

Facilitating the Exchange of Perspectives between Heritage Professionals and Researchers

Reuse cases presented by arts and humanities scholars : The SILKNOW
project

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Introduction

- A concrete example of how Cultural Heritage data are managed in the framework of a research project - namely the H2020 SILKNOW project.
- Interesting example for a range of issues, especially those concerning the management of data provided by Cultural Heritage Institutions (CHIs)
- Divided into three parts:
 - I will introduce the SILKNOW project
 - I will describe the datasets that have been collected by this research project
 - I will explain how SILKNOW makes these data FAIR, and more especially how it makes these data Reusable by applying the Europeana Licensing framework, associated to the SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement

The European Silk Heritage : an endangered heritage



The SILKNOW project

- Many museums devoted to silk preservation.
- lack resources to develop state-of-the-art digital resources. These heritage institutions have been producing large amounts of digital data
- Lack size and resources to establish networks and connections with other collections
- H2020 [SILKNOW](#) project (Silk heritage in the Knowledge Society: from punched card to Big Data, Deep Learning and visual/tangible simulations): **producing a platform** to give access to a wide variety of data describing silk-related objects to researchers or curators, but also do the general public

Collecting the datasets

- SILKNOW has crawled 10 datasets from websites or online databases of Cultural Heritage Institutions (CHIs) preserving silk-related artefacts
- For 2 datasets only : SILKNOW has received them directly from 2 institutions (from the GARIN company and the Università degli Studi di Palermo)
- SILKNOW crawler made in Node.js, source code available on [Github](#)

- ❑ [GARIN](#) company
- ❑ [Rhode Island School of Design Museum](#)
- ❑ [Red Digital de Colecciones de Museos de España](#)
- ❑ [CDMT Terrassa](#)
- ❑ [Joconde](#) database
- ❑ [Musée des Arts Décoratifs](#)
- ❑ [Metropolitan Museum of Arts](#)
- ❑ [Boston Museum of Fine Arts](#)
- ❑ [Musée des Tissus et des arts décoratifs](#)
- ❑ [Victoria and Albert Museum](#)
- ❑ Caccamo
- ❑ [Museo Diocesano di Palermi](#)
- ❑ Chiesa Madre di Termini Imerese

Collecting the datasets

- The data gathered so far by SILKNOW are used to design the database. At the end of the project, they will be stored in a web server and made available to users through the SILKNOW search interface.
- The content of the fields of the museum records are normalized in JSON format.
- The JSON files stick with the data models of the source museums.

Collecting the datasets

The datasets are made of two types of data:

- The metadata describing the silk-related objects preserved in its collections are stored in JSON. The JSON files stick with the data models of the source museums
- These metadata are related to a corresponding set of images in JPEG

```
CE01122_MNAD.json x
1 {
2   "fields": [
3     {
4       "label": "Museo",
5       "value": "Museo Nacional de Artes Decorativas"
6     },
7     {
8       "label": "Inventario",
9       "value": "CE01122"
10    },
11    {
12      "label": "Clasificación Genérica",
13      "value": "Tejidos"
14    },
15    {
16      "label": "Objeto/Documento",
17      "value": "Fragmento de tejido"
18    },
19    {
20      "label": "Materia/Soporte",
21      "value": "Seda [granate y amarilla] Hilo metálico [anillado en dos tamaños: el mas grande es plata y el mas pequeño es plata dorada."
22    },
23    {
24      "label": "Técnica",
25      "value": "Brocatel"
26    },
27  ]
28 }
```



Example of JSON and JPEG files from the Red Digital de Colecciones de Museos de España

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

Data collected in the framework of a H2020 project. In this context, these data should be **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable (FAIR).

- **FINDABLE** : they will be stored in a web server and made available to users through the SILKNOW search interface.
- The SILKNOW database will freely and openly give **ACCESS** to descriptive metadata on silk-related objects preserved by CHIs.
- They are stored in **INTEROPERABLE** formats.

We will here focus on the R of FAIR. To be **REUSABLE**, these data have to [“be licenced to permit the widest reuse possible”](#).

