We receive news and other information via many different channels, varying from traditional media to social networks. The news could be provided as text (such as an article, a blog or a tweet), but it could also be a radio recording or a video broadcast. This represents a challenge both for multimedia journalists, who have to deal with all these different sources when publishing news, and for TV viewers, who are looking for interesting and relevant news for them. EUMSSI will provide a platform for integration of multimedia content, which will ease its analysis and thus, facilitate contextualization, recommendation, and filtering of news.

The analysis of audio, video, images, speech and text are ongoing research areas, each with their own specific levels of maturity. The EUMSSI consortium covers experience in each of these areas. The main challenge will be to create an integrated representation of multimedia resources, ranging from low-level features to highly semantic annotations. The multimodal retrieval and recommendation algorithms for the end-user applications will be built on top of these representations.

Media companies and broadcasters are very interested in finding ways to optimize the news processing chain by automatizing and enhancing several key parts of the workflow, and to enrich the experience of their end-users, who increasingly make use of second-screen devices such as tablets and mobile devices. The involvement of industrial stakeholders ensures a feasible, quick and useful technology transfer to the private sector.

This project is funded by the EU under FP7-ICT-2013-10.

Project abstract:

News and other types of information can be provided as written text, video or audio. These messages reach us via many different channels and in different formats. EUMSSI will employ cross-modal analysis techniques to relate these messages with one another and to understand the underlying events. For journalists, the techniques will significantly reduce the time needed to monitor different channels and to filter out noise. For TV viewers, who navigate with their tablets while watching TV, the techniques will provide interesting suggestions and automatic filtering of unwanted news.

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Project duration:

Project research areas:
Web Information Management
Intelligent Access to Information

**Project type:**
FP7 STREP-CP-FP-INFSO

**Publications:**
tags / eumssi

**URL:**
www.eumssi.eu

**Research Area:**
Intelligent Access to Information

**Status of the Project:**
Bibsonomy show project publications: 0
Bibsonomy use tabs to list publications: 0