



Introducing DIANE

**Digital Infrastructure for the Analysis of
National movements in Europe**

Manual

NISE, 2016

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1. Purpose & subject

[DIANE](#) wants to enable the analysis of national and regional movements in Europe over the last two centuries by gathering, structuring and connecting data on their intermediary structures and related auxiliary information (on related archives, publications, and research and heritage institutions).

DIANE has three principal functions:

Firstly, DIANE will function as an **analytical instrument**, built to host individual and collaborative research projects that explore and visualise transnational connections between movements, persons and ideas.

Secondly, it will also grow into a **heuristic instrument**, helping researchers to identify publications, other researchers with similar interests and relevant (and often lesser-known) archives and/or heritage institutions all over Europe.

Thirdly, DIANE will feature as an **information database** on national and regional movements in Europe, which collects data about intermediary structures, and connects information on the functioning of national movements and their protagonists.

DIANE collects data about national and regional movements within European states from the 18th century to today. These movements advocate greater cultural, social, political or economic autonomy for a particular group of people within a nation-state on the basis of ethnicity, language or region.

DIANE gathers data on these mobilising networks, the people associated with them, texts and symbols they produced, events they organised and meaningful locations. The infrastructure also collects bibliographical references, archival sources and information on research, heritage and archival institutes connected to national movements from all over Europe.

DIANE collects data on:

1. **Political parties** and **cultural associations** as well as **social organisations**. An intermediary structure is a form of organisation under private law whose function it is to mediate between the individual and the public authorities while pursuing a kind of continuity. The intermediary structures operate in a society between the authorities and the individual and are active on all levels of social life (politics, social, economic, cultural and religious affairs). In this case, they are also 'mobilising structures', i.e. *"collective vehicles, informal as well as formal, through which people mobilize and engage in collective actions"* (McAdam (D.), McCarthy (J.) & Zald (M.) (eds.), *Comparative perspectives on social movements: political opportunities, mobilizing structures and cultural framings*, Cambridge, 1996, p. 3)

2. The **persons** associated with these intermediary structures (persons in charge, activists,

representatives, ideologists...)

3. The artefacts they produce: **programmes and goals** as articulated in their publications and archives

4. Significant **locations and events**

5. **Institutes and researchers** that are studying national and regional movements

6. **Archives and bibliographical references** on these movements

Europe constitutes the collective term. The concept of 'Europe' is defined on the basis of geographic, historical, cultural and political elements. It extends in the North to the Arctic Ocean, in the West to Ireland and Iceland, in the South to the Strait of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea, and in the East to the Ural Mountains, where the South East limit is respectively the border with the former Soviet Union in the Caucasus and the present border of the Russian Federation with the Central Asian Republics. States and nations, which are located outside the territory described above, but which are historically connected to Europe, such as Turkey east of the Bosphorus, the Kurds or Quebec, still reside within the research area.

2. Platform and structure

The platform for DIANE is provided by Nodegoat, a web-based data management, network analysis and visualisation environment, developed by Lab 1100.

Nodegoat allows scholars to build datasets based on their own data model and offers relational modes of analysis with spatial and chronological forms of contextualisation. By combining these elements within one environment, scholars are able to instantly process, analyse and visualise complex datasets relationally, diachronically and spatially. You can find more information on Nodegoat, including tutorials, a FAQ and several case-studies on nodegoat.net.

DIANE is incorporated in the Nodegoat framework and uses its structure and terminology. Before proceeding with the specific structure of DIANE, a quick overview of the Nodegoat-terminology is necessary. The infrastructure consists of Types, Objects, Object Descriptions, Sub-Objects, Classifications, Records and Fields.

