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ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL MATERIAL AND ICARUS DIGITAL PLATFORMS - DATA PROTECTION IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

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Abstract:

Access to archival material is a complex issue, wider than archival profession and related to legal, administrative and political factors, and increasingly to the IT sector as well. This area is fundamentally regulated by archival legislation, but due to the existence of other relevant regulations with different accessibility approaches, archive regulations and procedures need to be systematically harmonized with current regulations, leading to numerous open issues in the practical work of the archives.

In this paper the author presents a European legal framework on the use of information and data protection relating to archival material in the digital environment, and analyses its practical implications through the example of ICARUS's international digital archive platforms.

Key words:

accessibility, archives, data protection, EU regulations, digital platforms

Izvleček:

Dostop do arhivskega gradiva in digitalne platforme ICARUS - varstvo podatkov v teoriji in praksi

Dostop do arhivskega gradiva je kompleksna tema, širša od arhivske stroke in povezana s pravnimi, administrativnimi in političnimi dejavniki ter vedno bolj tudi z informatiko. To področje v osnovi regulira arhivska zakonodaja, toda zaradi obstoja drugih predpisov, ki določajo drugačne načine dostopa, se mora arhivska zakonodaja z njimi sistematično usklajevati. To pa vodi do mnogih odprtih vprašanj pri praktičnem delu v arhivih.

Avtorica v prispevku predstavlja evropski pravni okvir glede uporabe informacij in varstva podatkov v povezavi z arhivskim gradivom v digitalnem okolju ter analizira njihovo praktično uporabo skozi primer ICARUS-ove mednarodne digitalne platforme.

Ključne besede:

dostop, arhivsko gradivo, varstvo podatkov, evropska zakonodaja, digitalne platforme

1.   ACCESS AND DATA PROTECTION IN ARCHIVAL MATERIAL

Access and use are considered to be the basic purpose of archival material preservation and description. In the archival practice they usually refer to the possibility of identifying and accessing records containing information relevant to one's query, and the rules and conditions of their use. (Ivanović, 2010, 133) Access, e.g. „the availability of records for consultation" is conditioned by the existence of legal provisions and finding aids (Prgin, 2015, 5), and, from the contemporary information society perspective, it is often highlighted as the most significant part of the work of the archives, which importance is also testified by the Universal Declaration on Archives (2011):

> *„Open access to archives enriches our knowledge of human society,*
> *promotes democracy, protects citizens' rights and enhances the quality of*
> *life."*

This globally accepted document, made by the International Council on Archives (ICA), translated into many world languages, and adopted at the UNESCO General Assembly in 2011, provides the accurate portrait of contemporary archives. Shaped by archival community itself, it highlights the collective responsibility of citizens, public administrators and decision-makers, owners and holders of archives and other information specialists, in order that

> *„archives are made accessible to everyone, while respecting the pertinent*
> *laws and the rights of individuals, creators, owners and users",*

while among the roles of archivists, professionals dedicated to archives, includes those of „making records available for use". These statements build on the 1996 principles established in the ICA Code of Ethics (1997), which emphasizes that archivists should ensure the continuing accessibility and intelligibility of archival materials, promote the widest possible access to archival material, provide an impartial service to all users, with respect both the access and privacy, and act within the boundaries of relevant legislation.

The access to archival material implies the right to inspect the material and the information it contains, the possibility for a research of sought and found material, and practical conditions of use of that material. (Ivanović, 2010, 133) The use of archival material does not refer only to research of records in reading room and information sources in the archives, but also includes all activities related to the review, transcription, publishing, display, reproduction and lending of the materials, as well as creating new cultural or information content from it.

The issues concerning access and use of archival material go beyond the archival profession and are associated with the wider legal, administrative and political context of society. This is the reason for redefining the archives and records, the rights of use and restrictions on the access to archives, the freedom of information and data protection and other related terms in legal and professional documents, as well as in public policies, strategies and recommendations related to this area.

Complex and often conflicting interests of citizens, civil society and public administration is the cause for existing discrepancies between the access to information rights, the creator's interest and the individual's right to privacy, which consequently complicates archive's work regarding organization, regulation and implementation of access and user services.

With the development and global acceptance of access to information legislation over recent decades, public archives have become part of the documentation to which they apply, as highlighted in Recommendation No. R (2000) 13 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on a European policy on access to archives adopted in 2000:

"Acts and regulations concerning access to public archives should be coordinated and harmonized with the laws concerning related areas, in particular with that on access to information held by public authorities and that on protection of data." (Kolanović, 2002).

Following this guidance, European archives oriented their efforts on the right to access information towards sensitization of the administration and the public of the importance of the access to archival material as an essential part of the public information space, as well as harmonizing their actions with relevant guidelines and regulations within the European Union. On the other hand, the information society expectations of public archives imply two main services; one is helping administration and records' creators in records management and preservation, while second is providing open access to archival material, primarily by using new technologies for better visibility and presentation of archival resources to the public. Digital environment provides archives with unlimited possibilities for using historical sources, building information infrastructure and improving usability of information held in archives, but at the same time it brings numerous social, professional and technical challenges related to the development, quality and sustainability of such services.

