

The ability to semantically relate various data and metadata is a basic criterion of the Semantic Web concept. The most obvious and most urgent subtask in this area is to share and align metadata schemas used in digital libraries, collections and databases. As a result of international research activities, an RDF based framework is evolving which provides a common metadata schema definition format and the possibility to reuse existing schemas and schema elements.

The Department of Distributed Systems of MTA SZTAKI tries to introduce these results in Hungary. We are planning to implement an open web service for the registration of metadata schemas used in Hungary. This service could provide an overview of the registered schemas and their interconnections. It could also support the creation of new schemas using elements also from existing schemas. Such service could facilitate the reuse and standardization of metadata schemas, which is of public utility, as it can make data management and data retrieval more economical.