

National Repositories of ETDs and Grey Literature in the Czech Republic

PROJECTS

National Register of ETDs (theses.cz)

<http://www.theses.cz>

Theses.cz is a system used to collect Czech ETDs and search for traces of plagiarism in theses. It represents a nationwide (and not only that) register of theses and all the information related to these (see EVSKP-MS metadata below). The system allows the representatives of the schools participating in the project to upload their students' theses into it and search these for instances of plagiarism.

The work on the National Register was already started by the ETDs Working Group at a Association of Libraries of Czech Universities (ACLU) in 2004, mainly aiming at its standardization. The main result of its activities was the preparation of the metadata proposal EVSKP-MS, later approved as standard in the Czech Republic. The National Register of ETDs was programmed and launched by the Masaryk University in Brno in 2008. The project was subsidized by the Czech Ministry of Education. Today there are 21 schools involved with almost 60 000 records.



The National Repository of Grey Literature (NRGL)

<http://nusl.stk.cz>

The State Technical Library in Prague (STL) in collaboration with the University of Economics, Prague (VŠE) runs a project to build the National Repository of Grey Literature. Project is planned for the years 2008-2011. The project shall provide a working pilot application, which shall form the basis of the National Repository of Grey Literature. Having evaluated technology and methodology testing, project members shall formulate Standards and Recommendations for institutions establishing their own local repositories. Members of the project are working on metadata specifications, choice of relevant persistent identifiers, an analysis of typology of documents, software specifications for the model application and presentation of web pages. The NRGL project continues in the work of thesis.cz, its contents and apart from other, it is supposed that to collect ETDs data from the National Register of ETDs and other local repositories. The National Repository of Grey Literature will support data export to other repositories via OAI-PMH protocol.

WHO and WHAT

Association of Libraries of Czech Universities (ACLU)

<http://www.akvs.cz>

The Association of Libraries of Czech Universities has 21 members, i.e. 91.3% of all public universities in the Czech Republic. It aims at promoting joint interests of academic libraries, it serves as a platform for gaining and exchange of experience and it supports cooperation, including the cooperation abroad (it is a member of LIBER, EBLIDA).

The ACLU has three working groups:

- Information Education and Information Literacy Working Group
- Electronic Information Sources Working Group
- Electronic Theses and Dissertations Working Group

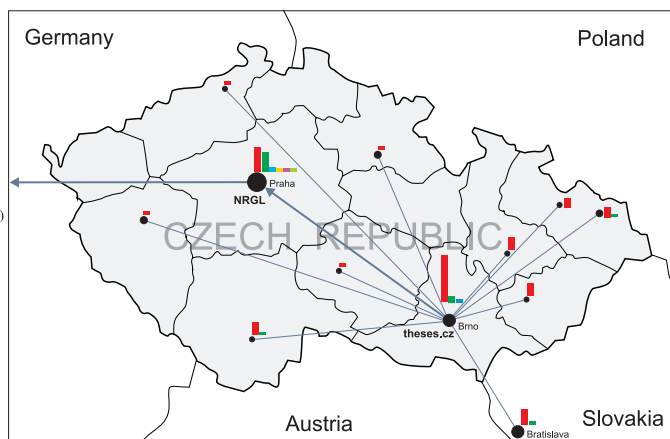
Electronic Theses and Dissertation Working Group (ETDs Working Group)

<http://www.evskp.cz>

The ETDs Working Group started its activities in 2004. It has 28 members, i.e. 19 of them are from public universities and apart from them regular guests out of the ACLU also participate at its activities.

The main goals of the working group: to commence a process of standardization in the Czech Republic, introduce methodology activities to provide access to the ETDs, to react to the development of publishing systems of ETDs abroad, to promote obligatory collection of e-versions, to create conditions to build a system of registering the ETDs on a national level. Problems being solved: internal regulations, workflow model, descriptive metadata standard, register of local ETDs system in the Czech Republic, national surveys, organization of regular seminars.

The group by its systematic activity played an important part in the change of social awareness in the Czech Republic and thus has prepared conditions to accept the idea of making the ETDs accessible and to solve the project of the National Register on a national level.



Schema of distribution of the records from local repositories to theses.cz and the NRGL

The State Technical Library in Prague (STL)

<http://www.stk.cz>

The State Technical Library in Prague (henceforth the STL) is a central professional library governed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic. According to its statutes the STL runs – among others - project of building the National Repository of Grey Literature.

