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Class 2 21/02/2023

Archival Research

André Mazon's Correspondence

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Presentation outline

- General introduction
- Gathering data : From a data set to a corpus
- André Mazon in his intellectual and historical context
- The role of André Mazon in the development of European slavistics



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New tools : new opportunities for research

- The situation of research in the field of humanities has changed a lot in the last 40 years, first of all, thanks to the evolution of the tools we have access to.
- While we were writing our PHD theses, we spent a long time in libraries and archive, reading books and copying the text from the originals. We made up summary cards that we stored in wooden files.
- Access to primary sources has diversified considerably. To give up direct contact with primary sources is not wishable . It is important to continue to visit libraries and archives.
- But electronic catalogs facilitate the identification of sources (thanks to keyword searches for example, or thanks to world library catalogs such as Worldcat).



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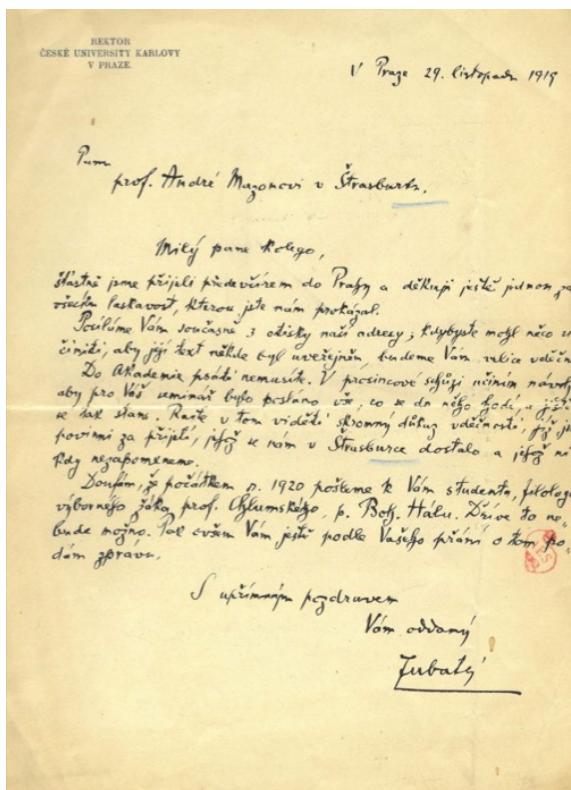
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Making new tools for research

- Many institutions and researchers are making efforts to expand access to sources by making them widely available on the web.
- This is a time-consuming task, but it is an exciting one because it also renews interest in the humanities.
- As a result of these efforts we are able now to connect together several tools. That's why it's important to follow rules and prescriptions in making the tools and data bases.

Prof. Josef Zubatý (1855-1931)

Czech indologist, linguist, translator, Rector of Charles University.



- <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k10802039>

Link to the sound archive of
French national Library : « Institut
de phonétique, Musée de la Parole
et du Geste »

An excerpt of his inaugural speech
as Rector of Charles University.



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The emergence of scientific networks in Slavic studies

- The study of scientific networks is an important and fascinating aspect of the history of science. They play an important role in the dynamics of research in a large area, crossing borders and bringing together people from all academic backgrounds.
- Transnational networks have greatly contributed to the internationalisation of fields of studies since the 19th century. Indeed, international congresses sprang in Europe starting from the second half of the 19th century. They were no longer limited to just a few personalities interested in exchanging views on common interests, but assemblies gathering scholars and amateurs from several countries.
- The First World War brought the life of these networks to an abrupt halt, as they could no longer meet at major conferences. Once the war ended, some people thought that this European academic life could be restored. In times of peace and free movement, networks can form and develop with a certain autonomy from political events, forces and powers.

From a corpus to a data set

Let's start from a **corpus**, a usual term for archive studies.

Here, we have a whole corpus of 3,000 letters that were written to André Mazon throughout his academic career.

Our corpus is identified and entitled : Collection of André Mazon's correspondence.

First of all, we have to establish an **inventory** of these letters. It has to be exhaustive.

Now, we have to collect some data from our corpus, data relevant for a major question that we are seeking to investigate. Accordingly, we'll select items and create a **data set**.

The data set size may vary : a few items, a dozen, a hundred, a thousand... It's up to you and your assumptions.



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Inventory stage

This step is essential. It must be done according to **several prescriptions**. A notice must be drawn up for each document. It is then computed into a catalogue register which includes it, along with many other records produced by many other authors, institutions and other providers.

It is mandatory to have in mind the insertion into the data aggregate.

This notice has to meet an **interoperability** requirement.

The screenshot shows a digital catalog interface for a collection of correspondence. The main list contains 21 entries, each represented by a small icon and a reference number followed by a date range (e.g., AMA.8.1 Correspondance de 1897, AMA.8.2 Correspondance de 1903, etc.). To the right of the list are three buttons: "Actualité de cette bibliothèque" (orange), "Actualité de ce composant" (orange), and a green "Sommaire" button. Below the list, a section titled "Content 70 composants" displays two detailed entries:

AMA.8.19.1 3 janvier 1923

Date : 3 janvier 1923
Langue : russe.
Description physique : Carte postale manuscrite. 1 feullet.
Descripteur : Mazon, André.
Auteur : Kul'bakin, Stepan Mihajlovič.
Destinataire : Mazon, André.
Lieu : Skopje (Macédoine)

AMA.8.19.2 11 janvier 1923

Date : 11 janvier 1923
Langue : russe.
Description physique : Lettre manuscrite. 1 feullet.
Descripteur : Mazon, André.
Auteur : Sits, Ivan Ivanovitch.
Destinataire : Mazon, André.
Lieu : Moscou



Digitization standards and guidelines

Sharing experiences and good practices through **tutorials**.

The technical solution chosen takes into account the type of material, target audience, intended use.

For example, digitization is made for an audience of **researchers**, the **JPEG** format of digitization is therefore quite relevant.

For enhancing access or improving **preservation of material**, **TIFF** format 400 DPI is needed.

FAIR Data Principles

A key element in the context of Open Science

Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability

Reuse of digitised material.

Tutorials + Resources	Resolution	Color	Bit depth	Master file format/extension	Details
Class-Specific Resources > 2D Design > 3D Design > Audio > Digital Exhibits > Digital in the Classroom > Digital Research > Digitization > Digitization Standards and Guidelines > Expression 11000XL > ScanSnap SV600 Quickstart > Equipment Guides > Mapping > Network Analysis > Text Analysis > Video >	Textual materials with no images	Min: 150 Ideal: 400	Grayscale	8	Min: PDF/A Ideal: JPEG 2000 or TIFF
					Optional Character Resolution (OCR) applications work best on documents scanned at 400 DPI or higher. Web access files: PDF/A.

