

## **ESTONIAN FOLKLORE, CULTURAL HISTORY AND LITERATURE IN A DIGITAL FORM: THE FILE REPOSITORY AND ARCHIVAL INFORMATION SYSTEM *KIVIKE***

In the past years, Open Data, Open Access and Open Government have become buzz-words in media and in the discussions about the information systems of various institutions of Estonia. From the beginning of 2015, the sets of open data in Estonia have been gathered to a web portal <https://opendata.riik.ee/>.

Among other datasets, the user can find the collections of the Estonian Literary Museum. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) has been financing the project “Open Data at the Estonian Literary Museum”, which has made a huge amount of data about folklore, literature and cultural history available for wide audiences. As of 2012, the file repository and archival information system Kivike (<http://kivike.kirmus.ee>) has enabled those interested to use the digital collections of the Estonian Literary Museum. The goal of the museum and its departments (the Archival Library, Estonian Cultural History Archives, Estonian Folklore Archives, Department of Folkloristics, Department of Ethnomusicology) is to preserve and study materials related to Estonian culture. The online repository and information system Kivike is essential for preserving digitalised and born-digital materials and making them available for wider audiences.

The metadata of the collections of the Estonian Literary Museum have been described in different indexing systems. Card catalogues are still widely used, but in the 1990s the practice of describing data in digital format evolved. The metadata of folklore collections were described in different formats, and so were the transcriptions. Folklore collections were made available to wider audiences in their home computers via a variety of online databases. The new materials were described in different formats. With the help of the ERDF funded project, Kivike as the archival information system gathers all this information in one environment and makes it possible to search all the sets of digital metadata related to a certain area or person. For specific genre-related searches, the specialised databases offer better options, but the general overview of all of the materials is better in Kivike. There are different search options: from a very simple one-field-search to advanced queries. By now, there are more metadata descriptions than files in the repository. The amount of descriptions makes it possible to place orders for the files that are not yet digitised.

The language of the repository is Estonian, as well as the majority of the data; yet, there are exceptions: for instance, in folklore collections there are materials in other Finno-Ugric languages, as well as in German and Russian. Music, photographs and videos may possibly be interesting for international audiences. Already now, Kivike has been used in 52 countries, Germany, Finland and the United States, being among the top three. The users are likely to be part of Estonian diaspora. For the future, usage possibilities in English and Russian are being planned, as well as the representation of the collections in Europeana.

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