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Report data integration peace treaties

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Report about the data integration of the IEG Peace Treaties Databases

The Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG), leading partner of WP 2 and WP 4, offers a variety of online digital projects and publicly available databases and has a long experience and expertise in editing peace treaties. The deliverable covers the technical methodology and the results of the databases' first ingestion plan. Specifically, it defines and clarifies the ingestion and use of IEG's digital resources (the Peace Treaties Databases) as a beneficial enhancement of RETOPEA's output.

Selection of Databases

The source corpus of RETOPEA's historical research (WP 2) consists of a set of peace treaties and arrangements that covers a timespan from the 3th C BC up to the 21th C CE (see D 2.1). These political and religious agreements are the sources for the realization of the clippings. They partly overlap with the material of the digital projects of the IEG. Since the variety of treaties presented by the IEG platforms is extensive and only in a few cases useful for RETOPEA's aims, a limited number of treaties was selected in conformity with the selection of the corpus of Peace Treaties in WP 2. Thus the relevant databases for this report are the *Digital Edition of Early Modern Religious Peace Treaties* ("*Digitale Quellenedition frühneuzeitlicher Religionsfrieden"*) and the *Early Modern European Peace Treaties online* ("*Europäische Friedensverträge der Vormoderne online"*).[1] Both editions include a selection of European peace settlements, the first having a focus on religious peace arrangements, whereas the second collects international peace treaties. The temporal range of the editions stretches from the 15th to the 19th century and its geographical focus evolves mostly around Europe.

The selected resources in the *Digital Edition of Early Modern Religious Peace Treaties* are:

- Peace of Augsburg (1555): introduction and source text.
- Edict of Saint-Germain (1562): introduction (forthcoming) and source text.
- Warsaw Confederation (1573): introduction (forthcoming) and source text.
- Religioensvrede (1578): introduction and source text.
- Edict of Nantes (1598): introduction (forthcoming) and source text.

From the *Early Modern European Peace Treaties online* only the Peace of Westphalia (1648) is represented in the corpus of the sources of RETOPEA. The resources are in this case:

- A digital reproduction of the original treaty of Münster and Osnabrück.
- Friedensvertrag von Münster.
- Beschluß zum Unterzeichnungsmodus der Friedensverträge von Münster und Osnabrück.

[1] For more information about these IEG projects, consult the IEG website (https://www.ieg-mainz.de/ieg-digital/religionsfrieden) and the project websites http://religionsfrieden.de and www.ieg-friedensvertraege.de.

Integration of the databases

The integration of the above-mentioned resources will begin upon the final and complete upload of the clippings in the OMEKA environment. The technical methods used to integrate these resources depend on various factors, mostly due to the different formats of the resources. Currently WP 4, in collaboration with WP 2's researchers, elaborated three main ways to incorporate the materials to the clippings:

1. The embedding of the source texts into or under the clipping itself, which will be ingested as HTML-code, in conformity to a favourable visual representation.
2. An explicit direct link to the introductions, in order to provide supplementary contextualisation beyond the clipping's context.
3. The embedding of images representing the original treaties, to create an interesting combination of old and contemporary examination of the treaty.

By doing so, the IEG online databases will enrich WP 2's output by giving further contextualisation and the possibility to illustrate the original content of the peace treaties, either in a high quality annotated version or as images of the original treaty. However, changes regarding the visualisation and ingestion may apply according to the specific requirements of each clipping and in concordance with the researchers' assessment.

Results and further future ingestions

Both complete original texts in an annotated edition and further in-depth contextualisation of the peace treaties will be accessible to the users through this integration. Furthermore, researchers always have the possibility to add additional references to their clippings by inserting URLs that link to other relevant resources and projects into the provided metadata templates. Other pre-modern sources are provided and available by other scholarly and non-academic institutions, whereas documents from modern times are in most cases published by the respective institutions itself, e.g. the UNO or the EU.

A more extensive exchange of information between the metadata of the RETOPEA and the peace treaties databases does not appear to be meaningful and would not provide any additional benefit for both projects. This notwithstanding, WP 4 strives to conjoin other databases and digital projects to RETOPEA's dataset, albeit maintaining an appropriate balance between the usefulness of such integrations and RETOPEA's objectives and purposes. In this respect, two future deliverables[2] may have a proper pertinence and relevance for the application of this endeavour.

[2] D 4.10 (integration of the EGO-Database and IEG Maps and D 4.12 (integration of further databases), will report on this matter.