

# Full-text annotation

InkVisitor supports full-text annotation in its Annotator component. This chapter will teach you:

- some basics of semantic annotation;
- use of Annotator in the InkVisitor application.
- [Import a full-text document and start the annotation work](#)

# Import a full-text document and start the annotation work

Before starting to annotate, you need to import a full text in InkVisitor, create a Resource representing this full text, and link it to a Territory. This page describes the steps to follow.

## 1. Give a thought to your data management plan

Annotation creates an additional, XML-like markup layer over the full-text document. Therefore, you need to think where the InkVisitor-managed full-text belongs in your data management plan. You can always export the full-text with all of your annotation (anchors) from InkVisitor, so in that sense you are safe. However, since the moment you start annotating and making text corrections in InkVisitor, this InkVisitor-managed version should be updated with all enhancements.

Think about your full-text data management. Avoid creating two mutually outdated versions.

## 2. Clean the full-text document

You will usually want to import **the main text of a source**, without **editorial text** (we call it CAFE: Critical Apparatus, Footnotes, Editorial matter).

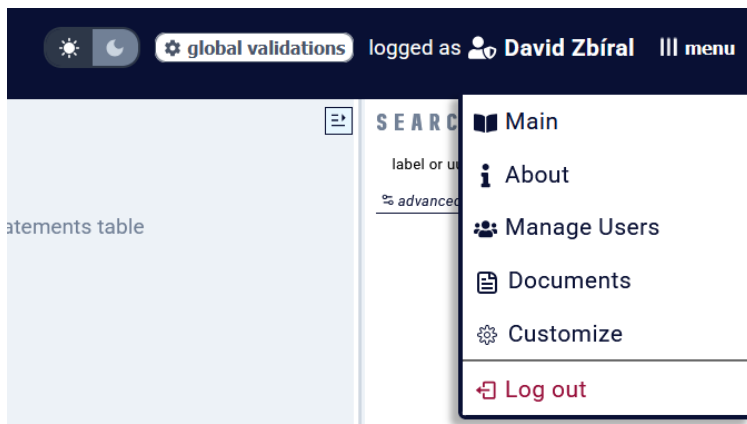
While you can also make edits in InkVisitor, it is generally advisable to import full-texts which are ready enough for work - with CAFE removed and the text (e.g. OCR) of sufficient quality.

InkVisitor accepts **plain text** and (since Summer 2025) **marked-up text** (e.g., XML).

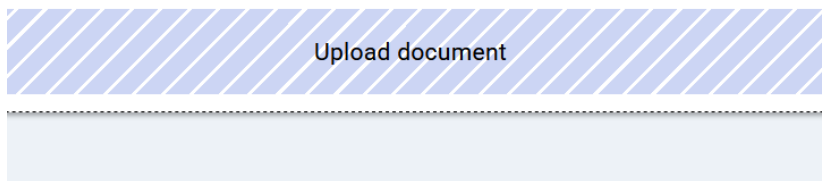
The characters "<" and ">" are **reserved markup delimiters** and must not be used for anything else in the full text. Remove those which are not markup delimiters or replace them with another character before full text import.

## 3. Import the full-text document

Open the document component from the main menu (top right corner).



Here, click on **Upload document**, locate the file on your drives, and confirm.



Your document will be uploaded.

## 4. Represent the full text with a Resource entity

The full-text needs to be represented by an **entity of the type Resource**. Of course, this entity is not the source (text) in general; it is **one specific textual version**, edited by a specific editor and processed with a specific workflow (OCR-ed, transcribed, or digital-born).

Therefore, **create an R entity representing the full-text document**. The entity can be named e.g. "Letter of Ebervin of Steinfeld to Bernard of Clairvaux (ed. Migne, 1879), MedHate-curated version".

After you create this Resource, **add a metadata description**.

Metaproperties

append

\*

▼

another entity

C

represented Territory

T

Letter of Ebervin of Steinfeld...

+p

a

C

editor

P

Jacques-Paul Migne

+p

a

C

corrector

P

David Zbiral

+p

a

C

curator

P

David Zbiral

+p

a

C

digitization unit

\*

▼

value

+

+p

a

C

text quality

\*

▼

value

+

+p

a

**Acknowledge the original editors and curators** in the metaprops to give them proper credit in your data.

Save time and ensure data coherence by using a Resource **template** probably already created in your deploy for similar digitised resources.



## 5. Link your Territory to this Resource




This R (specific textual version) represents a Territory (text), which probably already exists (alternatively, you need to create it at this point). Now, you need to **link the Resource to the Territory** in two steps:



First, **open the Territory, switch to Annotator view, and find the correct R** representing the full-text document you want to link.



