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Trismegistos: a LOD platform for Ancient World texts

Trismegistos [https://www.trismegistos.org; TM] is an interdisciplinary portal of papyrological and epigraphical resources from the Ancient World (800 BC - AD 800). Founded in 2008 (as a continuation of a digitized prosopography of Ptolemaic Egypt), this database started gathering metadata about (mainly) papyrological texts from Egypt. In the years to follow, the project (based at the Ancient History [https://www.arts.kuleuven.be/oudegeschiedenis/english] department of KU Leuven [https://www.kuleuven.be/kuleuven/]) broadened its scope and expanded towards the Ancient World in general. As a partner in the EAGLE [https://www.eagle-network.eu/] project, TM inserted and disambiguated metadata from the participating partner projects in Greek and Latin epigraphy. Currently the TM platform contains information about almost 800,000 Ancient World texts, both published and unpublished. TM also recently joined DARIAH [https://www.dariah.eu/] as one of the pilot projects for DARIAH-BE [http://be.dariah.eu/] and started publishing its data as Linked Open Data [https://www.trismegistos.org/dataservices/].

TM Texts forms the core of the Trismegistos database, although the texts themselves aren't available on the public website (with the exception of TM Words [https://www.trismegistos.org/words/], including lemmatized information from Greek papyrological texts). By giving every Ancient World text a stable and unique identifier that (the TΜ Text ID also points to the URI: e.q., https://www.trismegistos.org/text/1234), TM is also able to link its information about the texts to the online collections of several partners, both in the academic and the cultural heritage sector. The metadata in TM is stored in multiple interlinked portals, modelling an internal knowledge base: TΜ Places [https://www.trismegistos.org/geo/] (for place names), TΜ People [https://www.trismegistos.org/ref/] (for person names), ТΜ Authors [https://www.trismegistos.org/authors/] (for ancient authors), et cetera. All of these datasets have their own unique TM identifiers that are used and distributed among various institutes and projects such as The British Museum, Pleiades, Pelagios, ...

Some of the most used services the project offers, besides the TM identifiers, are the newly developed Trismegistos data services [https://www.trismegistos.org/dataservices/]. Public APIs allow scholars and developers to create their own datasets and link them with several of the TM identifiers. These APIs can also be used to query and retrieve the TM data in structured formats such as RDF-XML or JSON. In the near future more of the TM data (e.g., TM Persons, Editors, ...) will become publicly available under an open license in order to improve the uptake of Trismegistos in the Ancient World Linked Open Data Cloud and beyond.