Kostić, Larisa and Lalatović Jelena
Institute for Literature and Art, Serbia

FROM MANUSCRIPT TO METADATA: ADVANCING DIGITIZING WORKFLOWS IN SERBIAN LITERARY RESEARCH
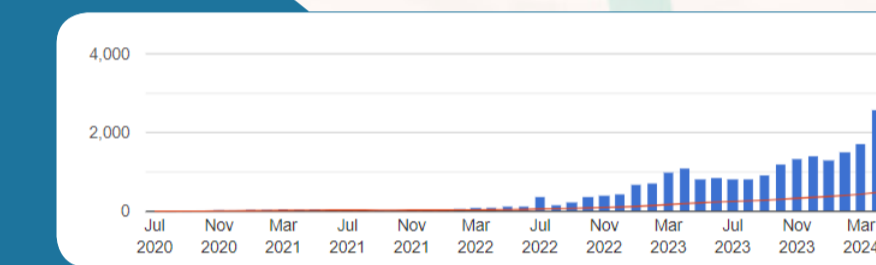
Introduction

Background: The Institute for Literature and Art has transitioned from manuscript-centric methodologies to metadata-driven paradigms.

Significance: This transformation addresses both technological challenges and thematic issues related to digital visibility.

Methodology

Repository Comparison: Comparative analysis of two repositories (Islandora and EPrints).
1. Islandora Platform: Implemented in 2019, faced deficiencies in scientific documentation.
2. EPrints Platform: Adopted in 2021, offered enhanced features such as citation tracking, metadata standardization, and peer review workflows.
3. Future projections and objectives for seven digital collections

Objectives

1. Examine the efficacy of different digital repository platforms used by the Institute.
2. Highlight the impact of metadata standardization on scholarly visibility and citation metrics.
3. Explore the role of digitized texts in promoting minority cultures and women's contributions.
4. Increase the visibility of our research outcomes among foreign universities and research institutes.

Figure 1. Metadata in Islandora in non-Latin script entries

Figure 2. Metadata in EPrints (standardized Latin script entries)

Figure 3. EPrints download reports and statistics

Discussion

• *Impact on Scholarly Community*: The transition to EPrints has elevated the institution's academic prestige.
• *Broader Implications*: Potential for epistemic renewal within Serbian literary research through the digitization of minority voices and women's contributions.

Conclusion

• *Summary*: EPrints platform has significantly enhanced scholarly workflows and visibility within Serbian literary research.
• *Future Directions*: Ongoing digitization projects, including seven platforms for specific research units, aimed at further popularizing research results and reaching broader audiences.

Results

1. Islandora Challenges: Issues with metadata standards and non-Latin script entries (*Figure* 1) led to poor discoverability on platforms like Google Scholar.
2. EPrints Success: Improved visibility and citation metrics due to standardized metadata and comprehensive features.
   2a. Enhanced Indexing: Works on EPrints are better indexed.
   2b. Increased Citations: Significant amplification of scholarly visibility and citation accrual.
   (*Figure* 2 and 3)

7 collections

The objective is to create seven collections of digitized articles. Each department at our institute will curate its own collection based on thematic criteria. The collections will include papers published from 1971 to the present, selected to align with the current research profiles of the departments.

These profiles include:

• *Periodical Studies*
• *Theory of Literature and Art*
• *Comparative Literature*
• *Poetics of Modern and Contemporary Serbian Literature*
• *History of Literary Criticism*
• *Cultural Self-Awareness*
• *Folklore*

Digitized Texts

Annotations

Advanced Search

Identifying & expanding target groups

Popularization of Research Results

References

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Contact Information

larisa.kostic@ikum.org.rs
lalatovicj@protonmail.com