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# CHALLENGES TO PROMOTE INTEROPERABILITY IN A BICAMERAL PARLIAMENT

## The example of Cortes Generales

**ENDORSE.**

THE EUROPEAN DATA CONFERENCE ON REFERENCE DATA AND SEMANTICS

# MOTIVATION: PARLIAMENTS AS INSTITUTIONS GENERATING DOCUMENTS AND KNOWLEDGE

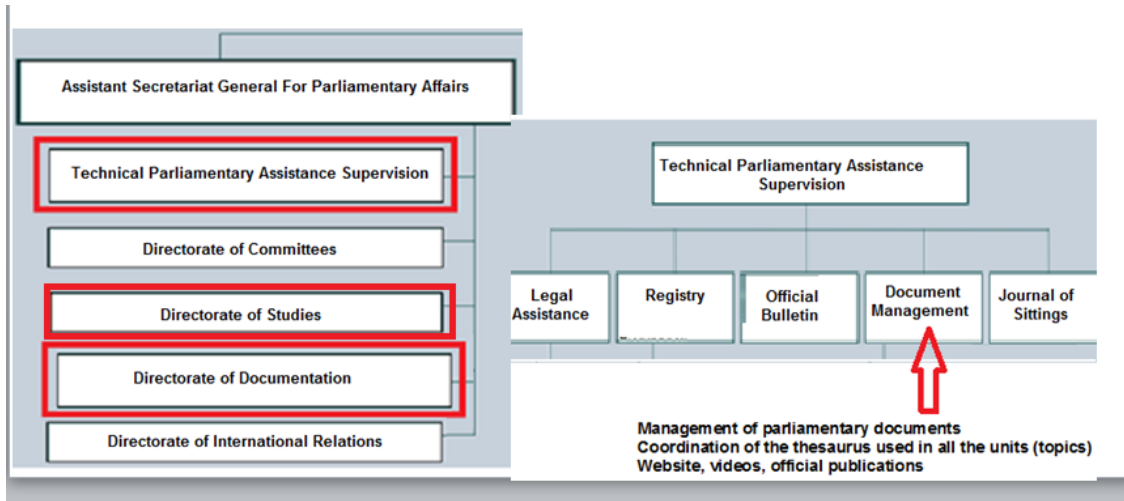


- ❑ Background and context: towards an Open Parliament
- ❑ Transparency and interoperability
- ❑ Synergies and collaborative work
- ❑ Advancement of digital transformation
- ❑ Artificial intelligence on the rise: the Future

# SPANISH PARLIAMENT ENVIRONMENT TODAY

- Strong legal and procedural background
- We work on technical synergies like 30 years ago but not adapted to new times
- Transparency is the new paradigm but resolved with xml and website: it is not enough
- Collaborative work between level specialized are not involved: example of archivists
- Scattered electronic systems and services

# DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT IN THE SENATE



- ❑ Visualization of parliamentary documents in the [website](#): search engine
- ❑ There is no equivalent unit in the Congress of Deputies

# FIRST STEPS IN SPAIN THROUGH ISA2 PROGRAM



Gobierno de España



CONGRESO DE  
LOS DIPUTADOS



BOLETÍN OFICIAL DEL ESTADO



- ELI structure for official **laws** by **BOE (DONE)**
- Leos/AKN for drafting and editing **laws** by **Gouvernement/MPR**
- Integration of **vocabularies** systems: Eurovoc and others used by **Senate** in VocBench (SKOS/RDF) (**initial**)
- AKN approach for **written questions** by **Senate (initial)**
- Participation of Congress would be great!!

# VOCABULARIES APPROACH TODAY: A UNIQUE WAY



## In the past

Lexical conception before web

Relational database

Strong work for actualization

Manual indexation of documents

Geographical information considered as a descriptor

The use inside the institution

## Today

Tools in the Semantic web

Based in VocBench platform SKOS Semantic Web

Actualization twice a year or more

Automation of the functions

Geographical information used with Linked Open Data (LOD)

Mapping with other vocabularies

## VOCABULARIES APPROACH TODAY: A UNIQUE WAY

- ❑ Senate and Congress of Deputies: same origins (80's), different evolution
- ❑ Creation of Thematics to make easy the search in web
- ❑ Incorporation of indexation work in the new website with search engine had to be in a different way to promote information reuse: since 2012 and later, 2015 and 2019 steps
- ❑ Cooperation with Office of Publications to migrate thesaurus of the Senate (Eurovoc+list of concepts+geographical concepts)
- ❑ We need a collaboration Senate Congress of Deputies to go further in the interoperability

# DOCUMENTS PROCESSING IN PARLIAMENT

## ☐ SENATE

- ❖ IT application to draft, edit and communicate with Government (XML format)
- ❖ Senators can draft, edit, sign and record written questions from their mobile devices.
- ❖ Database storage in PDF format
- ❖ Web publication of questions and answers in PDF format

## ☐ CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES

Same process since the 80's, a word document which is scanned for the web with an official publication in Bulletin



# AKN APPROACH THROUGH DOCUMENTS



- Akoma Ntoso is the specific XML used by European institutions to interoperate: [AKN4EU](#)
- Collaborative work with Government with distribution of tasks by documents analysis to create the first AKN templates, according to the origin of the specific process:
  - ❖ Bills are sent **by Government to Parliament**
  - ❖ Written questions **sent by Members of Parliament to Government** and Government send answers
- A special work has to be done for amendments
- MPR: Working on Bills with LEOS
- Senate: Working on written questions with AKN structure (Lex Summer School since 2018)

**ENDORSE.** Challenges to promote interoperability in a bicameral Parliament

# FUTURE: IMPROVING PARLIAMENTARY KNOWLEDGE WITH IA

- ❑ Processing of Hansards with machine learning for content extraction: Digital Humanities
- ❑ Sentiment analysis work

El señor OLEAGA ZALVIDEA: Decía que este será el jaleo que habrá en el próximo partido del Athletic en Granada. Seguramente será así, de este estilo. (*Rumores*).

Este sistema de descalificar permanentemente al Gobierno, como hacen ustedes, responde a ese castizo dicho español que dice: Cree el ladrón que todos son de su condición. (*Protestas*). Están ustedes acusando al Gobierno socialista de intenciones ocultas. (*Rumores*.— *El señor Floriano Corrales: Impresentable*). Aquí, los únicos que tienen intenciones aviesas y propósitos torticeros son ustedes (*Protestas*), que quieren boicotear el diálogo que el Partido Socialista y el Gobierno de coalición han iniciado en Cataluña para acabar con los tiempos del enfrentamiento. (*Aplausos*.— *Protestas*.— *El señor Floriano Corrales: Impresentable*).



## CONCLUSIONS

- ❑ Development of drafting techniques a solution to interoperability and preservation of documents
- ❑ Technology should not be considered as an end in itself but a tool
- ❑ Cooperation between institutions is the best for reuse and also cheaper!!!!
- ❑ Adoption of VocBench strategy must permit alignments with other institutions very different + multilinguism solutions
- ❑ Collaboration with other Parliaments which are users of Eurovoc and extension to regional Parliaments in Spain

Thank you

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