Welcome!

What we do
We find critical content that’s uncatalogued, undiscoverable, uncitable, prone to link rot, and likely to disappear. We call it wild content. It’s in websites, reports, social media, blogs, virtual reality, and primary sources—but if you can’t find it, you can’t use it. We discover, curate, index, enrich, preserve, and distribute wild content, making it easy for libraries to deploy it across their organizations. Important works that have been absent from the scholarly record can now be accessible, safe, and permanently available.

How we do it (with community)
We've created a series of websites, called Commons, that bring together licensed materials, wild content, and tools for researchers, librarians, and students. Commons members share, suggest, upload, and contribute. The sites are created, improved, and grown collaboratively—with communities of librarians, expert researchers, and publishers.

What we’ve achieved so far
Students and researchers from hundreds of institutions across six continents use our Commons. We've helped drive new research, built out the scholarly record for fugitive items, and rescued the output of hundreds of discontinued organizations. We've built partnerships with publishers whose content we’ve licensed, and we’ve helped thousands of organizations by increasing traffic to their websites.

We want to hear from you!
Please visit us at https://coherentdigital.net to learn more, register for trials, find out how you can partner with us, or simply to let us know how we’re doing.

Grey literature is growing in importance...
The same organizations that used to publish reports in books and journals are now simply loading them onto their websites. Collectively, these publications detail billions of dollars of research across many disciplines.

But...
It's scattered, hard-to-find, and prone to disappearance. It's informally published, without metadata and without tools like DOIs and MARC records. Finding it can be like trying to see the far side of the moon.

In this catalog, we present six discipline-specific websites and tools to help you and your scholars find this missing content, integrate it into your workflows, and help preserve it for future generations.
Massive
We index and link to more than 3.2 million reports, working papers, data sources, and media drawn from a curated directory of more than 24,000 IGOs, NGOs, think tanks, and research centers. That's more full-text content than in ProQuest Dissertations.

Dynamic
In 2021 alone, we added 500,000 new full-text records—more than twenty per hour! Urgent topics like COVID and Ukraine can be researched without waiting for traditional publishing schedules.

Licensed content
We include 500,000 pages of full-text materials from Council of Europe, African Books Collective, Environmental Law Institute, and other publishers.

Preserves copies
We follow web archiving rules similar to those developed by Columbia University to crawl sites. The organizations continue to host their documents; we link back to them. If a site goes down or a document link breaks, we present an archived copy—that means stable URLs for LibGuides and syllabi, and no more link rot for users.

Rescues content
We've rescued over 35,000 reports from nearly 500 inactive organizations. We expect to add at least 100,000 more pages of saved content every year, from organizations that were important, influential, and cited before they disappeared.

Curated
We work with librarians and researchers to identify new organizations and conduct in-depth research to find content by topic. For example, after Policy Commons members asked us to focus on Africa, we found and added nearly 800 African NGOs.

Simple and advanced searching
Along with a basic undergraduate-oriented interface, a full suite of advanced search tools includes multiple fields, nested searching, Boolean and NEAR operators, and multilingual versions. It's great search, and we continue to add features.

Find, cite, and download tables
Tables and charts are often overlooked—because you don't know they're there unless you read through the whole PDF. Policy Commons lets you find tables buried within reports, browse them, link to the original tables and charts, cite them, and download them in CSV format. Amazing!

Tools for library integration
We provide organization-level MARC records. Every item includes a permanent URL with an openly accessible bib record. We're indexed by major search engines, including Google, and are in negotiations to be included in discovery services—watch for announcements.

Share and upload
Registered members can upload full-text reports (if they hold copyright) and links. That makes Policy Commons a safe repository for your publications and a growing community space for sharing information and connecting with members. Upload guidelines keep offensive and other unwelcome posts out, and users can flag items for removal by our editors.

Follow and Alert services
With hundreds of reports being added to Policy Commons daily, keeping up with your specific interests has never been so important. Simply check to follow topics, organizations, or even your custom searches, then receive alerts when new items are added.

Create, export, and share custom lists
As you search, easily generate lists of documents, organizations, or topics. Export your lists to syllabi and LibGuides, safe in the knowledge that we'll maintain the links. You can even create custom landing pages to share.

