Insight into the ViTA-project – Mapping medieval property and agricultural levies in late medieval Tyrol – for application of CRMsoc/CRM++

Tobias Pamer, Elisabeth Gruber-Tokić, Lienhard Thaler, Milena Peralta Friedburg, Gerald Hiebel

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KEY FACTS

• Project ViTA: Manorial (economic) Networks in the Medieval Tyrol: Mapping and Visualisation
• Feb. 2023 – Feb. 2025
• Funding sponsor: Austrian Academy of Sciences
• Cooperation of the Department of Linguistics Department & the department of History at the University of Innsbruck, Austria

WEBSITE
https://www.uibk.ac.at/en/projects/vita/
INVESTIGATION AREA

14.-15.\textsuperscript{th} Century: County of Tyrol

Today: Tyrol (Austria), South Tyrol (Italy)
EUREGIO (transnational co-operation between Austria and Italy)
Beautiful Tyrol 😊
MAIN OBJECTIVES

Digitisation & transcription of medieval documents: two estate registers

Information extraction & semantic representation of the tyrolean manorial network

Visualisation
I. DIGITISATION

- Digitisation made by the Tyrolean Regional Archives
- Some minor manual adjustments and corrections
- Transfer to Transkribus for the following transcription
- Layout analysis and structural corrections
Estate registers represent records of the ownership of farms and estates, contain services and levies claimed by the landlords and give an insight into manorial structures and agricultural resources.
II. TRANSCRIPTION

- Manual transcription of the documents using Transkribus
- Besides: generating ground truth for a HTR-Model
III. SEMANTIC ANNOTATION & INFORMATION EXTRACTION

• Annotation of specific entities within the historical text to extract the annotated entities
• Chosen entities for the estate registers are place, person, date (if existing), amount, service and levy
• Extracted data will be structured and imported into a database

Current tagset: place, possession, person, transaction, social_status, granted_rights*, levies, levies_type, amount, measuring, goods, currency, animals, services, date, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ort</th>
<th>TLA</th>
<th>Vater</th>
<th>Vater</th>
<th>Geburtsjahr</th>
<th>Eigentum</th>
<th>Kauf</th>
<th>Kauf</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Gilt</td>
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<td>Pfund</td>
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<td>Hof</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Screenshot of the current table used for manual annotation (TLA Urb. 74/3).
IV. SEMANTIC REPRESENTATION

CIDOC CRM and necessary concepts of CIDOC CRM extensions (https://cidoc-crm.org/crmsoc/) are used to model the information extracted from the sources.

As tabular data or directly embedded through a SPARQL-Endpoint, this data will be integrated into a GIS and for public visualisation into a WebGIS.
TAGS AND ATTRIBUTES MAPPING: CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES

E21_Person

- **Name** (E41_appelation): first name, last name (unstable, unclear boundaries)
- **Gender** (E55_type(?)): m, f
- **Origin** (E53_place): impossible to pin down whether the information refers to residence, family origin or something else. It forms part of a person’s name for specification. E.g. *Hans der smit ab der Mills* (Hanns the smith from Mils), *Haincz von Faflaer* (Heinz von Pfafflar)
- **Occupation**: profession or function. *Smid ab der Milles* (smith from Mils), *Phrarrer von Maerlingen* (Priest from Merling), *Peter der kelner* (Peter the cellarer). The profession is rather bound to the person while the function of a person may depend on the context within a person is mentioned.
- **Social status**: in Urb. 74/3 only “serf” is explicit mentioned, but nobleman, clergy, burgess, and similar are also possible.
- **Family relations**: sometimes a person is not mentioned by its own proper name (indirectly), but in his/her relation to someone else. E.g. *Hainczen aiden pei dem pach* (male relative by marriage from Heinz who lives near the stream). Further, family relations are expressed using generational difference: *Hans der alt Auster von Umbst* (Hans the Old Auster from Imst), *Hanslin der jung Auster* (Hans the young/younger Auster)
Possessions (E72_legal object, E70_thing (\(?\)))

The estate register TLA Urb. 74/3 mentions landed property and other types of possessions in the regions, districts and settlements ruled by the lords of Starkenberg. In addition, the text provides information regarding the claimed levies and specific rights granted by the landlord (e.g. law of succession).

These could be defined as... or E55_type:

• Land and agricultural parcels: field, apline pasture, garden, plot of land, meadow, farm and vineyard – E27_site, E26_physical feature ?
• Buildings: Farm, House, Mill, Tower – E26_physical feature ?
• Services: transport, journey – E9_move, E7_activity, E89_propositional object ?
• Money: tithe, or other types of (debth) payment – E30_Right, E89_propositional object ?
• Person(s): serf – E21_person ?
• Rights: free passage, grazing rights (to let his life stock feed in a specific field), and so on– E30_right ?
Transactions (E7_Activity, E5_Event (?))

Events related to the possessions that happened previous to the E65.creation of the E31_document estate register.

- Purchase: the landlord has bought a possession – E96_purchase
- Transfer of custody/ownership: the person in charge of a possession dies or was unable to fulfil the obligation so the possession returns to the land lord. Exchange of possessions, granting a possession to someone – E10_transfer of custody?
Granted rights (E30_right (?))

These are separated in two categories:

- possession_granted_rights: strictly bound to the landed property, and refer to the kind of use permissions the beneficiary/vassal has. E.g. Hereditary fief, loan, lease, or similar.

- granted_rights: other benefits that the landlord grants. Such as permission to pay less or some kind of tax reduction, grain, money given to a monastery or church, etc.
Levies_type (E28_conceptual object (?))

This class comprises the different payments/taxes types. Eventhough they are usually related to the type of possession, there are also „personal taxes“ not related to any possession at all.

E55_type (?)

• Levies to the lord of the manor
• Loan
• Alms
• Tithe
• Laudemium
Levies (E70_thing, E28_conceptual object, E72_legal object, E7_activity (?) )

All the payments listed in the estate register. Apart from annotating the amount, they are classified in E55_type

- Money
- Service: working days, transport, horse stabling
- Livestock
- Goods: grain, meat, food, wine
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

WEBSITE
https://www.uibk.ac.at/en/projects/vita/