

# Questionable South Tyrolean Cultural Open Data?

## Historical datasets, Networks and the Unknown

07.11.2025

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#### Cultural dataset 1: List of museums, collections and exhibition venues

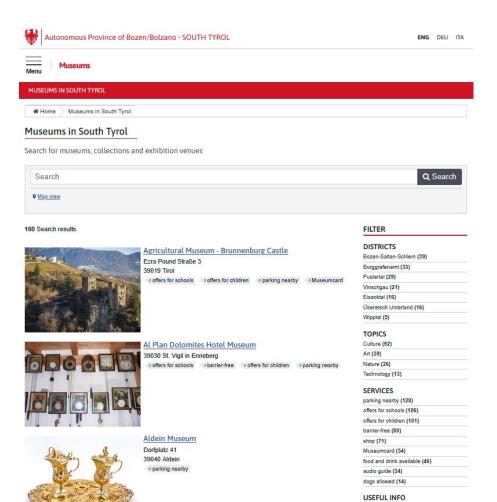
Trilingual (German, Italian, English)
160 museums, collections and exhibition venues in South Tyrol

- Name
- Address and geo-location
- Topics
- Services
- Opening hours
- Entrance fees
- Pictures

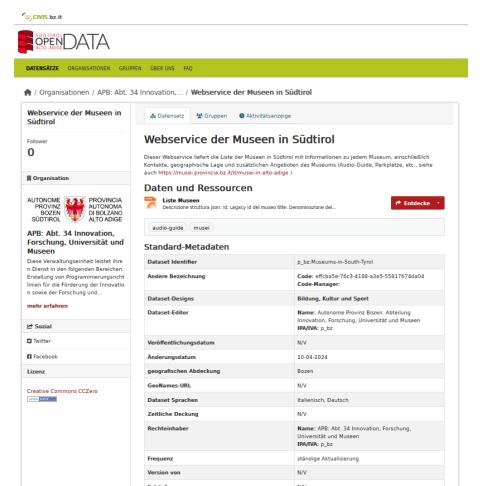


#### Cultural dataset 1: List of museums, collections and exhibition venues

https://museums.province.bz.it/en/museums-in-south-tyrol/



https://data.civis.bz.it/de/dataset/musei-in-alto-adige

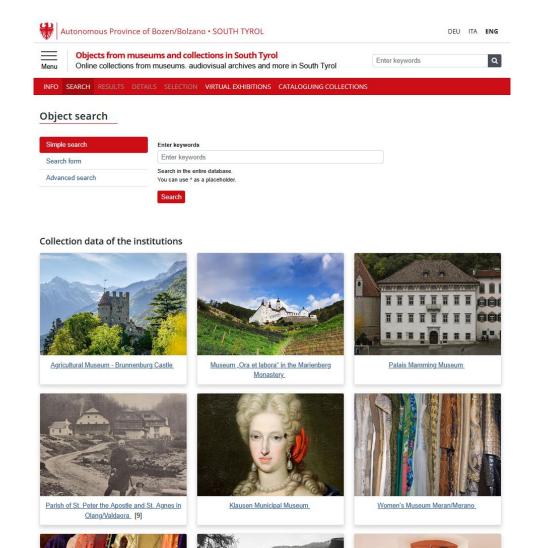




#### Collections data:

- Artefacts, artworks, photographs, ...
- Metadata and media files
- Linked to respective institution

Predefined information from selected records is published online on a website and as Open Data.





One shared collection management system:

- Multilingual system
- Based on existing standards
- Shared standards and terms
- Interoperable
- Cost saving





- Inventory number
- Object names and titles
- Fonds
- Description and historical-cultural comments
- Creator's names (people and organizations)
- Production dates
- Materials
- Techniques
- Dimensions
- Content: keywords, people, places (geo-located)
- Image files (including rights information)

Trilingual data

Standardized terms (objects names, people, institutions, material) contain links to external, internationally established authority files.

