

The Data Crew - Archive with ARCHE and enrich with OpenAtlas

Massimiliano Carloni^{1*}, Bernhard Koschicek-Krombholz¹, Martina Trognitz¹

¹Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities and Cultural Heritage, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Bäckerstraße 13, 1010 Vienna
– (Massimiliano.Carloni / Bernhard.Koschicek-Krombholz / Martina.Trognitz)@oeaw.ac.at

*Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT:

Introduction

Research with digital methods often requires the interplay of different tools and services responding to diverse needs. Examples include archiving, annotating and enriching data, as well as disseminating data and results to a wider audience. Since each task may be the domain of one (or more) separate pieces of software, a robust and streamlined workflow between the different components is essential to ensure the sustainability of the research project and its adaptability to different scenarios.

This presentation shows how such a workflow has been realised in the context of project INDIGO, between the digital archive ARCHE and the spatial database OpenAtlas, which are both hosted by the Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities and Cultural Heritage of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

ARCHE

ARCHE is a digital archive for humanities research data related to Austria in terms of content or origin. It offers long-term preservation of data and has been awarded the CoreTrustSeal certification. The paradigms of Open Science and the FAIR principles are at the core of ARCHE. Findability and accessibility are made possible through rich metadata, standardised access protocols, and dissemination of metadata to several data aggregators. Thanks to its well-documented API and different dissemination services, ARCHE also provides an easy way to access the data in various standardised formats, and reuse them in new research projects and applications.

In the context of project INDIGO, ARCHE is used to store and preserve all the raw and processed outputs of the project, together with extensive metadata.

OpenAtlas

OpenAtlas is an open source database project, developed to acquire, edit, and manage information from the humanities such as history, archaeology, or cultural heritage. The use of CIDOC CRM as ontology and the mapping of the (meta)data to it in the background of the application allow an easy data entry and retrieval. OpenAtlas is constantly being developed and expanded in the context of collaborations with research projects.

For INDIGO, OpenAtlas provides a platform where data hosted by ARCHE will be consolidated and edited manually if necessary. Furthermore, OpenAtlas works as a middleware between data and the frontend via the OpenAtlas API.

Joining the services for INDIGO

Within INDIGO, the two services closely collaborate in order to use the functionalities of both platforms in an optimal way. After ingestion to ARCHE, the data and metadata are available for reuse via an API. This information can be automatically imported into OpenAtlas via a dedicated module developed in the course of the project. In OpenAtlas, the data can then be enriched with further information. OpenAtlas also provides an API, which *e.g.* allows populating a presentation frontend. This talk will introduce the two services and provide an overview of the workflow, as well as the adjustments and changes to the services for INDIGO.