## OEKG: The Open Event Knowledge Graph

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Abstract. Accessing and understanding contemporary and historical events of global impact such as the US elections and the Olympic Games is a major prerequisite for cross-lingual event analytics that investigate event causes, perception and consequences across country borders. In this paper, we present the Open Event Knowledge Graph (OEKG), a multilingual, event-centric, temporal knowledge graph composed of seven different data sets from multiple application domains, including question answering, entity recommendation and named entity recognition. These data sets are all integrated through an easy-to-use and robust pipeline and by linking to the event-centric knowledge graph EventKG. We describe their common schema and demonstrate the use of the OEKG at the example of three use cases: type-specific image retrieval, hybrid question answering over knowledge graphs and news articles, as well as language-specific event recommendation. The OEKG and its query endpoint are publicly available.

## 1 Introduction

Contemporary and historical events such as the US presidential elections, the Olympic Games and major earthquakes change the world. Their media coverage, their varying perception by different communities, their historical evolution and

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potentially global impact make cross-lingual event analytics a significant research topic in various fields of studies, including social science, computer science and digital humanities [4, 19].

When performing cross-lingual event analytics, the requirements towards event knowledge representation are manifold, given the heterogeneity, dynamicity and multilingualism of events [9]. Until now, there exists a large variety of event-related data sets [1,4,11,20] that may help understand specific characteristics of events, but they are barely connected by now. This calls for new models and processes that enable intuitive access to the event-related knowledge spread across the world.

In this paper, we present the OEKG, the Open Event Knowledge Graph, which makes a step towards a holistic representation of event knowledge by the integration of event-related data sets from multiple and diverse application domains such as Question Answering, entity recommendation and Named Entity Recognition. Also, these data sets originate from different data collections, including knowledge graphs and news articles. One of these knowledge graphs is  $EventKG_{light}$ , a new version of the event-centric and multilingual knowledge graph EventKG [11]. The OEKG is built on top of  $EventKG_{light}$ , allowing for easier integration of additional data sets using RDF named graphs. We propose an efficient and robust pipeline facilitating this integration of several data sets in an easy-to-use manner.

Fig. 1 shows four example resources of OEKG and thus demonstrates its versatility resulting from the integration of several data sets:

- Events (Fig. 1a): Events are at the core of the OEKG. For example, the fire of the Notre-Dame in Paris is covered with its locations, labels in multiple languages, related events such as "The Notre Dame Cathedral holds its first mass since the April 15 fire", and more event characteristics.
- Places (Fig. 1b): Most events happen at specific event locations which are also part of the OEKG. Such places do not only hold labels and coordinates, but also images and further characteristics.
- News articles (Fig. 1c): Events are often reported in the media [5,13]. Therefore, the OEKG provides access to annotated news articles. For example, the news article entitled "Boris Johnson takes charge of Olympic Park's future" is related to the Olympic Games.
- Questions and answers (Fig. 1d): Question Answering over knowledge graphs is an important natural language understanding task. The *OEKG* provides questions about events such as the Apollo 11 spaceflight, plus their answers (here, Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin).

Furthermore, the OEKG covers several other event-related aspects, including but not limited to (temporal) event relations, language-specific relevance scores and specialised class hierarchies. Put together, this makes the OEKG a versatile resource targeting a variety of potential information needs.



(a) Example event in the OEKG.

HANOVER entity_LOUNDY Download triples	Hanover Grands to seeken to to 7 floor
Property	Object
rdfs:label	Hanover (en)
rdfs:label	Hannover (de)
rdfs:label	Hannover (it)
rdfs:label	Hanover (pt)
rdfs:label	Ганновер (ru)
rdfs:label	Hannover (nl)
rdfs:label	Hanovre (fr)

(b) Example place in the OEKG.

Property	Object
Floperty	Object
rdf:type	so:Article
so:headline	Boris Johnson takes charge of Olympic Park's future (en)
so:mainEntity	oekg-r:event_981207 (2012 Summer Olympics)
so:datePublished	2012-09-12
so:inLanguage	en
so:publisher	theguardian
so:url	https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2012/sep /12/boris-johnson-olympic-park-legacy
so:mentions	oekg-r:event_640206 (Paralympic Games)
so:mentions	oekg-r:event_1635523 (Transport)
so:mentions	oekg-r:event_405245 (Olympic Games)
so:mentions	oekg-r:entity_1296070 (London)

(c) Example news article in the OEKG.

