

# EAD in Germany

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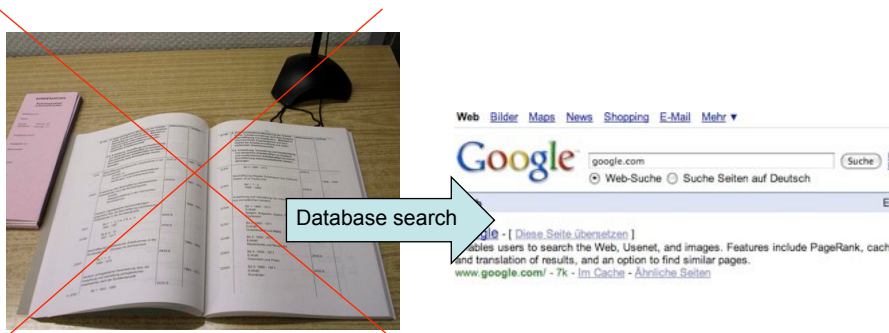
First reaction:

Try to understand –  
what is EAD:

?

## German background in the late 90s

- centralized IT-systems
- 2-3 specialized vendors with database applications
- own developments in the big institutions



## Following steps

- Hesitations
- Experiments
- Information (translations)
- Acceptance for certain purposes
- Use

## The importance of EAD in D

- See finding aids as objects again
  - Keep the idea of the whole in the mind for editing and searching
  - Edit and use texts with internal structures
- Back to the text
  - No technical constraints any more to abolish the old concept of finding aids
  - Do integrated work on descriptions – arrangement – introduction – titlepage – documentation of the processing
  - Search in finding aids like in e-books

## How EAD could help us:

- It allowed working in a professional, less technical environment
- It made the database system in the background unnecessary
- It allowed multi level presentation: Use of the holdings guide to structure a whole corpus of finding aids

## Tools for the archivist's desk

### 1. MidosaXML

- Capture, edit, and present online finding aids (in EAD or MidosaXML-Format – on mdb basis)

### 2. MEX

- Capture, edit, enrich with digitizations and present online finding aids (in EAD, EAC and METS – on eclipse basis)

### 3. MidosaSEARCH

- Structured navigation and fulltext search across sets of online finding aids (EAD, EAC, METS, EAG - on Lucene basis)

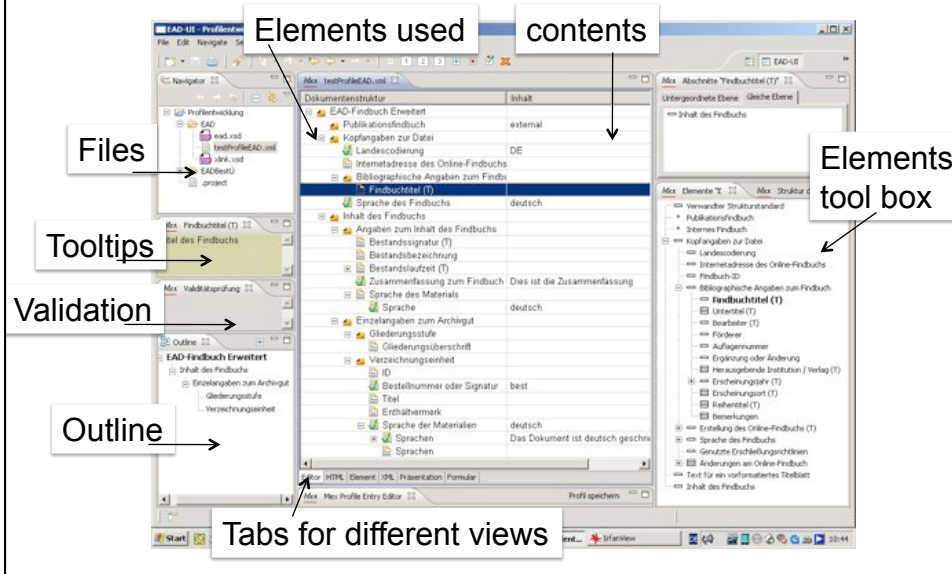
## MidosaXML

- In use since 2001
- Main purpose: Edit finding aids on document level
  - with XML-tagging underneath and hiding technically necessary elements
  - using the professional language
  - include single images (illustrations)
  - integrate transformation to HTML
- Share data (RLG archival resources)

