

# **Scientific and Technical Information**

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### **Summaries**

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The European Digital Library, having started in 2008, has been accompanied and supported by a number of projects. These ensure the development of Europeana from the point of both content and technology, as well as allow wide access to European cultural heritage. In January 2011 a new European project was launched which not only provides new content for the portal, but also includes some enhancements which assist its future growth. The main objectives of the project: to bring to Europeana a large quantity of high-quality digital records originating from the major research and academic libraries of 11 European countries: to create a mechanism which enables mass indexing and aggregation of digital content for all European libraries in the future; to establish a European library-domain aggregator service by transforming and further developing TEL; to enhance full-text searching capabilities and features for users. The project will make a total of 5,168,453 new digital objects accessible in Europeana. Hungary will be represented by the Library of the Hungarian Parliament in this new European project as content provider.

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On its 10th birthday, on January 15, 2011 Wikipedia existed in 270 languages. At this time the English version included cca. 3.5 million, the Hungarian – 186 thousand articles. Wikipedia – as the most frequently used information source of the world – has been in the focus of debates ever since its inception. Some cannot accept that its articles can be written by anyone, while others trust the efficiency of community knowledge sharing.

Some refrain from Wikipedia referring to vicious comments, while others do not attribute great importance to this. All in all, Wikipedia has been growing thanks to the work of voluntary collaborators, and is visited by 440 million users a month who wish to obtain information about a great variety of themes from the pages of this encyclopaedia on the web.

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The appearance of internet has meant radical change in all walks of life, leaving neither librarianship nor information science intact. The number of information sources has grown, along with easier access to information, consequently online information acquisition has become more popular. Due to its numerous advantages, users often look for advice and answers on the web instead of conventional knowledge containers. However, the world of internet is full of dangers. Since there is no control mechanism on the internet, the reliability of online documents is often questioned. Parallel to this, the process of information acquisition has changed; much depends on individual information seeking behaviour, as well as its methods and tools. It has become a goal of strategic significance for the members of any information society to develop a critical approach related to computer literacy. For the current study a specific criteria system was developed which facilitates the assessment of the reliability of Wikipedia. The choice was Wikipedia because of its popularity, its encyclopaedic nature and increasing application in the field of education. This research is expected to help not only Wikipedia users, but will also be a useful aid for both librarians and information professionals, for supporting efficiency in tomorrow's library.