

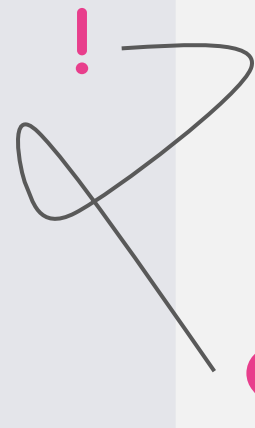
TRANSCRIPTIONES

CREATE, SHARE AND ACCESS TRANSCRIPTIONS OF HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS



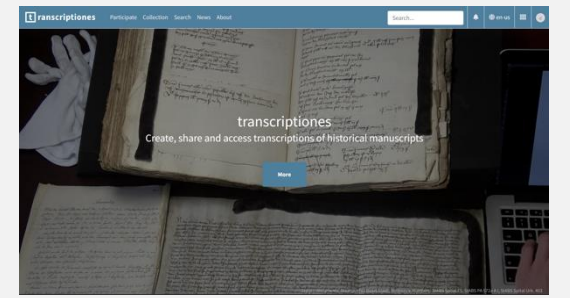
PROBLEM

Transcriptions are crucial research data, serving as indispensable resources for the interpretation of the past. Despite their immense value and the time-consuming process, transcriptions have often remained unpublished, difficult to find, and lacked a central platform for access. Therefore, historians frequently had to re-transcribe the same sources. This situation led to redundant efforts and expenses, and it was not in line with the FAIR principles.



SOLUTION

transcriptiones is an online platform where transcriptions and the associated metadata are collected and made openly available. Users can also revise the transcriptions and the metadata. Therefore, transcriptiones enhances the accessibility and the reuse of transcriptions.



COMMUNITY

transcriptiones empowers researchers, students, and citizen scientists to contribute transcriptions and metadata, and therefore enhancing the visibility and impact of their work. Institutional barriers diminish and connections among individuals passionate about history are established.



CONCEPT

transcriptiones balances a low-threshold, lightweight upload process with the provision of comprehensive metadata.

By design, the contributed transcriptions vary in state. Sometimes only parts of a source are transcribed or raw versions are provided. However, such transcriptions are still valuable as they provide relevant insights into archival collections. Moreover, their quality improves through collaboration, similar to the principle used by Wikipedia.



FAIR

Search strategies and metadata make the transcriptions easily findable. Moreover, each version of a transcription has a unique, permanent URL.

Accessibility is ensured via the free web application, export formats, and an API.

The REST API is crucial for providing transcriptions and metadata interoperably.

Reusability is enabled through the various metadata and the clearly declared, very open licence.

TECHNICAL

The servers are located at the University of Basel.

We use the Python framework Django and a MySQL database.

For advanced search capabilities, we've integrated the powerful Elasticsearch engine.



CODE

To further promote transparency and collaboration, transcriptiones also made its code openly available on GitHub and Zenodo under the very open BSD-3-Clause license.