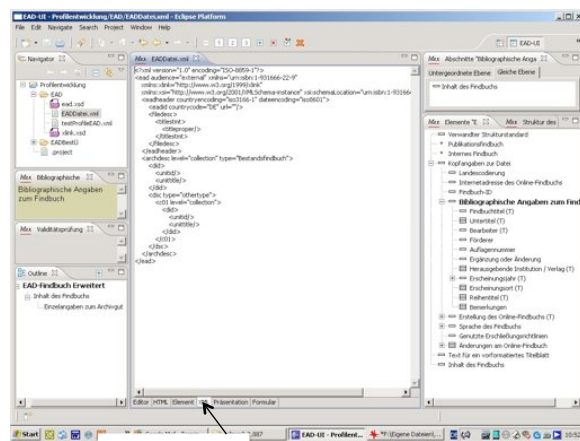
**MEX**

- In use since 2007
- Edit finding aids on document level inside their environment
  - Edit holdings guides in EAD and use them to structure the corpus of finding aids
  - Edit METS files to form and structure digital archival objects with images for each descriptive unit
  - Use mixed content elements
- Use adapted profiles of the standards for specific purposes
- As MIDEX enhanced with conversion functions

## EAD finding aid on the MEX desk

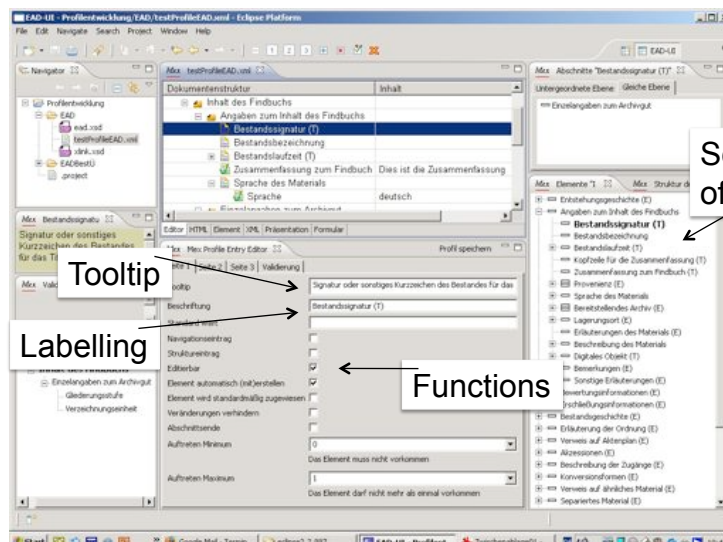


## EAD-file: XML-view



A new EAD- document in the XML view including all necessary elements

## The profile editor



## MIDEX (=MEX for a gateway)

- Transform / convert files from other applications into the target profile
- Use special parameters for batch mode conversion
- Integrate encodinganalogs when needed

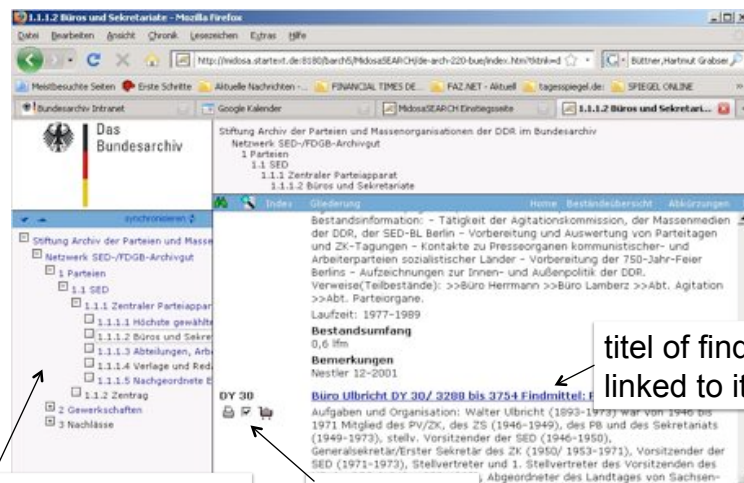
## Basic features of the tools

- Create, edit and present EAD finding aids
- Enter / delete elements when needed
- Move series or classification groups inside the document
- Create HTML-presentation
  - MEX: an EAD finding aid with METS presentations for each descriptive unit

## MidosaSEARCH- the access side -

- Text based search engine (based on Lucene)
- Allows browsing the structures and key term search at the same time
- 2 (3) hierarchical levels
- List of results in the order of the classification (no automatic ranking)
- E-book style HTML-presentation with hits in context
- Different links to indexes, list of abbreviations, note sheets ...