Today's Hours

Digital Scholarship	10am to
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4eu+

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NUMERISLAV
DIGITAL ARCHIVES - INSTITUTE OF SLAVIC STUDIES

EN ▾

Our project

Partners

NUMERISLAV OUR PROJECT

At the end of WWI, the French government authorized the University of Paris to create institutes dedicated to the study of foreign languages and cultures. Among the establishments born from the institutional advent of areal studies was the Institute of Slavic Studies of Paris whose centenary is celebrated this year. A library, research centre, educational establishment associated with the university and a scientific society, were and still are gathered together in a single place devoted to Slavic studies and embracing all the fields of humanities and social sciences.

The Institute of Slavic Studies (IES) keeps a rich archival collection of the highest interest. Professors, researchers, scholars as well as heirs and beneficiaries, have donated their personal archives and correspondence, all of which cover a whole century of scientific production in various fields: history, philology, literature, linguistics, technology... These archives represent an output in a close-knit network across many countries, primarily from Central and Eastern Europe. Indeed, the founder of the Institute, Pr. Ernest Denis, who held a chair at the Sorbonne, had played an active role in the creation of Czechoslovakia after November 11th, 1918. In 1921, the Czechoslovak Parliament granted the University of Paris a donation of one million francs, half of which to purchase Pr Denis' house in order to turn into an institute, the other half to create a chair of history and civilization of the Slavic peoples at the University. As soon as diplomatic relations between France and the Soviet Union were established in 1925, the IES, under the impetus of André Mazon, set up a system of exchanges between scholars, libraries and journals. The funds reflect these scientific relationships.

On the occasion of the Institute's centenary celebrations, we have launched a vast digitization project under the name NUMERISLAV. This project has received the technical support of the Eur'Orbem Group, a research center dedicated to Central and Eastern Europe and to the Balkans based at Sorbonne University, as well as funding support from Sorbonne University itself. We aim at putting online our archives, so as to make them available to scholars, students and the larger audience.

The sets of archives housed at the IES form a coherent corpus offering a broad sample of Slavic studies from the 1920s to the 1980s.



The NUMERISLAV Project :

A rich Set of Archives: 25 personal Fonds

- ❖ Auguste Dozon Fonds (1822-1891)
- ❖ Lev Tolstoj iconographic Fonds (1828-1910)
- ❖ Ernest Denis Fonds (1849-1921)
- ❖ Joseph de Baye Fonds (1853-1931)
- ❖ Charles Salomon Fonds (1862-1936)
- ❖ Nikolaj Losskij Fonds (1870-1965)
- ❖ Ivan Šmelev Fonds (1873-1950)
- ❖ Boris Nolde Fonds (1876-1948)
- ❖ Hélène Sinany Fonds (Aleksej Remizov Archives, 1877-1957)
- ❖ André Mazon Fonds (1881-1967)
- ❖ Pierre Pascal Fonds (1890-1983)
- ❖ Nina Gourfinkel Fonds (1900-1984)
- ❖ Vladimir Butčík Fonds (1892-1980)
- ❖ Nikolaj Ocup Fonds (1894-1958)
- ❖ Hubert Ripka (1895-1958)/ Noemi Schlochow (1896- 19?) Fonds
- ❖ Benjamin Goriely Fonds(1898-1986)
- ❖ Roger Portal Fonds (1906-1994)
- ❖ Michel Gorlin (1909-1943)/ Raïssa Bloch (1899-1943) Fonds
- ❖ Yves Millet Fonds (1920-2000)
- ❖ Vladimir Peška Fonds (1920-2002)
- ❖ Michel Aucouturier Fonds (1933-2017)
- ❖ Jacques Catteau Fonds (1935-2013)
- ❖ Vladimir Vodoff Fonds (1935-2009)
- ❖ Aleksej Hvostenko Fonds (1940-2004)
- ❖ Michel Niqueux Fonds



A short biography of André Mazon

- André Mazon (1881-1967), a Slavist, was at the forefront of French Slavic studies for half a century.
- The son of a journalist Albin Mazon, he studied at the Practical School for Higher Studies with the renowned linguist Antoine Meillet and at the Special School for Oriental Languages with Paul Boyer. He taught French at the University of Kharkiv, Ukraine (1905-08). During his stay, the university of Kharkiv was closed by the imperial government for a year, for political purposes and Mazon took advantage of this interruption to leave for Prague, where he studied czech language at Charles University.
- He then worked as a Library Secretary at the Paris School for Oriental Languages (1909-1914).
- During World War I, he served as an interpreter on the Eastern Front in Macedonia. After Russian revolution, he spent several months in Petrograd in 1918. He was arrested and imprisoned there by the Bolsheviks. While in prison, he tried to write down all the new words and expressions he heard, the acronyms and the linguistic borrowings of those revolutionary times.
- Returning to France in 1919, he became a professor at the University of Strasbourg (1919-23), then at the Collège de France (1924-51). He was later appointed as the honorary President of the Institute of Slavic Studies of the University of Paris (1937-59), as well as Vice-President of the International Committee of Slavists (1958-67).
- Together with Antoine Meillet and André Vaillant, he founded and edited the *Revue des études slaves* in 1921, which remains to this date a major journal in Slavic studies today.
- Specialist in philology and linguistics of Slavic languages and Russian classical literature.
- He published works on literature as well as on Russian and Czech grammar (e.g. on verbal aspects). He was a member of the Academy of USSR (1928) and of the Bulgarian Academy.
- He was one of the representatives of the VOKS in France [the Soviet Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries].



Mazon during WW1





Revue des études slaves, LXXXII, 2011 :
A special issue dedicated to André
Mazon



Picture of André Mazon by E. E. Levdikov, no date.



Les toits de Prague / Jaroslav Šetelík, 1907. Collection de l'IES.

[« Retour à la liste des fonds](#)

NUMERISLAV FONDS ANDRÉ MAZON

André Mazon (1881-1967). Figure clef des relations scientifiques entre la France et l'URSS avant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, André Mazon est de ceux qui ont fait et dirigé la slavistique française pendant plusieurs décennies. Il est le fondateur de la bibliothèque, pilier de la Revue des études slaves et président de l'Institut de 1937 à 1959.