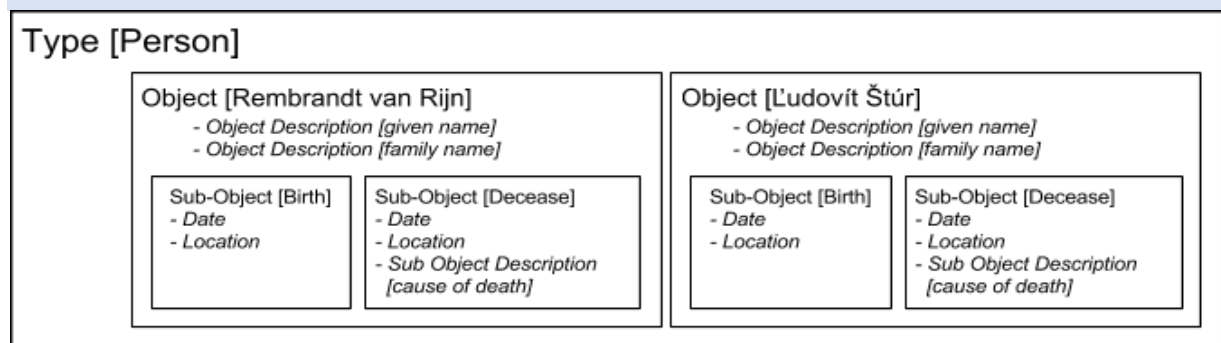
Types are the broadest definition of a set of objects within the database. For reference: a Type in Nodegoat is comparable to a table in the classic (database) table structure. Example: Networks

Objects are the actors (organisations, institutions, persons, archives), with for each of them a set of object descriptions. Example: European Free Alliance

Object Descriptions contain the intrinsic aspects of an Object (e.g. name, title); changing aspects or intrinsic circumstances over space and time are stored within Sub-Objects. Example: reference name

Sub-Objects are dynamic components that describe intrinsic circumstances of an Object over space and time. In this context, dynamic means either a 'changing' aspect of an Object or an aspect of an Object that has specific geographical coordinates and/or temporal attributes. Sub-Objects always have geographical coordinates and temporal attributes and describe a 'state' of an Object. Example: place(s) of residence

This diagram (from the Nodegoat.net FAQ) illustrates how Types, Objects & Sub-Objects relate to each other:



Classifications classify Objects by Categories. Example: legal status

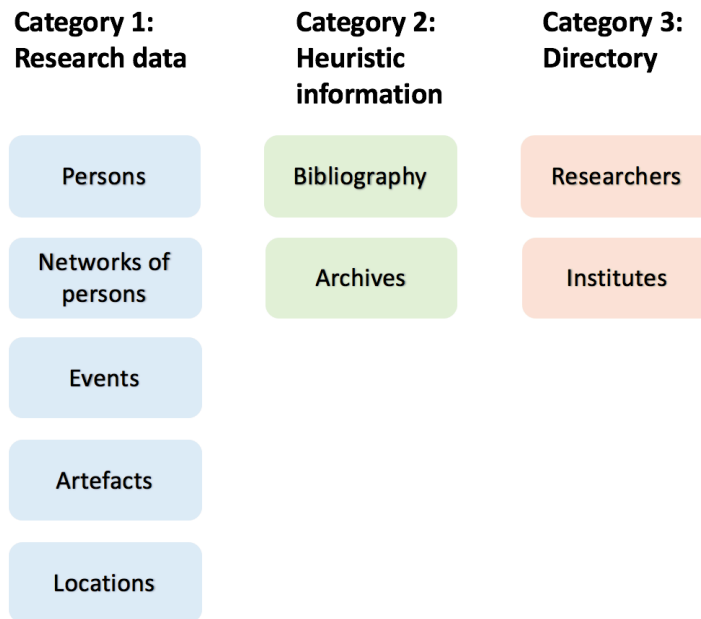
Records contain all the information regarding one item. Example: history

Fields are the basic units of entry within a record.

The structure of DIANE is obviously influenced by the Nodegoat environment, but the basic outlay is nevertheless of its own making.