Try it now!
Register at https://policycommons.net/ for immediate access.
Policy Commons: Cities preserves the full text of surveys, budgets, statistical records, case studies, planning documents, training manuals, policy guidelines, reports, and news from the five hundred largest cities in North America. It also includes select materials from hundreds of related agencies and non-governmental organizations. With more than 150,000 documents, it provides a new and typically unmined source for observing policy in action.

The larger cities are monitored for added items weekly, others monthly. A community feature of the Commons platform is an upload tool, and members are encouraged to add reports from smaller cities and other municipal organizations that they would like Policy Commons: Cities to keep safe forever. The result is a constantly growing archive that adds more than 20,000 new reports each year.

Policy Commons: Cities includes and expands on the well-known Index to Current Urban Documents (ICUD). From 1972 onwards, ICUD captured thousands of city reports, many of which city agencies don’t keep. Few sources have such current, detailed, fact-based information. Rich in statistics, the documents provide practical examples of what policies work, along with hard evidence. From coastal erosion to vehicle emissions, the issues addressed by municipal policies provide a window into historical attitudes, actions, and outcomes.

A unique research tool
Search engines and city websites are cluttered with low-value documents and have only basic search capabilities. Policy Commons: Cities makes access easier through search facets, Boolean operators, and other tools. Research is faster, and there’s a wealth of information not findable anywhere else.

Multiple purchase options
Limited access to Policy Commons: Cities is available for free at https://policycommons.net. Institutional memberships are available to either the full archive or segments by geographical region. There’s also an option for purchase of perpetual rights, which includes data-mining permission.

Five million pages of in-depth research on today’s most pressing social issues. Available as an add-on module to Policy Commons

The definitive database for Canadian studies, with over 200,000 policy and government documents. Formerly known as the Canadian Electronic Library, and produced in collaboration with Trojan Corporation, it includes over 21,000 e-books from leading independent Canadian publishers and university presses.

No other database has such extensive coverage of Canadian materials, with:
• 21,000 e-books from leading independent Canadian publishers and university presses;
• over 200,000 Canadian reports, briefings, and policy papers from think tanks and government sources;
• a directory of over 4,000 Canadian think tanks, NGOs, IGOs, and government departments;
• short videos of leading Canadian authors introducing their latest works; and
• daily updates and new content throughout the year.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/cana or visit https://www.trojman.ca/canadacommons

Extensive coverage of key issues like climate change, violence prevention, racial equity, and more.
An award-winning database for teaching, learning, and research in counseling, psychology, nursing, social work, behavioral health, and related programs.

Mindscape Commons delivers...

...with hundreds of short-form video and VR experiences. More than half are newly commissioned, exclusive to this resource, and interactive. Built collaboratively by more than a hundred faculty and PhD students across eight academic institutions, and enhanced with summaries, transcripts, teaching guides and tools, the videos are fast and easy to deploy across campus. Alongside the Coherent-created and licensed items are select open-source experiences, research projects, and commercial titles.

Immersive experience

With simulations filmed in 360-degree video, students are “there,” mastering skills in the moment. Videos are curricula-aligned and address evidence-based treatment across mental health, school, and career counseling settings, addressing empathy, goal setting, positive regard, alliance ruptures, stages of change, culture, coping style, client preferences, and more.

Engage students interactively

The videos are short, immersive, and interactive. Students respond to questions as an experience unfolds, and their responses elicit feedback from the on-screen instructor.

Develop clinical skills in a safe setting

Safely immerse students in realistic, high-risk situations, with clients experiencing suicidal thoughts, anxiety, trauma and addiction, to better prepare them for future work with actual clients.

Achieve mastery

VR and immersion allow repetitive practice for skill improvement and confidence building.

Build empathy

Let students feel what it’s like to be bullied, suffer from depression or anxiety, be homeless, or face immigration challenges or racism. With immersive video, the student can walk in another’s shoes.

Integrate it easily into your institution

You’ll need only a regular PC or Mac and a current browser—nothing else. Use Mindscape across campus, remotely, or in VR labs and media centers. We provide COUNTER-compliant stats, MARC records. Items have permanent, shareable links and can be embedded in an LMS.

Deliver VR experiences

If you have VR equipment, you can view the experiences using Android, iOS with Google cardboard, or Oculus Go. Use point-and-click with no special controllers or training required. We provide COUNTER-compliant stats and MARC records.

Try it now! Register at https://mindscapecommons.net/ for immediate access.

