



Developing the Turkish National Police Digital Repository: An Exploratory Study and Application

Izzet Lofca
University of North Texas
PO Box 311068 Denton, TX 76203
ilofca@lis.admin.unt.edu

Fatih Oguz
Valdosta State University
1500 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31698
foguz@valdosta.edu

Abstract

This poster presents an overview of an exploratory research project to identify, describe, and investigate the applicability of the digital repository approach to manage, preserve, disseminate, and maintain digital assets, intellectual output, and history of the Turkish National Police.

Introduction

Governments serve the people, and therefore, the information -public information- held by governments belong to the people. Governments are obliged to make information equitably and conveniently accessible by the public. Failure of the State to provide access to information or State suppression of information can lead human rights violations. The Right to Information is fundamental to the realization of rights as well as effective democracy, which requires informed participation by all. An informed and empowered citizenry is one of the fundamental success factors for a stable democracy.

Open and transparent governance is also considered a precondition for preventing and revealing corruption and maladministration. Knowledge about openness and access to information is crucial in the implementation and promotion of basic human rights and democratic principles. Diffusing a government's knowledge holdings proactively, broadly, and pervasively to the all levels of society is a positive social and moral construct for the benefits of all citizens. Even though the Turkish National Police tries to utilize modern technologies, there is no policy and robust system in place to manage, preserve, disseminate, and maintain the intellectual output of the agency.

Key Issues

Here are some of the key issues to consider when developing repositories:

- the institutional culture
- the scope of the repository
- content
- access levels
- legal aspects
- standards
- sustainability
- national security
- interoperability
- funding

The Need

- Provide means that documents published only in electronic formats could continue to be available in the future.
- Digitize analog documents and make them accessible
- Centralize, preserve, and make accessible an TNP's intellectual property (public information)
- Improve organizational visibility
- Capture and openly disseminate its intellectual product, thus contributing to scientific/scholarly discourse and benefiting from the resulting organizational visibility.
- Extension to POLNET to provide the citizens with information concerning police services.



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