## Holdings guide with linked finding aid





## MidosaSEARCH: list of hits

The screenshot shows the MidosaSEARCH interface with the following elements:

- Search Results Header:** "Die Suche ergab 26 Treffer in 17 Gliederungspunkten".
- Page Information:** "Seite: 1".
- Stiftung Archiv der Parteien und Massenorganisationen der DDR im Bundesarchiv**
- Findbücher**
- Büro Walter Ulbricht im ZK der SED Bestandsbeschreibung**
  - (1) 1.1. Parteitags/Parteikonferenzen der SED
  - (1) 1.2. Sitzungen des Politburos/Sekretariats des ZK der SED
  - (2) DY 30 Büro Walter Ulbricht im ZK der SED
    - 1. Zur Tätigkeit Walter Ulbrichts im Apparat des PV/ZK der SED
    - 1.2. Informationen der Abteilungen im PV/ZK, Bezirksleitungen der SED, Massenorganisationen
      - Informationen an W. U. als Mitglied des ZK der VPD und des Zentralsekretariats des PV der SED
      - Zur Tätigkeit der Bezirksleitung der SED Berlin
  - (1) 1.7. Aufzeichnungen und Korrespondenz von Walter Ulbricht
  - (1) 2.1. Außenpolitik der DDR/SED
  - (7) 2.2. Zusammenarbeit der Warschauer Vertragsstaaten und Mitteleuropäischer Länder des EWV
  - (2) 2.3. Internationale Konferenzen, Beratungen, Treffen, Initiativen
  - (1) 2.6. Beziehungen zwischen der DDR-SSD und Westberlin (einschließlich Parteien)
  - (1) 2.7. Internationale Beziehungen der SED zu Staaten und Parteien (A-Z)
  - (1) 3.1. Informationen an Walter Ulbricht
  - (2) 4. Wirtschafts- und Landwirtschaftspolitik der SED
  - (1) 5. Wissenschaft
- DY 30 Sekretariat Paul Merker im ZK der SED Bestandsbeschreibung**
  - (1) Sekretariat Paul Merker im ZK der SED
    - Grundsatzmaterialien
    - Partienstand der SED
      - Beschlußentwürfe und Informationen für das Politbüro der SED

**Annotations:**

- Arrow pointing to "1.2. Sitzungen des Politburos/Sekretariats des ZK der SED": "title of lowest classification group with results"
- Arrow pointing to "Beschlußentwürfe und Informationen für das Politbüro der SED": "expanded to show the descriptive units"

## MidosaSEARCH: result in context

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      - Beschlußentwürfe und Informationen für das Politbüro der SED

**Annotations:**

- Arrow pointing to "Beschlußentwürfe und Informationen für das Politbüro der SED": "Search term with navigation arrows"

