

# DissOnline Portal

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## **Abstract**

Since 1998 the German National Library (GNL) collects electronic dissertations and post-doctoral theses. Most of them are available via Internet. The total number of electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) at the GNL is about 51.000 (as of January 2007).

The project "DissOnline Portal" is developing a portal that will network ETDs published not only by scientific libraries but also by commercial publishers. The existing search facilities are not yet up to the state-of-the-art of science and technology. The new portal will provide quick and easy access to new scientific information, enabling the user to dispense with extensive searches in different databases. It will also provide access to information about electronic publishing, legal aspects, formats etc.

To ensure long-term accessibility it is important to provide the electronic publication in a structured way. Therefore, the portal also offers templates for creating an electronic dissertation using MS Word, StarOffice, OpenOffice or LaTeX. These templates were developed as part of the project "DissOnline Tutor".

The aim of "DissOnline Portal" is not only to provide a single access point for the retrieval of German E-Theses but also to integrate into other information services. It will enable the building of domain specific subsets and integrate them via the OAI protocol for metadata harvesting into other services e.g. vascoda, the German interdisciplinary internet portal for scientific and scholarly information. It will also be possible for virtual libraries to harvest the metadata relevant to their specific discipline and integrate them into their own systems.

Furthermore, an integration into European and international services like DART-Europe or NDLTD is in preparation.