The greatest challenge for ensuring access to archival materials is the practical implementation, e.g., the provision of technical aspects of the protection of information with restrictions, whether it concerns personal or confidential data protection, copyright and ownership, ethical principles or other limitations prescribed by specific regulations, rules and requirements. In dealing with these issues, archival institutions, in accordance with professional standards, should provide public information on existence of archives with restrictions, and make data about nature of restrictions and conditions of use of such material publicly available. (Prgin, 2015a, 12–13).

2.   ARCHIVES ON THE INTERNET &ICARUS DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Digital technologies have greatly changed the methods and practice of using archival material, and significantly contributed to the culture of openness in the archives. The potentials in this area have been recognized early by archival profession, which can be seen in numerous papers about interaction between information society, digital technologies and archival theory and practice. For example, Angelika Menne-Haritz (2001, 59) as yet as 2001 stated that "*the main service that archives offers to the emerging global societies is access to the row material for memory, and thus they guarantee the capability to construct and shape memory in a way that helps us to understand the present problems and prepare us for the future.*"

In describing this new approach and changing the access paradigm, she defines it not as the actual use of archives, but as a form and an attitude. As a form it allows everyone who is interested in the archives to get access, read and interpret the records according to his own needs, while as an attitude it means that archivists accept the competences of the users regarding their own research area, e.g., the users' independence in understanding and interpretation of records. This access paradigm also implies the responsibility of researchers for the content, conditions and ways of using records, as well as the responsibility of the archives to provide them with access to

finding aids, guides, information tools and all available information sources for access and use of archival material. (Menne-Haritz, 2001, 61).

This words can be used to illustrate the *spirutus movens* of the International Association for Archival Research (ICARUS), which in 2018 celebrated its tenth anniversary as an active participant in various international projects and archives, cultural and scientific programs and initiatives.

ICARUS's activities particularly aim at building and maintaining a common information infrastructure, including providing expert and IT support to archives and related institutions, networking archives with other institutions dealing with cultural heritage, and supporting and developing projects and strategies dedicated to digital access to archives.

The ICARUS headquarters are located in Vienna, and today this association brings together about 200 members from 35 European countries, the United States and Canada, ranging from various types of archives, libraries, museums, academic institutions and professional associations to IT sector. ICARUS works on expanding the professional network, cooperation with complementary initiatives and sharing resources efforts, what in practice means that ICARUS is active member of ICA and APEF, one of the founders of newly launched European Time Machine project and partner of EBNA and EURBICA.

Figure 1. European Archival Blog[1]

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[1]   *European Archival Blog is available on: https://coop.hypotheses.org/.*

ICARUS community represents a unique network of experts, institutions and associations engaged in various forms of action; in 2015 ICARUS started its own magazine *Insights: Archives and People in the Digital Age*, published twice a year in English and German, and latter launched *European Archival Blog*, which is from 2018 jointly run with EURBICA. (Figure 1).

ICARUS is engaged in various project (like CrArC – Crossborder Archives, Men and Books, Pro Domo, APEx, ENArC – European Network on Archival Cooperation, Archivum Rhenanum, St. Stephan in Vienna: The architecture of written sources, co:op – Community as Oportunity: Creative Archives and Users Network etc.), maintains few online portals and leads relating working groups (MOM-CA, Didactics, Cadastral Maps, Population Registers), organizes lectures, presentations, professional and scientific conferences and meetings, enables sharing of knowledge and expertise through the Mobility Grant Program, provides support to its members and partners in all activities, as well as bounds and networks professionals and institutions at national and international level.

Beside digitalization of archives, ICARUS is focused on the long-term development and sustainability of common cultural heritage infrastructure: the ICARUS4all' association was established in 2014 with the aim of ensuring support for ICARUS digital platforms, digitization and research of historical sources activities. Furthermore, cooperation and teamwork between ICARUS and ICARUS4all experts, researchers and interested individuals of all profiles (archives, universities, genealogical and local research institutes, etc.) contribute to the linking, enhancement and active development of new projects and programs within ICARUS. Next step forward in the strengthening of the ICARUS network was made in 2016 by with foundation of the ICARUS Croatia, first national archival network of experts, institutions and users, whose example, starting with Italy, plan to follow other countries as well.

The main focus of ICARUS activities are projects dedicated to digitization and description of archival records with the purpose to make them publicly accessible, as well as to encourage and facilitate the interaction of archives with the audience (users and visitors of archives). Archival material published on the three existing ICARUS international digital platforms – Matricula, Monasterium and Topotheque – are open to the public and are also transferred to Europeana to enrich its content. Monasterium is the largest virtual archive of medieval and early modern charters in the world, Matricula is the register book portal, and Topotheque is the treasury of local history virtual archival collections from all around Europe.

The development, maintenance and upgrading of the technical and user functionalities of these digital platforms are planned and realized within the framework of various national and international projects dealing with "digital heritage" and the open access to cultural and historic sources. It is done through linking with already existing initiatives, and through participation in the development of common platforms for easier access to information and sharing resources on archival material. The common goal of such initiatives is to build networks and frameworks for the creation of quality digital content that will be integrated into pan-European portals such as the Archives Portal Europe and the Europeana, which are realized through various programs and activities: digitization and descriptions of holdings, integration of digital content into existing national and international portals, development of tools and standards for indexing and exchange of data, research of technical tools and users, audience development, educational programs and other complementary forms of action.

