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OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES**

The Academy is a learned society with a three-hundred-year-old tradition of uniting outstanding scholars and scientists across national and disciplinary boundaries. 79 Nobel Prize winners have shaped its history. As the largest non-university research institute for the humanities in the Berlin-Brandenburg region, the Academy preserves and documents cultural heritage, pursues research, and offers perspectives on issues that are crucial for the future of society—as well as provides a forum for dialogue between the academic community and the public.

“SCIENCE ON THE MOVE”



American Travel Journals, Vol. I, fol. 37r. Screenshot edition humboldt digital, ©BBAW

Humboldt’s journals about his American travels represent a dynamic way of thinking that embodies the project’s central concept of “science on the move”. “The American Travel Journals provide a glimpse of the newly emerging consciousness of a world that has long been interrelated and continues to be interrelated, a world that can only be adequately understood in movement and on the move” (Ottmar Ette).

Image: Plate XIII, Vue du Cayambe, in: Humboldt, Alexander von (1780-1813): Vues des Cordillères et monuments des peuples indigènes de l’Amérique. Paris: Schoell

angenehme gestaltung

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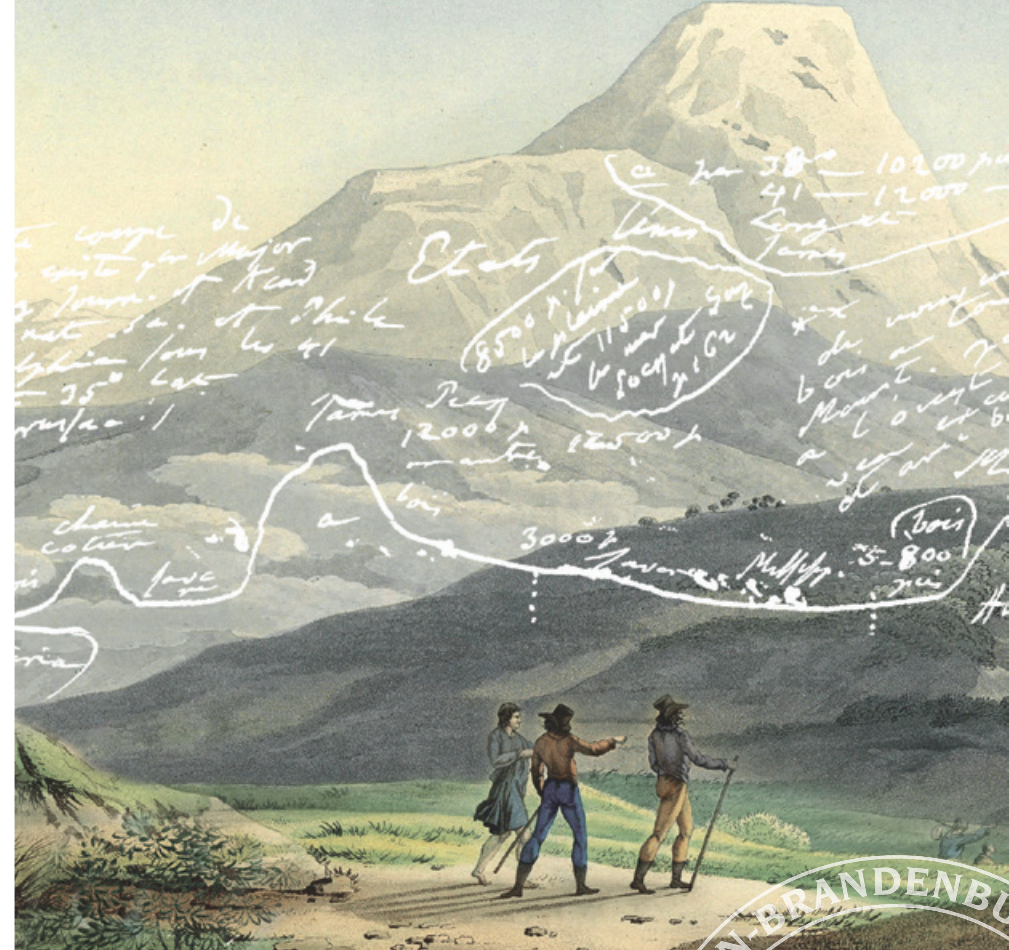
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**TRAVELING HUMBOLDT –
SCIENCE ON THE MOVE**

A long-term Academy project of the Berlin-Brandenburg
Academy of Sciences and Humanities



MANUSCRIPT EDITION ON THE TOPIC 'JOURNEYS'

The long-term Academy project "Traveling Humboldt – Science on the Move" is dedicated to the philological documentation and research of Alexander von Humboldt's manuscripts within the context of the overarching topic 'journeys'. During the 18 years of the project a complete edition of the journals of Humboldt's great hemispheric journeys through the Americas (1799–1804) and Russia (1829) as well as other travels, especially to England, southern France, Spain and Italy, will be published.

The edition of the journals will be accompanied by the publication of selected correspondence and manuscripts from the Berlin State Library and the Biblioteka Jagiellońska in Krakow. These documents are directly related to Alexander von Humboldt's research expeditions and open up additional perspectives on the genesis of his works as well as on his collaborative way of working within his worldwide scientific community.