Property		Object
rdf:type		so:Question
so:mainEntity		oekg-r:event_991496 (Apŏllo 11)
so:suggestedAnswer		oekg-r:answer1175
so:text		Which astronaut from NASAwas on the mission of Apollo 11? (en)
Property	Object	
rdf:type	so:Answer	
so:mainEntity	oekg-r:event_991496 (Apollo 11)	
so:text	The astronauts whose mission is Apollo 11 and are from NASA are Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Michael Collins (astronaut). (en)	
so:mentions	oekg-r:entity_12624230 (Neil Armstrong)	
so:mentions	oekg-r:entity_11913301 (Michael Collins (astronaut))	
so:mentions	oekg-r:entity_12989150 (Buzz Aldrin)	

(d) Example question in the OEKG.

Fig. 1. Example resources in the *OEKG* (not all triples are shown).<sup>8</sup>

The OEKG contains more than 400 million triples from seven data sets and is publicly available: We provide the triple dumps for download, a SPARQL endpoint and access to all nodes on the *OEKG* website<sup>9</sup>. We also provide permanent access to the OEKG on Zenodo<sup>10</sup>.

 $<sup>^{8}</sup>$  The photos of the example place are taken from Wikimedia Commons, with the second photo being licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license. The maps of the example event and the example place are licensed under the Open Data Commons Open Database License (ODbL) by the OpenStreetMap Foundation (OSMF).

http://oekg.13s.uni-hannover.de https://zenodo.org/record/4503163

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The remainder of this paper is organised as follows: First, we present our integration pipeline (Section 2). Then, we describe the data sets integrated into the OEKG (Section 3) and the OEKG schema (Section 4). In Section 5, we provide two example use cases of the OEKG. Finally, we conclude in Section 6.

## 2 Creation of the OEKG

The creation of the OEKG requires an integration pipeline where a set of data sets is transformed into a single, integrated knowledge graph that provides links between all the involved resources.  $EventKG_{light}$  – a multilingual, event-centric knowledge graph later described in Section 3 – serves as the base data set of the OEKG that contains nodes representing real-world entities and events.

Our integration pipeline is driven by the goal to make the inclusion of a new data set into the OEKG as simple as possible, which allows a robust and efficient process. Only then, it is possible to integrate a large variety of data sets in an efficient and faultless way. To do so, we follow a strategy defined by Galkin et al. [8] where the data from different sources is stored under respective named graphs. Starting from  $EventKG_{light}$ , new data sets are added consecutively, each accompanied by a unique named graph. Fig. 2 exemplifies this integration process when adding the first new data set to  $EventKG_{light}$ , under the named graph  $new\_graph$ .

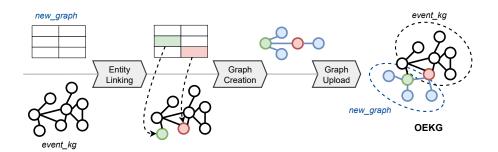


Fig. 2. Example of the OEKG integration pipeline where a new, tabular, data set is added to the OEKG under the named graph  $new\_graph$ .

In detail, the integration process follows the following three steps:

1. Entity Linking: We require that each graph added to OEKG is connected to  $EventKG_{light}$ . That means any resource representing a real-world entity or event is represented by an OEKG resource URI. To facilitate this linking, we provide a web API that allows easy access to the OEKG resource URIs given Wikidata or DBpedia URIs. In our example in Fig. 2, some input table cells are successfully linked to  $EventKG_{light}$ .

