

**ALIGNED**  
**Aligned, Quality-centric, Software and Data Engineering**  
**H2020 – 644055**

**D7.7 Press release collection**

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**Abstract:**

This deliverable gives an overview of press releases published by the ALIGNED consortium and a collection of press clippings, i.e. online and print media articles covering specific topics of the project.

**Keyword List:**

Dissemination, Press release, Press clipping

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Trinity College Dublin  
The University of Oxford  
Universitaet Leipzig  
Semantic Web Company GmbH  
Wolters Kluwer Deutschland GmbH  
Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu

## History

Version	Date	Reason	Revised by
0.1	18/04/2016	First Draft	Christian Dirschl, WKD
0.2	27/04/2016	Internal review and adjustments by TCD	Rob Brennan, TCD
0.3	28/04/2016	Full Internal Draft for Review	Christian Dirschl, WKD
0.94	06/07/2016	Revised Internal Draft for Final Review	Christian Dirschl, WKD
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1.01	25/07/2016	Final Version	Rob Brennan, TCD

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## Executive Summary

This deliverable gives an overview of press releases published by the ALIGNED consortium since the start of the project. It also provides a collection of press clippings, i.e. online and print media articles covering topics of the project.

In total, we have released seven press releases (from a requirement for 12 by the end of the project) and enabled 34 press clippings. Thus we are exceeding expectations and planning.

The main topics were the project start itself, listing the challenges the project tries to address; but also news from different use cases for their respective industries and communities like Media & Publishing or Digital Humanities. Also ALIGNED contributions at conferences were taken up by social media, like SEMANTiCS conference.

**Contents**

Executive Summary..... 3

1 Introduction.....5

2 List of Press releases ..... 6

3 List of Press clippings ..... 6

4 Next Steps.....9

5 Appendix – Full text of press releases .....10

    5.1 Press releases ..... 10

    5.2 Press clippings ..... 17

**Table of Tables**

Table 1: List of Press releases ..... 6

Table 2: List of Press clippings ..... 9



## 1 Introduction

This deliverable contains all press releases and press clippings connected to ALIGNED, which were issued so far.

Press releases are written by the ALIGNED partners and distributed directly in their press channels, e.g. to local newspapers, press agencies, etc. They are not meant to be a publication on its own, despite them being made available at the organization's website.

Press clippings however are news about ALIGNED, which are published in any kind of media, including newspapers, magazines, news sites or social media. These clippings can also be authored by consortium partners (e.g. in social media channels), but also by public media.

It shows that the project is well received in public media, but also within the consortium ecosystems like global player Wolters Kluwer. These dissemination channels are mainly fuelled by the project coordinator and the dissemination workpackage leader, but also other partners contributed.

The analysis of the press clippings will help the ALIGNED consortium to better understand what is currently of specific interest to the public, so that further activities can be streamlined accordingly.

A final version of all press releases will be made available as D7.16 "Press release collection, final report" in month 36.

The structure of the document is as follows:

Press releases are described in section 2, press clippings in section 3. Section 4 summarizes our next steps, followed by an appendix in section 5, where the full texts of some of our press releases are included.

## 2 List of Press releases

Table 1 covers the list of press releases issued so far. We have in total 7<sup>1</sup> press releases, issued by the project coordinator TCD, the dissemination workpackage leader WKD, partners SWC and AMU. This is ahead of plan (5 in year 1 instead of 4, the sixth and seventh are already year 2), and we will make sure that more press releases are issued right after the mid-term review meeting in September. The press releases cover the languages EN, DE and PL. The full text of the press releases can be found in section 5, the appendix of this deliverable.

No	Title	Language	Publisher	Date
1	Computer Scientists to Develop Next-Gen Big Data Systems for Tomorrow's App Builders	EN	TCD	February 2015
2	Wolters Kluwer Germany engages in the European Software and Data Project ALIGNED	EN	WKD	March 2015
3	SEMANTiCS Konferenz: Wolters Kluwer unterstützt als Partner das 11. Treffen der internationalen Semantic Web Community	DE	WKD	September 2015
4	Poznańscy archeolodzy kodują pradzieje	PL	AMU	November 2015
5	Software and Data Engineering Project, ALIGNED, Progresses with Development of Next Generation Big Data Systems	EN	TCD	November 2015
6	Internationales Tech-Konsortium lädt ein: Wenn Daten und Software gleichziehen	DE	SWC	February 2016
7	Scientists and scholars gather in Dublin to debate data-driven understanding of society	EN	TCD	May 2016

**Table 1: List of Press releases**

## 3 List of Press clippings

Table 2 is the list of press clippings issued so far. We have in total 30 clippings, issued by five different consortium partners, with the project coordinator TCD and the dissemination workpackage leader WKD in the lead. The clippings also cover all consortium languages EN, DE and PL. They can be accessed directly via the respective links. Where only paper publication is available, a scan is attached in the appendix of this deliverable. We have secured high-visibility coverage in national print media in Ireland, Germany and Poland so far in addition to online coverage.