TRAVELING HUMBOLDT – SCIENCE ON THE MOVE

EXAMINING AND ANALYZING MANUSCRIPTS ON THE TOPIC 'JOURNEYS'

The Berlin and Krakow collections, which are relatively unknown to date, for the first time allow for an adequate analysis of Humboldt's publications in terms of their philological and textual history. The journals and related manuscripts not only formed the basis for writing the "Personal Narrative", but were also used by Humboldt as a fundamental source for creating the multi-volume works of his American Travels (1805–1838), the "Asie Centrale" (1843) and the "Kosmos" (1845–1862).

HYBRID EDITION, OPEN ACCESS AND LINKED DATA

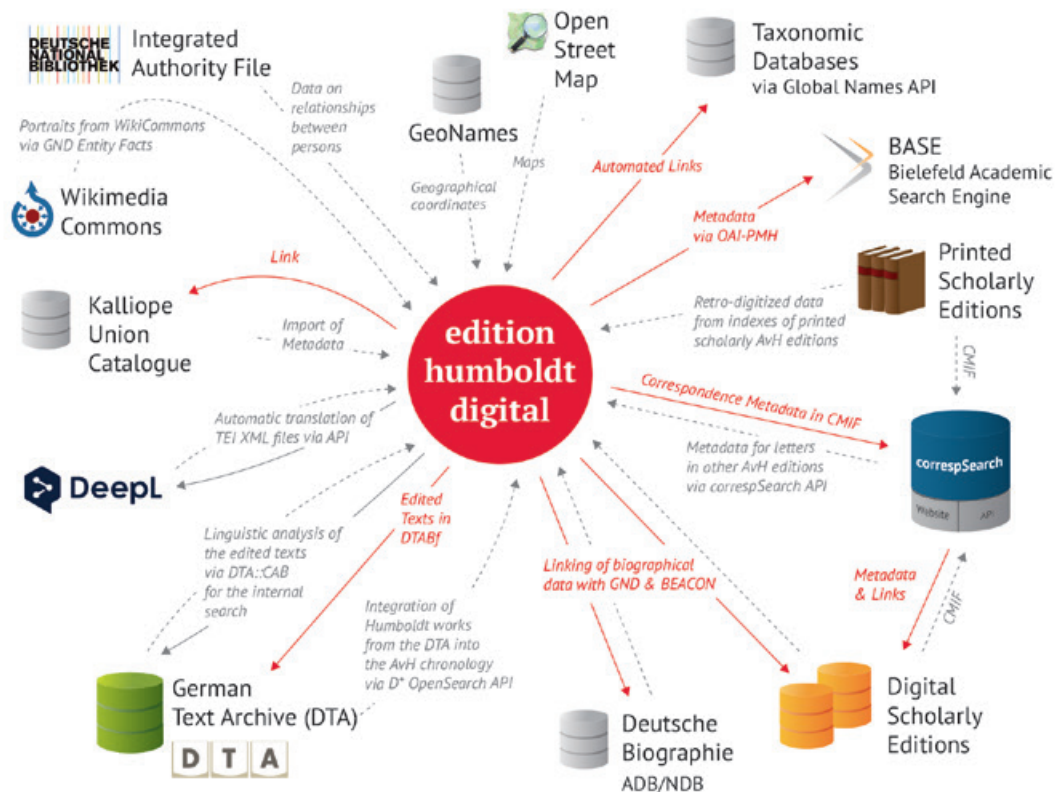
Following a "digital first" approach, the project is developing both a digital and a print edition of Humboldt's manuscripts.

The edition humboldt digital (<https://edition-humboldt.de>) aims at an extensive, text-oriented transcription and annotation of the manuscripts, as well as making efficient use of standards-based web services and external research resources (see figure below).

The metadata and texts of the digital edition are encoded according to international standards and the guidelines of the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI). The German Text Archive Base Format for Manuscripts (DTABf-M) is used as the pivotal foundation of the project's annotation scheme. The transcriptions, scientific introductions and (meta-)data of the edition humboldt digital are available as Open Access publications under the free Creative Commons license CC BY-SA 4.0.

The edition humboldt print is conceived as a bibliophile reading version of the edited manuscripts and will be published from 2019 on by J. B. Metzler Verlag.

Instead of aiming at an exhaustive publication of all materials from the scholar's personal papers, the edition focusses on highly significant and, for the most part, as of yet unpublished testimonies, letters and documents relating to Humboldt's epoch-making travel projects. The edition is accompanied with academic research that focuses on perspectives from the history of science. These contributions explore the origins and contexts of Humboldt's unique scientific approach and raise questions regarding its predecessors, contributors and critics. The edition humboldt print complements the edition humboldt digital by unfolding the beauty of Humboldtian Science in three parts with a total of 16 carefully designed volumes. They sketch out a new image of the Prussian researcher and traveler at work and on the move.



The long-term Academy Project breaks new ground in the development of digital editions and linked research data. Graphics and concept: Stefan Dumont/Tobias Kraft, DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.1035134, CC BY 4.0