The Project Consortium
“1914-1918-online” is comprised of three institutions with the following areas of expertise:

Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut (FMI), Freie Universität Berlin
The FMI is home to the Department of History and Cultural Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin. It runs the editorial office and is responsible for the project’s conceptual planning and realization. The project leader at the FMI is Prof. Dr. Oliver Janz, professor for modern European history.
www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/fmi

Center for Digital Systems (CeDiS), Freie Universität Berlin
CeDiS is the center for e-learning, e-research and multimedia at the Freie Universität Berlin. It is in charge of the IT architecture, the conceptualization and incorporation of Semantic Web features and the encyclopedia’s web-publishing as well as the technological and technical support for both the authoring and the reviewing processes. Director of CeDiS and the project leader is Prof. Dr. Nicolas Apostolopoulos.
www.cedis.fu-berlin.de/en

Bavarian State Library (BSB), Munich
The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek is one of the most important European general and research libraries. It is responsible for the subject indexing and oversees the encyclopedia’s long-term archiving and preservation.
www.bsb-muenchen.de

Contact
1914-1918-online.
International Encyclopedia of the First World War
Freie Universität Berlin
Email info@1914-1918-online.net
Web www.1914-1918-online.net

Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut (FMI)
Koserstr. 20
14195 Berlin
Telephone +49(0)30/838-52984

Center for Digital Systems (CeDiS)
Ihnestraße 24
14195 Berlin
Telephone +49(0)30/838-52775

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The Project

“1914-1918-online. International Encyclopedia of the First World War” is a collaborative international research project designed to develop a virtual English-language reference work on the First World War. The collection of articles and entries, written from a variety of national and scholarly perspectives will be released in 2014, the centenary of WWI.

The Features

This digitally published reference work covering all aspects relating to the First World War offers the following features:

• Wide-ranging international scholarly perspectives of an editorial board and external referees comprising more than 100 experts
• Cooperation with several international partners
• State-of-the-art transnational research, including hitherto neglected areas, on WWI
• High academic quality, ensured by a two-step review process
• Multimedia-enriched articles, including photos, digitized primary sources and literature
• Innovative navigation schemes based on a Semantic Web concept that provides versatile access routes to the encyclopedia’s contents
• Worldwide accessibility by publishing in English under the Open Access paradigm

The Online Encyclopedia

The “1914-1918-online” encyclopedia combines two main features: international research expertise and the advantages of the World Wide Web’s hypertextuality.

The encyclopedia’s content is divided into six subject areas: pre-war, violence, power, home front, media, and post-war, which integrate various political, economic, social, and cultural perspectives on the Great War. The encyclopedia covers all major regions of WWI historiography and incorporates hitherto neglected areas such as Southeast Europe and Africa.

Innovative navigation schemes provide nonlinear access to the encyclopedia’s content along regional and thematic avenues. Visual representation of thematic connections improves content navigation in ways that go beyond the capacity of current digital history publications.

The Editorial Board and Authors

The editorial board represents the project’s academic executive board. It proposes articles and authors and is responsible for the assessment and quality management of the contributions. The members of the board – more than 70 well-known historians from over 20 countries – as well as approximately 30 external referees guarantee multiple perspectives and wide-ranging expertise.

The Project Partners

Eighteen partners from 10 countries support the project in several ways, e.g. by providing editorial staff or by allowing the use of their rich collections:

• German Historical Institutes in Moscow, Warsaw, Paris, London and Rome
• Orient-Institut Istanbul
• Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin
• Instituto de História Contemporânea, Universidade Nova de Lisboa
• Bibliothek für Zeitgeschichte, Stuttgart
• Center for War Studies, University of Birmingham
• Zentrum für Militärgeschichte und Sozialwissenschaften der Bundeswehr, Potsdam
• CENDARI (Collaborative EuropeAN Digital/Archival Infrastructure)
• Europeana Collections 1914-1918
• Center for War Studies, Trinity College Dublin
• European Film Gateway 1914
• Die Schweiz im Ersten Weltkrieg, Universität Zürich
• Istituto Storico Italo Germanico (FBK) / Universität di Trento
• Koloniales Bildarchiv der Universitätsbibliothek Frankfurt am Main

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