No	Media Outlet	Date	Nature of Coverage	Collected by	Link
1	Blog Post	27.02.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/02/when-">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/02/when-</a>

<sup>1</sup> Note that D7.5 Dissemination Report for ALIGNED months 1-18 incorrectly stated a total of 6 press releases.

					archeologists-and-computer-scientists-talk-about-legal-matters/
2	The Irish Times - Business and Innovation section	09.03.2015	Irish national press	Rob Brennan, Kevin Feeney, Declan O'Sullivan, TCD	<a href="http://www.irishtimes.com/business/trinity-big-data-researchers-to-lead-4m-quality-control-effort-1.2129396">http://www.irishtimes.com/business/trinity-big-data-researchers-to-lead-4m-quality-control-effort-1.2129396</a>
3	Silicon Republic	09.03.2015	Irish tech blog	Rob Brennan, Kevin Feeney, Declan O'Sullivan, TCD	<a href="http://www.siliconrepublic.com/innovation/item/41041-computer-scientists-4m-pr/">http://www.siliconrepublic.com/innovation/item/41041-computer-scientists-4m-pr/</a>
4	Computer Business Review	09.03.2015	Tech blog	Rob Brennan, Kevin Feeney, Declan O'Sullivan, TCD	<a href="http://www.cbronline.com/news/tech/software/businessintelligence/aligned-project-seeks-to-enforce-big-data-quality-control-4527511">http://www.cbronline.com/news/tech/software/businessintelligence/aligned-project-seeks-to-enforce-big-data-quality-control-4527511</a>
5	Horizon 2020 Projects	09.03.2015	Horizon 2020 coverage blog	Rob Brennan, Kevin Feeney, Declan O'Sullivan, TCD	<a href="http://horizon2020projects.com/il-ict/computer-scientists-to-develop-next-gen-big-data-systems/">http://horizon2020projects.com/il-ict/computer-scientists-to-develop-next-gen-big-data-systems/</a>
6	Trinity College Dublin	09.03.2015	College Blog	TCD	<a href="https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/articles/computer-scientists-to-develop-next-gen-big-data-systems-for-tomorrow-s-app-builders/5399">https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/articles/computer-scientists-to-develop-next-gen-big-data-systems-for-tomorrow-s-app-builders/5399</a>
7	Wolters Kluwer Homepage	25.03.2015	Publishing Industry news	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://www.wolterskluwer.de/ueber-presse/pressemitteilungen/aktuelle-pressemit-einzel/?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=1385&amp;tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=10365&amp;cHash=25316d49e9e5457931be6790e6a5dec9">http://www.wolterskluwer.de/ueber-presse/pressemitteilungen/aktuelle-pressemit-einzel/?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=1385&amp;tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=10365&amp;cHash=25316d49e9e5457931be6790e6a5dec9</a>
8	ADAPT Centre e-zine	29.04.2015	Project email newsletter	Rob Brennan	<a href="http://adaptcentre.ie/ezone/aligned/">http://adaptcentre.ie/ezone/aligned/</a>
9	Inspired Research, Oxford CS Department	29.04.2015	Department newsletter	Jim Davies, Jeremy Gibbons, James Welch	<a href="https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/inspiredresearch/IRsummer2015_pq.pdf">https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/inspiredresearch/IRsummer2015_pq.pdf</a>
10	Blog Post	01.05.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/05/big-data-hype-and-reality/">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/05/big-data-hype-and-reality/</a>
11	Royal Irish Academy	15.05.2015	Report - to influence Irish policy makers	Rob Brennan, Kevin Feeney, TCD	<a href="http://dri.ie/digital-humanities-irelands-opportunity-report-published">http://dri.ie/digital-humanities-irelands-opportunity-report-published</a> see page 12, "Digital Humanities fosters new forms of scholarship"
12	Letter der deutschen Fachpresse	20.05.2015	Publishing Industry news	Christian Dirschl, WKD	See Appendix 5.2
13	Blog Post	03.08.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/08/goodbye-blue-sky-its-cloud-time/">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/08/goodbye-blue-sky-its-cloud-time/</a>
14	Blog Post	25.08.2015	Conference Blog	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://semantics.cc/3-plus-1-feature-1-christian-dirschl">http://semantics.cc/3-plus-1-feature-1-christian-dirschl</a>
15	Announcement	03.09.2015	DBpedia release 2015-04	Markus Freudenbeurg,	<a href="https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2015Sep/0005.html">https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2015Sep/0005.html</a>

