The Standardization Survival Kit (SSK)
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The Standardization Survival Kit (SSK)

Bringing best practices to research communities in the Humanities

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Why using standards?

Manage your data, don’t let your data manage you...

... and produce **interoperable**, **sustainable** & **reusable** results for research.
Why using standards?

“Standards are a key to great digital research, which helps to discover and understand our cultural and societal life.”

Laurent Romary
Chairman of the Technical Committee "Terminology and other language and content resources" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
What are standards?

To be called "standards", they must fulfill three requirements:

- They express a **consensus**
- They are published and easily **accessible**
- They are **maintained**
The SSK: a toolkit for Humanities scholars

https://ssk-application.parthenos.d4science.org/ssk/#/
The SSK: a toolkit for Humanities scholars

- Documenting
- Supporting
- Training
- Communicating
The scenarios

Providing contextual information and relevant examples on how standards can be applied in a given research project.
Hey Mork! With some of my colleagues, I’d like to put musical scores online. But I don’t know what I can do and how to proceed! Can you help me?

Well Tork, use the SSK! I think the scenario “Collaborative Digital Edition of a Musical Corpus” can be very useful for you. It will guide you through all the necessary steps to put these scores online, and present the best practices associated to each of these steps.
A high-level research guide

Collaborative Digital Edition of a Musical Corpus

A project aims to do a digital edition of a musical corpus. The researchers need to be able to encode a broad range of musical documents in a machine-readable structure. The data to be encoded may include the musical content as provided by the composer (notes, pitches, durations, dynamics, etc.), information on the score (incipit, lyrics writer, etc.), information added by a performer when interpreting the content (timing, phrasing, various annotations, etc.), information on the visual appearance of the score (page layout, musical font, etc.) and analyses of the content in any of the other domains. The edition will be structured around a database in order to allow the users to explore it more easily. Furthermore, the project intends to be collaborative, which means it will offer anyone interested the possibility to contribute.

1. Create a digital corpus of musical compositions.
Select resources to be included in the corpus. After collecting original musical sources, transcribe them adding critical editorial signs and normalizing, where applicable, ancient poetic texts to modern usage. To get directly MEI files, use MEISE (MEI Score Editor).
Resources and best practices
Three layers

**Scenario**
A complete and generic research use case composed of several steps to be followed.

**Step**
A unique task to be performed inside a scenario with the help and recommendation of one or several resources.

**Resource**
A standardized tool / service / document guiding the researcher in her/his tasks completion.
Managing resources

Documentation
- Standards documentation (ISO, TEI)
- Official publications and reports (D4Science, HAL, Zenodo)

Bibliography
- Reference libraries organised by domains and standards
- Maintenance with Zotero

Technical resources
- Code snippets (GitHub)
- Tools & services (D4Science)

User communities
- Wikis
- Blog posts (Hypotheses.org)
- Discussion lists
The scenarios are described using the **TEI format (Text Encoding Initiative)**. All the information displayed within the SSK proceed from TEI files.

```xml
<text>
  <body>
    <div type="scenario" xml:id="sc_schemaCustomization">
      <head xml:lang="en" type="scenarioTitle">Harmonization of digitized textual resources with the DTAf</head>
      <desc type="definition" xml:lang="en">Currently, initiatives for the digitization of textual resources and their provision to the interested community are manifold and various. Hence, scholars who want to base their research on digitized texts,
    </div>
  </body>
</text>

<listEvent>
  <event ref="step_OtICOp_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s1"/>
  <event ref="step_CaC_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s2"/>
  <event ref="step_SaD_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s3"/>
  <event ref="step_A_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s4"/>
  <event ref="step_CiSF_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s5"/>
  <event ref="step_TtI_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s6"/>
</listEvent>
```
What is next?

- **Browsing** vocabularies and bibliography
- Creating an **account**:
  - to manage **bookmarks**
  - to customize **scenarios** (by combining existing steps from SSK’s research scenarios)
- **Contributing** (in TEI or directly on the interface):
  - creation
  - edition
  - customization
- Accessing a **multilingual** interface
Test the SSK!

https://ssk-application.parthenos.d4science.org/ssk/

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Thank you for your attention!

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