[Fonds inventorié](#)

Contenu : Correspondance, manuscrits, coupures de presse.

Volumétrie : 56 boîtes.

[ACCÉDEZ AUX DOCUMENTS](#)

Correspondance André Mazon

2106 Documents

In 1928 Mazon was elected a member of the Academy of USSR.

- A cartoon from the satirical journal *Hippopotamus* (1928).
- *Hippopotamus* was published from 1925 to 1929.







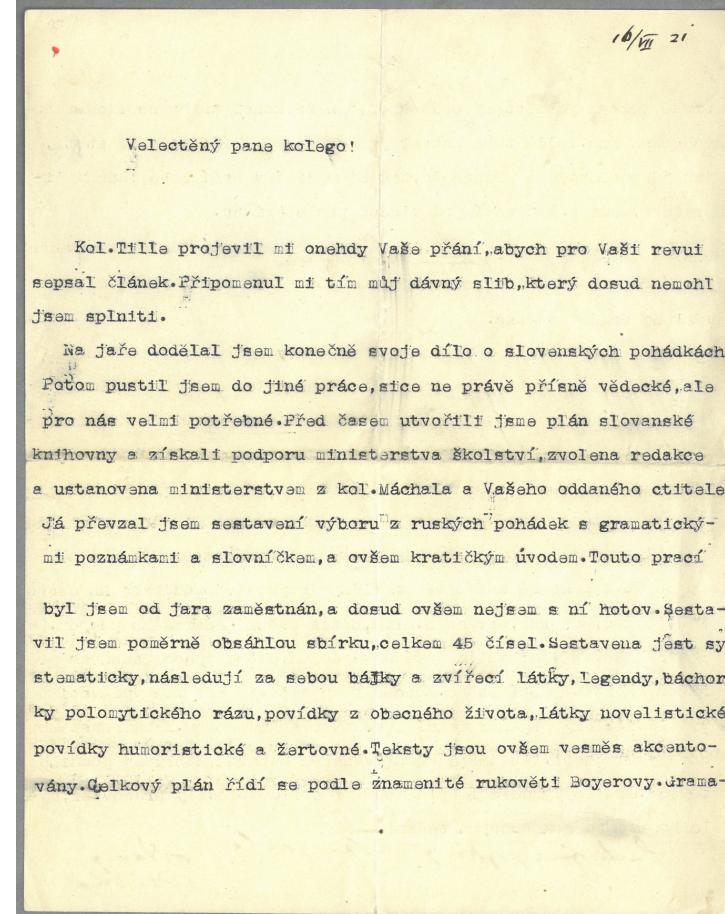
The Great Russian language

- André Mazon, a specialist in Slavic languages, came to Leningrad to study new words that had appeared in recent years.
- And Mr. Mazon dug his mouse nose into science, looking for new words. Science didn't have a clue, when it came to new words: it could not figure out terms like 'the kid' or 'the pissing girl'.
- "You bet, science!" thought Mazon, "An office job, yes. You have to get to grips with everyday life... "
- That's how Mazon went to rub shoulders with life.
- He groped life like this.
- He groped it like that.
- And again like this.
- And even like that.
- And having rubbed himself in such a way, he prepared to leave. But still, he made a speech in Russian at the departure banquet. "Guys," he said, "get lost! Let's have a good drink to the prosperity of the Russian language. Why should we muddy the waters and then, as it were, grumble, open our mouths and spoil the mood."
- And science opened its mouth wide and thought: "Oh, those foreigners! With such an accent, you can't get a single word! And famous on top of all of that! "



A link between the older generation of philologists and the new one

- Jiří Polívka (1858-1933)
- After attending high school in Prague, Polívka studied Slavic philology at the University of Prague and the University of Zagreb. At that time he was particularly interested in the major works of the Bulgarian language. In 1882 he submitted his thesis to the University of Vienna and received his doctorate from Charles University in Prague two years later.

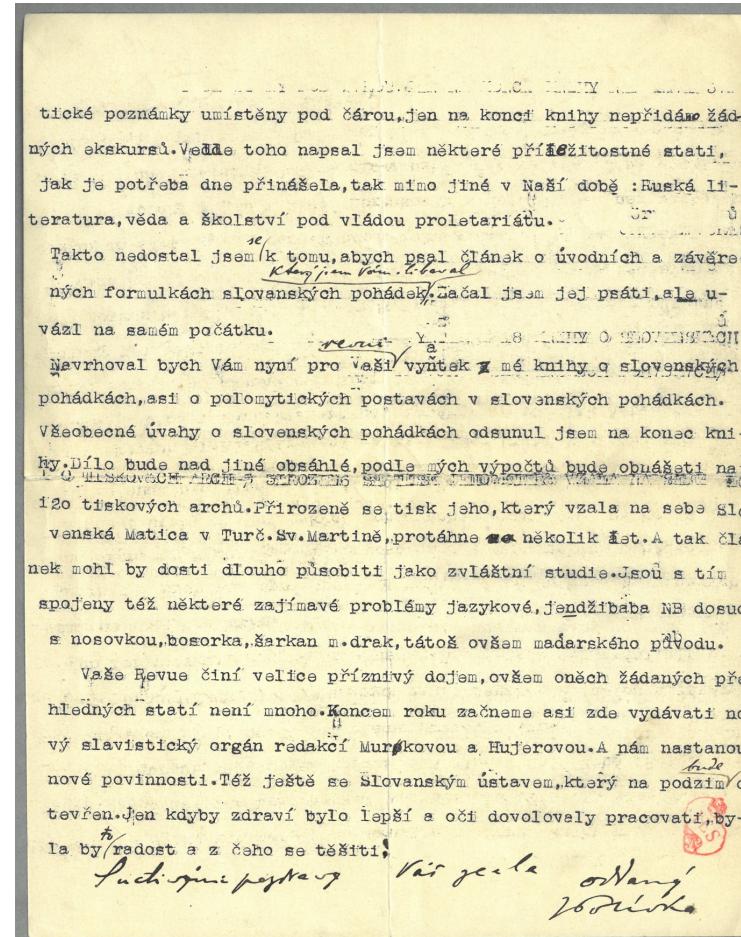


Letter of Jiří Polívka to André Mazon, July 16th, 1921.