				Dimitris Kontokostas UL	
16	Blog Post	07.09.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/09/whats-so-special-about-the-cheesemakers/">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/09/whats-so-special-about-the-cheesemakers/</a>
17	b.i.t. online	22.09.2015	Library and Publishing Industry	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://www.b-i-t-online.de/neues/2943">http://www.b-i-t-online.de/neues/2943</a>
18	Blog Post	09.10.2015	SWC Community Blog	Andreas Koller, SWC	<a href="https://blog.semantic-web.at/2015/10/09/ensure-data-consistency-in-poolparty/">https://blog.semantic-web.at/2015/10/09/ensure-data-consistency-in-poolparty/</a>
19	Blog Post	12.10.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/10/what-has-happened-to-babylon/">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/10/what-has-happened-to-babylon/</a>
20	Inspired Research, Oxford CS Department	15.10.2015	Department newsletter	OxSE	<a href="http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/innovation/inspiredresearch/IRwinter2015.pdf">http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/innovation/inspiredresearch/IRwinter2015.pdf</a>
21	Rzeczpospolita	12.11.2015	Polish national press	Arkadiusz Marciniak AMU	<a href="http://www.rp.pl/Nauka/311129880-Pradzieje-do-cyfrzacji.html">http://www.rp.pl/Nauka/311129880-Pradzieje-do-cyfrzacji.html</a>
22	Blog Post	16.11.2015	WK employees and customers	Christian Dirschl, WKD	<a href="http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/11/open-up-your-mind-and-more/">http://solutions.wolterskluwer.com/blog/2015/11/open-up-your-mind-and-more/</a>
23	Seshat project homepage	20.11.2015	Project blog	Rob Brennan, TCD	<a href="http://seshatdatabank.info/aligned-big-data/">http://seshatdatabank.info/aligned-big-data/</a>
24	Blog post - KDEG website	26.11.2015	Research group blog	Rob Brennan, TCD	<a href="http://kdeg.scss.tcd.ie/h2020-aligned-project-phase-1-successfully-completed">http://kdeg.scss.tcd.ie/h2020-aligned-project-phase-1-successfully-completed</a>
24	ADAPT Centre e-zine	30.11.2015	Research centre email newsletter	Rob Brennan, Odhran Gavin TCD	<a href="http://adaptcentre.ie/ezine/Nov15/Aligned/">http://adaptcentre.ie/ezine/Nov15/Aligned/</a>
25	TCD School of Computer Science and Statistics	30.11.2015	School website	Rob Brennan, Odhran Gavin TCD	<a href="https://www.scss.tcd.ie/news/index.php?id=96">https://www.scss.tcd.ie/news/index.php?id=96</a>
26	Announcement	30.11.2015	LODVader release	Ciro Baron, Sebastian Hellmann UL	<a href="https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2015Dec/0000.html">https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2015Dec/0000.html</a>
28	firmenpresse	16.02.2016	Press release Austria tech news	Andreas Koller, SWC	<a href="http://www.firmenpresse.de/pressinfo1321640.html">http://www.firmenpresse.de/pressinfo1321640.html</a> and <a href="http://www.openpr.de/news/891113.html">http://www.openpr.de/news/891113.html</a>
29	TCD School of Computer Science and Statistics	22.02.2016	School website	Rob Brennan, Odhran Gavin TCD	<a href="https://www.scss.tcd.ie/news/index.php?id=124">https://www.scss.tcd.ie/news/index.php?id=124</a>
30	ADAPT Centre e-zine	28.02.2016	Research centre email newsletter	Rob Brennan, Odhran Gavin TCD	<a href="http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1bed8296322695727ba35177c&amp;id=33e373f58e&amp;e=f54d8156f2">http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1bed8296322695727ba35177c&amp;id=33e373f58e&amp;e=f54d8156f2</a>
31	Meetup.com	01.03.2016	Public event announcement	Andreas Koller, SWC	<a href="http://www.meetup.com/Vienna-Semantic-Web-Meetup/events/228281708/?eventId=228281708">http://www.meetup.com/Vienna-Semantic-Web-Meetup/events/228281708/?eventId=228281708</a>
32	ADAPT Centre e-zine	30.03.2016	Research centre email newsletter	Rob Brennan, TCD	<a href="http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1bed8296322695727ba35177c&amp;id=6b66b5eb6d&amp;e=f">http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1bed8296322695727ba35177c&amp;id=6b66b5eb6d&amp;e=f</a>



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33	Announcement	04.04.2016	DBpedia release 2015-10	Markus Freudenbeurg, Dimitris Kontokostas UL	<a href="https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2016Apr/0030.html">https://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-lod/2016Apr/0030.html</a>
34	TCD School of Computer Science and Statistics	11.05.2016	Event announcement about CHDH workshop organised by ALIGNED	Rob Brennan, TCD	<a href="https://www.scss.tcd.ie/upcoming_events/index.php?id=144">https://www.scss.tcd.ie/upcoming_events/index.php?id=144</a>

**Table 2: List of Press clippings**

## 4 Next Steps

The consortium will continue to issue press releases. In the coming months, we will focus on the outcome of the mid-term review, our management of the 2<sup>nd</sup> IFIP Computational History and Data-Driven Humanities workshop, participation at SEMANTiCS conference and the ALIGNED workshop at SPLASH2016.

The ongoing collection of press clippings is also part of the routine work within ALIGNED. Every six months we have provided an update of press clippings to our project officer and the media unit within DG CONNECT.

In general, we will make sure to meet and hopefully exceed the KPIs described in D7.13 Dissemination plan for ALIGNED phase 2.

