WEB ACCESSIBILITY IN CLARIN

CLARIN CENTRE MEETING UTRECHT, JUNE 14, 2023

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PROGRAMME

- Introduction to Web Accessibility
- Tools and techniques for testing
- A look at the CLARIN site how are we doing?
- A look at the CLARINO site what is done there?
- Summary



Welcome

- I am Tone Merete Bruvik. I work at the University of Bergen Library as a system developer. I am not a researcher.
- I am relatively new to the field of web accessibility, but have been working on this for the last year. At the library I have tested all our web services and made accessibility statements for them.
- And during this work I have found that many tools and services in the Digital Humanities are lacking in accessibility.



Introduction to Web Accessibility



For whom is this important?

- Visual challenges: blindness, colour blindness, low vision...
- Auditory: deafness, hearing loss...
- Motoric: paralysis, tremors...
- Cognitive: dyslexia, epilepsy, learning difficulties, dementia...
- Might be permanent, but also temporary:
 - using a phone in bright sunlight
 - noisy environment
 - with a broken arm
 - after a concussion



Law, rules and recommendations

- EUs Web Accessibility Directive (WAD) https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/web-accessibility-directive-standards-and-harmonisation
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1) https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/
- What services? Websites, documents and self-service machines.
- Typically, rules are stricter for public services, and there might be exceptions for services which are only available for certain groups.
- The implementation of WAD and WCAG may differ, but in the Nordic countries it looks like all of them has put WAD into law.

WCAG – The Principles

- **1. Perceivable** Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive.
- **2. Operable** User interface components and navigation must be operable.
- **3. Understandable** Information and the operation of user interface must be understandable.
- **4. Robust** Content must be robust enough that it can be interpreted reliably by a wide variety of user agents, including assistive technologies.



1. Perceivable

1.1 Text Alternatives

1.1.1 Non-text Content

1.2 Time-based Media

- 1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Pre-recorded)
- 1.2.2 Captions (Pre-recorded)
- 1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)
- 1.2.4 Captions (Live)
- 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)
- 1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded)
- 1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Pre-recorded)

- 1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded)
- 1.2.9 Audio-only (Live)

1.3 Adaptable

- 1.3.1 Info and Relationships
- 1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence
- 1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics
- 1.3.4 Orientation
- 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose
- 1.3.6 Identify Purpose

1.4 Distinguishable

- 1.4.1 Use of Colour
- 1.4.2 Audio Control
- 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)

- 1.4.4 Resize text
- 1.4.5 Images of Text
- 1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced)
- 1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio
- 1.4.8 Visual Presentation
- 1.4.9 Images of Text (No Exception)
- 1.4.10 Reflow
- 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast
- 1.4.12 Text Spacing
- 1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus

Italic: Optional in Norway

2. Operable

2.1 Keyboard Accessible

- 2.1.1 Keyboard
- 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap
- 2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception)
- 2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts

2.2 Enough Time

- 2.2.1 Timing Adjustable
- 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide
- 2.2.3 No Timing
- 2.2.4 Interruptions
- 2.2.5 Re-authenticating
- 2.2.6 Timeouts

2.3 Seizures and Physical Reactions

- 2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold
- 2.3.2 Three Flashes
- 2.3.3 Animation from Interactions

2.4 Navigable

- 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks
- 2.4.2 Page Titled
- 2.4.3 Focus Order
- 2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)
- 2.4.5 Multiple Ways
- 2.4.6 Headings and Labels
- 2.4.7 Focus Visible

- 2.4.8 Location
- 2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only)
- 2.4.10 Section Headings

2.5 Input Modalities

- 2.5.1 Pointer Gestures
- 2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation
- 2.5.3 Label in Name
- 2.5.4 Motion Actuation
- 2.5.5 Target Size
- 2.5.6 Concurrent Input Mechanisms

3. Understandable

3.1 Readable

- 3.1.1 Language of Page
- 3.1.2 Language of Parts
- 3.1.3 Unusual Words
- 3.1.4 Abbreviations
- 3.1.5 Reading Level
- 3.1.6 Pronunciation

3.2 Predictable

- 3.2.1 On Focus
- 3.2.2 On Input
- 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation
- 3.2.4 Consistent
- Identification
- 3.2.5 Change on Request

3.3 Input Assistance

- 3.3.1 Error Identification
- 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions
- 3.3.3 Error Suggestion
- 3.3.4 Error Prevention
- (Legal, Financial, Data)
- 3.3.5 Help
- 3.3.6 Error Prevention (All)



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4. Robust

- 4.1 Compatible
- 4.1.1 Parsing
- 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value
- 4.1.3 Status Messages