DIANE consists of nine core Types (sets of information): **Persons, Networks of persons, Events, Locations, Artefacts, Researchers, Institutes, Archives** and **Bibliography**. They are all linked to each other. These types are organised in different projects. The directory project, for example, contains the Types Researchers, Institutes and Archives.

Types in DIANE



The Types are constructed in accordance with international standard models when available. However, attention has been paid to making the nine Types i.e. the database as homogeneous as possible. And finally, the specificity of the research subject has been an important aspect taken into consideration. The combination of those three basic principles has subsequently lead to a database model sui generis.

Each Type contains different kinds of fields: besides 'Text fields' for longer exposés and 'Strings' for smaller texts, there are date and number fields, true/false fields as well as classification fields.

The guidelines for entering data may differ according the kind of field you will enter information in, so please always check the detailed information related to each field individually.

Next to the nine core Types, you will notice the default supportive Type City, that is locked for editing. This Type contains a standardized list of geo-locations you can relate to when you enter data in the core Types.

3. Participation

Network members will act as content providers for DIANE. Archival and heritage institutions will import existing data sets, share information about themselves and their collections in the 'directory' and 'archival guide' sections. Researchers and research institutions will store, share and connect data in individual or collaborative research projects. DIANE is developed as an open research environment that supports collaborative research projects. Multiple users (with varying clearance levels) can enter, update and inspect data. Using this approach, a researcher or research group can decide to

start a project in DIANE and enter data into this project individually, with colleagues or with a large group of interested parties. Like in any other decent/good database application, the infrastructure can be as complex or as simple as needed: it can be customised to suit the specific needs of researchers or specific data.

There are three ways to contribute data to DIANE:

1. Multilateral

Concerted or multilateral input as a result of research collaborations prepared, submitted and executed by NISE members with help from the Coordination Centre in Antwerp. Project proposals are right now being prepared to that purpose by the Coordination Centre for 2016. But every member is very much invited to propose.

2. Unilateral

It stands free to each member to use the database as an instrument for its own activities and research, without making the data available for public use.

3. Migration

Linking with datasets in or migrating datasets from other databases is the most direct way of providing material for DIANE.

In each of the cases a brief memorandum of understanding will be drawn up between the member and NISE. Please contact the coordinator if this inspires more questions or ideas for research projects.

4. Data-input

4.1 General instructions

All contributors are responsible for the data they enter in DIANE. It is imperative that texts refrain from any positive or negative evaluation. They have to give a succinct account and any assessment given should be balanced. In case of discussion, the Scientific Council decides on the issue.

Any theoretical discussion regarding the definition of nationalism is eventually set to result from the analysis of data and is therefore at this stage not relevant. Whether any Object belongs to said movements i.e. can be included in the database on the contrary can be open for discussion. If that is the case, the Scientific Council decides.

4.2. Style

Setup

Texts are in a 12-point font. They should be left-aligned and single-spaced.

Try to divide your text in paragraphs of moderate length (ca. twenty lines at most). Use no (more than one level of) subtitles. To avoid lay-out irregularities when copying text from files or websites, please convert the text in text editor.

Spelling

British spelling should be used throughout, e.g. preferring 'ise' over 'ize'.

Length

The maximal length for the large text fields is 200 words.

Names

Placenames

In text fields (text and string) place names are given in English (e.g. Prague); use the current version (e.g. St. Petersburg). When no English exonym is available, and the endonym is used in different languages simultaneously, apply the name used by the (id)entity the record refers to (e.g. Bozen when describing the Südtiroler Volkspartei). Mark: different rules apply for classification fields, see the help texts with the respective fields.

Personal names

In text fields personal names are given in their English form (e.g. Joan of Arc and not Jeanne d'Arc). When mentioned for the first time in the text, first names should be given in full and not as an initial. Unless mistakes are possible, use only last names further on (with classification fields different rules apply, see the help texts with the respective fields).