Jiří Polívka (1858-1933)

- He then undertook several study trips to several Slavic countries. Starting from 1885, he taught Slavic languages at various universities in Bohemia (later included into Czechoslovakia).
- His *Slavic Tales* (1932) and other major works on the Slavic folk tales dedicate a good deal of attention to the artistic form of the tale. Polívka studied the history of the ancient and modern literature of the Slavic peoples and the works of 19th-century Russian authors. His works on Slavic dialectology are of immense value.
- From 3 March 1920 to 12 October 1932 he was vice-president of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

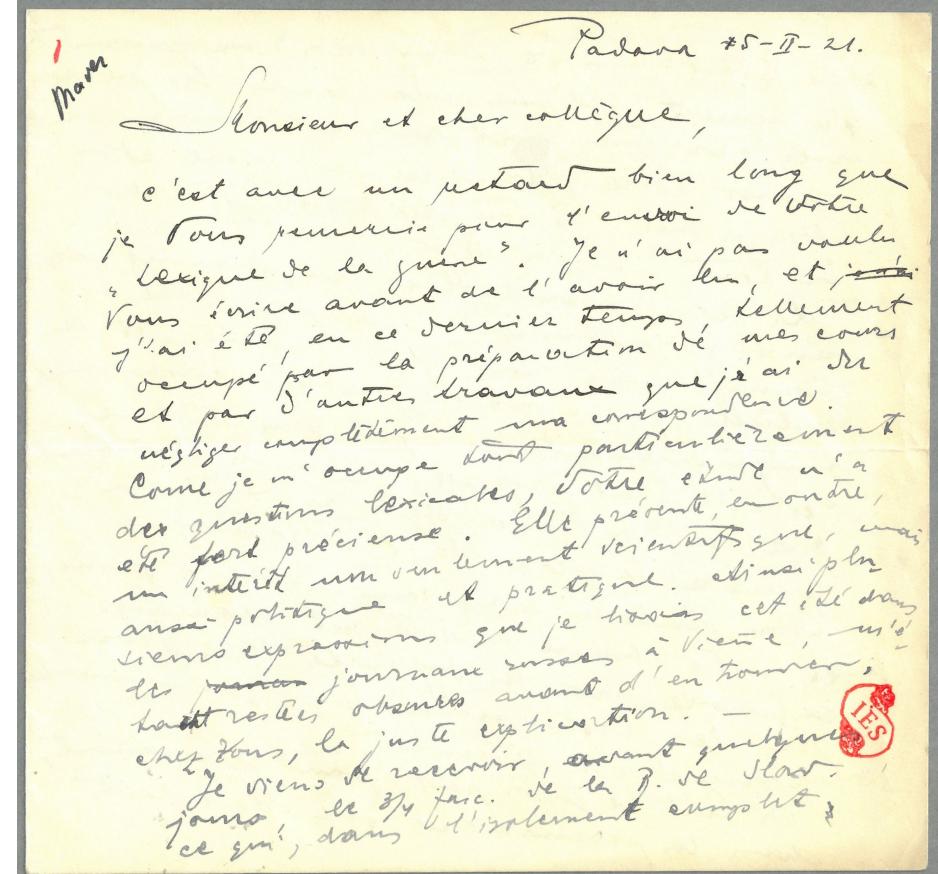


Letter of Jiří Polívka to André Mazon, July 16th, 1921.



Towards establishing a European network for Slavic studies

- A letter from Giovanni Maver (1891-1970), professor of Slavic philology at the University of Padova, then professor of Polish language and literature at the University La Sapienza in Roma.
- The letter was written in Padova, in French.
- Please do note that Maver studied in Vienna (Austria), then in Firenze, Paris, and wrote his PhD thesis in Vienna.



Letter of Giovanni Maver to André Mazon, Ferbruary 5th, 1921.



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Towards establishing a European network for Slavic philology: The crucial role of journals

- « The Revue des études slaves has now become an indispensable working tool for all Slavists, and the articles published in it correspond exactly to the rich programme it has set out to achieve.
- Should France carry on, it will take Germany's place in this field. We, Italians are only beginning, and our goodwill is much hampered by the difficulties of obtaining the necessary books that are completely lacking ».

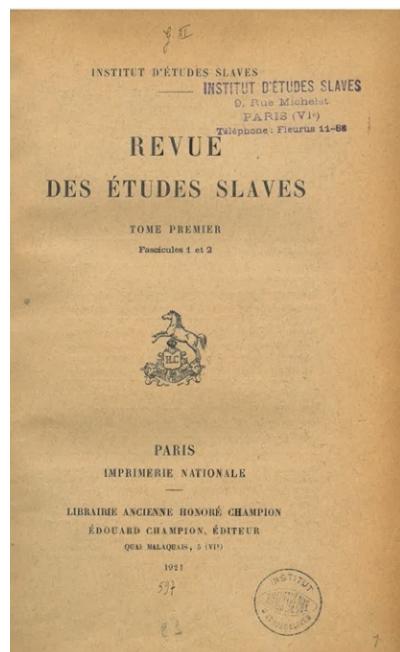
de Potsdam, ajoutez pour moi un grand
évidemment. Et pour cela, prenez les personnes
qui vous sont nécessaires recommandant
pour votre "Chronique" un riche et très
bon fonds, je suis sûr de une place
qui tout n'aura pas déja.
Le Pro. des études slaves est devenu idéal
et un instrument indispensable de
travail pour tous les Slavistes et les
articles qui y ont été publiés correspondent
magistralement au riche programme
qu'elle s'est proposé. En continuant
avec ce, la France, dans le domaine,
prendra le rôle de l'Allemagne.
Nous Italiens nous commençons à peine,
et notre bonne volonté est beaucoup
entervue par les difficultés de trouver
les livres nécessaires au manque
de connaissances complémentaires.
On fait ce qu'on peut pour le moment,
mais je permets que les efforts
soient la permission que les efforts

me permettent pas rester impuissante
J. le Jato a été mon récemment
livre docente pour la littérature
russe à l'université de Rouen —
et à Potsdam j'en ai trouvé de bons
mais toute petite quantité de Slavistes.
Est-ce que les deux Pomerans publiés
par l'Institut d'études sl. (la Russie et
la Lituanie polonaise) empêchent
aussi d'empêcher les polonais pour appren-
dre les deux langues ?
Pourquoi pas en indiquer l'adresse de
l'Institut d'études sur la
Pomeranie russe au cours de l'étude sur la
Pomeranie russe de l'Institut d'études sur la
Slavonie italienne de Potsdam ?
Je souhaiterais avoir une copie pour elle
comptera dans le grand livre russe de
l'Institut d'études sur la Pomeranie russe
suffisait-elle ?
Ragazzi, chers amis mes salutations
les plus amicales
Giovanni Mauer