**Algorithm 1** Example: Extension of the *OEKG* with a data set *news* that has an article about Barack Obama

```
1: procedure EXTENDOEKG(e)
      graphName \leftarrow "news".
                                                                        ▶ Entity Linking
      entityId ← getId("en", "Barack_Obama")
3:
                                                                       ▶ Graph Creation
      G \leftarrow \text{new Graph(graphName)}
4:
      articleId \leftarrow "article1"
5:
      G.add(oekg-r:articleId, rdf:type, so:Article)
6:
      G.add(oekg-r:articleId, so:mentions, oekg-r:entityId)
7:
      fileName \leftarrow storeGraphIntoFile(G)
8:
                                                                        ▷ Graph Upload
9:
      uploadGraph(fileName, graphName)
```

- 2. Graph Creation: After retrieval of the OEKG resource URIs, a set of triples is created for each data set and serialised as an N-Triples<sup>11</sup> file, using the RDFLib Python library<sup>12</sup>. In our example, a graph consisting of five nodes is created, two of them being already part of the OEKG.
- 3. Graph Upload: We provide another API method that allows uploading an N-Triples file together with the identifier of a named graph. The respective triples are then added to the *OEKG*. In our example, the resulting graph consists of two subgraphs that can be queried in isolation or together.

### 2.1 Example

Consider Algorithm 1 for an example of our integration pipeline. In this example, the new data set to be added to the *OEKG* under the named graph *news* contains one news article about Barack Obama. First, the *OEKG* URI of Barack Obama is retrieved via the provided API method using the English Wikipedia label (line 3). Second, a graph is created consisting of two triples and serialised into an RDF file (lines 4 - 8)<sup>13</sup>. Third, this file is uploaded via the provided API method (line 9). In this example, one new node is added to the *OEKG* (oekg-r:articleId) connected to an existing node (oekg-r:entityId).

## 2.2 Schema Extension

If possible, the data sets were transformed into triples using the  $EventKG_{light}$  schema of the base graph. Otherwise, the use of standard vocabularies such as schema.org<sup>14</sup> was encouraged. In every other case, schema extensions were uploaded into the OEKG through separate schema files using the same procedure. We will present the resulting OEKG schema in Section 4.

<sup>11</sup> https://www.w3.org/TR/n-triples/

<sup>12</sup> https://rdflib.dev/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Relevant prefixes used by the OEKG are later defined in Table 2.

<sup>14</sup> https://schema.org/

## 3 Data Sets

The OEKG integrates seven data sets which are described in this section. Table 1 provides an overview of these data sets, including the number of triples in the OEKG within their respective named graph. While some of these data sets are implicitly related to events, others add to the event knowledge from a different perspective, which will also prove useful as we will later show at the example of three use cases.

**Table 1.** Statistics of the different data sets contained in the *OEKG*.

Data Set	Short Description	Triples
$EventKG_{light}$ [11]	${\bf A}$ light-weight version of EventKG, a multilingual, event-centric, knowledge graph.	434, 752, 387
EventKG+Click [1]	A data set of language-specific event-centric user interaction traces	118,662
VQuAnDa [12]	A verbalization question answering dataset	38, 243
MLM [3]	A benchmark dataset for multitask learning with multiple languages and modalities	942,753
InfoSpread [20]	A data set for information spreading over the news	277, 992
TIME [4]	Two collections of news articles related to the Olympic legacy and Euroscepticism	70,754
UNER [2]	The universal named-entity recognition framework	206,622
OEKG	The Open Event Knowledge Graph	436, 407, 413

-  $EventKG_{light}$  [11]: The EventKG is a multilingual resource incorporating event-centric information extracted from several large-scale knowledge graphs such as Wikidata, DBpedia and YAGO, as well as less structured sources such as the Wikipedia Current Events Portal and Wikipedia event lists in 15 languages. It contains nodes representing real-world entities and events and (temporal) relations between them. For the OEKG, we have created  $EventKG_{light}$ , a light-weight version of EventKG that omits provenance information denoting the origin of relations, favouring an easier integration with other data sets.

In the OEKG,  $EventKG_{light}$  serves as the base graph that other data sets are connected to. That is to establish an agreement concerning the identification of event-related real-world objects such as persons, places and events themselves.

- **EventKG+Click** [1]: EventKG+Click is a cross-lingual dataset that reflects the language-specific relevance of events and their relations and aims to

provide a reference source to train and evaluate novel models for event-centric cross-lingual user interaction. It directly builds upon EventKG and language-specific information on user interactions with events, entities, and their relations derived from the Wikipedia clickstream.

In the *OEKG*, *EventKG+Click* can be used for recommending events to users based on actual user interaction traces. Examples of particular relevant events from a language-specific view include the 2016 Berlin truck attack from the German perspective and the 2009 Russian Premier League from the Russian perspective [1].