Names of intermediary structures, government etc.

These names are put in *italics*. When mentioned for the first time in the text, they are translated into English (between round brackets, in roman) (with classification fields different rules apply, see the help texts with the respective fields).

Titles

Titles of publications in text fields are given in *italics* and when not in English, (transliterated and) translated with the first mentioning in the text (between round brackets, in roman). (with references other rules apply, see there).

Transliteration

NISE associate SPIN, also using the Nodegoat framework, has kindly allowed us to use the latinisation page for the Cyrillic and Greek scripts (based on the UNESCO norms):

<http://www.spinnet.eu/wiki-ernie/images/6/60/LatinizationTable.jpg>

(explanation on: <http://www.spinnet.eu/wikiinstructions/index.php/Help:Transliteration>).

Diacritic signs

NISE associate SPIN, also using the Nodegoat framework, has kindly allowed us to use their diacritical system:

<http://www.spinnet.eu/wiki-instructions/index.php/Help:Transliterations>.

Numbers

Numbers under 101 and all multiples of hundred, thousand, million etc. should be spelt out, with the exception of percentages. In numbers of four figures or more, commas should be used. Decimals are punctuated with a full point.

Spaces

Use single spaces. Punctuation marks (other than brackets, dashes or quotation marks) are never preceded by a space.

Quotations

Quotations are put between double quotation marks, using single marks for quotations within quotations. Use no marks for quotations exceeding fifty words, but instead include them as a separate, indented block of text. Square brackets announce author comments ('[sic]') or any modification of the original quotation ('[...]').

Dates

In text fields dates are given in full (e.g. 10 March 1885). In small text fields, however, dates should be abbreviated to day-month-year (e.g. 10-03-1885). Do not use apostrophes in decades (e.g. 1930s).

Abbreviations

Avoid the use of abbreviations in text fields, with the exception of titles and organisations (e.g. UDB).

Separators

Keyword are separated by a semi-colon, with a space before and after the semi-colon (e.g. Basques; Basque country).

Use of italics

To emphasise a word, use *italics* (e.g. it was *this* event). Non-English words and concepts are also put in *italics* (e.g. *Realpolitik*).

4.3. Keywords

Attribute from the lists two categories of keywords:

1. Political-geographical, i.e. regarding state, national, regional or linguistic (language/dialect) (id)entities: select from the classification lists 'states', 'peoples', 'regions' and/or 'languages'.

2. Political/social-economic/cultural currents and activities: select from the classification list 'keywords' a thematic area of nationalism studies, an accompanying belief or ideology, as well as movements and/or organisational forms (keywords specific for a given project subject will be listed in a separate classification, unique to that project).

Example: Basques; Basque country; socialism; educational organizations

New entries have to be processed by the NISE coordinator.

Mark: as this database is centred around nationalism and regionalism (national movements and regional movements), the keywords 'nationalism' and 'regionalism' are considered given and are therefore not allocated. Exception is made for the keyword 'nationalism [theory formation]' referring to research on the theory formation of nationalism.

4.4. References

For in-text citations use the following 'in-house' version of Harvard Style:

Reference to **one author/publication**: (Author's surname year, page)

Example: (Smith 1998, 23)

Reference to **two authors/publications**: (Author's surname & Author's surname year, page)

Example: (Smith & Jones 1998, 23)

Reference to **three authors/publications**: (Author's surname, Author's surname & Author's surname year, page)

Example: (Smith, Jones & Williams 1998, 23)

Reference to **more than three authors/publications**: (Author's surname, Author's surname, Author's surname e.a. year, page)

Example: (Smith, Jones, Williams e.a. 1998, 23)

Subsequently, install each time a link to the full reference of the publication in the Relate section of the Object.

The data in the bibliographical information in the Type Bibliography are automatically put in the in-house Harvard Style of reference.