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

SILKNOW deals with different kinds of digital objects:

- digital representations of physical objects, such as photographs, scans, transcriptions, models, videos, audio recordings, etc. ;
- previews of these digital objects such as versions of the digital image files, excerpts from text files, etc. ;
- descriptive metadata about the digital objects.

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

- The SILKNOW database will give access to previews of these digital objects and to the metadata describing these digital objects.
- Therefore it implies to have a common licensing framework, able to deal with the requirements of the various CHIs involved in the project.

Name of the dataset	Current licensing framework	
	<i>Metadata</i>	<i>Images</i>
silknow_garin_20180928_1	No licensing	No licensing
silknow_unipa_20180927_1	No information on copyright or IPR	No information on copyright or IPR
silknow_risdmuseum_20180830_1	CC0	CC0
silknow_ceresmcu_20180830_1	No commercial use, respect of the copyright (paternity)	No commercial use, respect of the copyright (paternity)
silknow_imatex_20180907_2	No information on copyright or IPR	No information on copyright or IPR
silknow_joconde_20180830_1	No commercial use, respect of the copyright (paternity)	Reusing images is free of rights, otherwise authors have given their copyright to Joconde
silknow_lesartsdecoratifs_20180830_1	No information on copyright or IPR	Copyright
silknow_metmuseum_20180830_1	CC0	CC0
silknow_mfaboston_20180830_1	Copyright. Non-commercial use can be permitted, but it cannot be applied to some of the datasets	Copyright. Non-commercial use can be permitted, but it cannot be applied to some of the datasets
silknow_mtda_20180830_1	Copyright. Reuse can be permitted upon the authorization from the museum	Copyright. Reuse can be permitted upon the authorization from the museum
silknow_vam_20180906_1	Copyright. Reuse is free of charge for non commercial purpose	Copyright. Reuse is free of charge for non commercial purpose

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

The SILKNOW licensing framework relies on the Europeana Licensing Framework and its four elements :

1. The **SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement**
2. The **Creative Commons Zero Universal Public Domain Dedication Licence ([CC0 1.0](#))**
3. The **terms for user contributions**
4. The **`silknow:right` field of the SILKNOW Data Model**

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

- SILKNOW Licensing Framework = open access.
- Some exemptions can apply and some data may not be accessible in open access.
- According to the SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement, the data providers are free to decide whether the datasets they provide will be disseminated or not in open access.

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

The SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement

TIMELINE

- The agreement ensures that the data providers have the freedom to drop out the project whenever they want.
- The agreement is automatically renewed.

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

The SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement

LICENSING

- The data provided by the data providers will be published under the terms of the CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication.
- The agreement ensures that the data provider can, at any time, decide about the usage of the data it has provided.
- As a first consequence, it is in the discretion of the data provider to decide which data it provides to SILKNOW.
- As a second consequence, the data provider must provide SILKNOW with correct metadata on the intellectual property rights to the content.

Giving access to FAIR data : increasing the reuse of research data collected by SILKNOW

The SILKNOW Data Exchange Agreement

ATTRIBUTION

- In the event that SILKNOW enriches these data with data from other sources or from automated techniques, a clear attribution on the source for each piece of information will be provided. The resulting information and data will be made available as open access data.
- The project is obliged to give attribution through the silknow:right field.

Which difficulties ?

- Signing this agreement is not always easy : generally CHIs need time to sign it.
 - They have to select the data they will provide, and to be assured that they can legally provide these data under the CC0 Licence.
- Therefore, SILKNOW has to be prepared to answer their requests of information.
- More time is generally needed to negotiate with the administrative structures (city, “region”...etc.) that are running the CHIs => These structures are rarely familiar with the issues concerning research projects dealing with Cultural Heritage data.

Which challenges ?

- Europeana Licensing Framework = very useful to help research projects to make Cultural Heritage data FAIR.
- Some progress can be done concerning the Data Exchange Agreement.
 - Developing a more general framework for this agreement, that could be systematically reused and adapted by research projects wishing to use the Europeana Licensing Framework
 - Instead of signing individual agreements with each data provider, this framework could also be more open, in order to give more visibility to these initiatives and to ensure a certain transparency
 - More information on the license CC0 + verification mechanisms to guarantee this licence can be used (or not).

Thank you for your attention
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