## 5 Appendix – Full text of press releases

### 5.1 Press releases

#### TCD Press release from February 2015

##### **Computer Scientists to Develop Next-Gen Big Data Systems for Tomorrow's App Builders**

- *The €4 million Horizon 2020 research project, ALIGNED, will be led by computer scientists at Trinity College Dublin*
- *ALIGNED will lay the foundations for big data systems to make light of the complexity, scale and inconsistency of data currently available on the web*
- *ALIGNED will also offer consultancy services and advice to European businesses seeking to build data-intensive systems*

*Dublin, IRELAND, February 28th 2015 – Computer Scientists from Trinity College Dublin are leading a new Horizon 2020 research project to develop new ways to build and maintain IT systems that use big data on the web. ALIGNED (Aligned, quality-centric software and data engineering) is a Horizon 2020 research project with a European Commission investment of €4 million.*

*The chief goal of ALIGNED is the development of software that will allow developers to incorporate big data from the web into their applications, such that flexible apps and analytics can use data that exists in a variety of formats. This will lay the foundations for the next generation of big data systems that lower costs and deal with the challenges of dynamism, complexity, scale, and data inconsistency on the web.*

*As more and more data is published on the web, enterprises and academic researchers need ways to build and maintain both data and applications that use the data.*

*The project will be led by Senior Research Fellows in Computer Science in the School of Computer Science and Statistics at Trinity, Dr Rob Brennan and Dr Kevin Feeney, who will be supported by Associate Professor of Computer Science, Declan O'Sullivan. These three are also researchers at the ADAPT centre.*

*Dr Brennan said: "ALIGNED is an exciting collaboration between leading computer scientists and innovative European companies poised to increase software development productivity and agility. It will develop technology to allow software developers to incorporate big data from the web into their applications."*

*He added: "It builds on our collaboration with Leipzig University on web standardisation at the W3C and our key technology role in the ambitious Seshat Global History Databank, which seeks to revolutionise history, archaeology and social sciences by publishing expert-curated data on the web for every human society that ever existed. Both enterprises and*

*academics see the power of sharing and re-using data on the web but cleaning and maintaining data so that flexible applications or analytics can be built on it is still a challenge, ALIGNED will address this need."*

*ALIGNED will boost European IT industry productivity and competitiveness by providing new tools and techniques to build data-intensive systems on the web.*

*The Wolters Kluwer Jurion legal information system will be a major test-bed for ALIGNED technology, while the Software Engineering Research Group at the University of Oxford, an ALIGNED partner, is already helping the UK NHS and academic cancer research teams to share the results of drug trials to accelerate cancer research. This work will be generalised and extended in ALIGNED.*

*Throughout the duration of the project, ALIGNED will also offer consultancy services and advice to European businesses seeking to build data-intensive systems.*

*Dr Brennan added: "ALIGNED will train new Irish data scientists and help establish Trinity College Dublin as a worldwide centre of data quality research."*

*“ALIGNED is an exciting collaboration between leading computer scientists and innovative European companies poised to increase software development productivity and agility. It will develop technology to allow software developers to incorporate big data from the web into their applications. “*

*Ends*

## **WKD Press release from March 2015**

### **Wolters Kluwer Germany engages in the European Software and Data Project ALIGNED**

*Experts from science and industry work on the improvement of web-based big data systems*

*Köln, 17. März 2015. Since February 2015, the information service provider Wolters Kluwer engages in the EU-funded ALIGNED project: ALIGNED brings together experts from different disciplines and regions. All of them are working on efficient methods for new software applications to extract, process, publish and share web-based data. The project team consists of leading computer experts from the Trinity College Dublin, the Universities of Oxford and Leipzig and the Semantic Web Company which has core competencies in semantic web technologies. Practical data related experiences are incorporated by archeologists from Poznań and historians from Oxford as well as curators of the SESHAT historical database.*

*The next Big Data Generation*

*Christian Dirschl, Chief Content Architect at Wolters Kluwer Germany, explains the engagement in the EU project: “In our disruptive business, innovation needs ideas and prototypes emerging from an academic discourse. With the assistance of humanists and computer scientists, ALIGNED will support us to develop faster and better digital solutions for our customers. Goal of the ALIGNED project is to lay the foundations for the next generation of Big Data systems that reduce costs on the one hand and cope with challenges of dynamic, complexity and scalability of web-based data on the other hand.*

*Practical project work for Jurion*

*In the first year of the project, Wolters Kluwer will focus on the creation of a prototype for data curation purposes with regard to Jurion. Jurion enables a completely new access to legal information and combines in-house competencies such as publishing, software development and online solutions in one platform solution. Wolters Kluwer’s experts from four continents will support the ALIGNED project to enable a direct global reuse of the results. Besides, Wolters Kluwer Germany will be the host for the next plenary meeting of the project consortium in May 2015 in Munich.*

*Further information on <http://aligned-project.eu/>.*

## **WKD Press release from September 2015**

### **SEMANTiCS Konferenz: Wolters Kluwer unterstützt als Partner das 11. Treffen der internationalen Semantic Web Community**

*Köln, 15. September 2015 — Der Informationsdienstleister Wolters Kluwer setzt sein starkes Engagement im Bereich semantischer Technologien fort und unterstützt als Partner die 11. SEMANTiCS Konferenz, die vom 15. bis zum 18. September in Wien stattfindet. Die Fachtagung gehört zu den wichtigsten europäischen Veranstaltungen zu semantischen Systemen und bringt Vertreter aus Wissenschaft, Wirtschaft und Verwaltung zusammen, um Wissen auszutauschen und konkrete Anwendungsszenarien semantischer Technologien zu diskutieren. Christian Dirschl, Chief Content Architect bei Wolters Kluwer in Deutschland, hat den Industry Chair der Konferenz übernommen. Zudem wird er erste Ergebnisse aus dem europäischen Forschungsprojekt „ALIGNED“ vorstellen sowie an konkreten Beispielen wie der Wolters Kluwer-Entwicklungsinitiative JURION zeigen, wie aus offenen und verknüpften Daten wirtschaftliche Erfolge für Unternehmen werden. Mit JURION hat Wolters Kluwer bereits einen völlig neuen Zugangsweg zu juristischen Fachinformationen geschaffen, in dessen Rahmen auch semantische Technologien zum Einsatz kommen.*

