

Epigraphy Edit-a-thon Editing chronological and geographic data in ancient inscriptions

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Alexander von Humboldt Lehrstuhl für Digital Humanities Universität Leipzig – Augustusplatz 10, 04109 Leipzig

Editorial

The idea of organizing an "edit-a-thon" on ancient epigraphy was born as part of the activities of the Alexander von Humboldt Chair of Digital Humanities at the University of Leipzig¹. The core project of the Humboldt Chair is called *Open Philology Project* and part of it is also devoted to address issues and challenges concerning the study and the teaching of ancient epigraphy in a digital environment².

Previous conversations with colleagues brought to focus the attention on two fundamental kinds of digital annotation and data extraction of ancient inscriptions, which are now under debate and that require an involvement of the community: i.e., the annotation (and visualization) of chronological and geographic data in ancient inscriptions. This is the reason why we started by gathering a group of scholars from different countries, who have been working on different epigraphical collections and who have been dealing with different aspects connected to the topics of the edit-a-thon. The result was a three-day workshop with paper presentations in the morning and project/standard presentations in the afternoon.

As it is possible to read in the conference program and in the table of contents, presentations and discussions concerned a wide variety of ancient epigraphical collections, including not only Greek and Latin epigraphy but also non-alphabetic inscriptions and text artefacts in Egyptology. Presentations and discussions about projects and standards included the work developed by

¹ <u>http://www.dh.uni-leipzig.de/wo</u>

² M. Berti et al. "L'Open Philology Project dell'Università di Lipsia. Per una filologia 'sostenibile' in un mondo globale". In *Collaborative Research Practices and Shared Infrastructures for Humanities Computing*. Ed. by M. Agosti and F. Tomasi. Padova: Cooperativa Libraria Editrice - Università di Padova 2014, 151-162; M. Berti and S. Stoyanova. "Digital Marmor Parium. For a digital edition of a Greek chronicle". In *Information Technologies for Epigraphy and Cultural Heritage. Proceedings of the First EAGLE International Conference*. Ed. by S. Orlandi, R. Santucci, V. Casarosa, P.M. Liuzzo. Roma: Sapienza Università Editrice 2014, 319-324.

different institutions, such as the DĀMOS Project³, the iDAI.Welt of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut⁴, the Perseus Project⁵, the Epigraphic Database Roma (EDR)⁶ and the Epigraphic Database Bari (EDB)⁷, the Epigraphic Database Erlangen-Nürnberg (EDEN)⁸, the Pelagios Project⁹, the EAGLE Project¹⁰, and the Trismegistos Project¹¹.

As a result of the edit-a-thon, participants agreed on publishing online their abstracts and slides in order to involve the community in the discussion of the edit-a-thon topics. The publication has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Open Science Office of the Library of the University of Leipzig¹². We are also very grateful to Professor Gregory R. Crane and the Humboldt Chair of Digital Humanities at the University of Leipzig for funding the organization of the edit-a-thon.

Monica Berti (Universität Leipzig)

³ https://www2.hf.uio.no/damos/

⁴ https://www.dainst.org/forschung/forschung-digital/idai.welt

⁵ <u>http://www.perseus.tufts.edu</u>

⁶ <u>http://www.edr-edr.it</u>

⁷ <u>http://www.edb.uniba.it</u>

⁸ <u>http://wisski.cs.fau.de/eden</u>

⁹ <u>http://commons.pelagios.org</u>

¹⁰ <u>http://www.eagle-network.eu</u>

¹¹ <u>http://www.trismegistos.org</u>

¹² <u>https://www.ub.uni-leipzig.de/open-science/</u>