3.   MATRICULA– REGISTER BOOKS PORTAL

Register books are globally considered to be one of the most valuable sources for genealogical, demographic and similar research, as well as the most commonly used archival material. Matricula portal enables holders of such material to publish them, and interested users to access and search them in the digital form, along with basic information about the parish/place and the particular book itself. By the end of 2018 Matricula gathered register books and indices of 3.778 places from six European countries: Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Poland, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, ranging from the late 16th century (the oldest book of birth of the Austrian Haus im Ennstale is from 1586 - 1629) to the beginning of the 21st century (like for example, a list of the first communions and confirmations of the parish Boevingen - Boevange sur Attert from 1844 - 2017).
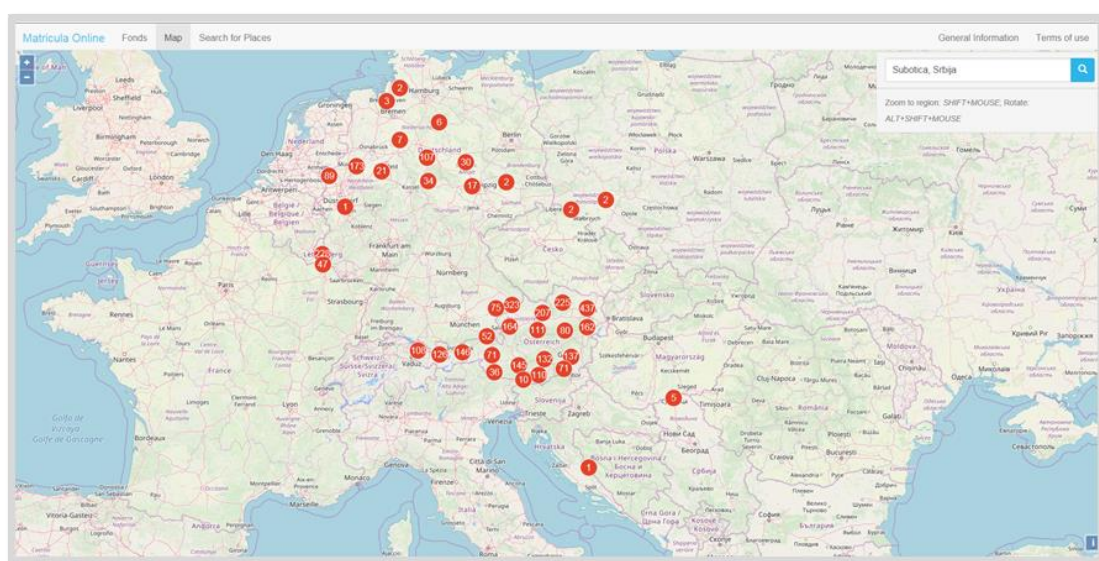

Figure 2. Matricula portal map view and search option[2]

Register books on the Portal can be searched in several ways; through an interactive map, by date and the name of the place, which further lead to detailed place site showing historical and contact information, geographic map, links to Wikipedia and Mapire (if available) and a list of accessible register books. (Figure 3).

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[2]   *Interactive map with Matricula records is available at:* http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/landkarte/ ?bbox=-578475%2C4959235%2C3530779%2C7145944.
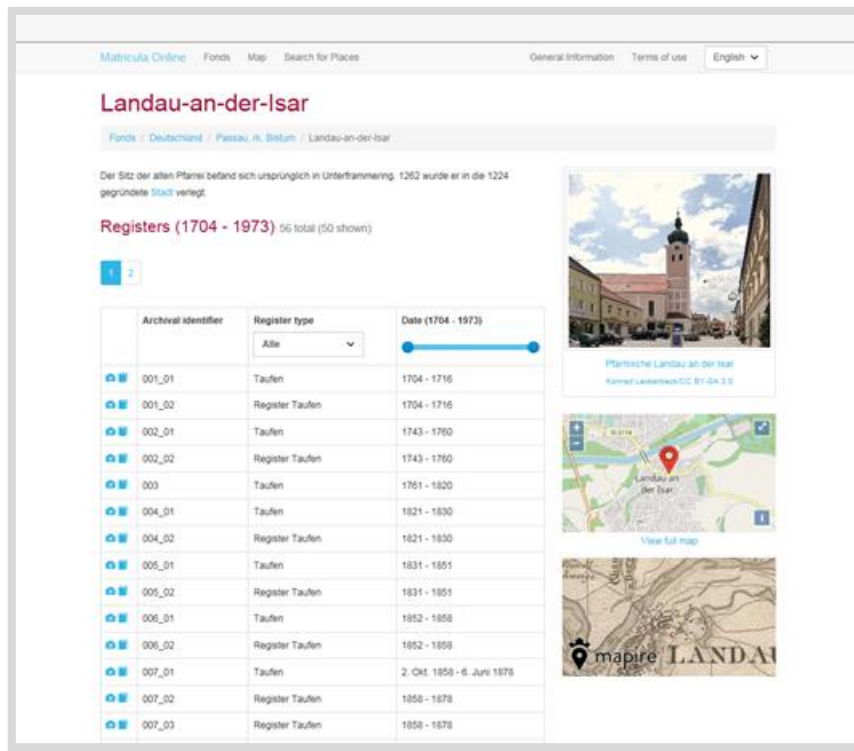
Figure 3. Site view details at Matricula