*„Wissenschaft und Wirtschaft sind sich einig, dass semantische Technologien ein zentrales Element für Europas Weg in die Informationsgesellschaft sind“, erklärt Dirschl das Engagement von Wolters Kluwer. „Damit die Ergebnisse aus der Forschung aber auch schnell in konkrete Produkte und Geschäftsmodelle einfließen können, benötigen wir einen intensiven Austausch.“ Der Einsatz von semantischen Systemen in Unternehmen und in der öffentlichen Verwaltung geht Hand in Hand mit der wachsenden Menge an Daten, die automatisiert verarbeitet werden müssen. Begriffe wie Big Data, Open Data, Smart Systems oder Industrie 4.0 stehen stellvertretend für diese Entwicklung und die Notwendigkeit der kosteneffizienten Verarbeitung geschäftsprozessrelevanter, oftmals verteilter Daten. Die Grundlage für neue Formen der Datenverarbeitung bilden unter anderem semantische Systeme, die dabei helfen, Informationen für die maschinelle Verarbeitung aufzubereiten, sinngenaue zu analysieren und dadurch innovative Anwendungen und effizientere Integration zu ermöglichen.*

*Im Rahmen der SEMANTICS Konferenz werden zahlreiche Projekte vorgestellt, die zeigen, wie Unternehmen und öffentliche Organisationen Gebrauch von semantischen Systemen machen und diese in ihre IT-Landschaft implementiert haben. Keynotes werden unter anderem Jeanne Holm, Chief Knowledge Architect bei der NASA, sowie Peter Mika, Director Semantic Lab bei Yahoo, halten.*

Weitere Informationen unter: <http://semantics.cc/>

## **AMU Press release from November 2015**

### **Poznańscy archeolodzy kodują pradzieje**

12.11.2015 Archeologia, Historia i kultura

*Dlaczego niektóre kultury i cywilizacje zamierają szybciej, a inne trwają dłużej? Czy wykorzystanie produktów odzwierzęcych było punktem zwrotnym dla powstania zaawansowanych społeczności w okresie neolitu? Odpowiedzi na te i wiele innych pytań ma dać naukowcom baza danych „Seshat”, powstająca dzięki wysiłkowi badaczy i programistów z całego świata.*

*„Seshat. Global History Databank” jest innowacyjną bazą danych historycznych i archeologicznych, która docelowo ma zebrać najważniejsze zagadnienia o charakterze kulturowym, gospodarczym, społecznym, rytualnym z całego świata, począwszy od okresu neolitu aż do XIX wieku. Przedsięwzięcie, które rozpoczęło się 3 lata temu, wpisuje się w coraz bardziej popularny nurt humanistyki cyfrowej.*

*„Baza została zaprojektowana pod kątem historyków i antropologów kultury. Dlatego jej zaproponowana struktura, w tym możliwość kodowania szeregu zmiennych, w dużym zakresie nie była odpowiednia dla społeczności przedsiębiorczych. Z tego względu inicjatorzy projektu zaprosili nas do włączenia się w przedsięwzięcie. Naszym zadaniem było zmodyfikowanie istniejącej bazy danych w sposób umożliwiający gromadzenie danych pozyskiwanych w praktyce archeologicznej” – wyjaśnia prof. Arkadiusz Marciniak z Instytutu Prahistorii UAM w Poznaniu.*

*Baza została skonstruowana według specjalnego wzoru, który pozwala na gromadzenie szeregu danych o różnych jednostkach terytorialno-kulturowych tzw. polities w porównywalny sposób, a jego formuła była wypracowywana przez lata. Do tej pory w bazie zebrano informacje dotyczące około 400 polities. Poznańscy archeolodzy w pierwszej kolejności podjęli się „zakodowania” danych dotyczących społeczności neolitycznych na obszarze rozciągającym się od Lewantu i Mezopotamii poprzez Anatolię, Bałkany aż po Europę Środkową. Mają nadzieję, że w ten sposób uzyskają miarodajne odpowiedzi na pytania odnoszące się do szeregu zjawisk zachodzących w tym okresie. W szczególności „Seshat” ma być szczególnie pomocnym narzędziem przy badaniu procesów długiego trwania, zwłaszcza przekształceń społeczno-gospodarczych.*

*„W trakcie wprowadzania danych do >>Seshat<< pojawiły się problemy techniczne i metodyczne – począwszy od tego, w jaki sposób informacje zbierać, zapisywać i jak nimi zarządzać. Mówimy tutaj o wielkich ilościach danych idących w gigabajty” – opowiada prof. Marciniak.*

Początkowo dane zapisywane były w formacie Wiki – w sposób linearny, nie posiadały zaawansowanej struktury, nie było możliwe wykorzystanie aparatu statystycznego. „Baza w takiej formie nie spełniała naszych oczekiwań. Jej możliwości praktycznego wykorzystania były bardzo ograniczone. Z pomocą przyszedł nam nowy projekt >>Aligned<<, realizowany w ramach programu Horyzont 2020. To wsparcie grona informatyków i inżynierów baz danych przyczyniło się do wypracowania znacznie bardziej efektywnej formuły >>Seshat<<” – mówi prof. Marciniak, który nie kryje zadowolenia, że projekt archeologiczny jest jednym z pierwszych realizowanych na Uniwersytecie im. A. Mickiewicza ze środków Horyzont 2020.