- VQuAnDa [12]: The Verbalization QUestion ANswering DAtaset is a dataset for Question Answering (QA) over knowledge graphs that includes the verbalization of each answer. Through this verbalisation, VQuAnDa intends to completely hide any semantic technologies and provides a fluent experience between the users and the knowledge graph. VQuAnDa consists of 5,000 questions accompanied by SPARQL queries and DBpedia entity links.
  - QA over Knowledge Graphs is a common task in natural language processing [6]. Via the integration of question/answer pairs into the *OEKG*, both the question/answers pairs and the background knowledge are encapsulated into the same resource, enabling seamless training and application of QA systems.
- MLM [3]: The Multiple Languages and Modalities data set is a resource for training and evaluating multitask systems in multiple modalities, for example, cross-modal (text/image) retrieval and location estimation. MLM comprises text in three languages, images and location data, extracted from the Wikidata entries of 236,000 human settlements.
  - MLM is added to the OEKG for adding images as an additional modality to the knowledge graph. As locations are typical event characteristics, photos of locations are an immediate benefit to the representation of events.
- InfoSpread [20]: The data set for Information Spreading over the News provides news articles covering three contrasting events (Global Warming, FIFA world cups and earthquakes). Initially, the goal of this data set was to understand information spreading patterns over news articles. InfoSpread contains 7,773 news articles related to these events in five languages.
  - News articles are often used as a means to identify events [13] and oftentimes it is the media itself that makes events known to the public [5]. Therefore, the inclusion of news articles into the OEKG is an important step towards coverage of event-centric data from different viewpoints.
- TIME [4]: The temporal discourse analysis applied to media articles data set is a collection of Brazilian, British and Spanish news articles covering the concept of Olympic legacy and the concept of Euroscepticism.
  - With the collection of news articles to specified events, the OEKG serves as an example for in-depth analysis of single events through knowledge graphs.
- UNER [2]: The Universal Named Entity Recognition framework proposes a 4-level class hierarchy for training and testing Named Entity Recognition tools. For example, UNER contains the class Earthquake, which is a leaf node of the following branch of superclasses: Natural, NaturalPhenomenon, Event and Name.

In the OEKG, UNER adds to the already given class hierarchy from the DBpedia ontology. Given how challenging it is to recognise named events in texts [16], we envision that the inclusion of UNER classes into the OEKG can help training and evaluating NER systems in the specific context of event-centric data.

Following the integration pipeline described in Section 2, the described data sets were added to the OEKG. For additional information or increased interlinkage with  $EventKG_{light}$ , some data sets were extended before:

- Via the Wikifier<sup>15</sup> and spaCy<sup>16</sup>, entities and events mentioned in news articles (TIME and InfoSpread) were identified. This is to establish a connection between the news articles and  $EventKG_{light}$ : Given this connection, one may query for news articles about specific events or entities.
- Sentiment analysis, i.e., the computational study of people's opinions, sentiments, emotions, moods, and attitudes [14], contributes towards the understanding of natural-language texts and can, in particular, facilitate an analysis of news articles across languages [15]. In the OEKG, we enrich news articles by employing the sentiment detection system SentiStrength [21] on their headlines. That way, the OEKG enables queries for particularly positive or negative news articles, potentially initiating further event-centric analyses of the news articles in the context of specific events.
- To further increase the linkage between different sources, the UNER classes were aligned to the DBpedia ontology using the skos vocabulary<sup>17</sup> when possible.

## 4 Schema

Fig. 3 shows the OEKG schema. As described in Section 2.2, this schema is based on the  $EventKG_{light}$  schema and then extended by demand. Prefixes used in the OEKG schema and in the remainder of this paper are listed in Table  $2^{18}$ .

In detail, the different data sets contribute to the following parts of the OEKG schema:

- EventKG<sub>light</sub>: The EventKG schema is based on the Simple Event Model (sem)<sup>19</sup> and its three main classes sem:Event, sem:Actor and sem: Place, that are connected via sem:hasPlace and (temporal) relations modeled by oekg-s:Relation (omitted from Fig. 3 for brevity). Event-KG further distinguishes between different types of events (oekg-s:Text-Event, oekg-s:EventSeries and oekg-s:EventSeriesEdition). In

<sup>15</sup> http://wikifier.org/

<sup>16</sup> https://spacy.io/

<sup>17</sup> https://www.w3.org/TR/swbp-skos-core-spec/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> For a full list of prefixes used in the *OEKG*, see oekg.13s.uni-hannover.de/spargl.

