SMWCon Fall 2017
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Translating system messages and other localisable stings

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• What are system messages and other localisable strings?

• Where is the localisation done?

• How is the localisation done?
Note:

This presentation is taylored to cover the situation for Semantic MediaWiki.

However most of the information applies also for other semantic or regular extensions to MediaWiki.
What are system messages and other localisable strings?
What are system messages and other localisable strings?

- System messages are any text used and displayed on the user interface by the software.

This also applies to some of the other localisable strings though.
What are system messages and other localisable strings?

- Other localisable strings used or displayed by the software
  - Special page names
  - Magic word names
  - Parser function names
  - Namespace names
  - Datatype names
  - Special property names
  - Date formats
  - Month and day names
Where is the localisation done?
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Where is the localisation done?

• System messages
  
  – At <translatewiki.net> which automatically transfers the localisations to the source code repository in regular short intervals

  Translation interface is easy to handle and comes with message docu, too.
Where is the localisation done?

- Other localisable strings
  - At GitHub by creating a pull request to the source code

  This is probably a bit nasty and requires more effort.
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Where is the localisation done?

• Other localisable strings
  – Special page names

Pull request for all languages to

/il8n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.alias.php
Where is the localisation done?

• Other localisable strings
  - Magic word names
  - Parser function names

Pull request for all languages to

/il8n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.magic.php
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Where is the localisation done?

• Other localisable strings
  – Namespace names
  – Datatype names
  – Special property names
  – Date formats
  – Month and day names

Pull request for each language (?? = language code) to

/il8n/extra/???.json
How is the localisation done?
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How is the localisation done?

• **System messages**
  
  • Log into <translatewiki.net> with your account

    Do not forget to apply for translator rights if you do not have done so already. It may take a day to get them.

  • Click on the “translate” button on Main Page which brings you to the translations interface
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How is the localisation done?

• System messages

  • Click on the “message group statistics” tab on the top right

  • Choose message group “Semantic MediaWiki”

    Here you will also find other semantic extensions galore to translate

  • Choose your language
How is the localisation done?

- **System messages**

- Start translating via the interface which also comes with message documentation (play a bit to learn, it works cool)
How is the localisation done?

- Other localisable strings

- Look at the (Englisch) language files in GitHub and try to imitate their contents for your language
  - /i18n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.alias.php
  - /i18n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.magic.php
  - /i18n/extra/en.json
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How is the localisation done?

- Other localisable strings

  - Create a pull request for
    - `/i18n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.alias.php`
    - `/i18n/extra/SemanticMediaWiki.magic.php`
    - `/i18n/extra/??\.json`

  - `??` stands for the language code of your language
  - Do not touch `/i18n/??\.json` (Note the difference in the path.)
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Thank you!