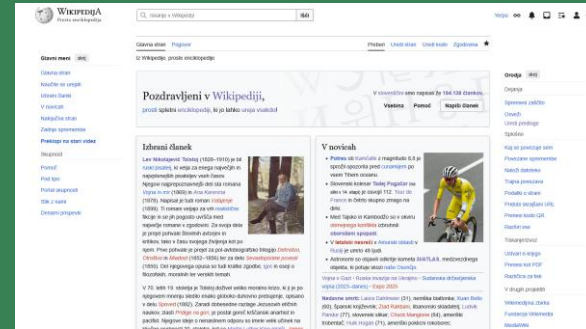


The "List of articles every Wikipedia should have" as a motivational tool

Jernej Polajnar - yerro
Wikipedians of Slovenia User Group





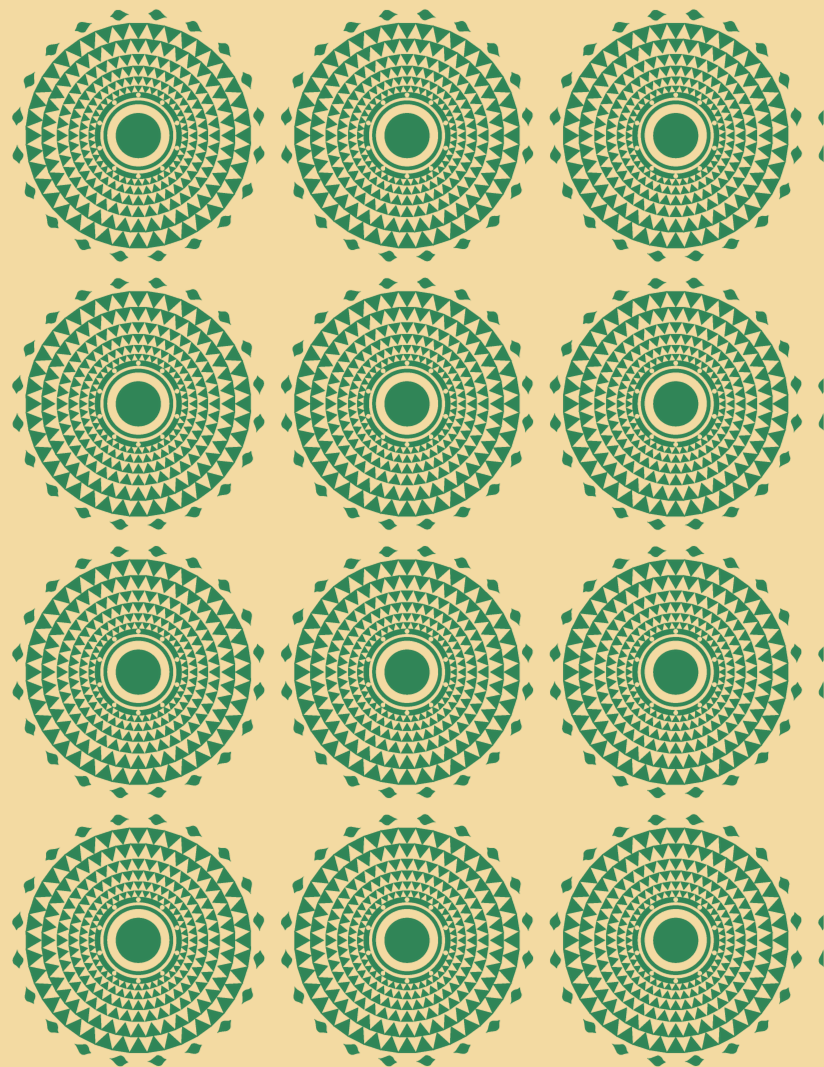
The list of what?

- 1000 articles
- Core knowledge topics
- ***Not an obligation***



The list of articles every Wikipedia should have

- 1000 articles
- Core knowledge topics
- biographies, philosophy, religion, social sciences, language/literature, arts/recreation, measurements, science, food/agriculture, technology, history, geography
- Active discussions on the talk page



Articles every Wikipedia should have



:slwiki total pageviews, 9 –29 July 2025

250000
150000
50000
0



avg. 1.1/day

random



WP:1000



Gamification

“[a] way to increase user engagement, motivation, competition and participation through the use of game mechanics ”

:en:Gamification





The list of what again?



