

# insights

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Archives and people in the digital age

Bavarian State Archives | Margit Ksoll-Marcon

## In step with the times

Research:

### Church registers online

Frédéric Kaplan

### Crossing domains with new ideas



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insights provides information about the international archival community today, including archival institutions as well as the related user groups.

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# editorial

Dear Readers,

We are very pleased to present you our second edition of the **insights** magazine. The extraordinarily positive feedback we received from readers of our first edition encouraged us to continue on our path of building bridges between all parties involved in the review and processing of historical material.

This issue puts a special focus on **genealogical research**, and it does so for several reasons. It may be the lack of knowledge about one's ancestors, or some family lore one never got to the bottom of, or maybe just a lack of family roots that causes people to immerse themselves in genealogical research. And very often, they are simply driven and motivated by the sheer fun of doing it.

There's hardly another segment in the archival world in which the imminent paradigm shift from a "one-way street" to a **mutually fruitful exchange between archives and their users** has become more obvious. On the one hand, the online portals for church registers have opened the doors for very ambitious crowdsourcing activities, whose results, on the other hand, make the use of online resources much easier in return.

Closely connected to family research is the digital documentation of local history sources within individual communities, which would otherwise never have been made public. **Topotheques** are the platform for digitally presenting hundreds of pictures, maps, audio documents and manuscripts that can be of invaluable support for genealogical research as well.

The editors of **insights** have once more accomplished to stay in tune with the times and offer you a vast overview of recent developments in the international archival world with articles from Bavaria, Sweden, Georgia and the Ukraine. Enjoy reading our latest edition! I would be very happy to get as much feedback from you as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Karl Heinz  
General Manager ICARUS



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