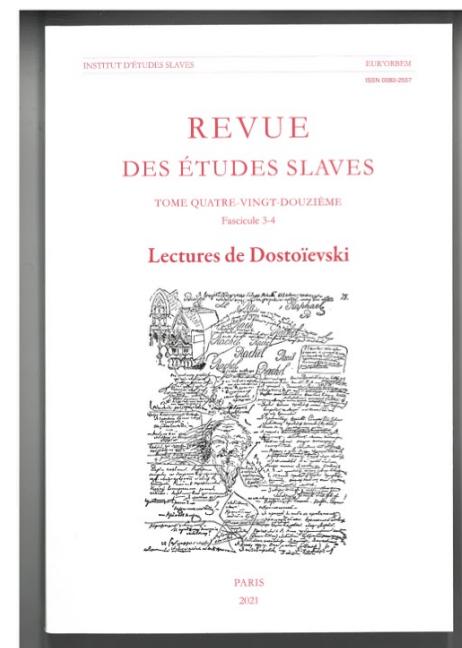
Giovanni Mauer to André Mazon, February 5th, 1921.



Revue des études slaves (published since 1921)



First issue of *Revue des études slaves*, t. I, fasc. 1-2, 1921.



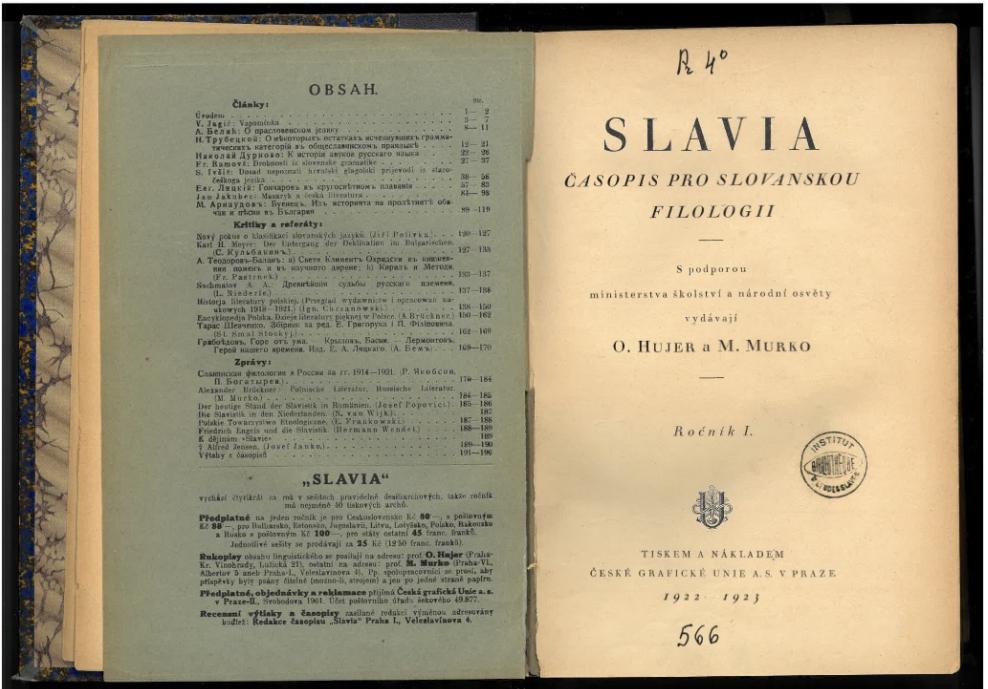
Latest issue of *Revue des études slaves*,
t. XCII, fasc. 3-4, 2021.



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SLAVIA (journal published since 1922)



First issue of *Slavia*, 1922-1923



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*SLAVIA – Journal for
Slavonic Philology, online*



Slavia - časopis pro slovanskou filologii

Slavia - Journal for Slavonic Philology

Publishing House: Slovenský ústav Akademie věd ČR, v. v. i. and Euroslavica

Subject(s): Language and Literature Studies

Frequency: 4 issues

Print ISSN: 0037-6736

Status: Active

Issues/Articles

Journal Information

Short Description

The journal Slavia, first launched in the year 1922, presents results of comparative Slavic research focused mainly on diachronic and synchronic linguistic and literary topics, but also on folkloristic and ethnologic diversity of the Slavs and historical and cultural relations among Slavic nations. The articles are printed in all Slavic languages as well as in English, German, French or Italian with English, French or German abstracts.



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Revue des études slaves online
(<https://journals.openedition.org/res/>)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the *Revue des études slaves*. At the top right is a large red decorative letter 'S'. Below it is a sidebar with a search bar, an index section, and a list of years from 2011 to 2014, each with a link to a volume. The main content area features a red header 'REVUE DES ÉTUDES SLAVES' and a detailed text about the journal's history and scope. To the right, there are several sidebar sections: 'Calenda | Europe centrale et orientale', 'Bourses de début de thèse de la Basel Graduate School of History', 'Berceuses, histoire(s) et connaissance', 'Les îles du politique en Europe centrale, orientale et balkanique, 1790-1990', 'Frontiers and crossings: a transdisciplinary conference on travel writing', 'Assist and Unify? Nation Building and Welfare in the Upper Adriatic and Eastern Baltic Sea Region in the 20th Century', and a link to 'Accéder au site...'.

Fondée en 1921, la *Revue des études slaves* est une revue internationale de slavistique. Tout en maintenant sa vocation originelle — la philologie, l'histoire, la critique et l'histoire littéraires des pays slaves — elle s'est élargie à la linguistique moderne, l'anthropologie historique, l'ethnologie, l'histoire des idées, des littératures, des arts, des cultures et des religions. Le champ couvert est celui de « l'autre Europe », qui, en grande partie, a fait depuis 2004 son entrée dans l'Union européenne, et également du monde biélorusse, ukrainien et russe (et de ses extensions) avec lequel l'Europe redéfinit en permanence ses rapports.

Trimestrielle, la *Revue des études slaves* fait alterner des numéros thématiques consacrés à un pays, une période historique, un mouvement culturel, un auteur ou une œuvre, une question de linguistique, etc., et des numéros variés consacrés à la recherche actuelle. Aux études originales qu'elle publie s'ajoutent des documents inédits, des « points sur la question », des témoignages et des recensions d'ouvrages.