- Ranking Wikipedias by the sample of 1000 “must-have” articles

Script for ranking

- An automated script ranking Wikipedias by the size of must-have articles
- Counts characters, not bytes!
- missing articles–**stubs** (<10k characters = **1 pt.**)–**articles** (10-30k = **4 pts.**)–**long articles**(>30k = **9 pts.**)
- Language weights system implemented



A quick brown fox jumps
over a lazy dog



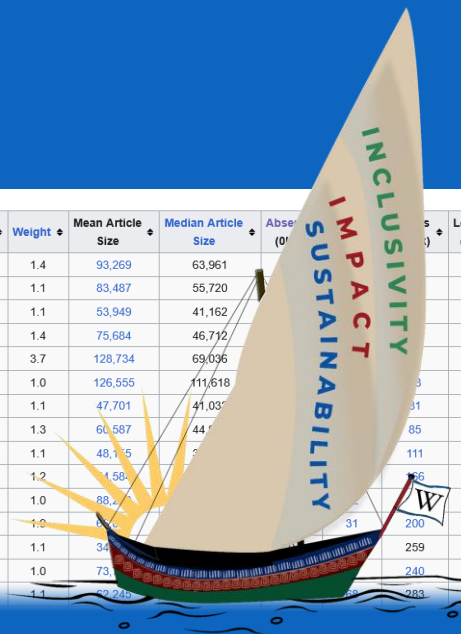
一隻好快嘅啡色狐狸跳過一隻懶狗

Ranking Wikipedias

- 5 Wikipedias (nearly) completed
- Not just global languages on top
- Most African languages in the bottom part of the ranking
- Plenty of opportunities!

Last Update: 05 July 2025

No.	Wiki	Language	Weight	Mean Article Size	Median Article Size	Absen	Long Art. (> 30k)	Score	Growth
1	ru	Русский	1.4	93,269	63,961		1,000	100.00	+0.00
2	es	Español	1.1	83,487	55,720		998	99.89	+0.00
3	ca	Català	1.1	53,949	41,162		998	99.84	-0.10
4	sr	Српски / Srpski	1.4	75,684	46,712		996	99.73	-0.10
5	zh	中文	3.7	128,734	69,036		992	99.49	+0.00
6	en	English	1.0	126,555	111,618		971	98.36	-0.05
7	eo	Esperanto	1.1	47,701	41,035		969	98.28	+0.89
8	uk	Українська	1.3	60,587	44,115		915	95.28	+0.67
9	eu	Euskara	1.1	48,115	35,115		888	93.73	+1.62
10	gl	Galego	1.2	41,587	31,115		833	90.68	+0.22
11	fr	Français	1.0	88,415	51,115		785	86.28	+0.16
12	ja	日本語	1.0	84,115	51,115		767	85.93	-0.10
13	bg	Български	1.1	34,115	25,115		734	84.99	+0.00
14	de	Deutsch	1.0	73,115	44,115		725	83.50	+0.11
15	it	Italiano	1.1	75,249	44,115		644	77.73	+0.04