No territory selected yet. Pick one from the territory tree

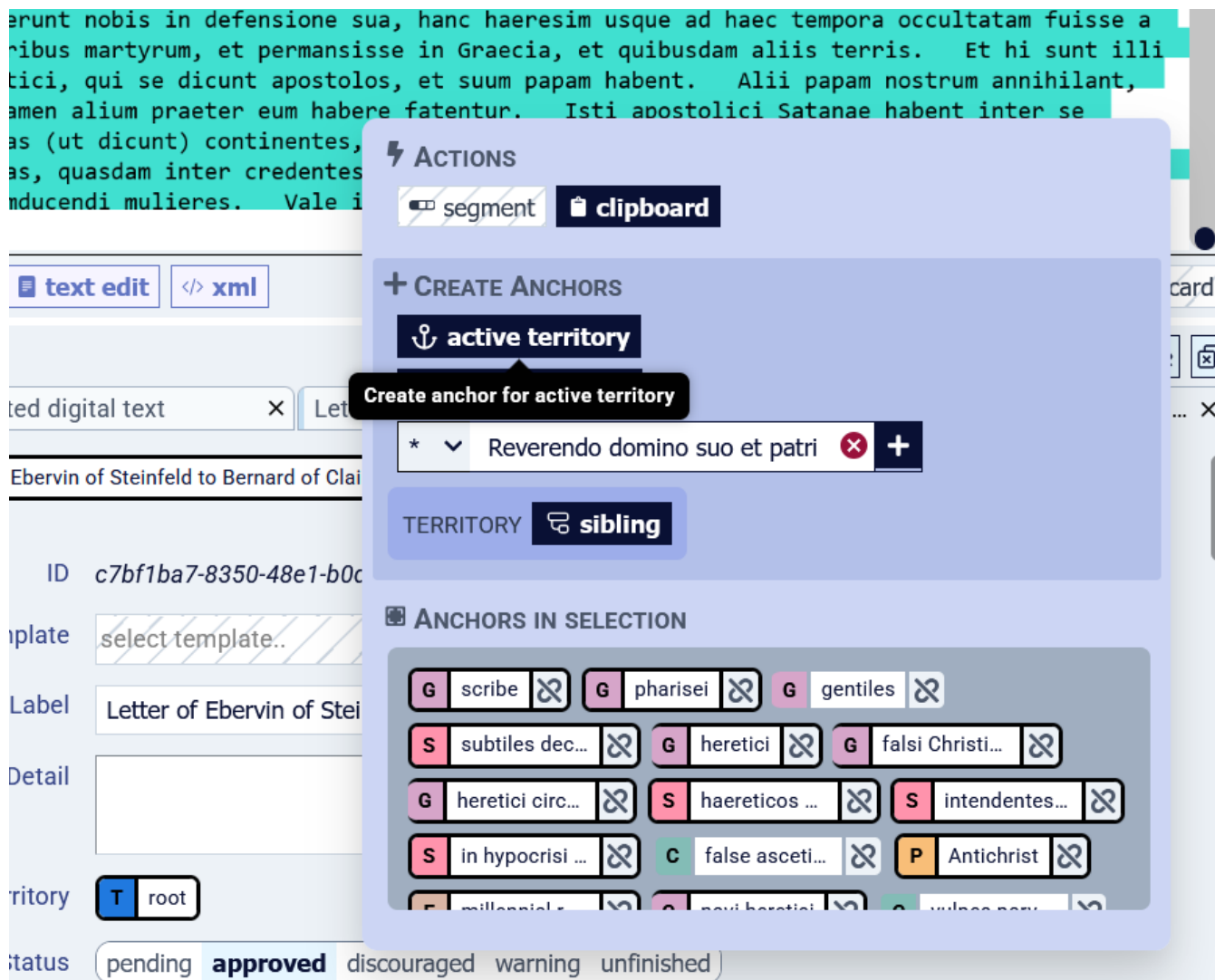
R eber|  

-  R Patrologia Lat...
-  R Iohannes Aqu...
-  R Letter of Eber...

 Letter of Ebervin of Steinfeld to Bernard of Clairvaux (ed. Migne, 1879), MedHate-curated version (English)  
 MedHate-curated digital text text

Second - in order to confirm the relation and save it permanently - **add the anchor (start and end tag) of the Territory into the full-text itself:**

1. **Select the full text of this Territory** in the full-text document displayed, from beginning to end (using Ctrl+A, Shift+PgDn, or mouse).
2. A modal window appears. Anchor active territory in the full-text with the **button "active territory"** in the modal window.



## 6. Annotate

Now you are **ready to annotate**, that is, to add entity anchors in the full-text document. In the process, you will probably be creating new entities as you go, and using Relations to place them in proper semantic and ontological relations to then query them for research.