The University of Economics, Prague (VŠE)

<http://www.vse.cz>

The University of Economics, Prague is a leading university in the field of management and economics in the Czech Republic. VŠE is composed of about 15,500 students who are served by more than 650 academic staff as well as about 500 non-academic staff. The function of the Centre of Information and Library Services at the VŠE is the information support of the study and scientific and research projects at the VŠE. On a national level, the CKS employees take an active part in the work on many projects and working groups.

The Academy of Performing Arts (AMU)

<http://www.amu.cz>

The Academy of Performing Arts is the largest university-level school of Music, Dance, Theatre, Film, TV and Multi-media studies in Czech Republic. It was founded in 1945. The graduates include several prominent performing artists and world-renowned personalities [e.g. M. Kundera, M. Forman, J. Kylián...]. Due to the specific forms of studies, student projects and works including ETDs are all in very different formats: texts, audiovisuals, photos, scores, etc. The methodology of providing electronic access to non-text ETDs is one of the main projects of AMU, on which it closely cooperates with the ETDs Working Group and where it plays a key role in addressing this particular field in the Czech Republic.

SELECTED PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Selected Current Problems in the Czech Republic

Legislation

In the Czech Republic there is inaccuracy and inconsistency in the latest amendments of the Copyright Act (No. 121/2000 Coll.) in relation to the ETDs. It causes certain ambiguous interpretation of law / the obligation to make the ETDs accessible at universities.

Therefore it results in different conduct of schools and various solutions:

Open Access / access only on the basis of license agreements / access only for the intranet of a respective school / no publishing.

Non-text Works

- A defended work may contain more varied individual parts.
- It leads to the need of separate and detailed metadata records, especially for text works, in particular practical types of works, which are e.g. a film, audio recording, collection of photographs, a stage design project and so on.

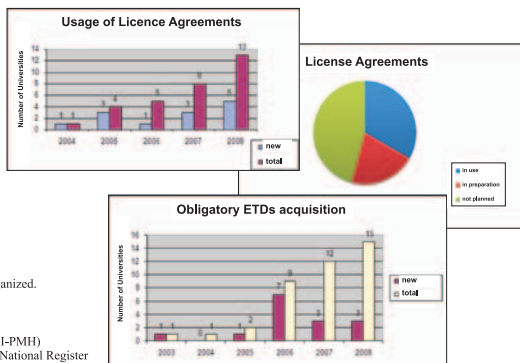
- This problem is being solved by the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague in cooperation with the ETDs Working Group

- Use of the declaration objects to set the relations between the records, or digital objects.
- It is necessary to incorporate the non-text works into the standard of the EVSKP-MS.

- It is advisable that it can be used more in practice, so that their reason repositories will have to be reorganized.

Others

- Collection of e-versions is not yet obligatory at all schools
- Open access to repositories is not yet common (it is necessary to introduce the implementation of OAI-PMH)
- Important universities (Charles University, Czech Technical University) still do not participate in the National Register
- Operation of local servers is not in automated mode (handing over of the metadata in person).



Recommendations

The ETDs Working Group has prepared:

- models of the internal regulations that regulate access to the ETDs
- model workflow for the submitting of the ETDs and making them accessible
- metadata standards, agreed on a national level, which provide for the obligatory and optional
- pilot solution for the field of methodology of accessing the non-text work types

The ETDs Working Group is planning as follows:

- to update the EVSKP-MS (see non-text works)
- to prepare templates for individual formatting and editing of the ETDs
- to promote and support the implementation of the OAI-PMH protocol
- to monitor existing legislation in the Czech Republic including response of schools
- to address the problem of plagiarism
- to prepare a methodology to support implementation of the EVSKP-MS standard in local repositories
- to endeavor the accessing of records of theses.cz for other metadata aggregators including foreign ones
- to monitor the development in the Czech Republic (register of local systems, surveys on the condition and development of local repositories)
- to monitor the development in the field of long-term storage of digital data and objects
- to monitor the development of the Open Access abroad

METADATA

Metadata to Describe the ETDs (EVSKP-MS)

<http://www.evskp.cz/standard/evskp/>

Recommended metadata standard to describe the ETDs created by the ETDs Working Group. Transmission of metadata records and full texts, e.g. to theses.cz and NRGL via the OAI-PMH was being solved. Easy conversion to other formats (Dublin Core, ETD-MS, etc.)

