

Wikidata for Humanists

A Gentle Introduction to
Wikimedia's linked data project
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Hello! I'm Asaf.

Longtime Wikipedia volunteer
Amateur digital librarian
Linked data enthusiast
Lapsed classicist
Digital Humanities hacker



What is Wikidata? Why should I care?

Wikidata is an editable
central repository of
structured and linked
data, on a wiki, under a
free license (CC Zero)

Structured & Linked Data?

Items described by
properties and **values**

e.g.

Estonia — **capital: Tallinn**



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Structured Data Examples

Estonia – **population:** 1315635

Estonia – **capital:** Tallinn

Tallinn – **population:** 446055

Tallinn – **area:** 159 sq. km.



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Wikidata in numbers:
38 million items
1400 very active editors
8.5 million queries per day



Let's visit Wikidata!

<https://wikidata.org>



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Querying Wikidata

- Most famous politicians whose father was also a politician
- Popular first names for people born in Tartu
- Paintings in the World
- Paintings depicting woodwind instruments



Wikidata has an API!

<https://www.wikidata.org/w/api.php>

And people do awesome things with it:

Things built with Wikidata

- [Histropedia](#)
- [WikiGenomes](#)
- [Monumental](#)
- [Scholia](#)
- [Mix-and-match](#)
- [Article Placeholder](#)
- [Crotos \(Callisto\)](#)
- [Ask Platypus](#)
- [Inventaire](#)
- [Stadt, Land, Fluss](#)
- [Pelagios](#) (TBD)



Thank you for your attention

Use Wikidata in your next project!

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