Description of a register book on the Portal consists of several metadata: parish/place name, archival identifier, register book type, dates of first and last entry, comment and storage location. Selecting image view of a single book leads to the digital images of its pages, which can be explored in detail with the image preview tools. (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Search of digital images of register book at Matricula

The Portal has a special Terms of use section explaining and regulating the terms and conditions of use of digital images of records and descriptive metadata accessible on the Matricula-Online portal. All digital images are available under the CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 license. (http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/nutzungsbedingungen/) Creative

Commons is an international system of copyright licenses and tools which easily allows copyright owners to tag their material in multiple three-layer way: legal, human readable and machine readable forms, through six main licenses defining various degree of dissemination and use of licensed materials.[3]

The CC BY-NC-ND license, specified in Matricula, implies that the licensor allows others to download and share the tagged material as long as they credit the authorship, but without permission to modify or use it commercially.[4] More precisely, this means that users can copy and redistribute tagged material in any medium or format, under the following terms and restrictions:

- Attribution — user must give appropriate credit to author, provide a link to the license and indicate if changes were made, which may be done in any reasonable manner suggesting the licensor does not endorse this use,

- Non Commercial —the material may not be not use for commercial purposes,

- No Derivatives — if user remix, transform, or build upon the material, the modified material may not be distributed,

- No additional restrictions — users may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

The Terms of use section further states that all data from digitalized register books may only be used in accordance with the respective legal terms of the Law of Personal Status and the Data Protection Act in each of its currently valid versions of the respective state, as well as that register books contain restricted data are not open to the public. (http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/nutzungsbedingungen/)

4. MONASTERIUM – MEDIEVAL CHARTERS PORTAL

The digital platform Monasterium, developed by ICARUS since 2008, is a European virtual archive of medieval and early modern charters, with more than 880.000 digital images published by the end of 2018, representing about 650.000 charters from twenty European countries. The user interface is multilingual while descriptive data mainly come in national languages, and the material on the portal is searchable through two lists named Fonds and Collections.

Overview of the Fonds is structured as a hierarchical list according to the principles of the archival description: state - institution - name of the fond/collection, and it maintains state of art from more than 170 different archives and libraries holdings. By selecting the Collection, the user is presented with alphabetical list of various thematic collections of charters and diplomatic editions, mostly based on scientific research and digitization of older scientific publications. They are made by institutions and researchers included in these activities, who decided to published their work as virtual collections at the Monasterium.

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[3]   More on Creative Commons licences on: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/?lang=hr.

[4]   More on licence CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 HR on: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/hr/.
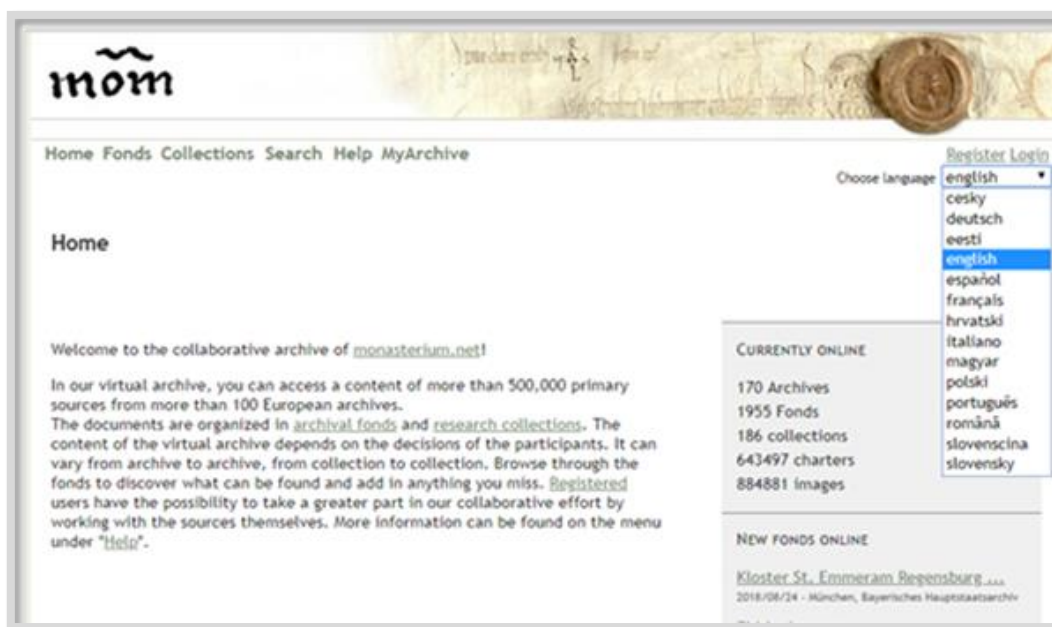
Figure 5. Monasterium portal webpage [5]

The charters within each fond/collection are chronologically listed with descriptive metadata, consisting of the name, signature, date, diplomatic description of the charter, full text of the charter, citation instructions and digital images. (Figure 6).

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[5]   *Monasterium portal is available on: http://www.monasterium.net.*

Figure 6. Overview of one charter at Monasterium portal

The elements of description of charters on the portal are created in accordance with the Charters' Encoding Initiative (CEI) standard, while the technical maintenance and development of the Portal is governed by the Cologne Centre for e-Humanities (CCeH). Regarding data transfer, portal enables direct entries as well as metadata import through Excel worksheets, while description of each document can be downloaded in PDF and XML formats.

