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Paper and its History in the German-Language Wikipedia - An Inventory

Wikipedia has been online as a non-profit project since January 15, 2001 and provides lexical knowledge as a donation funded free encyclopedia, which is developed according to the principle of collaborative writing. There are now over 300 language versions with over 55 million articles. Of these, 2.6 million are written in German. By their own account, Wikipedia ranks seventh among the most frequently visited websites in Germany, sixth in Austria and fourth in Switzerland in January 2021. It has become a mass medium in terms of audience demand and distribution and has brought about the end of the great printed general encyclopedias. How has the topic of paper and its history been expressed in this information system within the last two decades? How much have paper history research and filigranology contributed to this? In which places can those who are interested in paper history benefit from the work of third parties found in surprising places? How can the German-language Wikipedia benefit from other language versions, and what can the German-language Wikipedia offer to other language versions? Where are the deficiencies to be found, be it missing lemmas or inadequate content?

Specifically, some of the tools will be presented that allow the bundling of relevant articles and thus allow easier access. Additionally, some examples of visualization methods that highlight technical or historical relationships will be shown. This will also include a look at the Wikimedia files, where interesting images are made available.

Paper History, Filigranology, Electronic encyclopedias, Wikipedia