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Type: **Talk (15min + 5min)**

## A domain-specific-notation for the Medieval-Latin-Dictionary

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024 10:30 AM (20 minutes)*

The Medieval-Latin-Dictionary (MLW - <https://mlw.badw.de>) is a research project of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Its purpose is to write comprehensive a dictionary of medieval latin taking into account scholarly (theological) as well a profane sources.

Writing Dictionaries of this kind and extend typically is an enterprise that takes many decades to complete. And the Medieval-Latin-Dictionary, too, started decades ago. Several years ago, its workflows have been put on a fully digital basis, which also includes entering the dictionary articles in a structured form.

For this purpose often XML is the technology of choice. However, XML is clumsy to read and write and, because of that, one can hardly avoid to use proprietary technolgie like the Oxygen-XML-Editor for authoring. The scientists had been given the choice to either use XML or try a domain specific notation which was going to be developed specifically for the MLW.

After prototypes for both alternatives had been presented, the MLW-team soon decided in favor of using a domain-specific-notation which is now in use for three years.

In my talk I describe the collaborative process in which the DSL was developed and launched, its key-design-principles and technological choices. However, I will also talk about the things that went wrong and the lessons we learned.

(The software as well as the documentation is Open Source and available on: <https://gitlab.lrz.de/badw-it/mlw-dsl-oeffentlich>)

### Slot length

other(help with comment)

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