Engaging with Maltese Translation on Wikipedia

Toni Sant

Illum

9:30 am - 10:45 am: Marsa lejn il-Wikipedija bil-Malti

10:45 am - 11:00 am: Coffee break

11:00 am - 11:45 am: Exploring the subject area/s of interest to the participants in the room

11:45 am - 12:00 pm: Comfort break

12:00 pm - 1.00 pm: Nittraduċu għal Wikipedia 20
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Articles</th>
<th>Edits</th>
<th>Admins</th>
<th>Active users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malti</td>
<td>3,589</td>
<td>256,610</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>6,096,766</td>
<td>956,994,477</td>
<td>1,141</td>
<td>143,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cymraeg</td>
<td>131,004</td>
<td>10,420,525</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italiano</td>
<td>1,613,096</td>
<td>113,276,507</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>9,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Íslenska</td>
<td>49,944</td>
<td>1,671,453</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Svenska</td>
<td>3,730,564</td>
<td>47,692,285</td>
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“Certainly within Wikipedia right now we are seeing some fairly successful projects in small European languages. You don't really need a Welsh language Wikipedia, perhaps. The number of people who speak Welsh who don't also speak English is very small and getting smaller every year. So why do we have a Welsh Wikipedia? Well, people wanted it, so they're making it. And language preservation is the main motive. It is their mother tongue and they want to keep it alive, keep its literature alive. Certainly some of the larger small languages like Basque and Catalan have very successful projects. I definitely see that preserving parts of your language and culture through collaborative projects makes a lot of sense.”

Jimmy Wales - August 2007

- July 2003: Welsh-language Wikipedia started
- June 2007: contained 10,000 articles
- Nov 2008: contained 20,000 articles
- July 2013: reached 50,000 articles
- March 2018: exceeded 100,000 articles
- Jan 2021: over 132,000 articles

- Sept 2012: Wici Cymru
- Since 2013: Collaborating with Wikimedia UK
- March 2017: Grŵp Defnyddwyr Cymuned Wikimedia Cymru

Wikipedia Cymraeg
• July 2004: Maltese-language Wikipedia started
• Aug 2007: contained 1,000 articles
• Sept 2010: contained 2,000 articles
• May 2014: reached 3,000 articles
• Jan 2021: 3,660+ articles...

• Nov 2015: Wikimedia Community Malta
• Jan 2016: Collaborating with Spazju Kreativ
• Aug 2016: Wikimedia Community User Group Malta
• Sept 2020: 1st Wikipedian in Residence (Valletta)

Wikipedija bil-Malti

Annual Activities in Malta

➢ Wiki Loves Monuments

➢ Wiki Loves Art
   inc. Art+Feminism

➢ CEE Spring
   (Central & Easter Europe)
2017: Gozo Citadel by George Formosa
2016: St Thomas Tower by Joseph Psaila

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Photos uploaded</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>New accounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,099</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>66 (83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>5,632</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>56 (80%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19 (61%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5 (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,104</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>68 (86%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,696</strong></td>
<td><strong>271</strong></td>
<td><strong>214 (79%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Articles about the top ten photos in each edition of Wiki Loves Monuments in Malta

- Photos: 40
- en.wp: 38
- mt.wp: 17

Celebrating art in February/March
Taking place in Malta since 2017

In collaboration with
- Spazju Kreattiv
- Gabriel Caruana Foundation
- Blitz
- MUŻA (Heritage Malta)
- Taking place since 2018
- Focus on women artists
- Addressing the gender gap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Articles created</th>
<th>Articles edited</th>
<th>Editors</th>
<th>Article views</th>
<th>Uploads to Commons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>25.1k</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4.11m</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3m</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>7.14m</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist name</th>
<th>Maltese</th>
<th>Languages other than English</th>
<th>Article length in en (bytes)</th>
<th>Article length in mt (bytes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antoine Camilleri</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Egyptian Arabic</td>
<td>8,363</td>
<td>6,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriel Caruana</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Spanish, Basque, French, Egyptian Arabic, Simple English</td>
<td>5,879</td>
<td>3,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Apap</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria de Dominici</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>9 languages (included in CEE Spring 2020 article list)</td>
<td>6,241</td>
<td>5,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Meilak</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Italian, Arabic, Polish (included in CEE Spring 2020 article list)</td>
<td>6,109</td>
<td>1,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Busutti Zaleski</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Italian, Russian, Ukrainian (included in CEE Spring 2020 article list)</td>
<td>4,521</td>
<td>3,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle Borg</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Italian, Romanian</td>
<td>4,531</td>
<td>3,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Caruana Dingli</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Portelli</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Malta & Maltese added in 2020

in collaboration with:
- Spazju Kreativ
- European Commission representation in Malta

