What is it?

**www.wdl.org** is a multilingual website that provides free access to primary sources that document the histories and cultural achievements of all countries.

- An international project led by a core team at the Library of Congress
- Focused on expanding multilingual and culturally diverse content on the Internet
- Larger goal of promoting international and intercultural understanding
What are the site’s features?

- **Multilingualism**: 汉语, русский язык, العربية, English, español, português, and le français
- High-quality, controlled metadata
- Scholarly interpretation in descriptions
- Enhanced display and zoom features
- Text-to-speech in all languages
- Almost all content freely downloadable
- Book reader function and responsive design pages
What sort of content does WDL have?

Newspapers  Rare books  Manuscripts  Journals

Maps  Photographs  Prints
How does WDL select content?

Partners’ selections focus on the History of Humanity, detailed by Content Selection Committee Guidelines

- Institutional treasures
- Representative of their country or culture
- Fill existing gaps, like sacred books or founding documents
- Site priorities: UNESCO Memory of the World, Chinese rare books, Mesoamerican codices, Arabic math and science manuscripts
Anything else?

In addition to a website, the WDL is also an effort to share knowledge and build capacity around the world.

- Assist in the establishment of digital conversion centers (Egypt, Iraq, Uganda)
- Encourage digitization where little or no digital content is being produced
- Facilitate cooperation between experienced institutions and those just getting started