Vocabulary of the types of grey literature

The typology of grey literature is a controlled vocabulary in RDF (Resource Description Framework) expressed as SKOS (Simple Knowledge Organisation System) concept scheme. This description of the document types of grey literature has a loose structure with hierarchical relations. Each type will be provided with a definition and a prototypical example of a document for which it can be used. By design, it is focused on the description of types. Other documents’ attributes, such as content or format annotations, are excluded from the vocabulary.

Analysis of existing typologies

The vocabulary is based on an analysis of existing grey literature typologies and it can be seen as a formalization of the outputs of the systematic examination done during this analysis. This means that the typology is built upon the already available typologies for grey literature creating an intersection of their features that were found to be important while excluding duplicates and merging the same types with distinct labels.

Linked data

The vocabulary will be published as linked data. Each of its types is identified by URI (Uniform Resource Identifier) and the vocabulary is interlinked and mapped to other datasets, such as Bibliology or DCMI Types. In this way the types can be re-used and linked from any RDF dataset just by referring to the type’s URI, e.g., with Dublin Core type property.

Development

The typology is developed collaboratively as a Google Code project. It is based on a distributed version control system and it includes documentation wiki. This repository provides a feedback mechanism for the development via reporting issue or adding comments which supports iterative development with long-term evolution in mind and regular half year release cycle for the versions of the typology.

Working Group

We have established an informal working group for grey literature typology to support the further development of the vocabulary. It consists of a set of experts from various domains, ranging from grey literature and knowledge organisation systems, to semantic web technologies.

Example of the type:

gltype:poster a skos:Concept ;
    skos:inScheme gltype: ;
    skos:prefLabel "Poster"@en, "Plakát"@cs ;
    skos:broader gltype:conference-material.

Usage example:

< dc:type gltype:poster .

Google Code

http://code.google.com/p/grey-literature-typology

Contact

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