## METS presentation: orientation layer

Number of image

<untitled> of the descriptive unit

Upper third of relevant pages

## METS presentation: browsing

Selection of page

Next page

Browsing arrows

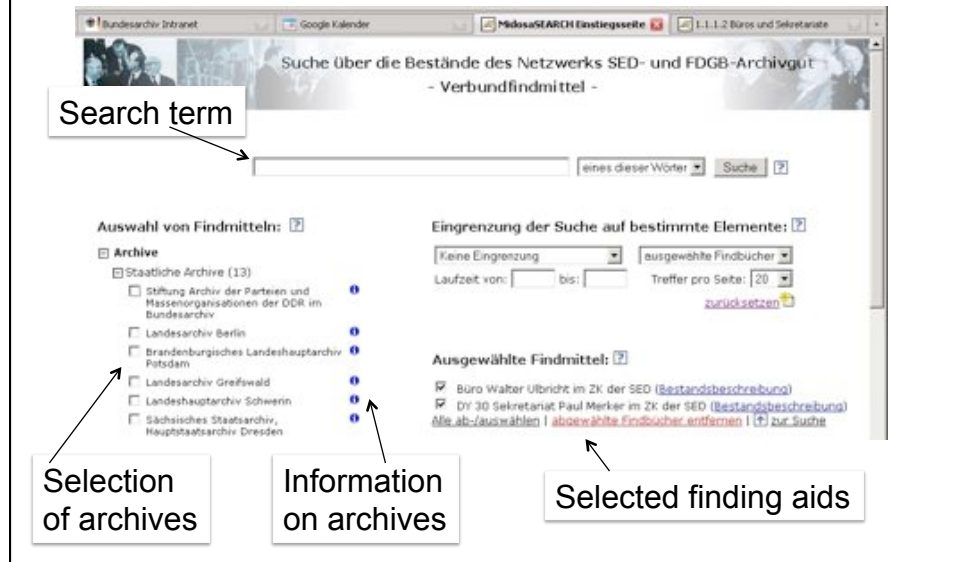
## Gateway projects with EAD

- DFG-Project „Network of SED files as reference application for a German archival gateway“ (2007-2009)
- EU-Commission project „Gateway to Archives in Europe“ (2008-2011)
- Integration of archival data including digitizations to cross domain portals like BAM (D) or EUROPEANA (EU)

## The pilot for a German portal: network of SED-records

- 13 state archives of 5 states + federal archives
- **Union finding aid** with multi level presentation (on the basis of MidosasSEARCH)
  - archives landscape (EAD + EAG)
  - holding guide (EAD + EAC)
  - finding aids (EAD) (with reproductions - METS)
- De-centralised conversion of data into the target format with centrally prepared tools on the basis of MIDEX

## Gateway: entry page

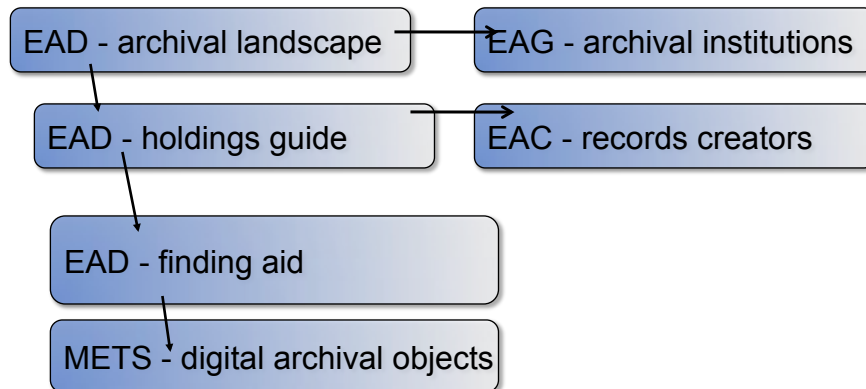


## Main elements of the gateway:

- EAD profile as a target format
  - at [www.daofind.de](http://www.daofind.de)
- Conversion engines on the basis of the editor MEX -> MIDEX (MEX: [www.sourceforge.net](http://www.sourceforge.net))
  - From database exports to the target format
  - With the choice of default values or standard transformation
  - Working in batch mode
- WebDAV folders on the host server with automated integration into MiodsaSEARCH

## The architecture of the gateway

A file system with a network of standards:



## The European Archival Gateway

12 countries  
involved:

+ EDL



## Philosophy behind the gateway

- Preserve the richness of information in the existing descriptive data
- Start from the existing data and presentation models
  - EAD and ISAD(G) broadly used in Europe for internet presentations of archives
- Leave the responsibility for the data with the repositories (f.i. with the conversion tools)
- As much decentralization as possible – as little centralization as needed

The gateway should become a tool for the archival institutions to enhance their visibility.

## The role of EAD in all this:

- Easy handling of structures + flexible presentation with no need to translate structures into relations of tables in databases
- E-book presentation concept with digital reproductions in context
- Interrelated hierarchically ordered information on all aspects of archival holdings

EAD opened new ways to **edit finding aids**, to **share data**, and to offer finally the **combination of structured navigation and searching** in archival descriptions.

## Links

- [www.bundesarchiv.de](http://www.bundesarchiv.de) -> midosaSEARCH
- [www.daofind.de](http://www.daofind.de) (EAD-profile in Excel)
- [www.sourceforge.net](http://www.sourceforge.net) -> mex
- [www.archivgut-online.de](http://www.archivgut-online.de)
  - project website for the German gateway