example of EVSKP-MS:

```
<dc:title xml:lang="cs">Ménová opce</dc:title>
<dc:creator>Ptáček, Martin</dc:creator>
<dc:terms:abstract xml:lang="en">This bachelor's thesis focuses on basic financial derivatives and their application in hedging of foreign exchange risk.</dc:terms:abstract>
<dc:terms:dateAccepted>2008-01-09</dc:terms:dateAccepted>
<dc:type xml:lang="cs">evskp</dc:type>
<dc:language>cs</dc:language>
<dc:terms:medium>application/pdf</dc:terms:medium>
<dc:identifier>http://www.vse.cz/vskp/eid/5265/</dc:identifier>
<dc:language>cs</dc:language>
<dc:terms:created>2006</dc:terms:created>
<dc:terms:dateSubmitted>2008-02-06</dc:terms:dateSubmitted>
<dc:terms:dateAccepted>2008-03-26</dc:terms:dateAccepted>
<dc:terms:modified>2008-04-14T19:20:00+01:00</dc:terms:modified>
<thesis:degree>
<thesis:name>leg./thesis/name>
<thesis:level xml:lang="cs">Magisterský</thesis:level>
<thesis:discipline>Hospodářská politika a správa/Finance
</thesis:discipline>
<thesis:grantors>University of Economics in Prague</thesis:grantors>
</thesis:degree>
<evskp:contact contactID="3112" />
```

Common features of the metadata schemas: Vanilla XML coding, UTF-8, specification of obligatory and optional objects and their repetition, validation by means of XML scheme and Relax NG, persistent single-valued identifiers of records, administrative elements to describe the transmission of the full texts, inspiration by the Dublin Core, ETD-MS and Xmetadiss formats.

Specific auxiliary metadata for EVSKP-MS and NRGL

Metadata to describe physical entities (PersCZ)

<http://www.evskp.cz/standard/perscz/>

Used parts: Name and title, date and place of birth, e-mail, homepage and affiliation, note

```
Example of a record of a physical entity according to PersCZ:
<dc:creator>
<pcz:person>
<dc:identifier pcz:pidIdentifier="aut">js20061022003</dc:identifier>
<pcz:academicTitleBefore></pcz:academicTitleBefore>
<pcz:name>
<pcz:foreName>Martin</pcz:foreName>
<pcz:surName>Novák</pcz:surName>
</pcz:name>
<pcz:dateOfBirth>1971-03-23</pcz:dateOfBirth>
<pcz:placeOfBirth>Brno</pcz:placeOfBirth>
<pcz:note>redakční katedra</pcz:note>
</pcz:person>
</dc:creator>
```

Metadata to describe corporations (CorpCZ)

<http://www.evskp.cz/standard/corpcz/>

Used parts: Name, residence and address, e-mail, homepage, department, note

```
Example of a record of a university according to CorpCZ:
<cc:publisher>
<cc:universityOrInstitution>
<cc:name>University of Economics in Prague</cc:name>
<dc:identifier ccz:pidIdentifier="URN">http://www.vse.cz/</dc:identifier>
<cc:place>Prague</cc:place>
<cc:departments>
<cc:name>The Faculty of Informatics and Statistics</cc:name>
<cc:place>Prague</cc:place>
<cc:homepage>http://ifs.vse.cz/</cc:homepage>
</cc:department>
</cc:universityOrInstitution>
</cc:publisher>
```

Metadata to Describe the Grey Literature (NRGL)

<http://nusl.stk.cz/>

Recommended metadata standard to describe the grey literature were prepared within the scope of the NRGL project. It is related to the metadata standard EVSKP-MS to describe ETDs, which is a component part of the registered grey literature. The issue of transmission of the metadata and full texts from the local registers to the NRGL via the OAI-PMH is being solved. The conversion of the formats NRGL to the OpenSIGLE is being solved.

Example of the definition of object in NRGL format

Specification	Parameters of the outcome of the scientific and research work
Name	nusl:resultParam
URI	URI
Obligation	No
Repeatability	Yes
Obligatory attribute	nusl:paramType="technical/economic"
Optional attribute	
Definition	Technical or economics parameters of the outcome of the scientific and research work
Notes	
Examples	<nusl:resultParam nusl:paramType="technical">Wave length: 1542 nm, stability pro integration period 100 s: 3.10.12</nusl:resultParam> <nusl:resultParam nusl:paramType="economic">It was proposed and implemented for the operation as a basic standard of optic frequency for the Laboratory of Fundamental Metrology of the Czech Metrology Institute in Prague.</nusl:resultParam>

Would you like to know more? Feel free to contact us.

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