<sup>19</sup> https://semanticweb.cs.vu.nl/2009/11/sem/

Table 2. Selected prefixes used by the OEKG.

#### Prefix URI oekg-r: http://oekg.l3s.uni-hannover.de/resource/ oekg-s: http://oekg.l3s.uni-hannover.de/schema/ oekg-g: http://oekg.l3s.uni-hannover.de/graph/ http://oekg.l3s.uni-hannover.de/uner/ http://schema.org/ so: http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns# rdf: rdfs: http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema# http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema# xs: http://semanticweb.cs.vu.nl/2009/11/sem/ sem: http://www.gsi.dit.upm.es/ontologies/onyx/ns# onvx: skos: http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#

comparison to the EventKG schema,  $EventKG_{light}$  omits link count relations and adds the skos:prefLabel to entities for a more efficient access to their labels.

- EventKG+Click: To model language-specific, weighted relations for the representation of event-centric cross-lingual user interaction, we have introduced two new classes: oekg-s:LanguageSpecificRelation that assigns one or more instances of oekg-s:LanguageSpecificRelation—Score to a source entity and a target entity. Such instances hold the score between the source and target entity in a specific language.
- VQuAnDa: A question, its suggested answer and their verbalisation are represented using schema.org's classes so:Question and so:Answer. Entities that appear in the question text are linked to EventKG<sub>light</sub> instances via so:mainEntity, entities in the answer via so:mentions.
- MLM: Images are assigned to places via so:image, descriptions via so: description.
- InfoSpread and TIME: News articles are represented via so:Article and the respective properties denoting the headline (so:headline), for instance. News articles are connected to EventKG<sub>light</sub> instances via so: mentions, which denote the appearance of an OEKG entity or event in the text. For the representation of news articles' sentiment, we follow the schema of the TweetsKB [7], using the onyx vocabulary and its classes onyx:EmotionSet, onyx:Emotion and onyx:EmotionCategory to assign a set of emotions of different strengths to a news article.
- UNER: Entities are assigned UNER classes using rdf:type. Furthermore, the UNER class hierarchy and its connection to the DBpedia ontology are established using the owl and the skos vocabulary.

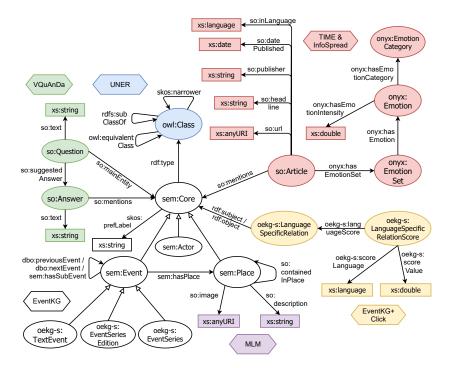


Fig. 3. Excerpt of the *OEKG* schema. → marks owl:subClassOf relations. Regular arrows mark the rdfs:domain and rdfs:range restrictions on properties. Classes are coloured w.r.t. the data set for which they have been added. For brevity, we have omitted classes regarding relations between entities and events, as well as temporal attributes from the EventKG schema.

## 5 Example Use Cases

In this section, we demonstrate the OEKG and its ability to enable integrated access over multiple datasets via three example use cases.

## 5.1 Image Retrieval: $EventKG_{light}$ , MLM & UNER

Event classification in images is an important task for various applications in the fields of computer vision, including geolocation estimation and place classification [17]. Such tasks typically rely on the existence of a well-defined class hierarchy and the availability of images. The OEKG facilitates queries both for the UNER type hierarchy specifically designed for Named Entity Recognition, and for images of locations, using the MLM data. In combination, event locations in  $EventKG_{light}$ , MLM's image links, and the UNER type hierarchy enable retrieval of images relevant for specific event types.