Monasterium platform enables collaborative work, so it is open to all interested for active participation in the use and description of documents, and also in the development and testing of technical tools. The User Interface consists of several elements: online document editing tools, diplomatic description metadata (more than 70 descriptive fields), user collections, user documents, automatic data storage and moderated announcements. (Figure 7).
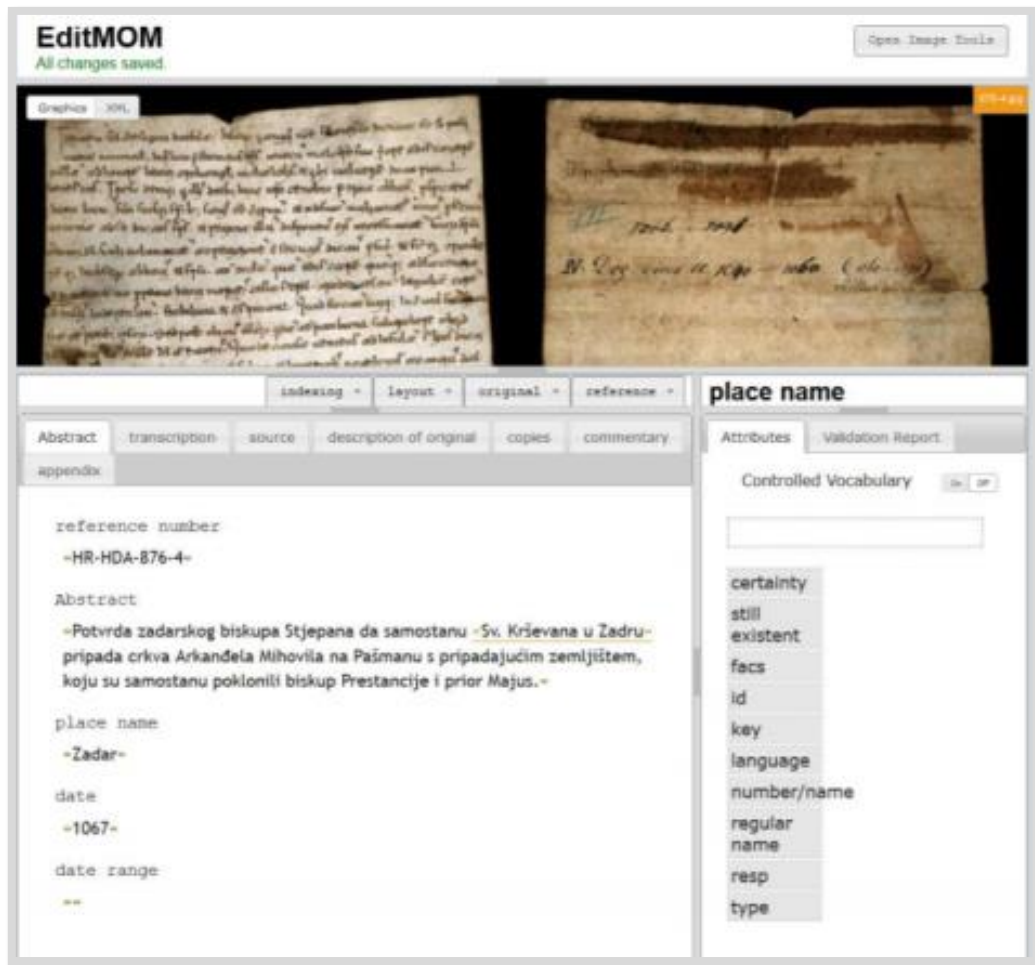
Figure 7. Monasterium User Interface

The goal of MOM-CA (Monasterium Collaborative Archive) partners is to systematically develop this virtual archive, maintain its permanent availability and link it with other historical online sources. In order to achieve this, beside technical support parallel engagement is invested in upgrading and promotion of Monasterium use in education and historical research through activities such as MOM schools, MOMathon etc.

Sustainability of Monasterium, from its beginnings in 2002 to date, ICARUS has provided with its involvement in various projects and partnership initiatives, in last years through the Creative Europe co:op project, where the technical part of the project's activities was oriented towards this portal. This involved the improvement and development of new functionalities for the more active inclusion of users in the preparation and publication of content on the portal, the dissemination of research potential of digitized documents and new opportunities for collaboration with experts and target user groups.

Terms of use section is an integral part of Monateruim portal, stating that all published texts and images are protected by national laws regulating copyright and conditions of use. Furthermore, the institutions holders of archival material held all rights of publication and reproduction of the digital images of the documents, so any means of publication requires their prior authorisation. Noncompliance to this terms is subject to sanctions, whereby the place of jurisdiction of the court is determined by the holders'

institution, and for this reason users are notified that addresses, time and duration of their access to portal are stored on the server. Besides respecting conditions of use, portal users are also instructed to comply with the good scientific practice and citation standards, as well as asked to pass a free sample copy of publications and research results obtained from data provided by Monasterium.Net to the respective holder of the used original archival material. (http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/nutzungs bedingungen/).