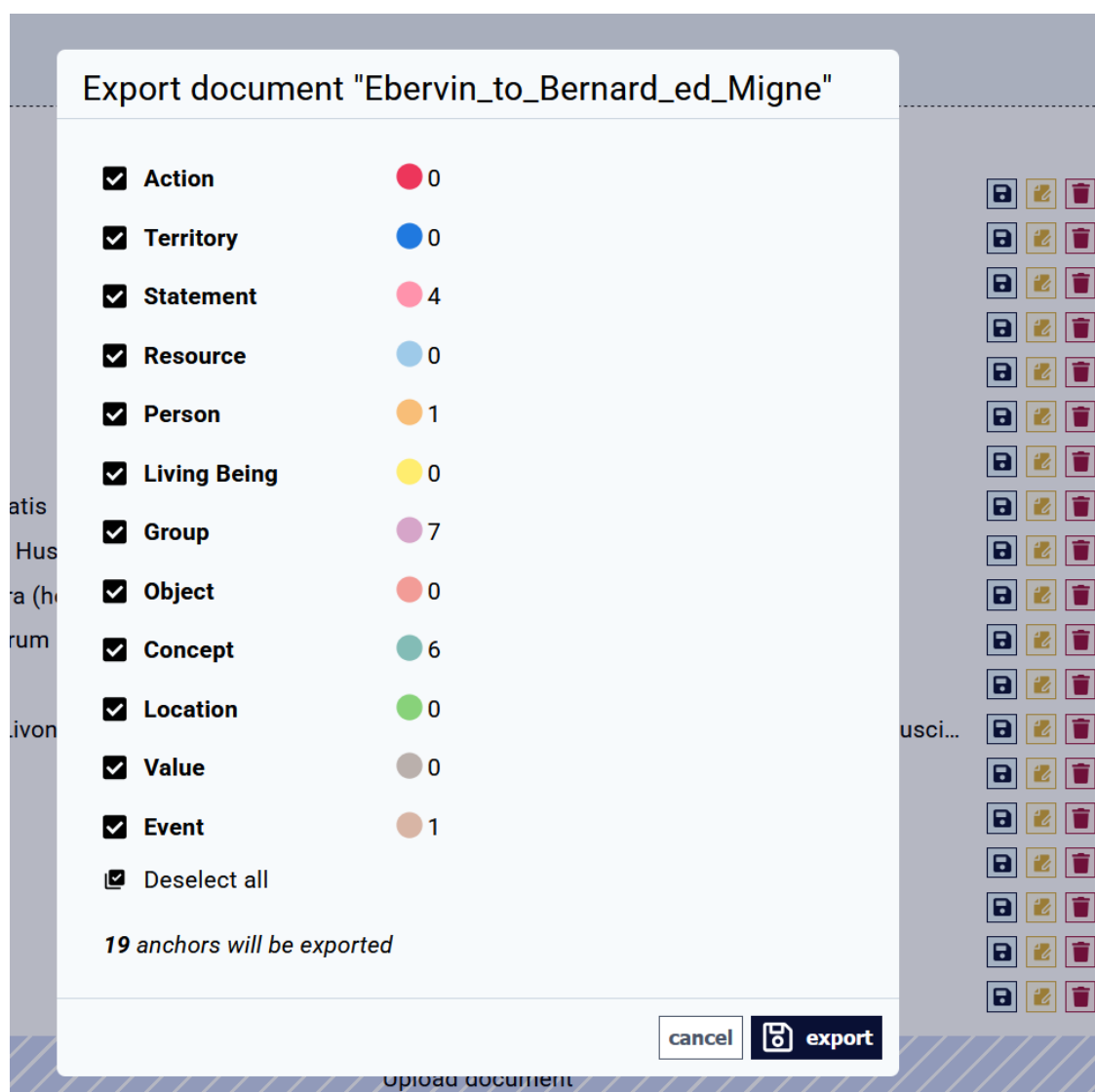
The anchors are the **start and end tag** of entities of any type, which are **stored in the full-text document** in an XML-like way using the entity's unique identifier (UUID). The following example shows the anchors visually in the InkVisitor Annotator interface, and in the XML-like code.



InkVisitor is a tool for annotating **digital texts, not images** (e.g., manuscript reproductions). If you need that, you will need to use a different annotation software.

## 7. Export

For **backup and analysis**, you will need to export your full-text document alongside the anchors you created in the text. This is done in **Documents** (see main menu in the top right) through the floppy disk icon. Typically, be sure to include **all anchors** in the export.



If you export the full text without including anchors of all entity types and then overwrite the InkVisitor-managed text by a reimported full text (e.g. after making some batch text corrections outside of InkVisitor), the anchors you haven't exported will obviously be lost forever.