Les volumes I à LXXXIII (1921-2012) sont disponibles sur [Persée](#).

Dernier numéro en ligne

XCII-3-4 | 2021

Lectures de Dostoïevski

Sous la direction de Catherine Depretto

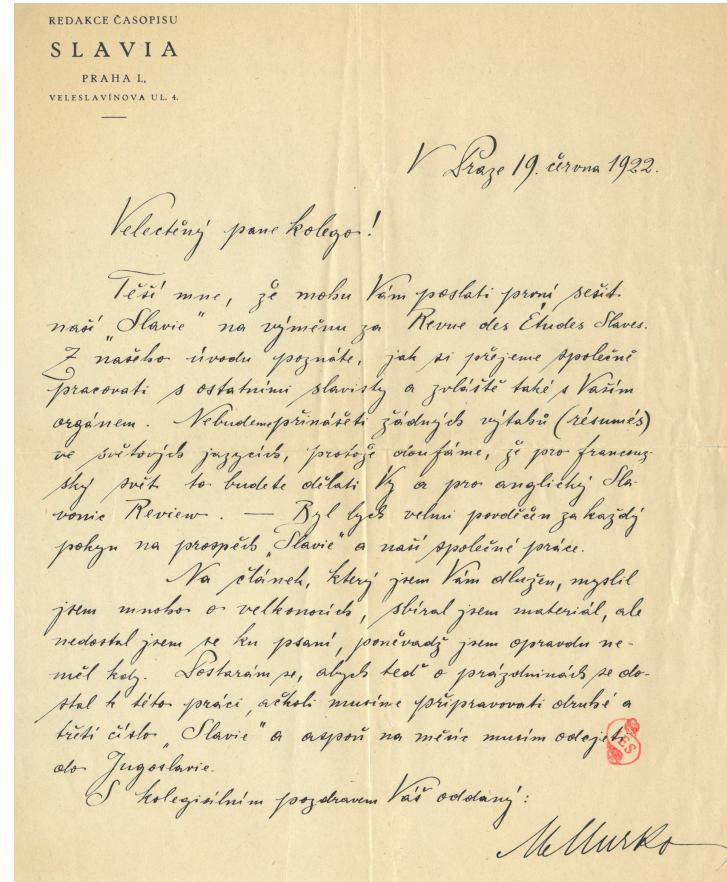
Informations sur cette image



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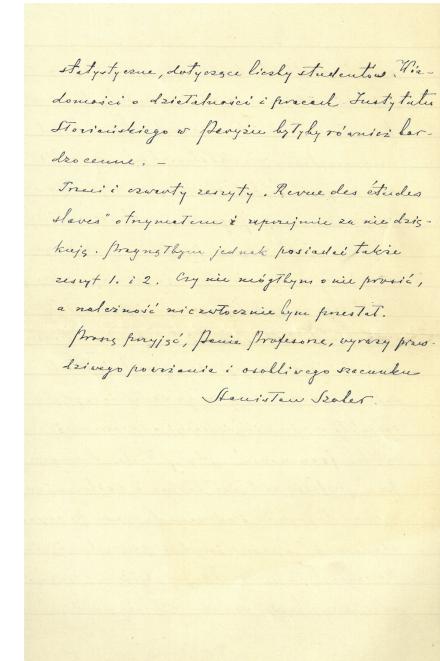
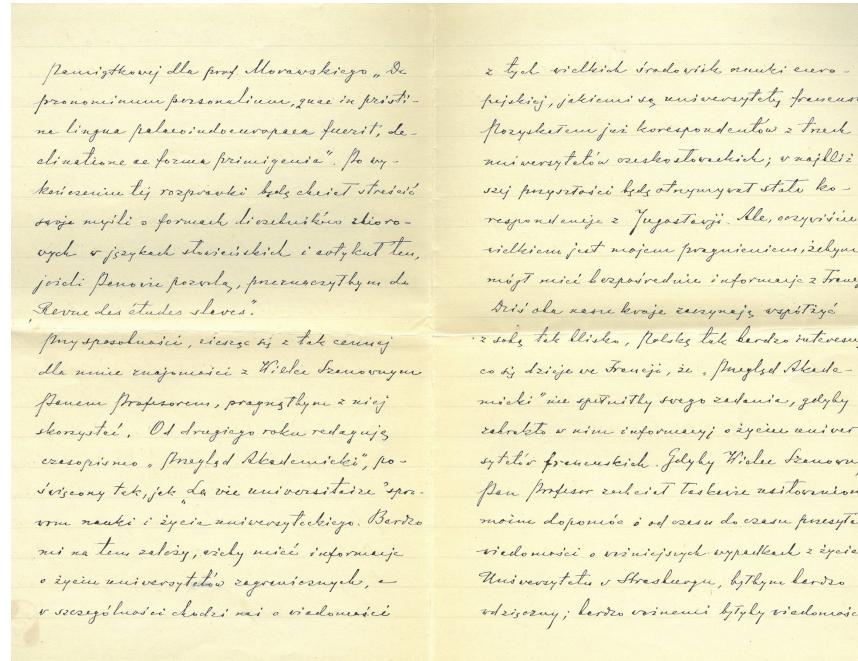
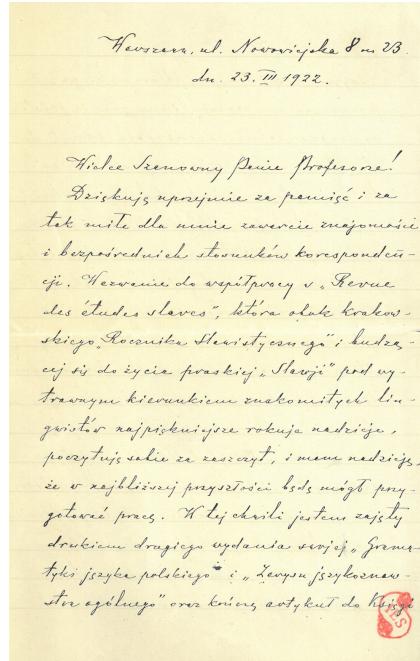
Letter from Matija Murko, coeditor of *SLAVIA*