4.5. Sub-Objects

For each Object, you can set up an indefinite number of Sub-Objects. Sub-Objects always have geographical coordinates and temporal attributes and describe a (temporal) 'state' of an Object. By including a number of Sub-Objects within one Object, the 'circumstance' or 'biography' of an Object is reconstructed.

Although the location and time of the birth of a person do not change, each of these aspects are described in one Sub-Object as they indicate a change in the state of the Object. The place of residence of a person on the other hand does change regularly and will be described in numerous Sub-Objects. Accordingly, the Sub-Object 'Birth' will be included once (unique), while the Sub-Object 'Place of Residence' can be included multiple times. Sub-Objects can include 'Sub-Object Descriptions'. These follow the same logic as the Object Descriptions but will relate to the Sub-Object of the Object and not directly to the Object itself.

4.6. Visualisation

As soon as the data are entered into the environment, various analytical tools and visualisations become available instantly. Tools such as in-depth filtering, diachronic geographical mappings, diachronic social graphs, content driven timelines, and shortest path calculation enable a user to explore the context of each piece of data.

To make data appear on the map, you have to set up a Sub-Object to give geographical, social and temporal information about the Objects and linking the datasets. You need to give both sorts of information, i.e. the time of appearance, the relations to other Objects and the location of the Objects; otherwise it will not appear in the final visualisation. For the location, you choose the default supportive type 'City' in Nodegoat. Filling in the Sub-Object is essential: it positions the Objects in time and space.

After transcribing all link information in DIANE, click in the top-right corner on the 'global' geographical button (to visualise a map), the social visualisation button (to visualise a network) or the chronological button (to visualise a timeline). You can visualise both Types and Objects, or you can perform a quick search, after which the instrument will visualise all the Objects that match the filter. If all data are correctly completed, you should be able to see the geographical, social or temporal layout. Slide the time bar to focus on different periods of interest, and hover over lines and dots to inspect the data.

5. Research possibilities

In this stage of the development of DIANE, it may be difficult to grasp the potential use of its digital infrastructure for your work and research. Therefore, we want to give you a taste of the many research possibilities it offers.

First of all, DIANE will provide topical information on national movements. In that respect it will function as a database of information on national movements. Too often, data on regional and national movements remain secluded within a country or even a region because of the language barrier. As a result, much of the research and theory formation on the emergence and of national movements as well as their functioning is based on the same famous examples. DIANE will make data that were previously difficult to access available in English. Furthermore, it will help researchers to quickly identify archives, researchers and publications. With this, DIANE aims to be a starting point for comparative research and national movements in Europe.

Example

A Spanish researcher setting up a research project on Catalan choral societies could use the DIANE website to find similar societies in several countries in Central Europe. She/he will be able to gather specific information on those societies, and trace the differences and similarities with their topic immediately. If she/he considers including one of those societies in a research project, DIANE will provide info on the availability and location of the archives, bibliographical references as well as contact information on a relevant heritage centre through the Types Archives, Bibliography and Institutes.

However, DIANE can do much more than simply deliver data: it is first and foremost a research instrument that is built to help explore and visualise connections between movements, persons and ideas. DIANE is developed as an open research environment that supports collaborative research projects. Multiple users (with varying clearance levels) can enter, update and inspect data. Using this approach, a researcher or research group can decide to start a project in DIANE and enter data into this project individually, with colleagues or even with a large group of interested parties. Like in any other database application, the infrastructure can be as complex or as simple as needed: it can be customised to suit the specific needs of researchers or specific data.

Example

An international group of scholars wants to track the spread of Pan-European ideas in regional movements through political meetings in the interwar period. They add the Type Events to the structure, and enter fifty meetings in fifteen countries as Objects in Events. They also create specific classifications and keywords related to Pan-Europeanism. In the Sub-Objects they enter the date and location of the meetings, and the relation between different ideas surrounding Pan-Europeanism. Through geographic and temporal visualisation they set up a genealogy of Pan-Europeanism, which

could for example appear much earlier or later than thought, in unsuspected places and in combination with a surprising set of ideas.

