Wikidata Notability and Reuse

What if the content you're using is unexpectedly deleted?

Mike Peel, Lightning Talk, 14 March 2022



Notability requirements

Per https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Notability:

- 1. "It contains at least one valid sitelink [to a Wikimedia project]"
- 2. "It refers to ... a clearly identifiable conceptual or material entity"
- 3. "It fulfills a structural need" (often seen to be links from other Wikidata items)

... but what if the data you're using isn't covered by these notability requirements?

The problem

- What happens if you're using Wikidata information, and it's suddenly deleted as non-notable?
- Could happen with both on- and off-wiki uses
- What do you do if it's otherwise non-notable per points 1-3?
- Has happened in practice:
 - Wikimedians in Residence used in <u>https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedian_in_residence#History_and_case_studies</u> (against the background discussion of whether Wikimedians are notable - but are WiR notable?
 - YouTube video items get deleted, even if they are in use
 - Items used by Commons category infoboxes have been deleted (Commons isn't notable?)
- Could become a bigger problem in the future, if Cite Q is used more

Proposal

- Add "Wikidata information is being directly used on another Wikimedia project" as a 4th notability requirement
- OR change #3 to "It fulfills a structural need, for example: it is needed to make statements made in other items more useful, or it is used in Wikimedia content such as tables, lists, or references."

Practicality

- Can check uses on-wiki by page properties, e.g.:
 - https://www.wikidata.org/w/index.php?title=Q1513315&action=info
- Of-wiki uses are more tricky to check...
- Needs admins to do an additional check before deleting items
- Can be seen as a back door to the notability requirements
- How to implement?
 - o RfC seems broken?
 - Discussion currently on the notability talk page
- QIDs already guaranteed to be stable but not the content...

Questions?

- Have you experienced this can you share your example?
- Please join the discussion at <u>https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata_talk:Notability#Wikidata_information_is_being_directly_used_on_another_Wikimedia_project</u>
- Also see
 <u>https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Requests_for_comme</u>
 <u>nt/Creating_items_for_videos_at_online_video_platforms_that</u>
 _are_representation_of_notable_items

Thanks for your attention!

To stay in touch:

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Wikidata: Notability



DATA RE-14 - 24 March 2022 USE DAYS