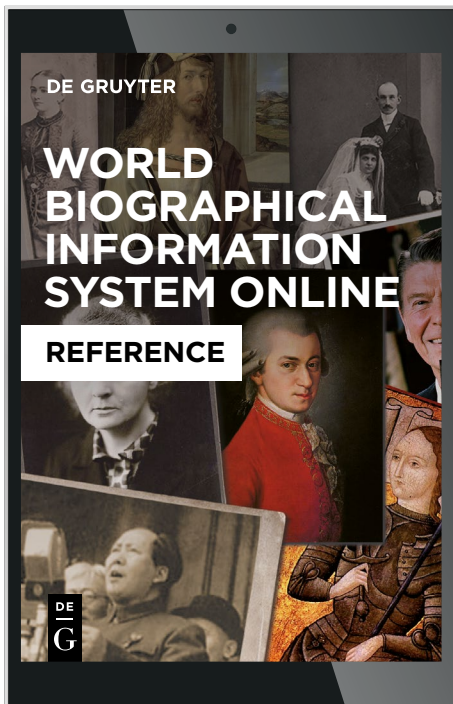


# WORLD BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM ONLINE WBIS

REFERENCE





**LANGUAGE OF PUBLICATION** Multilingual  
**USER INTERFACE** English, German  
**UPDATE FREQUENCY** Annually  
**SUBJECT AREAS** Library and Information Science, Reference Works, History

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## WORLD BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM ONLINE (WBIS)

The *World Biographical Information System Online* (WBIS Online) is the world's most comprehensive and extensive biographical database, containing information on individuals, families, and groups from all classes and professions, from all countries and regions of the world, from the 4th millennium BC to the present. Some 50,000 biographies will be added to the database each year from the summer of 2017 onward.

Previously, the periods covered by the database's individual archives ended between 1987 and 2006. The editors of *WBIS Online* are currently reviewing and adding publications from around the world that have appeared in the interim. They are also updating the database with older, previously inaccessible sources. This will considerably enhance content diversity and the spectrum of covered individuals. According to the new organizational concept for the database, biographies will not be added based on countries or regions, but rather using a global approach. However, users will still be able to filter content based on selected geographic regions.

*WBIS* is based on digital scans of the microfiche editions of K.G. Saur Verlag's Biographical Archives. *WBIS Online* provides access to biographical information published in reference works from the 16th century to the present. This information is not available in the same scope from any library worldwide, nor can it be easily found online. The key strength of the database is its biographical variety. It profiles men and women from all centuries and walks of life, from the realms of science, politics, culture, and business. The database thus furnishes a vibrant portrait of the human experience.

From 2017 onwards source material is being directly scanned to create *WBIS*. This offers better quality than the older microfiche scans, while also enabling direct access to the data. *WBIS* will feature the same proven search modes: Basic, Biographical, and Biographical Search.

*WBIS Online*, which already contains 8.4 million biographical articles on 6 million individuals, will be expanded with biographies on some 250,000 individuals from 300 new sources from a range of eras and geographic locations, thus further enhancing the database's unique scope.

- ▶ The world's largest digital collection of biographical sources
- ▶ An indispensable tool for interdisciplinary research in historical contexts
- ▶ Easy access for every library visitor/unlimited digital rights management
- ▶ 29 different archives: regions, cultures and religious groups