“...an innovative training tool for use in my teaching and research...offering authentic, safe, and experiential environments that help my students gain greater confidence by exposing them to advanced client mental health scenarios.”

Tyler Wilkinson, Associate Professor,
Department of Counseling, Mercer University
African archives and their collections are hard to find and access, and few items are digitized. The materials are at risk from threats of climate change—fires and floods—and wars. Africa Commons is a project to digitize, enrich, protect, and disseminate African cultural content.

Organizational directory and index
More than 600 African libraries and archives are included, and more than one million cultural artifacts, across 200 openly available collections, are covered—allowing students and researchers to conduct advanced searches across a wide range of topics. All materials include a permanent URL, so they can be cited with confidence.

Premium licensed content
More than 100,000 pages of content from African institutions, including books, videos, images, maps, pamphlets, ephemera, and finding aids, are included.

Preservation
With permission, we maintain copies of sites we index. If items disappear, we’re able to provide our copies.

Upload and share
Registered members are able to upload content (if they hold copyright) and links (if they don’t). Offensive and other unwelcome posts can be flagged by any user and removed by our editors.

Create, export, and share lists
Generate lists of documents, organizations, topics, and more. Export to syllabi and LibGuides, safe in the knowledge that we’ll maintain the links. Create custom landing pages that you can share.

Membership structure
The directory, index, essays, some of the licensed materials, and all of the tools are freely accessible to African and HBCU institutions. The project is sustained by other institutions through annual membership.

The Sabinet Complete Collection delivers unique born-African research and insights across many disciplines by integrating three major resources as a single database.

African Journals—Over 185,000 articles from 532 African refereed and peer-reviewed journals from 1910 to the present. The journals, published in fifteen countries, offer African perspectives across a wide range of topics. Some 1,500 new articles are added every month, within days of their publication.

South African News—600,000 news articles from 1999 to the present. Included in full text are the wires from the South African Press Association from 1999 until its closure in 2015, and content from the African News Agency from 2015 to present. In addition to providing in-depth historical coverage, the materials provide weekly African perspectives on today’s issues—ranging from COVID to Black Lives Matter.

Government, Labor, and Law—The most comprehensive collection for accessing, tracking, and analyzing South African government and laws. Thirteen databases are combined to provide the most comprehensive documentation and tracking service for South Africa law and government. Students and researchers in comparative law, colonial studies, and African studies will find details on topics ranging from apartheid to sports tourism and labor negotiations.

Library tools
A suite of library tools includes Shibboleth authentication, MARC records, COUNTER statistics, and more.

Free trials are available!
The Sabinet Complete Collection is available exclusively from Coherent Digital, for North American customers only, as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights or by annual subscription. Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/sabi
Weimar and Nazi Germany

The only English-language, digital archive to cover Germany from 1918 to 1939. It includes nearly 600,000 pages of declassified, exclusive, previously undigitized files sent to the UK Foreign Office from embassies, covert contacts, and other sources.

Overview
Weimar and Nazi Germany documents an intense time of hyperinflation, political extremism, and seizures of power. It details the aftermath of World War I, recovery following the war, the Great Depression, and Hitler's rise, providing contemporaneous accounts, documents, reports, and correspondence of how Western democracies struggled with fascism and autocracy. Most of the material is in English and therefore easily accessible to researchers. It includes materials examining events of importance to most European countries, especially the rise of fascism in Spain and Italy.

For research
Materials are selected from FO 371, one of the most used file series at the National Archives. Every file from 1918 to 1939 categorized as "Germany" or "Rhineland" has been digitized. These files contain Foreign Office and British Embassy reports, correspondence, memoranda, communications, transcripts of speeches and public statements, newspaper cuttings, international agreements, and analyses. Of particular interest is the FO 800/268-270 series containing the correspondence of Neville Henderson, Britain's last ambassador to Germany before World War II. These files provide a personal account of meetings with Nazis at the top of government and of the events that led to WWII.