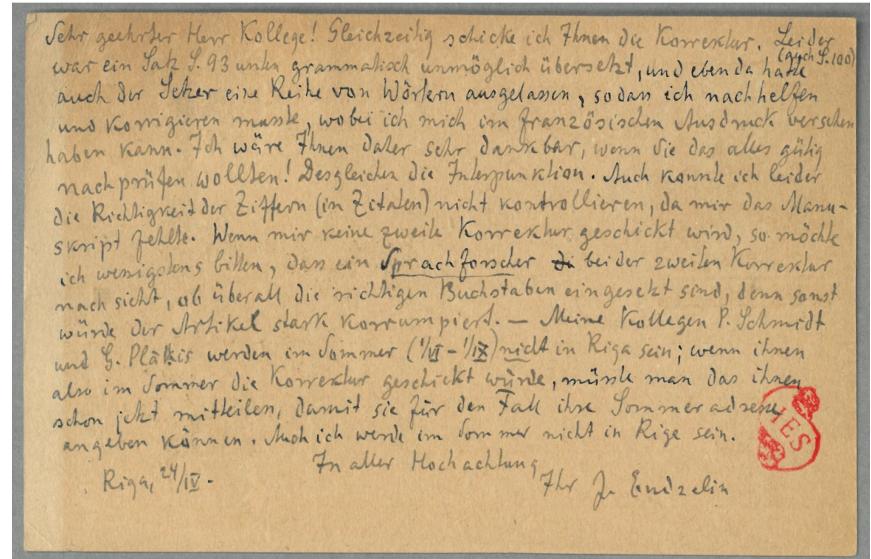
Letter from Matija Murko to André Mazon, June 19th, 1922.



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Stanisław Szober (1879-1938), a Polish slavist



Postcard of Jānis Endzelīns to André Mazon, April 24th, 1922.

Jānis Endzelīns (1873-1963), a Latvian slavist



Здравствуйте ми сърдце. Със същият тон и също по
възможност не размеждаваме не съществуващи
нико къде във времето и място на съществуването. Получихътътъ
коректните ми издания съмътъ и във всички мо-
вописи възлага. На всички издания съмътъ и
изданието и то е възможно, че съмътъ и то е възможно
(21) още един коректен, че да не се пропускатъ и то
затова. — Първо-точно макарътъ Grammaire de
la langue tchèque, която и Grammaire de la langue po-
lonoise от 1911. Meillet и Григорий Willman-Грабовска. Извъ-
нодадътъ за възможността. Натхнатъ се, че и другъ
единътъ една скъпа моята да се предъди ми
убийца за менъ. една скъпа моята колекция. Осъщественътъ
пътътъ

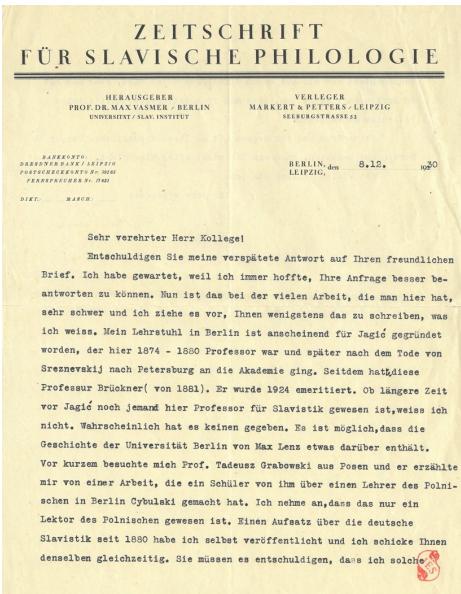
Postcard of Stoân Romanski to André Mazon, May 25th, 1922.

Stoân Romanski (1882-1959), a Bulgarian historian and linguist

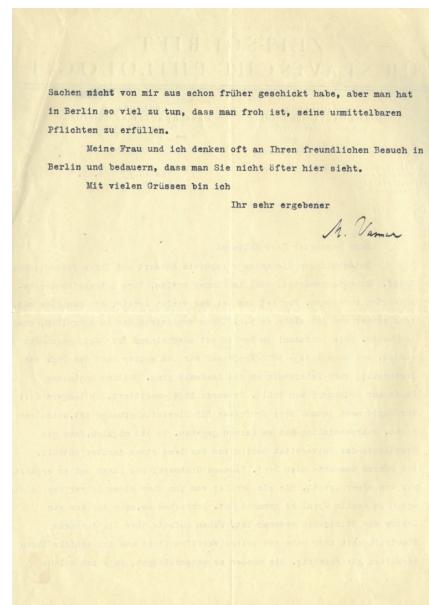


Max Vasmer (1886-1962)

Editor of *Zeitschrift für slavische Philologie* (1924)



- Born in St. Petersburg in a German family. He graduated in St. Petersburg university. After the Russian revolution, he taught in Saratov and Dorpat (Tartu, Estonia). He settled in Leipzig in 1921 and moved to Berlin in 1925. He taught in New York in 1938-1939.



Letter of Max Vasmer to André Mazon, December 8th, 1930.



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ИСТИНА

Интеллектуальная Система Тематического Исследования НАукометрических данных

[Главная](#) [Поиск](#) [Статистика](#) [О проекте](#) [Помощь](#)

Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie [журнал](#)

Индексирование: Arts & Humanities Citation Index (1 января 1970 г.-), Scopus (1 января 1970 г.-), ERIH PLUS (1 января 1970 г.-)

Период активности журнала: не указан

Другие названия журнала: Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie

Сайт журнала: <https://zspf.winter-verlag.de/>

Издательство: Universitaetsverlag Winter GmbH

Местоположение издательства: Germany

Аннотация:

Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie was founded in 1924 by Max Vasmer; it was continued by Margarete Woltner and Herbert Bräuer. Currently the journal is edited by Tilman Berger, Birgit Beumers, Walter Koschmal, Imke Mendoza, and Dirk Uffelmann.

The journal's aim is the promotion of Slavic philology in its entirety, i.e. including all Slavic languages and literatures, and without narrowing down its scope to a certain field or methodology. The journal therefore includes traditional studies of literature and linguistics, but also visual culture, digital humanities, and other fields of Slavic cultural studies.

Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie is above all designed for the international field of the Slavic scholar, but also addresses readers from other disciplines. Contributions are published in German, Russian or (American) English.

Articles submitted to the journal should be original and not under consideration by any other publication. They should be written in a clear and concise style.

Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie is a refereed journal. All articles undergo a process of double-blind peer review.



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Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie



Editors:

Founded by M. Vasmer. Continued by M. Woltnér, H. Bräuer, P. Brang, H. Keipert, W. Koschmal, and B. Beumers.

