Conclusions

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We all have heard about the miracles that we can read books without open them, we can build a family tree automatically and so on, and during these two exciting days we wanted to find out the truth about this.

It became clear that these miracles are in different stages of completion. We heard about successful projects, ongoing developments and ambitious visions shared by some speakers.

Kerstin Arnold reported on how the APE portal is trying to automatically create search aids in a multilingual environment.

Artem Reshetnikov's spectacular presentation showed **how important** cultural and historical context is in using computer vision.

We came closer to understanding **what is easy and what is difficult** for scanning with non-invasive technologies. Mass digitisation wont be solved by X-Ray CT, but it can be important in the preservation of individual documents.

A promising project by colleagues at Humboldt University **foresees** that through the description of coats of arms --- we can gain further insights into the historical connections between different areas of Europe. Gregor showed how geodata can bring new context to old records. Lipót presevation was very convincing about technology sometimes help reduce time and costs for projects besides being more accurate than humans.

The Danish Link lives project is creating the lifecourses of individuals **from databases that were created decades earlier**, re-used now in new and innovative ways. But Joan Andreu and Enrique Vidal showed that recognising the handwriting of images that still have not yet been indexed is not an impossible task anymore. In fact, the EDT project has already

done this on 75,000 pages of names. Combining the two technologies opens up incredible perspectives.

The most important messages of these two days were highlighted by the panelists. Archives need to redefine, reconceptulize themselves. We don't manage records, we manage information. New, disruptive technologies - handwriting recognition, machine vision, machine learning, geodata management - are helping us to extract this information, process it and make it available to our users.

The school year is starting in each countries these days. **Sooo,** to be stylish we have a lot of homework.

- First of all, we must be patient. Developments are at different stages of completion and there no miracles exist.
- We have to be curious. Archivists are still key persons in the future, but as Kerstin said, we have to ask questions and remain curious and open minded.
- Large institutions have a key role to play in this, just as they cannot leave smaller institutions alone.
- And finally we need to support researchers and developers with good quality and sufficient quantity of data. It is a mandatory precondition for research.

The intention of these two days was to understand how the magic of new technology works. There is no ready-made, out-of-the-box product, but the presentations were invariably inspiring and opened up fundamentally new perspectives and encouraged us to refocus our activities.

I have nothing more to do just to wish you all a successful start to the school year **or much more years**.

Thanks for the excellent organization. Severiano, Cristina, Miguel and the partners of the EDT and Maria for hosting us now in Alicante. I hope you enjoyed. Have a safe trip to home.