5. TOPOTHEQUE – COLLABORATIVE PORTAL FOR ARCHIVES AND COMMUNITIES

The youngest ICARUS digital platform – Topotheque – was created within the framework of the co:op project as a tool for creating virtual archive collections of local history and/or theme, thus encouraging preservation and research of local history and the promotion of historical sources. This international project gathered more than 70 partners around the idea of building a creative network of archives and users through the active linking of archival material creators with institutions that preserve it, e.g. linking of heritage institutions with communities in which they operate. Collaboration is carried out by organizing public programs (historical lectures, workshops and other types of events) in interaction with local institutions and individuals holding archival material, with the aim of creating virtual collections on local history, sights, events and people. For this purpose the digital platform Topoteque was developed, allowing easy digitization and publishing of various historical sources (photos, documents, prints, audio and visual records etc.) and the use of interactive IT tools for their description, presentation and search. ICARUS takes care of the technical maintenance and development of the portal, while ICARUS members and associates, Topotheque administrators and other interested parties promote its use to build virtual archives which gather materials, memories and knowledge scattered across various private, local, and other forgotten sources. Topotheque administrators can be experts from heritage institutions, but majority of them are history teachers, amateur researchers, local community activists, community representatives or interested volunteers.

In the past three years over 250 public and private Topotheque virtual collections have been built throughout Europe: in Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Estonia, Finland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland and Spain, representing Europe landscape in the 20th century. Through them, people can get acquainted with private family records and photographs (family collections), monitor everyday life and landscape changes of particular regions and small places throughout Europe, get to know popular local attractions (Viennese Prater), historical sites and city quarters (Osijek's Tvrđa), history of individual institutions (VBS Mödling, Morpurgo bookstore) or document their actions (Vilijun).

The collections on the portal are presented according to the geographical criterion: state - region - collection with separated list of private and institutional collections, and can be accessed by the name or via interactive map.[6]

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[6] Homepage of the Topotheque platform is available on: https://www.topothek.at/en/.
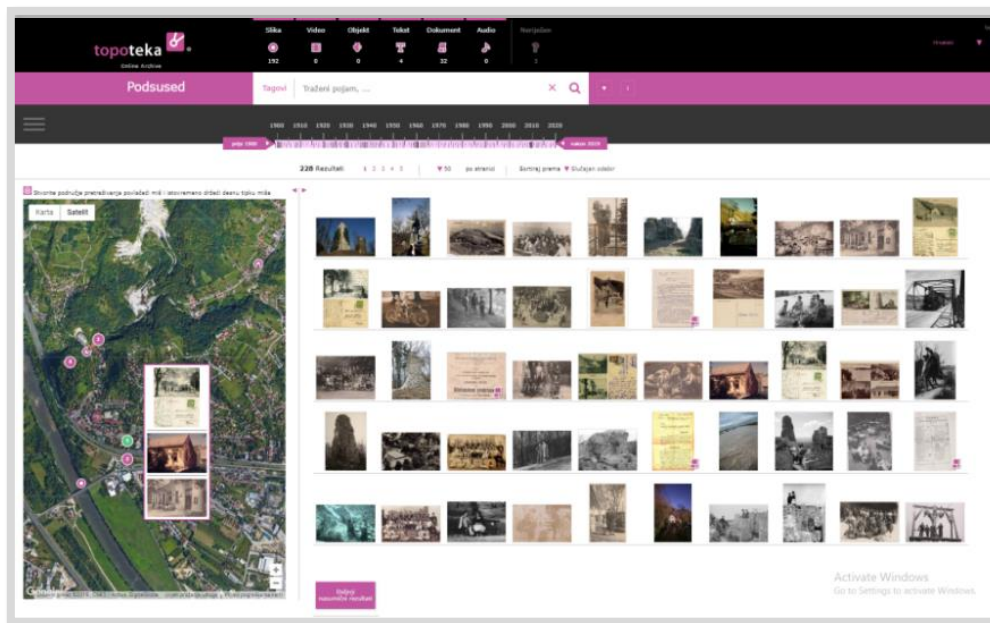
Figure 8. Topotetheque Podsused from Croatia

Each collection is described with multiple set of data: Introduction, Impressum, Collection and Project description, Legal disclosure, Terms of use, Data protection and Contact, while digital material can be viewed in the default order or by additional filter search according to several criteria: chronological (time line), type of material (documents, photographs, AV records, objects etc.) and keywords from the record description.

Records description elements are created in in accordance with the ISAD (G) standard and include the following fields: name, tags (main and secondary objects), description/ comment, date, location, media, originator, owner, copyright, source and note. Furthermore, each record can have open question (like for example: Do you know the names of people in this image?) to which users who search the content can respond and comment, and in this way actively participate in records description. Every Topotheque collection consists of materials coming from different sources (archives, museum, libraries, organizations, as well as private hands), so Topotheque administrators have the obligation to obtain the written consent of material owner for its publishing on Topoetheque, as well as to collect information on the terms of use of data and files (CC licence) inside the collection they manage. Since the administrators of the Topotheque collections often don't have professional knowledge about processing of historic records and regulations on their use, help of the heritage institutions is an important part of the work on the portal. The heritage institution support is particularly articulated in the education of the associates on the description and access to material, as well as in the transfer of knowledge about archives work and historical sources in general.

