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REVIEWING DIGITAL EDITIONS: THE CODEX SINAITICUS (MARKUS SCHNÖPF)

In the last years much effort was put in the construction of digital editions, covering all epochs from antiquity to modern writers. Looking at these digital scholarly editions, a huge variety of methods, presentations and tools has been developed. The Institut für Dokumentologie und Editorik (IDE) has published in 2012 a catalogue with criteria for the analysis of digital editions (english version followed in June 2014). These criteria give a kind of standard for the review process of digital editions. Recently the IDE has launched an online journal called RIDE, where digital editions are reviewed, following the mentioned criteria. Thus it is possible to identify best practice methods in the construction of scholarly digital editions. The criteria, that can be applied to review digital editions, contain the following topics: subject and content of the edition, aims and methods, publication and presentation.

In the proposed paper I will present these criteria and as well the journal. In the second part I will apply these criteria on the digital edition of the Codex Sinaiticus. The Codex Sinaiticus is a joint project of the British Library, the National Library of Russia, the St. Catherine's Monastery and the Leipzig University Library. The digital Codex reunions virtually the Codex, whose leaves are distributed on the four institutions. It offers high resolution scans of the folios, a transcription of the text and partly translations. The Codex is the most complete and oldest copy of the New Testament and was written some 1600 years ago. The digital Codex was published in 2009 and received much public interest.
