of different origin and language
- Techniques for merging bibliographic records



- We dispose now of **a mass of bibliographic data** in Europe and worldwide
 - Offers new opportunities
 - Our goals can be reached using different approaches based on the power of the critical mass of data
- **Portals** are under development for multilingual user-friendly access



And for the future?

- Continue what we do now: handle the language diversities, link the data, apply standards

BUT ALSO

- Use our trusted data and our exceptional experience to put more structure into Web data and cooperate outside our own field