„Seshat” jest jednym z przypadków, który jest w ramach tego programu testowany. Projekt „Aligned” odwołuje się do zaawansowanej platformy internetu semantycznego, czyli takiego, który pozwala w systematyczny sposób korzystać z ogromu danych dostępnych w globalnej sieci i gromadzić je w przejrzysty i ustrukturyzowany sposób, kontrolując jednocześnie ich jakość. Program ten polega na zastosowaniu do gromadzenia, zarządzania i interpretacji rozwiązań internetu semantycznego, w którym informacje są zapisane w sposób zrozumiały dla maszyn, co staje się możliwe dzięki przekształceniu ich do formatu RDF, który umożliwia z kolei zautomatyzowane zarządzanie tymi danymi.

Projekt „Aligned” tworzą specjaliści z zakresu IT, przygotowujący niezbędne oprogramowanie, kolejni – inżynierowie odpowiedzialni za obsługę dużej ilości danych oraz trzecia grupa, na którą składają się osoby dostarczające informacje. W przypadku archeologicznej części projektu „Seshat” ta ostatnia z wymienionych grup działa pod kierunkiem prof. Arkadiusza Marciniaka. Zespół w Instytucie Prahistorii UAM tworzą doktorantki: Marta Bartkowiak i Patrycja Filipowicz.

„Struktura przygotowanej przez nas bazy danych zostanie zmapowana na postać ontologii dziedzinowych, dotyczących okresu neolitu. To umożliwi analizę pod względem strukturalnym, relacje między poszczególnymi elementami i ich kwantyfikacją” – dodaje prof. Marciniak.

Ontologie rozumiane są tutaj jako zbiór pojęć dla danego systemu, który może być „czytany” przez maszyny i dalej przetwarzany.

Dotychczas bazę uzupełniano ręcznie, co było bardzo czasochłonne i skomplikowane. Nowa wersja bazy udoskonalonej dzięki specjalistom z „Aligned” ma ułatwić proces gromadzenia informacji i zapewnianie ich odpowiedniej jakości. Docelowo „Seshat” ma w automatyczny sposób pozyskiwać istotne informacje wprost z internetu.

„W archeologii różne koncepcje konstruowane są sposobem arbitralny, testowane ad hoc. Zazwyczaj pojawiające się hipotezy były weryfikowane przez pojedyncze przypadki. A te często były dowolnie wybrane. W przypadku >>Seshat<< mamy do czynienia z nową jakością, jeśli nie rewolucją – możliwa będzie holistyczna analiza ilościowa” – przekonuje archeolog.

„Seshat” jest wieloletnim projektem, w którego powstanie i rozwój zaangażowali się liczni naukowcy z wielu ośrodków na świecie m.in. Uniwersytetu w Oksfordzie, Trinity College w Dublinie, Uniwersytetu w Yale. Są wśród nich historycy, etnologowie, ekonomiści, ewolucjoniści, socjologowie. Inicjatorem i pomysłodawcą bazy jest prof. Peter Turchin, naukowiec związany z Wydziałem Ekologii, Biologii Ewolucyjnej, Antropologii i Matematyki na Uniwersytecie w Connecticut (USA).

PAP - Nauka w Polsce, Szymon Zdziebłowski

## TCD Press release from November 2015

### **Software and Data Engineering Project, ALIGNED, Progresses with Development of Next Generation Big Data Systems**

**Dublin, IRELAND, November 26 2015:** A new milestone in the development of the Horizon 2020 project ALIGNED has recently been completed. The international team, which consists of computer scientists (Trinity College Dublin, University of Oxford, University of Leipzig), software companies (Semantic Web Company), information companies (Wolters Kluwer) and academic curators (Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań), now move into the next phase of the project which aims to lay the foundations for the next generation of big data systems that can lower costs and deal with the web data challenges of dynamism, complexity, scale and inconsistency.

The successful completion of phase one of the ALIGNED project included gathering software and data engineering requirements for four data intensive systems: the Seshat Global History Databank, an open repository of expert-curated historical time-series data (<http://seshatdatabank.info/>); JURION, a legal information service platform containing over 1 million documents (<https://www.jurion.de/>); DBpedia, a structured representation of knowledge at the centre of the current web of data (<http://wiki.dbpedia.org/>); and PoolParty, an enterprise software suite for ontology, taxonomy and thesaurus management (<https://www.poolparty.biz/>). The ALIGNED team also published the first version of a Linked Data metamodel for combined software and data engineering, available online at <http://aligned-project.eu/data-and-models/>. This forms the basis for tool integration and improved productivity and agility when developing data intensive systems on the web.

