Using CLARIN for Digital Research

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A demonstrator project which is making available the digitized collection of the proceedings of the Dutch parliament (Handelingen der Staten-Generaal) from the period 1930-1995

- fully annotated dataset
- advanced search engine
- Based on XML, XSLT
- CLARIN infrastructure compliant standards and formats
- research questions relating to references to World War II, to examine and explore how such references were deployed in parliamentary discourse
- a case study of the debates surrounding the Boerenpartij (Farmers Party)

Will availability of reliable tools makes it easier for non-specialists and those outside of the academy to use these resources, which are of interest to journalists, writers, politicians and the general public, as well as academic historians?
(web application for historical sentiment mining in public media)

- using and populating the basic CLARIN infrastructure to enable advanced forms of text mining in large historical datasets of newspapers and journals
- search engine for the digital newspaper collection of the KB, National Library of the Netherlands
- convert a specific text mining technology, so-called 'sentiment mining', into an accessible CLARIN compliant web application
- semi-automatic and interactive open-source application that extracts relevant data from a mass of apparent irrelevance
- learning more about ‘public sentiments’ regarding drugs between 1900 and 1945
- searching large and broad datasets to make visible ‘hidden’ debates around the use and abuse of drugs
- does not replace, but supports the intuition and insights of the scholars
VisArgue – Why and when do arguments win?

A team of linguists, information scientists and political scientists asked the question: when are political negotiations successful and why are they successful? In particular, we want to develop automatic tools that analyse political discourse, allowing to draw conclusions on its effectiveness.

Public mega-projects repeatedly create conflicts between governments and the public sphere and their realization has become a incalculable risk for political decision makers. Therefore we want to investigate the factors that make political communication successful.

This complex task can only be tackled using an innovative combination of methods from different areas of research. These methods include:

- a deep and detailed linguistic processing of real mediation processes to generate an abstract representation of communication
- a shallow, statistical analysis of text to detect common patterns in negotiations
- the development and employment of visualization tools which identify patterns of communication at-a-glance

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