Regarding variety of materials displayed on this platform, every time a new collection is started, its administrator takes responsibility for publishing content and data accuracy, as well as for respecting the property rights and copyrights for all records in his collection. The naming of the originator (author), the owner (institution or individual), the terms of use and the sources of the collected content is obligatory for each displayed record, and provide this data is regular task of the administrator of a particular Topotheque.
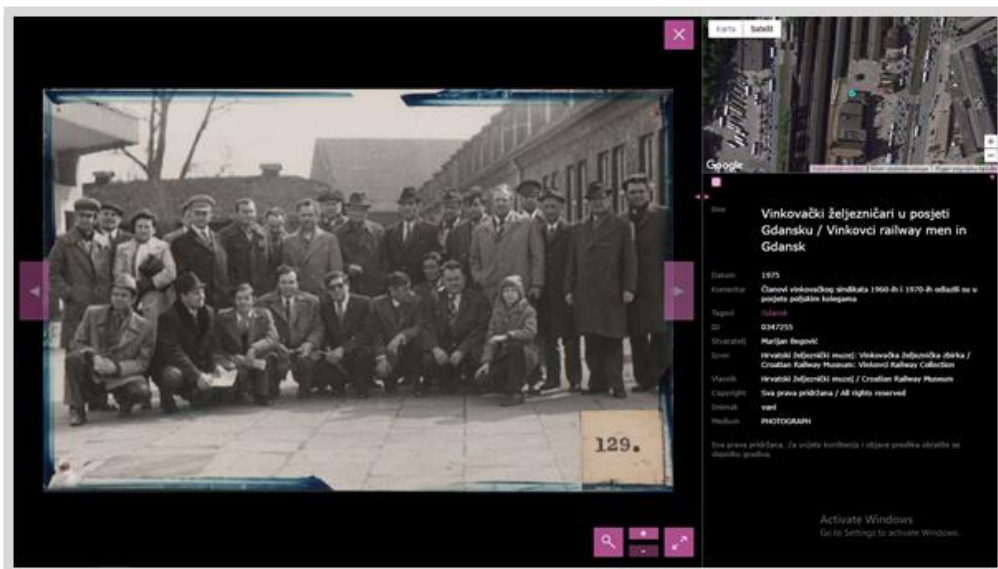
Figure 9. View and description of a a single document (photo) in the Topotheque

Topotheque homepage contains information on the portal origin, work and partners gathered around this project, as well as special section named Legal aspects which states that this is a web service which gives access to historical material (insights), but not utilizing. The owners and copyright holders (usually the photographer or author) give the administrator of a respective collection (e.g. institution or association) the right to make the digital objects available on Topotheque platform, while further use is connected with the Creative Commons license or the terms of use specified for each object within description fields. All interested for further work with digital object are instructed to contact Topotheque administrator or right holders and to obtain proper consent prior to further use of respected material. Legal section also provides additional information about orphaned material, especially private photographs and time framework in which they are unavailable for public use, as well as the importance of research and gathering the necessary data for solving their status through collaborative platforms and crowdsourcing initiatives, which also can help accessibility issues in general. (https://www.topothek.at/en/legal-aspects-2/).
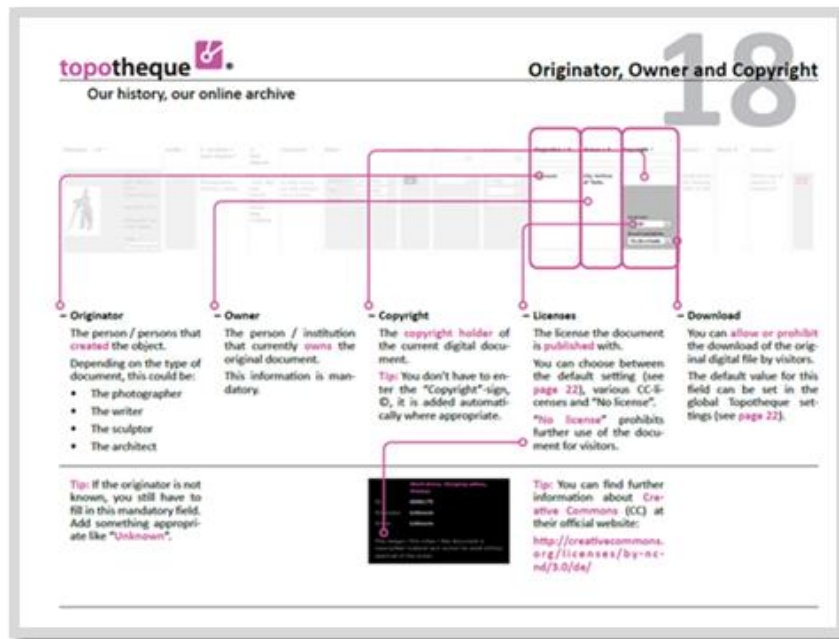
Figure 10. Guidelines for entering data on records creators, owners and copyright in Topotheque User Manual

Topotheque concept is based on the collaboration of heritage institutions with the community, as well as on idea of inclusion of more citizens in the preservation and promotion of their history and tradition. The purpose of such interaction is to raise public awareness of the importance of archival material, the opening of private collections to the public and the networking of heritage and educational institutions. Active support of archives to this initiative, realised mainly through the development of technical tools and descriptive standards and interaction with targeted user groups, provides a practical contribution to digital access to historical sources and enhance public knowledge on archives work.