For learning
Students will be excited to engage with previously secret primary sources. Additional learning tools include:

- Specially commissioned subject essays written by members of the Editorial Board
- A guide to organizations, committees, and subcommittees, including political parties
- A guide to the key figures mentioned in the files who played important roles, providing a new route into the study of the period
- Video support tools
- Suggested syllabi

Editorial Board

- Ulrike Zitzlesperger (University of Exeter)
- Erik Jensen (University of Miami)
- Raffael Scheck (Colby College)
- James McSpadden (University of Nevada)
- Michael Abrahams-Sprod (University of Sydney)
- Daniel Hacker (University of Nottingham)
- Andrew Webster (Murdock University)

Purchase options
The file is currently available for presale as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights. It will launch early in the second half of 2022 on the Coherent Digital History Commons platform.

Free trials are available!
- Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/wena

British Society 1939-1951

"An exceptional resource that allows students and researchers alike to dive deeply into virtually all aspects of the British home front in the Second World War"

Dr Brett Holman, University of New England

Documenting a society in its time of greatest stress

Overview
Sourced from the National Archives (UK) and the History of Advertising Trust, British Society, 1939-1951 includes previously undigitized files from eleven government departments, with associated adverts and propaganda. It documents stories told through the eyes and words of women, children, refugees, and other groups often underrepresented in historical accounts — and told here for the first time. Covering topics including food, morale, crime, and economic hardships, the documents present voices from the top of government alongside the narratives and testimonies of ordinary citizens.

The documents include communications throughout the British Empire and among Britain's allies. For example, there are comparative surveys of conditions outside of the UK, documents pertaining to British policy around the world, and other materials that give a picture of global relationships and attitudes.

For research
Researchers will find unique statistical and narrative surveys and reports, such as weekly accounts by regional police on morale and crime. Government analysis and suggested actions are documented, as well as actual steps taken and accompanying propaganda. The result is an unfolding picture of how issues were quantified, policy decided, and actions implemented. Document types range from social surveys and statistical analyses to food-offence trials, propaganda film scripts, and wartime advertising.

For learning
Students will be excited to engage with previously secret primary sources. Additional learning tools include:

- Subject essays and lesson plans
- Video introductions, seminar topics, reading lists, and document-based questions
- A glossary of key people, ministers, and officials
- A directory of contributing organizations

Editorial Board

- Dr Brett Holman, University of New England, Australia
- Dr David Clampin, Liverpool John Moores University, UK
- Dr Juliette Pattinson, University of Kent, UK
- Professor Daniel Ussishkin, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- Dr Karen Schaller, University of East Anglia, UK

Purchase options
The file is currently available as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights. It will move early in the second half of 2022 to the Coherent Digital History Commons platform.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/brho
Cold War Eastern Europe

The definitive file for studying the Cold War, including 1.4m pages of declassified, exclusive, previously undigitized files.

Overview
Cold War Eastern Europe presents unique views from behind the Iron Curtain—hidden until now—through correspondence, reports, and other materials sent from 1946-1982 to the UK Foreign Office from embassies, covert contacts, and other sources.

For research
Materials cover every country and almost the entire Cold War. More than 80% of the materials are written in English and often as briefings, making them accessible. The collection is largely unexplored, with some files opened for the first time as recently as 2015. It covers social, economic, political, and cultural topics including gender, health, race, education, labor, domestic conditions, food studies, childhood, and others.

Produced in partnership with the UK National Archives, the project contains materials from FO 371, FCO 28, and FCO 33, selected by the editorial board to give a comprehensive overview of social, political, and economic relations behind the Iron Curtain from 1945-1980. The files contain in-depth study of war and a first look into how intelligence activities influenced the unfolding of events.

Editorial Board
- Mark Allinson, University of Bristol
- Csaba Bekés, Research Chair, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Political Science, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest
- Peter Bugge, Aarhus University
- Melissa Feinberg, Rutgers University
- Hope M. Harrison, George Washington University
- Matthew Jones, London School of Economics
- Pawet Machcewicz, Institute of Political Studies of Polish Academy of Science, Warsaw
- Kristin Roth-Ey, University College London
- Balázs Szalontai, Korea University, Sejong Campus
- Stephen Twigge, The National Archives, UK

Purchase options
The file is currently available as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights or through annual subscription. It will move early in the second half of 2022 to the Coherent Digital History Commons platform.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/cwee

Secret Files from World Wars to Cold War

British government secret intelligence and foreign policy files from 1936 to 1953, with a focus on World War II. Sourced from the National Archives (UK) and available electronically for the first time.

