



READ
Recognition and Enrichment
of Archival Documents



Transkribus User Conference
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University of Belgrade library Transkribus User Experience

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University of Belgrade library participation in H2020 READ

- ❖ University of Belgrade library – a MoU partner
 - Library resources
 - National project funding

University of Belgrade library participation in H2020 READ

- ❖ General importance

University of Belgrade library participation in H2020 READ

- ❖ Particular added value
 - Searchable texts
 - New partnerships
 - Prestige

What we did so far

- Two projects with Serbian Ministry of Culture funding
 - Groundbreaking effort in bringing new technologies to real life use in Serbian culture environment

What we did so far

- One working model
- Several transcribing efforts in the pipeline, one just finished and waiting for the model
- 13 Trnaskribus ongoing users in different roles (7 transcribers, 4 editors)

What we did so far

- Focus on training the transcribers
 - within library
 - coming from partnering institutions (Digitization academy)

Experience in working with Transkribus

- Easy to use tool
 - Three librarians trained to use it and train others to use it
 - Up to ten trained transcribers from various institutions, at the moment 4 active transcribers working in collaboration with librarians

Experience in working with Transkribus

- Text written corpora usability
 - Volume
 - General readability having in mind possible transcribers
 - Previous use of text (printed edition of part of texts, notes on text)
 - Importance of the writer, availability of his/her other handwritten texts

Experience in working with Transkribus

- Specifics of handwritten text and the transcriber
 - Ability to read the text
 - Ability to interpret the text
 - Speed and accuracy of transcription
- The role of the editor (trainer)

What we plan to do

- Transcribing more texts, getting more models
- Working with Serbian Cyrillic, Serbian Latin, text in other languages of Serbian authors (Jovan Cvijic)
- Establishing more partnerships within Serbia

What we plan to do

- Establishing more partnerships within Serbia
 - Finding new authors, new text corpora and new transcribers
 - Establishing new partnerships (individual like prof. Bajic, institutional like GLAMs, organisational like NGOs)

Conclusions

- RAED project and working with Transcribus are high priority for UoBL
- More models, more trained transcribers for building infrastructure and expert network in handwritten text recognition in Serbia

Keep transcribing!

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