6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The accessibility of cultural heritage to citizens is one of the main goals of contemporary cultural policies and strategies relating to digital agenda. In archival practice this principle is usually connected with the open access to archives (respecting the principles of privacy and security) and audience development programs. Following this social and professional trends, archives work nowadays consistently include digitization of holdings, increasing access to archival resources, linking archival information to other information sources, participation in scientific and cultural heritage networks, as well as developing of new user services.

ICARUS digital platforms show the practical outcome of such activities, and also provide an example of proactive collaboration of the archive community with institutions and experts on the development of open data portals, tools and solutions that everyone can share and use. Although every archival institution today has its own databases, online registers and digital collections, collaborative portals and platforms upgrade their content with new information value. They increase records visibility, accelerate research and facilitate data exchange, thus fulfilling the purpose of its creation and maintenance. Ensuring the sustainability of such portals, both financially and qualitatively, represents

the major challenge of such initiatives and projects, whereby global and local partnerships and co-operation present logical solution to such issues.

ICARUS's activities within different cultural and scientific projects, public programs and other initiatives on developing and maintenance their portals, various in its scope and content, those gathering institutions holdings (Monasterium and Matricula) and Topotheque which collects digital objects from various public and private sources, reflect traditional difficulties, open issues and innovative practices that archives nowadays face. Cooperation with global and local collaborative networks, linking with ongoing projects through exchange of knowledge and good practices, as well as collaboration with educational, academic, cultural, heritage, IT sectors and various user groups, are recognized by professional community as fundamental archival activities in digital environment. Examples of the described international portals show the possibilities of applying these principles in practice, in the information management and user service area, with an open invitation to professional bodies, institutions and experts to build new archive models, policies and programs that will make archives an inevitable and integral part of contemporary information society.

POVZETEK

DOSTOP DO ARHIVSKEGA GRADIVA IN DIGITALNE PLATFORME ICARUS: VARSTVO PODATKOV V TEORIJI IN PRAKSI

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Dostop do kulturne dediščine je eden izmed glavnih ciljev sodobnih kulturnih politik in strategij v zvezi z digitalizacijo. V arhivski praksi se ta princip povezuje z odprtim dostopom do arhivskega gradiva (upoštevajoč zasebnost in varnost) ter programi razvoja uporabnikov. V skladu s temi družbenimi in strokovnimi trendi se arhivi konsistentno posvečajo digitalizaciji gradiva, povečevanju dostopa do arhivskih virov, povezovanju arhivskih informacij z ostalimi informacijami, sodelovanju v znanstvenih omrežjih in omrežjih, povezanih s kulturno dediščino, ter razvoju novih storitev za uporabnike.

Digitalne platforme ICARUS so rezultat tovrstnih aktivnosti in predstavljajo primer proaktivnega sodelovanja med arhivskimi ustanovami in strokovnjaki za razvoj odprtih portalov, orodij in rešitev, ki jih vsi zainteresirani lahko uporabljajo in izmenjujejo. Čeprav imajo danes skoraj vse arhivske ustanove svoje podatkovne baze, spletne registre in digitalne zbirke, pa skupni portali in platforme njihovo vsebino dopolnjujejo z novi informacijskimi vrednostmi. Povečujejo vidnost zapisov, pospešujejo raziskovanje in omogočajo izmenjavo podatkov, s tem pa izpolnjujejo svoj namen. Zagotavljanje vzdrževanja takšnih portalov, tako s finančnega vidika kot z vidika kvalitete, predstavlja velik izziv tovrstnim iniciativam in projektom, pri čemer se rešitve iščejo v globalnih in lokalnih partnerstvih.

Aktivnosti ICARUS-a znotraj različnih kulturnih in znanstvenih projektov, javnih programov in drugih iniciativ, ki se ukvarjajo z razvojem in vzdrževanjem portalov, po vsebini zelo različnih (od tistih, ki zbirajo gradivo institucij (Monasterium in Marticula), do Topoteke, ki zbira digitalizate iz različnih javnih in zasebnih virov), odražajo težave, odprta vprašanja ter inovativne prakse, s katerimi se arhivi danes soočajo. Sodelovanje

z globalnimi in lokalnimi partnerji, povezovanje s tekočimi projekti skozi izmenjavo znanja in dobrih praks ter sodelovanje z izobraževalnim, akademskim, kulturnim in IT-sektorjem ter različnimi skupinami uporabnikov je strokovna skupnost prepoznala kot osnovne arhivske dejavnosti znotraj digitalnega okolja. Primeri mednarodnih portalov, ki jih opisuje predavateljica, kažejo na možnost vpeljave teh principov v prakso, v upravljanje s podatki in podporo uporabnikom, hkrati pa predstavljajo vabilo strokovnim telesom, institucijam in strokovnjakom, da začnejo graditi arhivske modele, politike in programe, ki bodo arhivsko gradivo vpeli v sodobno informacijsko družbo.

Predavateljica bo predstavila evropski pravni okvir, ki ureja uporabo informacij in zaščito podatkov, ki obstajajo v arhivskem gradivu v digitalnem okolju, ter analizirala njihov praktičen učinek na primeru ICARUS-ovih mednarodnih arhivskih platform.

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