## **Linked Archives 2022 International Workshop - Preface**

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The International Workshop on Archives and Linked Data runs in conjunction with the 26th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries (TPDL 2022). TPDL 2022 was organised as an in-presence event in Padua, Italy. The workshop continues its first edition held in TPDL 2021, where the conference and the workshop took place as online events.

Cultural Heritage deals with treasures that are expected to survive generations. Many digital initiatives have explored segments of this global asset, with much more to uncover. They tend to be oriented by the organisations that have traditionally curated these valuable objects: libraries, museums, and archives. The Linked Archives International Workshop started from the perspective of archives, the guardians of immense volumes of information, both historical and current, driven by the need to keep a record of our past processes, achievements, and results. The growing interest in archival records and the availability of technologies that can take large volumes of data and process them is leading archives into the world of linked data. In this vision, the archives' information is joined with data from other cultural heritage institutions and more informal sources. Later, users can explore archives in rich interfaces where the data are available in their context, with explicit metadata. The goal of the workshop was to gather researchers and specialists engaged in initiatives that cross Archives and the Semantic Web and those planning similar initiatives in other cultural heritage organisations. We adopted an interdisciplinary point of view, aiming to stimulate the dialogue between the technically-oriented communities, researchers from the digital humanities, as well as specialists from cultural heritage institutions.

The workshops were sponsored by a Portuguese national project (EPISA—Entity and Property Inference for Semantic Archives), a collaboration between two university groups and Torre do Tombo, the Portuguese National Archives. The project is experimenting with models and prototypes for archival information systems based on linked data and ready for the semantic web. As the elements of the project team made contact with organisations and groups with similar interests, they perceived the need to discuss models, technologies, and infrastructures. TPDL 2021 presented the opportunity to do this in a European-centred community. The workshop was a success, with over 20 submissions. Nearly 90 people attended and most of the contributions are published as CEUR proceedings.

TPDL 2022 welcomed the 2nd edition of the International Workshop on Archives and Linked Data. The organisers invited 33 scholars and specialists to join the members of the Organising Committee in the Program Committee. 8 papers were submitted and each was reviewed by 3 members of the Program Committee. 6 papers were accepted. The workshop is a half-day event starting with a keynote by Kerstin Arnold (Archives Portal Europe Foundation) with title "No Archive is an Island – A Tale of Exploring a Brave New World" and including 3 sessions of 2 papers each, with themes "Artificial Intelligence and Archives", "Infrastructures for Archives and Linked Data" and "Models for Linked Archives". The organisation follows the general TPDL 2022 pattern and provides ample time for discussion, question-answering, and off-session interaction, much in the spirit of a workshop.

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The call for papers announced that extended versions of the best papers would be considered for publication in the ACM Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage (JOCCH). Two papers were considered promising and proposed for extended versions.

Overall, we consider the topic of the workshop timely and quite relevant to a community that includes scholars, archives specialists and archives managers. Let's look forward to the continuation of the International Workshop on Archives and Linked Data!

The Organising Committee

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