



Query and context based visualization of time-spatial cultural dynamics



Information Society
Technologies

QVIZ

Query and context based visualization of time-spatial cultural dynamics

Challenges

A common dilemma for European cultural heritage institutions is that the organization and presentation of archival information are so complex that they restrict easy access to the material. Another problem is that knowledge within communities of practice is often neglected.

Archival records and knowledge in communities of practice are commonly related to administrative units, such as parishes and municipalities. End users, however, are not often allowed to explore the material on this basis. While such access would be advantageous, it is made complex because administrative units frequently change over time and because archival systems rarely provide a rich time-space context.

Could these issues be solved, cultural heritage institutions could provide marketable services unavailable today; increasing the usage of archival material among local historians, researchers and the general public.

Key results

QVIZ will research and create a framework for visualizing and querying archival resources by a time-space interface based on maps and emergent knowledge structures. The framework will also integrate social software, such as wikis, in order to utilize knowledge in existing and new communities of practice.

QVIZ will lead to improved information sharing and knowledge creation, easier access to information in a user-adapted context

and innovative ways of exploring and visualizing materials over time, between countries and other administrative units. The common European framework for sharing and accessing archival information provided by the QVIZ project will open a considerably larger commercial market based on archival materials as well as a richer understanding of European history.

Consortium

The consortium consists of seven partners from universities, archival institutions and companies from Sweden, Austria, Estonia, Spain and the UK.

The project is co-funded by the European Union through the IST programme under FP6.

Partners

- Umeå university, Sweden
- Salzburg Research Forschungsgesellschaft, Austria
- Regio, Estonia
- University of Portsmouth, UK
- Swedish National Archive, Sweden
- National Archives of Estonia, Estonia
- Telefonica I+D, Spain

Contact

Project coordinator

Patrik Svensson, Umeå University
Patrik.Svensson@humlab.umu.se
Telephone: +46-90 786 7913
Fax: +46-90 786 9090

Assistant coordinator

Fredrik Palm, Umeå University
Fredrik.Palm@humlab.umu.se
Telephone: +46-90 786 9077
Fax: +46-90 786 9090

Web site

www.qviz.eu