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D4.3 Integration list of data

As required for D4.3, the RETOPEA Project Consortium hereby provides a list of data to be integrated in the VRE, in a descending order of priority.

This list has been drafted in correspondence with the members of Work Packages 2 and 3. This conversation made clear that the delivery of data will be highly dependent on the actual progress in these work packages. This relatively 'random' delivery of research data has been taken into account by the Data Management Plan (D4.1), as individual researchers will be responsible for the timing of their own data delivery – which allows for maximal flexibility in the drafting of the clippings and thus for maximal quality.

However, the result is that the integration of data in the VRE has to follow the progress made by the researchers, which in turn means that the integration will happen in accordance with the more 'random' order in which the material is delivered. A strict ordering of the material in 'subdivisions' that will be integrated at a specific time seems both unnecessary – given the amount of clippings provided by each WP (ca. 200) – and undesirable – given the fact that this ordering would immediately impose a straightjacket that diminishes the necessary research flexibility.

Therefore, the research team opted for a very general list and order of priority, based on the original research proposal:

Highest priority: clippings from WP 2

Medium priority: clippings from WP 3

Low priority: docutubes

Lowest priority: additional research materials

No distinction is made between the date of these four types and the associated metadata; both will be delivered at the same time, as specified in the Data Management Plan.

Important to note is that in the next few months the list will be refined, following further practical conversations between the different parts of the Project. Such conversations are necessary because of potential contradictions in the preferred order of integration. For example, it is possible that the members of WP 2 prefer to give priority to clippings with quotes from the original peace treaties, whereas the members of WP5 might signal that the students prefer to start with visual sources such as maps. A decision between these two options (as well as between other potential 'conflicts of priority') can however only be taken once each WP has sufficient data in order to clarify their preference on the basis of sound analysis. In this particular case will WP 2 and WP5 be able to make such an analysis in December, when the WP 2 members meet in Mainz to discuss progress as well as the guiding principles for the next stages of their research. Similar discussions are planned for WP3 and

WP5 itself (for example, once the materials from the focus groups are in), so we preferred to await the resolution of such ‘conflicts of priority’ over the straightforward yet ungrounded imposition of a strict priority at this stage.

Finally, it should be noted that this approach was drafted in conjunction with the Data Management Plan and the approach preferred by the Data Manager. As such, the current general nature of the integration list will not impede with her work, nor will it slow it down, as the required flexibility on her part falls perfectly within the expected boundaries for this type of project.



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