✓ First formal engagement with writing on mt.Wikipedia.org

| Articles edited in mt.wikipedia | 112 |
| New articles in mt.wikipedia   | 91  |
| Articles about Malta created/edited in other languages (not Maltese) | 291 |
| Editors in mt.wikipedia        | 11  |

(+ ) dissemination of content about Malta
(+ ) engagement within WCM
(+ ) opportunity to engage with mt.wiki
(+ ) opportunity to fix interface issues

(- ) a specialised events for a very small wiki
(- ) translating orphan articles
(- ) translating low quality articles
→ need for a quality strategy for mt.wiki
→ need to focus on “vital articles”
(+) 1. Dissemination of content about Malta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National History</td>
<td>National History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. John</td>
<td>Church of St. John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Paul's</td>
<td>Church of St. Paul's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Lawrence</td>
<td>Church of St. Lawrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Paul</td>
<td>Church of St. Paul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Mary</td>
<td>Church of St. Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John's Church</td>
<td>St. John's Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul's Cathedral</td>
<td>St. Paul's Cathedral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary's Cathedral</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(-) 2. Engagement with Wiki Community Malta

- Small community
  = need to keep up engagement!

- Weekly online meet-ups

- Synchronous editing work (“face-to-face”)

- Chance to engage external editors
Edits July 2015 – June 2020

Active editors July 2015 – June 2020

(+3) 3. Engagement with mt.wikipedia.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mewga</th>
<th>The Emperor Waltz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AngieBalzan</td>
<td>Hhoq: It-Tibissima tal-Titil, Sisla Nazzjonali tal-Teatr tal-Opreja, Triq Pallasion, Il-Laguna Missosongli, Greek Shepherd, Aida Garrullina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tejlżit</td>
<td>Anna Dorota Chrzanowska, Mafi, Tibidi fil-klima, The Emperor Waltz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scutaj</td>
<td>Ġhar Kindarli, Boortasq, Klisti, Alfabett Sortbjan, Pervilča, Gliqi fil-Kazakistan, Inija Trinkūšanė</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. fixing the interface

- Maltese-only interface
- Introducing category tools
- Creating templates for stubs
- Still to do: fixing references...

Vital Articles?

**English**
- Earth
- Human
- Human history
- Language
- Life
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Science
- Technology
- The arts

**Malti**
- Id-Dinja
- Bniedem
- Storja tal-bniedem
- Lingwa
- #Hajja
- Matematika
- Filosofija
- Xjenza
- Teknoloġija
- Arti
Vital Articles?

**English**
- Geography
- Sea
- Desert
- Forest
- Capital city
- Continent
- Map
- Ocean
- North Pole
- South Pole

**Malti**
- Ġeografija
- Baħar
- Deżert
- Foresta
- Kapitali
- Kontinent
- Mappa
- Ocean
- Pol tan-Nord
- Pol tas-Sud

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Vital Articles?

**English**
- Politics
- Anarchy
- Citizenship
- Democracy
- Dictatorship
- Fascism
- Federalism
- Feminism
- Globalization
- Government
- Ideology
- Imperialism
- Colonialism
- Conservatism
- Liberalism
- Marxism
- Monarchy

**Malti**
- Politika
- Anarkija
- Ėċitadinanża
- Demokrazija
- Diplomazija
- Dittatura
- Faxxiżmu
- Federaliżmu
- Femminiżmu
- Globalizzazzjoni
- Gvern
- Ideologiżija
- Imperjaliżmu
- Kolonjaliżmu
- Komuniżmu
- Konservattivizm
- Liberaliżmu
- Marksţiżmu
- Monarkija
Four major elements define any encyclopedia

• its subject matter
• its scope
• its method of organization
• its method of production

Four major elements define any encyclopedia

• its subject matter = **comprehensive**
• its scope = **sum of all knowledge** (free)
• its method of organization = **online**
• its method of production = **volunteer supported**
www.wikimalta.org

mail@wikimalta.org

[www.wikimalta.org/meetup - Kuljum (mit-Tnejn sal-Ġimgħa) 6pm CET]