Connecting Coins Around the Globe
Numismatics and Linked Open Data
«Chur» (Zurich), 6 June 2020
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What is Numismatics?

Numismatics (Greek: nomisma=coin) is the study of coins, monetary history and all the connected topics.
Why are Numismatists pushing LOD?

This is the best-preserved specimen of a coin type of Henry II, minted in Basle (around 1006-1014 AD).

It was deciphered last year (2019) for the first time, after comparison with all the other known specimens of that type, changing it from Conrad I of Burgundy to Henry II, king of the Romans.
Why are Numismatists pushing LOD?

Coins are mass objects but at the same time objects with individual characteristics.

We need all the information of all the linked specimens, often from various collections and publications.

...heterogeneous data makes our lives difficult.
Why are LOD-people fans of Numismatics?

Numismatics has been highly standardized and normalized for over a hundred years. It has developed a specialized ontology long before computer science.

As a discipline with connections to history as well as to archaeology and history of the arts, numismatics is traditionally highly interlinked with neighbouring disciplines.
Nomisma.org – what, why, how?

Available datasets based on nomisma.org:
http://nomisma.org/datasets

Sparql endpoint:
http://nomisma.org/sparql

What?
Numismatic reference data

Why?
To make our lives easier and more fun

How?
5 star linked open data – one machine readable stable URI for every numismatic concept
Nomisma.org – what, why, how?

• Monthly: Google-Hangout of the steering committee

• Annually: meeting of the steering groups of nomisma.org/ECFN, including our workshops on specific questions: varying locations, embracing the local scientific community

Rule of thumb:
«If more than one person agrees on a numismatic concept, it is a numismatic concept!»
Nomisma.org – what, why, how?
Nomisma.org – what, why, how?
Using LOD for (online) collections

Nomisma.org

Berlin reference data

Wikipedia

DNB

VIAF
Using LOD for (online) collections
Using LOD for (online) typologies

RIC I (second edition) Augustus 2B

Typologische Beschreibung

Datierungsspanne
- Datum von: 25 BC
- Datum bis: 23 BC

Objekttyp: Münze

Herstellung: Geprägt

Nominale: Denar

Material: Silber

Autorität
- Autorität: Augustus
- Herausgeber: P. Caesar

Geographisch
- Münzstätte: Emerita
- Region: Lusitania

Vorderseite
- Legende: IMP CAESAR AVGVST
- Type: Head of Augustus, bare, left
- Portrait: Augustus

Rückseite
- Legende: P CARISIVS LEG PRO PR.
- Type: Round shield, spear-head, and curved sword

Karten

http://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.1(2).aug.2B
Using LOD for (online) typologies

http://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.1(2).aug.2B.rdf
Using LOD in numismatic daily life

• Harvest data (sparql queries)

• Searching for anomalies in the data

• Matching similar data with same phenomena

• Update new results (e.g. attribution to another king) simultaneously in all connected databases
Example of use: automation enabled by LOD

Determine the coin type and fill in the stable URI of that type...
Example of use: automation enabled by LOD

... all the needed fields are completed via a predefined sparql query.

This saves time and helps to be consistent with the entries at the same time!
Thank you for your attention!

(I’m happy to answer any question)