We demonstrate the OEKG's potential for image retrieval by an example query for images from earthquake regions shown in Listing 1.1: It queries for entities typed as earthquakes using the uner: Earthquake class, their locations ( $EventKG_{light}$ ) and the images assigned to such locations (MLM). Table 3 presents selected results of this query, including a photo of the port of Messina and more.

```
SELECT DISTINCT ?Location ?Image WHERE {
    ?earthquake rdf:type uner:Earthquake ;
    sem:hasPlace ?Location .
    ?Location so:image ?Image .
}
```

Listing 1.1. SPARQL query: Images of locations where earthquakes happened.

**Table 3.** Selected *OEKG* results of the SPARQL query in Listing 1.1.<sup>20</sup>



# 5.2 Question Answering over News Articles: $EventKG_{light}$ , VQuAnDa, InfoSpread & TIME

Question Answering (QA) is the task of supplying precise answers to questions, posed by users in natural language, and is typically divided into QA over free text and QA over knowledge graphs [6]. Through the integration of  $EventKG_{light}$ , VQuAnDa, TIME and InfoSpread into the OEKG, the OEKG facilitates a combination of these two tasks, i.e., hybrid approaches: We can query for news articles which specifically mention the entities part of the question/answer pair.

These photos are taken from Wikimedia Commons. They are licensed under the following licenses. Ferrara: Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Italy license. Messina: Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported, 2.5 Generic, 2.0 Generic and 1.0 Generic. Guaranda: Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license.

This way, two sources for answering the question can be provided: the OEKG itself, as well as the news article potentially holding the answer to the initially posed question.

For example, the query in Listing 1.2 asks for a question in VQuAnDa (?question) that is about an event (?questionEntity rdf:type sem:Event). The query then searches for news articles (?article) mentioning both that event and one of the suggested answer entities. It returns the question "Whose wife is a presenter at WWE? (en)" and its verbalised answer "The people whose partners are presenters at WWE are John Cena, Dwayne Johnson." together with the Spanish news articles entitled "¿Qué luchador tiene el mayor porcentaje de victorias en la historia de WWE?" (Which wrestler has the highest percentage of victories in in the history of WWE?). The question entity "WCE (en)" is mentioned in the news article, as well as both answers: John Cena and Dwayne Johnson.

**Listing 1.2.** SPARQL query: News articles that mention entities of a question/answer pair.

## 5.3 Event Recommendation: $EventKG_{light} \& EventKG+Click$

As defined by Ni et. al, entity recommendation is the problem of suggesting a contextually-relevant list of entities in a particular context [18]. This task is particularly relevant in Web search. With the OEKG, we can specifically create language-specific recommendations for events and further enrich them with relevant event characteristics.

The query in Listing 1.3 asks for events relevant to the First World War, from the Russian point of view. We filter for the most relevant related events (FILTER(?value  $\geq 0.8$ ) and retrieve  $EventKG_{light}$ 's event characteristics

```
SELECT ?Label ?StartDate WHERE {
    ?event owl:sameAs dbr:World_War_I.
    ?r oekg-s:source ?event ;
    oekg-s:target ?target ;
    oekg-s:hasLanguageSpecificRelationScore [
        oekg-s:scoreValue ?value ;
        oekg-s:scoreLanguage 'ru'^^xsd:language
    ] .
    ?target skos:prefLabel ?Label ;
    sem:hasBeginTimeStamp ?StartDate .
    FILTER(?value >= 0.8) .
}
ORDER BY ?StartDate
```

**Listing 1.3.** SPARQL query: Events related to the First World War from a Russian point of view.

to order the resulting list of events chronologically. Table 4 lists the results of this query, that clearly show a Russian focus. This result could be used for creating a language-specific event timeline similar to the link-based EventKG+TL system [10], but now inferred from actual user interaction traces in EventKG+Click.

Table 4. All OEKG results for the SPARQL query in Listing 1.3.

Label	StartDate
Brusilov Offensive (en)	1916-05-22
Russian Civil War (en)	1917-11-07
Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (en)	1918-03-03

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper, we have introduced the OEKG – the Open Event Knowledge Graph<sup>21</sup>. The OEKG comprises event-related knowledge from seven data sets of various application domains. We have presented an easy-to-use, efficient and robust pipeline that facilitated a seamless integration of seven data sets into the OEKG. At the examples of image retrieval, question answering over text and event recommendation, we have exemplified three use cases of the OEKG.

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<sup>21</sup> http://oekg.l3s.uni-hannover.de/

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