Edited by TILMAN BERGER – JENS HERLTH – IMKE MENDOZA – DIRK UFFELMANN

Publication: twice a year

Number of Pages: 480 pp

ISSN: 0044-3492

e-ISSN: 2509-7482

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Indexed in: Arts and Humanities Citation Index, Scopus, IBZ Online, Periodicals Index Online, Linguistic Bibliography, Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts, MLA (Modern Language Association Database)

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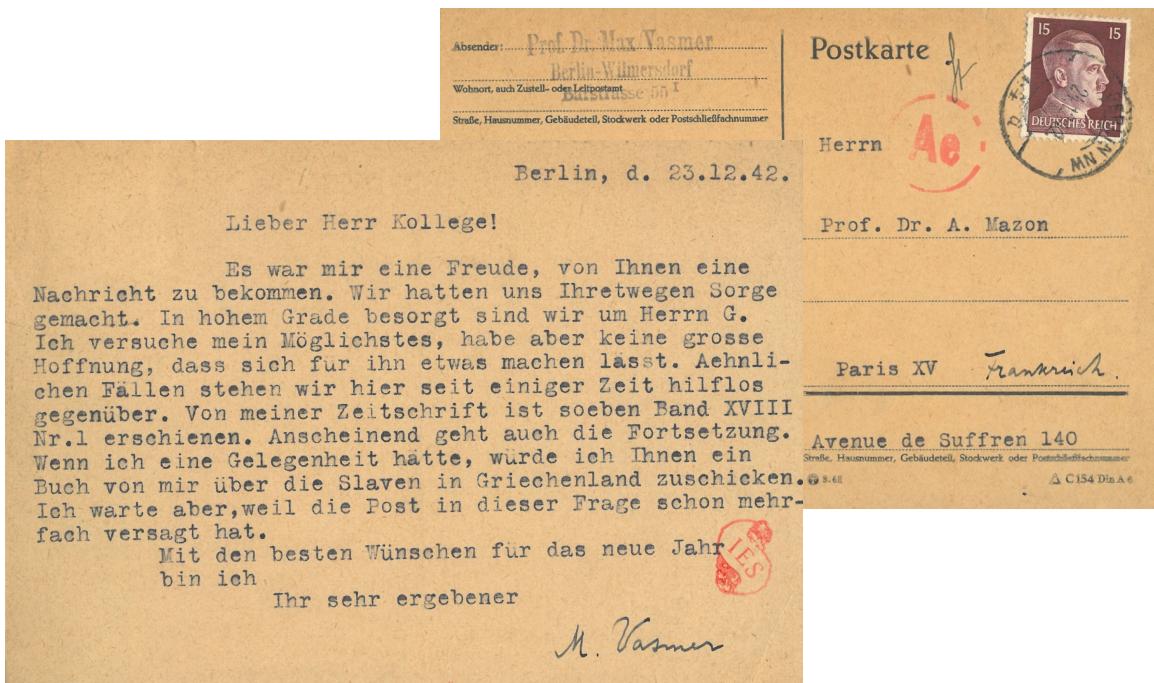
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A postcard from Max Vasmer (Berlin, 1942, Dec. 23rd)

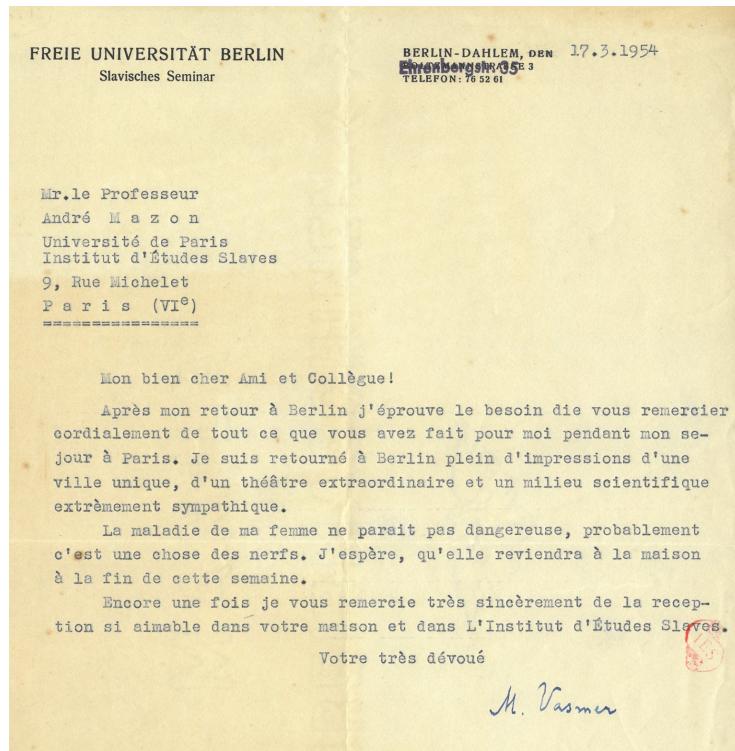


Postcard of Max Vasmer to André Mazon, December 23rd, 1942.

« It was a pleasure to receive a message from you. We had been worried about you. We are very worried about Mr G. I am doing my best, but I do not have much hope. We have been helplessly confronted with similar cases here for some time. Volume XVIII No. 1 of my journal has just been published ».



A letter of Max Vasmer (Berlin, 1954, March 17th)



Letter of Max Vasmer to Mazon, March 17th, 1954.

Mon bien cher ami et collègue !

Après mon retour à Berlin, j'éprouve le besoin de vous remercier cordialement de tout ce que vous avez fait pour moi pendant mon séjour à Paris. Je suis retourné à Berlin plein d'impressions d'une ville unique, d'un théâtre extraordinaire et un milieu scientifique extrêmement sympathique [...]. Encore une fois je vous remercie très sincèrement de la réception si aimable dans votre maison et dans l'Institut d'études slaves.

My dear friend and colleague!

After my return to Berlin I feel the need to cordially thank you for all you have done for me during my stay in Paris. I returned to Berlin full of impressions of a unique city, an extraordinary theatre and an extremely friendly scientific environment [...]. Once again, I thank you most sincerely for the kind reception in your house and in the Institute of Slavic Studies.



Some challenges to overcome

- Reuse is still not widely practiced.
- However, one of the first steps of any research project is to check the available data for the constitution of sources. We often come up against mixed data collection that must be aligned and harmonized in order to be able to use them in practice.
- There is still a lot of progress to be made in the referencing of sites. There is no systematic cataloguing at the European level for example. This is an obstacle to the dissemination of digital humanities.