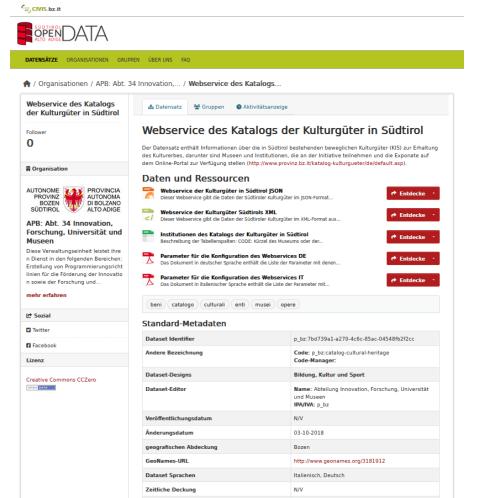




https://objects-museums-archives.province.bz.it Autonomous Province of Bozen/Bolzano • SOUTH TYROL DEU ITA ENG Objects from museums and collections in South Tyrol Enter keywords Online collections from museums, audiovisual archives and more in South Tyrol INFO SEARCH RESULTS DETAILS SELECTION VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS CATALOGUING COLLECTIONS Results Search results: Search 'Katze' Displays «« « 2 of 23 Search » »» Title: Schloss Katzenzungen, Prissian: Eröffnung der Ausstellung von Peter Refine results Fellin (Originaltitel) ■ Institution Object name: Photography Description: Dargestellt: Fellin, Peter; Hosp, Bruno; Fabi, Andreas Meran Municipal Museum Created by: Trebo. Luis Object number: 089-00908 Amt für Film und Medien Production date: 20.09.1991 nstitution: Amt für Film und Medien Typewriter Museum "Peter Mitterhofer" Add to selection \$\frac{1}{2} South Turol Museum Created by Title: Schloss Katzenzungen, Prissian: Eröffnung der Ausstellung von Peter Ratschiller, Paul Fellin (Originaltitel) Atzwanger, Hugo 21 Object name: Photography Description: Dargestellt: Fabi, Andreas; Hosp, Bruno Foto Hermann Frass, Bozen Created by: Trebo, Luis Object number: 089-00909 Hermann Frass Production date: 20 09 1991 stitution: Amt für Film und Medien ■ Material Add to selection \$ paper cardboard Title: Schloss Katzenzungen, Prissian: Eröffnung der Ausstellung von Peter celluloid Fellin (Originaltitel) wood Object name: Photography Description: Dargestellt: Fellin, Peter; Hosp, Bruno Object name Created by: Trebo, Luis Object number: 089-00910 Photography Production date: 20.09.1991 Institution: Amt für Film und Medien picture postcard Add to selection \$\primex\$

Title: Schloss Katzenzungen: Ausstellung der Gebrüder Vallazza (Originaltitel)

https://data.civis.bz.it/de/dataset/catalogo-beni-culturali





### **Cultural dataset 2: Museums, archives and collections**

#### 50+ institutions

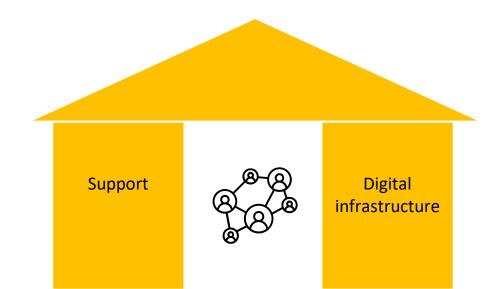
- South Tyrolean Provincial Museums
- City and village museums
- Ecclesiastical museums
- Thematical museums
- Provincial offices (art collection, audiovisual archive)
- Associations, collections and archives





#### **Cultural dataset 2:** Hard facts

50+ institutions = 100+ users



#### Institutions vary in

- Topics and object groups
- Approaches and standards
- Size
- Resources
- Professionalism

Data accumulated over long periods



#### **The Unknown**



#### Challenge 1: Data quality, networks and AI tools

The 50 institutions vary in focus, approaches and resources. The collections are vast and digitization/cataloging is time consuming work requiring specific skills.

- 1. How much centralized data quality control is necessary?
- 2. How much standardization can the institutions handle?
- 3. How to keep such a diverse network alive, active and connected?

- 4. Can different digital tools and AI be used to facilitate the work?
- 5. What AI tools might be useful instruments for data clean-up? How to find competent partners in this area?



#### Challenge 2: Data clean-up, historical data and the unachievable

With some of the data stemming originally from historic record cards and inventory books and after almost 20 years of using the same digital system in 50 different institutions, clean-up and standardization are central tasks.

- 1. The idea of clean and lean data is difficult/unrealistic to achieve:
  - Is it still okay to publish data that contains uncertainties, mistakes or is incomplete, or should we further limit its publication?
- 2. How to deal with the gap between the elevated trust people have in cultural institutions and the rising mistrust in online information?

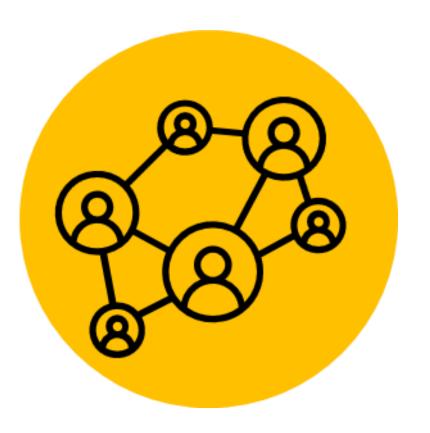


#### Challenge 3: Is the Open Data approach wrong?

In an age where all allocatable information is being harvested for the use of generative AI:

- 1. Is an Open Data approach still helpful for cultural institutions and the respective communities?
- 2. Should we not return to the old days of gatekeeping the knowledge/information in cultural institutions?
- 3. Is there any way to ensure that this information is used adequately and respectfully?
- 4. What kind of data is "meaningful data" nowadays?









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