Three demonstrator systems were also built for Seshat, JURION, and PoolParty. Short video clips are available on YouTube showcasing and visualising the work done to date: Seshat shows the building of new data validation, curation and transformation tools: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqNtpSClczU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqNtpSClczU); JURION highlights how it can be made easier for system engineers to improve data quality and maintain datasets: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aLXK7N7wFE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aLXK7N7wFE); PoolParty, shows ways to improve and monitor data consistency in real time: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKUiN3DT94w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKUiN3DT94w). A number of research papers ([aligned-project.eu/academic-publications/](http://aligned-project.eu/academic-publications/)) and reports ([aligned-project.eu/public-deliverables/](http://aligned-project.eu/public-deliverables/)) are also available online.

ALIGNED commenced in February 2015 and is actively tackling the challenges of building modern data-intensive systems on the web. ALIGNED is an affiliate project of the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology ([www.adaptcentre.ie](http://www.adaptcentre.ie)). The team are confronting issues that include managing data quality, integrating software and data engineering and improving productivity and agility. The team are connecting with companies of all sizes who are facing these challenges and can be contacted through the enquiry form on the website at <http://aligned-project.eu/contact>. More information on the ALIGNED project is also available on Twitter (@AlignedProject, #alignedproject) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AlignedProject](http://www.facebook.com/AlignedProject)).

For media queries on the ALIGNED project please contact Rob Brennan ([rob.brennan@scss.tcd.ie](mailto:rob.brennan@scss.tcd.ie)) or Kevin Feeney, ([kevin.feeney@scss.tcd.ie](mailto:kevin.feeney@scss.tcd.ie)).

### **About ALIGNED**

ALIGNED is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 644055. The chief goal of ALIGNED is the development of software that will allow developers to incorporate big data from the web into their applications, such that flexible apps and analytics can use data that exists in a variety of formats. This will lay the foundations for the next generation of big data systems that lower costs and deal with the challenges of dynamism, complexity, scale, and data inconsistency on the web.

ALIGNED brings together world class computer science researchers (Trinity College Dublin, the University of Oxford, and the University of Leipzig), software companies specialised in data-intensive systems (Semantic Web Company), information companies (Wolters Kluwer) and academic curators of the Seshat: Global History Databank, large datasets describing world history and archaeology (University of Oxford, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań).

### **About Trinity College Dublin and the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology**

Founded in 1592, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin, is Ireland's leading university. Trinity offers a multicultural environment with 17,000 students from 122 countries of which 5,330 are postgraduate masters and doctorate students. As a research-intensive university, it has international strengths in areas such as computer science & information, nanoscience, molecular medicine, engineering and the humanities and enjoys an esteemed reputation in research and innovation with an outstanding record of publications in high-impact journals, and a track record in winning research funding.

A part of the School of Computer Science and Statistics, the Knowledge and Data Engineering Group (KDEG) investigates the fundamental challenges and practical applications of knowledge-driven systems. ALIGNED is an associated project of the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology which provides a partnership between



leading researchers in digital content technology and industry, leading on ground-breaking innovations in areas such as localization, social media analysis, multimodal interaction, intelligent content and media, and informal and formal learning. The centre is led by Trinity College Dublin and combines the world-class expertise of researchers at Dublin City University, University College Dublin and Dublin Institute of Technology. ADAPT is a Science Foundation Ireland funded research centre. [www.adaptcentre.ie](http://www.adaptcentre.ie)

## **Semantic Web Company Press release from February 2016**

### **Internationales Tech-Konsortium lädt ein: Wenn Daten und Software gleichziehen**

(Wien, 16.02.2016) Europa hat zwar kein ausgewiesenes Silicon Valley. Doch mit dem europäischen Innovations- und Forschungsprogramm Horizon 2020 werden technologische Maßnahmen in Höhe von 80 Milliarden Euro gefördert. Die Forschungsgruppe ALIGNED trifft sich Anfang März in Wien und stellt ihre Arbeit der Öffentlichkeit vor.

ID: 1321640

(firmenpresse) - "Data scientist is the sexiest job of the 21st century", heisst es laut Harvard Business Review. Tatsächlich produziert die digitale Wirtschaft ein nie da gewesenes Datenvolumen, das komplett neue Geschäftsmodelle ermöglicht. Die Auswertung und Weiterverarbeitung von Daten erfordert entsprechende Software-Lösungen. Doch die Daten selbst beeinflussen auch, wie Web-Applikationen entwickelt werden. Daten und Software müssen in Zukunft eng zusammen gedacht werden.

Die Forschungsgruppe ALIGNED widmet sich der Heranführung dieser beiden Fachbereiche im Rahmen praxisorientierter Forschung. Anhand der bestehenden Digitalprodukte und Software-Lösungen der Konsortiumspartner werden Maßnahmen abgeleitet und umgesetzt, die ein agiles und synchrones Zusammenspiel von Daten und Technologie schaffen. Dabei werden bestehende Lösungsansätze wie Linked Data genutzt.

Andreas Koller von der Semantic Web Company meint: "Die Datendynamik beeinflusst stark die Software-Funktionalitäten, und führt regelmäßig zu Fehlern. Die Fehlerbehebung ist fixer Bestandteil des Arbeitsalltags eines Software-Entwicklers. Das ist ein kleinteiliger und manueller Arbeitsprozess, den wir mit ALIGNED automatisieren wollen."

Am 1.03.2016 lädt die internationale Forschungsgruppe alle Experten und Interessierten aus verwandten Fachbereichen ein, um ersten Erfahrungen aus dem Pionierprojekt zu teilen. Ein Muss für alle innovationsbegeisterte Technologen, die an diesem Tag in Wien sind.