Overview
At the heart of the collection are the files of the Permanent Under-Secretary’s Department (PUSD), the point of liaison between the Foreign Office and the British intelligence establishment. Documented are intelligence activities and their influence on foreign policy from 1873 to 1951, providing new insights into key moments of 20th-century history through an intelligence lens. Alongside eight other file series, including Cabinet Office papers and daily signals intelligence reports, Secret Files enables day-by-day, in-depth study of war and a first look into how intelligence activities influenced the unfolding of events.

For research
For the first time, the full text of the files can be searched with keyword and proximity functionality. Hundreds of thousands of pages of critical materials can now be mined with sophisticated tools.

Editorial Board
- Gill Bennett, former Chief Historian of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- Professor Anthony Glees, Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies, University of Buckingham
- Professor Michael Goodman, King’s College London
- Professor Matthew Jones, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Michael Morgan, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Professor Denis Smyth, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto

Purchase options
The database is currently available as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights. It will move early in the second half of 2022 to the Coherent Digital History Commons platform.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/sefi

Sources of files
- CAB 301 Cabinet Office: Cabinet Secretary’s Miscellaneous Papers, 1936–1952
- CAB 163 War Cabinet, Ministry of Defence, and Cabinet Office: Central Intelligence Machinery: Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee, later Committee: Secretariat: Files, 1939–1985
- CAB 56, 81, 158, 159, 176 Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee minutes and reports
- FO 1093 Foreign Office: Permanent Under-Secretary’s Department: Registered and Unregistered Papers, 1873–1985

For learning
Students will be excited to engage with previously secret primary sources. Additional learning tools include:
- Specially commissioned subject essays
- A guide to organizations, and committees
- A description of the content, themes, and topics discussed is provided for each of the files.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/sefi

Specially commissioned essays and lesson plans
- A timeline of key events between 1953 and 1982
- A glossary of key people, governing parties, key organizations, and state leadership positions.
- A Foreign Office Fact File that includes a glossary of relevant Foreign Office political departments and an overview of the UK’s embassy and consulate network in Eastern Europe

For the first time, the full text of the files can be searched with keyword and proximity functionality. Hundreds of thousands of pages of critical materials can now be mined with sophisticated tools.
South Asia Archive is the largest collection of books, journals, and documents from the region, with 4.5 million pages from the Indian subcontinent from 1700 to 1953, originally collected by the South Asia Research Foundation (SARF). Previously published by Taylor & Francis, South Asia Archive is now on the Coherent platform with new tools and functionality.

Journals and serial publications

Reports
Thousands of reports and proceedings from colonial and postcolonial India, including volumes of the 1901, 1911, 1931, and 1951 Indian Census incorporating the provinces of Burma, Bengal, Assam, Bombay, and others.

Indian film booklets, 1930–1949
Rare publicity booklets in a mixture of English, Hindi, Urdu, and Bengali, as sold outside Indian film theaters. Highlights from the collection include: Mukti, Street Singer, My Sister, Devdas, and Sita. Each booklet includes lists of the film’s cast and leading technical personnel, a plot summary, photographs of the lead actors or key moments in the film, and song lyrics.

Rare books
More than 1,500 books, along with series such as The Bibliotheca Indica, a collection of works published by the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Translations of The Upanishads and commentaries on Sanskrit grammatical, philosophical, and legal treatises. Subjects are varied, with books on topics ranging from religion and literature to law and agriculture.

Legislations, acts, and regulations
A large number of proceedings from a range of Indian governmental departments as well as law books and legal cases.

Ephemera
Included is a broad selection of ephemera.

Purchase Options
The file is currently available as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights.

Free trials are available!
Learn more at https://coherentdigital.net/sarf

“One of the biggest breakthroughs ever for those in the field, especially at a time when there is so much rising concern about the future of the physical archives in the subcontinent.”
Emeritus Professor Brian Stoddart, La Trobe University

“Illuminate and innovative. This essentially shifts evidence and knowledge production towards equitable access. Discoverability of critical NGO’s reports is a game changer!”
Harsha Dayal, Director of Research and Knowledge Management, Government of South Africa

“Policy Commons is the kind of product I wish I’d had all my career. It provides access to things you can’t find out about, but need right now.”
John Wright, Business Librarian, University of Calgary
Used by more than a thousand universities, colleges, corporations, think tanks, and governments

All products are available for institutional trial

Find out more at https://coherentdigital.net