Finally, DIANE comes into its own when the dataset is rich in temporal, geographic and relational information (attributes). As soon as data are entered into the infrastructure, various analytical and visualisation tools become available instantly. When the first objects have been entered and their relations have been identified, these objects can be plotted on a map, viewed in a social graph, or simply be made available to the network. Tools such as in-depth filtering, diachronic geographical mapping, diachronic social graphs, content driven timelines, and shortest path calculation enable a user to explore the context of each piece of data. The explorative nature of the Nodegoat system allows users to quickly navigate a lot of data; instead of working with static ‘pushes’ – or exports – of data, data are dynamically ‘pulled’ within its context each time a query is launched.

Example

The aforementioned collaborative project not only enters data on the meetings and their content, but also on the participants and their relations in the Type Persons. The researchers in question add a social visualisation to the temporal and geographical map of the political meetings on Pan-Europeanism. This exercise could show for example that previously relatively unknown individuals in fact played a key role in the spread of certain ideas through their continuous presence in several international meetings.

We are looking for ideas and research collaborations. Please contact Nel de Mûelenaere (nel.demuelenaere@nise.eu) if you want to set up a research project.

6. Copyright

NISE adheres to the principles of open access in (digital) humanities research. Inspired by similar digital humanities projects, DIANE follows the principles set out in the CENDARI Data Sharing Agreement (http://www.cendari.eu/wp-content/uploads/Cendari_DataSharing-Agreement-v3.pdf). Accordingly the following paragraphs strongly reflect the aforementioned document.

DIANE’s primary aim is to facilitate access, investigation, curation and visualisation of primary data required for historical (and comparative) research on nationalism and national movements in Europe. DIANE is not intended as an access portal for the general public (though members of the public may find and use it), nor as a primary delivery mechanism for a broad range of cultural content. Instead, DIANE’s primary role is to become a powerful tool for the investigation of historical questions, capturing the knowledge of the scholar and enhancing those perspectives through its data curating, mining, query and visualisation tools.

DIANE places a very high value on attribution of the data it delivers, creating traceability for all elements in the infrastructure back to its original source. It is the best way to create a scholarly digital ecosystem with equivalent conditions to those of traditional research environments for the results to be transparent and reproducible, the most meaningful quality standard for any scholarly work.

DIANE cannot mandate usage and attribution patterns for all data. The following paragraphs are the principles by which NISE will determine appropriate standards for sharing and exposing content clearly within its own technical control, and what the project's baseline recommendation to its scholarly collaborators and contributors in this respect will be. These principles are based on a commitment to the widest possible usage of the CC-BY standard. CC-BY (Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic) allows the user/researcher to freely share (to copy, distribute and transmit the work), to remix (to adapt the work) and to make commercial use of the work under the condition that the work is attributed in the manner specified by the author or licensor. For full details: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>

- Data or documentation created by NISE for DIANE: this data will be available automatically for use under a Creative Commons CC-BY license, with reference back to NISE. These data are the intellectual property of NISE.
- Publicly visible data created by institutions, scholar users or other contributors within DIANE and disseminated through its platform: these data will also be available under a Creative Commons CC-BY license, with reference back to the contributor. Contributed data within DIANE will only be made public at the contributor's request and this standard need not be applied in the case of data created using DIANE tools or content, but hosted and disseminated independently from it, or to data created and hosted within DIANE but only held for private visibility. These data are the intellectual property of the contributors.
- To maintain this standard, digital media made available through DIANE will also need to be available as CC-BY, attributable back to the contributor. This entails that the contributor is responsible to clear all rights before uploading the digital media to DIANE.
- The Nodegoat software (the technical basis of DIANE) is intellectual property of Lab1100. A well documented open source repository of the software is in preparation