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Report data integration EGO – European History Online

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Report about the data integration of IEG's EGO platform

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. Some of these projects and the integration of specific resources were already illustrated in Deliverable 4.9. This deliverable reports about the additional integration of data from one of IEG's digital projects, namely the EGO platform.

EGO – European History Online

EGO - *Europäische Geschichte Online* (European History Online) is a multimedia online platform that "examines processes of intercultural exchange in European history that had an impact beyond political, national, and cultural boundaries".[1] Funded by the German Research Foundation (2009–2015) and the State of Rhineland-Palatinate (2007–2009), EGO's conception and content, research papers and material are provided and managed by the Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG) in Mainz, while the online platform is maintained by the Center for Digital Humanities in Trier.[2]

The project has a multimedia approach: the collection of essays and documents is not limited to research papers and written sources, but refers to variety of other resource types, e.g. images, statistics, diagrams and interactive maps. Moreover, "EGO does not aim to cover the "canonised" knowledge of the history of Europe [… but rather brings] together the most recent research. […] In this way, too, EGO differs from a reference book, encyclopaedia or portal".[3] The project's open access policy, providing "free access to academic literature and materials"[4] online, and its "use of more than one language serves the goal of spreading the content across boarders quickly and unhindered"[5] may enrich RETOPEA's dataset meaningfully. Due to this nature, the EGO platform suits not only the combined use of several media types also furnished by RETOPEA's dataset, but likewise supports RETOPEA's aims in terms of knowledge communication and ideals.

Integration in RETOPEA

The integration of EGO's data will be performed upon the complete and polished upload of RETOPEA's research data in the OMEKA environment (VRE) and subsequently to the integration of the other selected resources from the IEG's databases (see Deliverable 4.9). The technical methods used to integrate these resources depend on various factors, mostly due to the different formats of the resources

[1] Project description on the IEG Website.
[2] *Idem*.
[3] EGO Website.
[4] *Idem*.
[5] *Idem*.

and the different interconnection to RETOPEA's clippings. As for the other databases, the main form of integration will probably be the embedding of the resources in the single clippings, ingested either as HTML-code or direct link, in keeping with a favourable visual representation. The research papers on specific topics will be used to provide background and context information, especially in relation to WP2's *corpus*. Other materials will be selected and attached to pertaining clippings in RETOPEA's VRE.

More generally, the EGO website and the RETOPEA website will be mutually linked to each other, in order to enhance the visibility of both partner projects and to provide supplementary resources for those interested in the field.

Prospected result and future ingestions

The idea behind these data integrations is to provide auxiliary contextualisation with first-hand research papers, accompanying the data produced by RETOPEA's researchers. These additional resources and materials ought to be especially fruitful for the teachers partnered with the project, along with all other users visiting RETOPEA's website. Users of EGO will respectively find additional information and source material concerning questions of religious toleration and peace available on the RETOPEA platform.

The first ingestion of resources from 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")*[6] bestows an in-depth contextualisation on the peace treaties, whereas this second ingestion will contribute with multimedia material to enrich RETOPEA's overall output.

Cross-referencing between EGO and RETOPEA will be effected wherever possible.

[6] Detailed information about this first integration is described in deliverable 4.9. For more information about the 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.