Veranstaltungshinweis: Combining Data Science & Software Engineering

Wann: 1.03.2016, 19:00 Uhr

Wo: Impact Hub Vienna, Lindengasse 56 (1070 Wien)

Anmeldung unter: <http://bit.ly/1LiVZMv>

Die Veranstaltung findet auf Englisch statt und ist kostenfrei.

Über ALIGNED

ALIGNED ist ein internationales Forschungsprojekt, das durch die Technologie und Innovations-Agenda der Europäischen Union - Horizon 2020 - ermöglicht wird. Die Forschungsgruppe erarbeitet in einem Zeitrahmen von drei Jahren ein Methoden- und Tool-Set, das den Software-Entwicklungsprozess besser auf die webbasierte Datenlandschaft abstimmt. Das Projektkonsortium von ALIGNED besteht aus: University of Oxford (UK), Trinity College Dublin (IRL), Semantic Web Company (AUT), Universität Leipzig (DE), Uniwersytet Adam Mickiewicza w Poznaniu (PL), Wolters Kluwer Deutschland GmbH (DE)

## **Trinity College Dublin Press release from May 2016**

### **Scientists and scholars gather in Dublin to debate data-driven understanding of society**

<http://kdeg.scss.tcd.ie/2nd-international-workshop-computational-history-and-data-driven-humanities>



Recent years have seen the emergence of a new, inter-disciplinary research community dedicated to using the power of computers to understanding past human societies so that we can predict the future of our own. The insights that have been gained from this analysis have already seen the publication of bold predictions - from the rise of ISIS to the emergence of Donald Trump's presidential run – which have since come to pass. The recent Irish election outcome could be explained as part of a wider prediction of increasing turbulence in Western democracies.

The world's leading scholars in this emerging field, Cliodynamics, are gathering in Trinity College Dublin on the 25th of May, for the 2nd International Workshop on Computational History and Data-Driven Humanities, hosted by the ALIGNED project in the ADAPT Centre at Trinity College Dublin.

The workshop will be opened by a keynote talk on “Understanding Social Complexity through Data” by Professor Harvey Whitehouse, Chair of Social Anthropology, Director of the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, and a Professorial Fellow of Magdalen College at the University of Oxford. He is one of the founders of the field of cognitive science of religion and has now thrown his weight behind cliodynamics. Prof. Whitehouse says “We are only getting started in this exciting area, we have some new insights but using data to test theories about human societies is the future, now.”

Professor Peter Turchin of the University of Connecticut will also provide a presentation on the Seshat project – the greatest ever effort to amass comprehensive, high-quality data describing all historical societies, involving more than a hundred scientists from all over the world. Professor Turchin will describe the progress of the Seshat project and the first major analysis of the insights that can be gained from the data collected so far.

The workshop will also include presentations of the latest peer-reviewed scientific papers from the field – covering everything from the water transportation network in Venice, what the spread of epidemics tells us about the relationships between people in the pre-modern world to how historians can use big data.

The public workshop will be followed by two days of collaborative, inter-disciplinary sessions. This emerging discipline sees mathematicians and computer scientists in dialog with historians, evolutionary biologists and social scientists in an effort to push forwards our understanding of human societies. Dr Christophe Debruyne, one of the local organisers, says: “It's really exciting to be working in Ireland at the forefront of research and being a part of high-profile international discussions here.”

The general chair of the workshop is Associate Professor of Computer Science at Trinity College Dublin and the ADAPT centre, Declan O'Sullivan, with co-chairs Dr Christophe Debruyne. Dr Gavin Mendel-Gleason and Dr Bojan Bozic. The workshop is part of the ALIGNED H2020 project directed by Senior Research Fellows in School of Computer Science and Statistics at Trinity Dr Rob Brennan and Dr Kevin Feeney. The workshop is funded through the Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme.

#### Supplemental Material

The conference's keynote speakers, Professor Peter Turchin, and Professor Harvey Whitehouse are leading public intellectuals who have appeared extensively in the international media and published several influential scientific books between them.

A great wealth of information about Professor Turchin research can be found on his website: <http://peterturchin.com/> including his popular blog <http://peterturchin.com/blog/>

Professor Whitehouse's website at Oxford University:

<http://www.icea.ox.ac.uk/about-us/people/prof-harvey-whitehouse/>

For further information, or to organise interviews with the keynote speakers or workshop organisers, please call Dr. Kevin Feeney at 087-1272940 or by email at [kevin.feeney@cs.tcd.ie](mailto:kevin.feeney@cs.tcd.ie)

#### About ALIGNED

ALIGNED is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 644055. The chief goal of ALIGNED is the development of software that will allow developers to incorporate big data from the web into their applications, such that flexible apps and analytics can use data that exists in a variety of formats. This will lay the foundations for the next generation of big data systems that lower costs and deal with the challenges of dynamism, complexity, scale, and data inconsistency on the web.





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## 5.2 Press clippings

All press clippings can directly be accessed by the links shown in Table 2.

Exception is the news from Letter der deutschen Fachpresse, which is only available in print. Please find a screenshot of the respective scan below.

### Letter der deutschen Fachpresse:

