SCIA-2025: Digital Humanities in a Time of Transformation⋆

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Abstract

The 4th International Workshop on Social Communication and Information Activity in Digital Humanities (SCIA-2025) took place in Lviv, Ukraine, on October 30, 2025, continuing the tradition of fostering interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of Digital Humanities. This year's workshop featured 8 selected papers out of 22 submissions, reflecting a high level of academic rigor and thematic diversity. The event gathered researchers from Ukraine, Poland, Austria, Germany, Slovakia, and the United States, who explored how digital technologies shape cultural heritage, communication, language, and education in a period of global and regional transformations.

Keywords

Digital Humanities, SCIA, workshop proceedings

1. Introduction

The 4th International Workshop on Social Communication and Information Activity in Digital Humanities (SCIA-2025) marks another step in the ongoing development of the Digital Humanities community at Lviv Polytechnic National University [1]. The workshop serves as a meeting point for researchers and educators exploring the convergence of technology, culture, and communication.

This year's edition emphasized resilience, cooperation, and innovation – values particularly significant in the context of Ukraine's ongoing defense of its independence and democratic future. The workshop provided a platform for dialogue between scholars from the social sciences, humanities, and information technology, strengthening ties across Europe and beyond.

1.1. Workshop focus and topics

The SCIA-2025 program maintained five core thematic directions, reflecting the interdisciplinary breadth of the Digital Humanities:

- digitization of historical and cultural objects;
- computational linguistics in the practices of Digital Humanities;
- social media and information behavior;
- digital pedagogy and media education;
- open science, open data, and scholarly digital resources.

The accepted papers for 2025 illustrate these themes through diverse perspectives: the digitization of archival documents and transformation of libraries into digital cultural hubs; corpus-

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based linguistic research tracing orthographic variation and wartime discourse; studies of social media behavior, platform ethics, and digital communication under crisis conditions; analyses of educational practices in Digital Humanities, particularly within Ukrainian higher education (Figure 1).
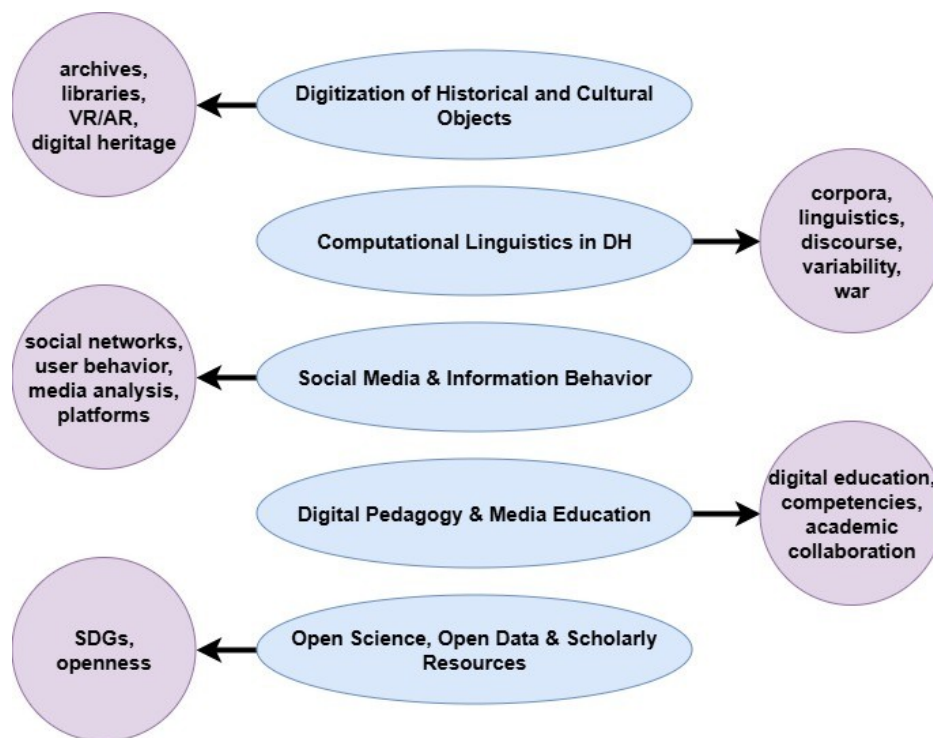

Figure 1: Mapping SCIA-2025 papers to workshop topics.

A comparison of the thematic composition of papers presented in 2024 and 2025 reveals both continuity and subtle shifts in research focus.

As in previous years, the category Social Media and Information Behavior remains the most actively represented. In 2024, it accounted for 39% of submissions, confirming a sustained interest in issues related to digital communication, social platforms, and online communities. In 2025, this topic continues to dominate with 38% of accepted papers, including one contribution that also touches upon Open Science and Media Literacy, reflecting a growing integration between media studies and open knowledge practices.

The categories Computational Linguistics in the Practices of Digital Humanities and Digitization of Historical and Cultural Objects have both strengthened their positions, each comprising 25% of accepted papers in 2025, compared to 22% and 11% respectively in 2024. This indicates a steady expansion of corpus-based and linguistic approaches, as well as a renewed focus on digitization of cultural heritage and archival materials.

By contrast, the Open Science, Open Data and Scholarly Resources section, which represented 11% in 2024, was not distinctly featured in 2025, though its principles appeared indirectly within other studies. The Digital Pedagogy and Media Education category accounted for 12% of the 2025 papers, reflecting ongoing attention to educational transformations within Digital Humanities [2].

Overall, the 2025 workshop demonstrates greater thematic balance across sections and a trend toward methodological integration, where studies often combine elements of linguistics, media analysis, and digital transformation within a single research framework.

2. Workshop highlights and trends

This year, the workshop received 22 submissions, of which 8 papers were accepted after double-blind review – an acceptance rate of approximately 36%.

Thematically, the Social Media and Information Behavior section remained dominant, while Computational Linguistics and Digitization of Cultural Heritage demonstrated steady growth. A notable trend is the increasing number of international co-authored papers and comparative studies involving Ukrainian and European institutions (see Figure 2).
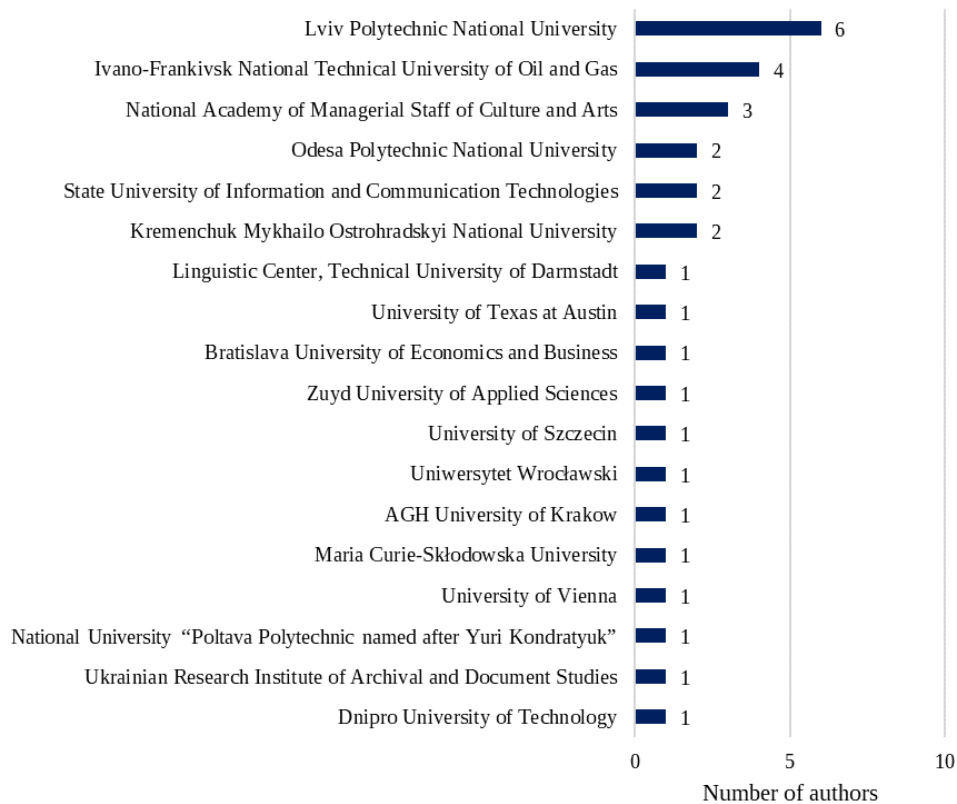

Figure 2: Institutional distribution of SCIA-2024 workshop participants.

The workshop also highlights the ongoing contribution of Ukrainian and European universities to the creation of sustainable digital infrastructures, open repositories, and educational frameworks that promote both innovation and inclusivity (see Figure 3).
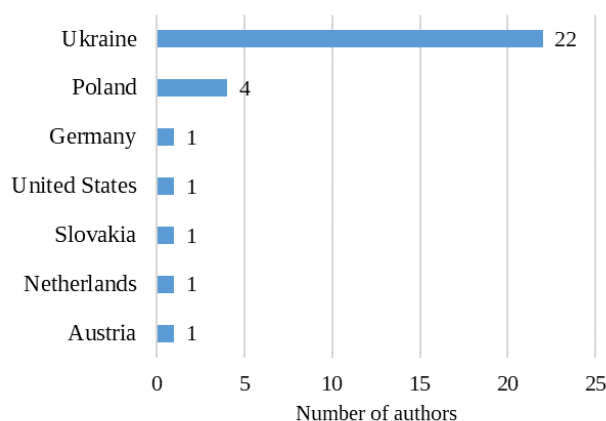
Figure 3: Geographic distribution of SCIA-2024 workshop participants.

Held in Lviv – a city that has historically bridged Central and Eastern Europe – SCIA-2025 reaffirms the importance of Digital Humanities as a space of resilience and reconstruction. The research presented demonstrates how digital practices contribute to preserving cultural

identity, fostering social cohesion, and enabling global scholarly communication even amid uncertainty.

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Declaration on Generative AI

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