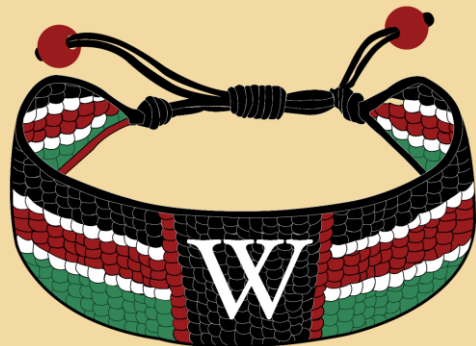
Script for ranking

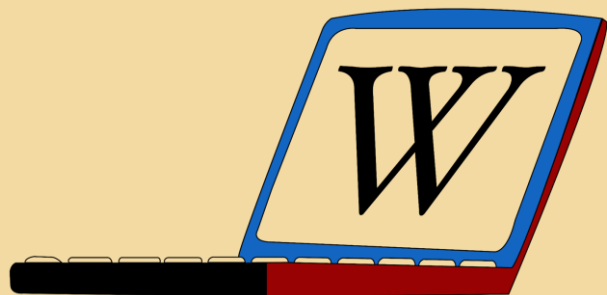
Credit: Smeira, MarsRover, Boivie,
Dcirovic

```
item_list_path = item_list.txt
```

```
def ListOfArticles():  
    meta_page = []  
    meta_wiki = pywikibot.Site('meta', 'meta')  
    meta_page = pywikibot.Page(meta_wiki, 'List of articles every Wikipedia should have')  
    return meta_page
```

```
def LoadItemList():  
    item_path = item_list_path  
    if os.path.isfile(item_path):  
        return  
    f = open(item_path, 'w', encoding=textfile_encoding)  
    count = 0  
    grand_total = 0  
    page = ListOfArticles()  
    article = page.get(get_redirect=False)  
    name_last = 0  
    name_first = article.find('[d:', name_last)  
    while name_first > -1:  
        name_mid = article.find(']', name_first)  
        cat_start = article.rfind('\n==', name_last, name_first)  
        if cat_start > -1:  
            cat_end = article.find('==', cat_start+3, name_first)  
            if cat_end > -1:  
                cat = article[cat_start+3:cat_end]  
                catName = ".center(len(cat), '-')  
                pywikibot.output("\n%s" % cat)  
                pywikibot.output("\n%s" % catName)  
                count += 1  
            name_last = article.find('[d:', name_first)  
            if name_last > name_mid:  
                name_last = name_mid  
            article_item = article[name_first+4:name_last]  
            f.write(str(article_item))  
            f.write("\n")  
            count += 1  
            grand_total += 1  
            pywikibot.output("%d %s" % (count, article_item))  
            name_first = article.find('[d:', name_last)
```





A WP:1000 project

- Since 2013 in Slovenian Wikipedia
- Before that, coverage of must-have articles was improving very slowly
- Now: ~ 25 contributors



Graphs!

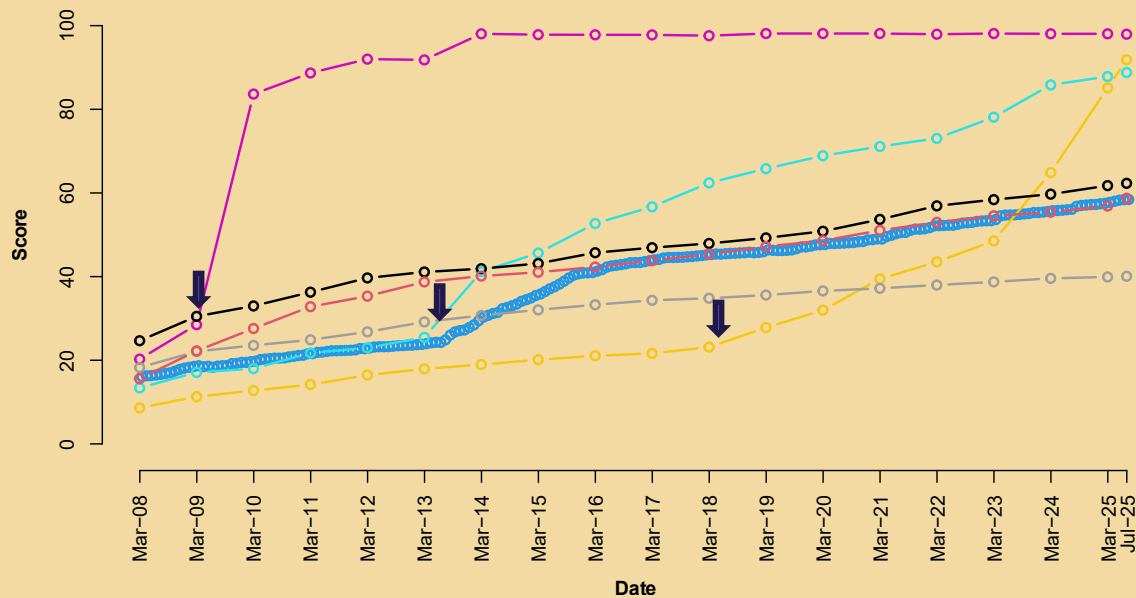


No WP:1000 project:

:hrwiki

:cswiki

:kowiki





A WP:1000 project

- [Page with basic info](#)
- Keeping track of progress
- [Talk page banners](#)
- Barnstars for active contributors
- Quantitative and qualitative goals



8.1%



Where to start?

- Lists of articles per category
- Highlight: “neglected articles”
- Run the script locally
- PagePile → PetScan etc.

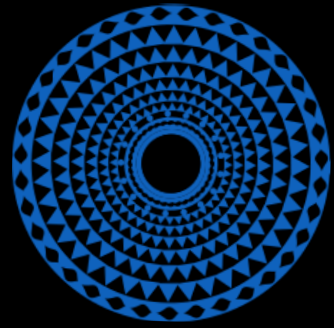




Where next?

- Writing competitions
- Other ways to actively promote the project
- [The expanded list of articles](#)

WIKIMANIA
NAIROBI



Q&A

