



Schweizerische Stiftung Public Domain
Fondation Suisse du Domaine Public
Swiss Foundation Public Domain

What we do

Creative works of literature, science and art are subject to Copyright law. Works in the public domain are those whose intellectual property rights have expired. Our team cleans, cataloguizes, digitizes and makes available hundreds of gramophone records monthly.

Who we are

The *Public Domain Project* was established in 2009 by a jurist specializing in Copyright law and a musicologist who already had been collecting a multitude of gramophone records since his childhood. In 2010, Wikimedia (the Association behind Wikipedia and other sister projects) joined the Project as a partner and in 2012 a Foundation was established.

Currently we have:

- 1 full-time employee
- 1 part-time employee
- 16 volunteers

As much as we can, we are trying to involve people with autism or presenting the Asperger Syndrom in the digitization.

Our Mission

At the **Swiss Foundation Public Domain**, we see our main mission in rescuing recordings from past decades, produced on sensitive and easily damageable materials from deterioration and potential oblivion. Our first goal is to have gramophone records — which are indeed an invaluable resource — transformed into long-term readable and usable data files using the knowledge of expert staff.

The future

In the near future, we are looking forward to expanding our collection of “unica” and “rara”. In our view, the preservation of for example:

- the earliest sound recordings on bees wax and industry wax or
- rare sound recordings of indigenous people worldwide,

would be extremely important to have. As far as we can see, many countries did or do not have the opportunity to collect and preserve their cultural heritage in sound. That's where our foundation fits in!