Introductions to tools and techniques for testing



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Tools

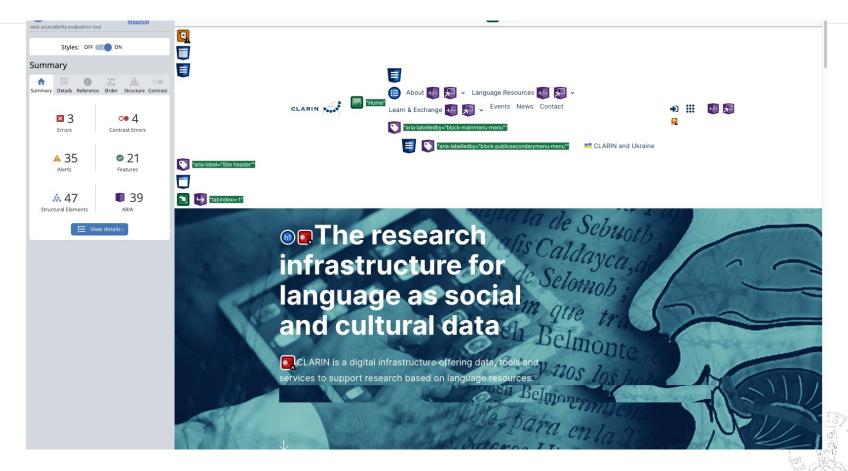
- WAVE Evaluation Tool, free plug-in to web browsers.
- Siteimprove, from free plug-ins to high-cost professional tools for large sites.
- Accessibility Insights, free plug-in with Integration to Git, reporting facilities and testing management.
- Lighthouse (included in many web browsers) may report on accessibility issues.
- Colour Contrast Analyser (CCA).app
- A simple checklist in Excel.
- Pa11y: Several free tools, including integration with CI.
- More tools and literature: see the A11y project resource list: https://www.a11yroject.com/resources



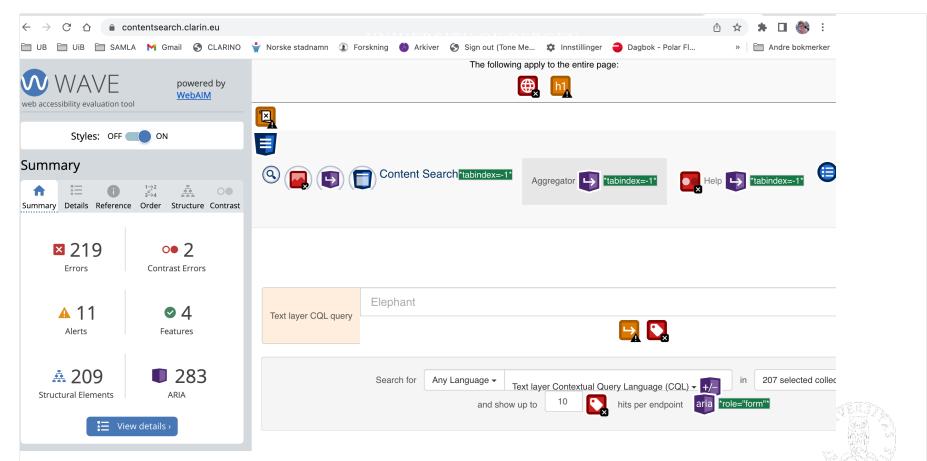
Testing

- Tools are great to start with but tools can't find more than half of the problems.
- User testing is best, but not easy to setup, takes time, and will probably include external help.
- But a little care helps to avoid the most common errors.





https://www.clarin.eu/ tested with Wave tool, 25.05.2023



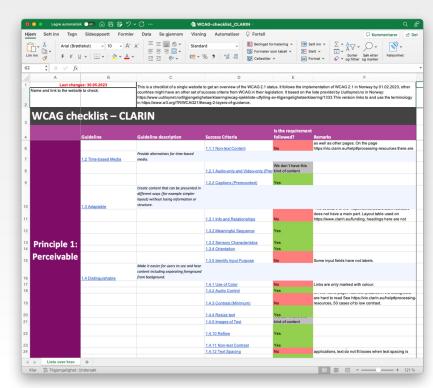
https://contentsearch.clarin.eu/ tested with Wave tool, 25.05.2023

Testing the CLARIN site

Important issues	WCAG references	CLARIN site
Give alternative text to graphics and pictures.	1.1.1	No
Use regions like header, main and footer.	1.3.1	Yes
Underline your links!	1.4.1	No
Good contrast!	1.4.3	No
Does it work on phones and laptops?	1.4.10	Yes
Is the site operable using keyboard only?	2.1.1	No
Tell the language	3.1.1, 3.1.2	Yes, and no

WCAG 2.1 testing of CLARIN site

- Using a simple spreadsheet.
- Fails on 14 of 47 criteria.
 - Tested only around 10 pages more or less randomly.
 - 8 criteria are not tested.



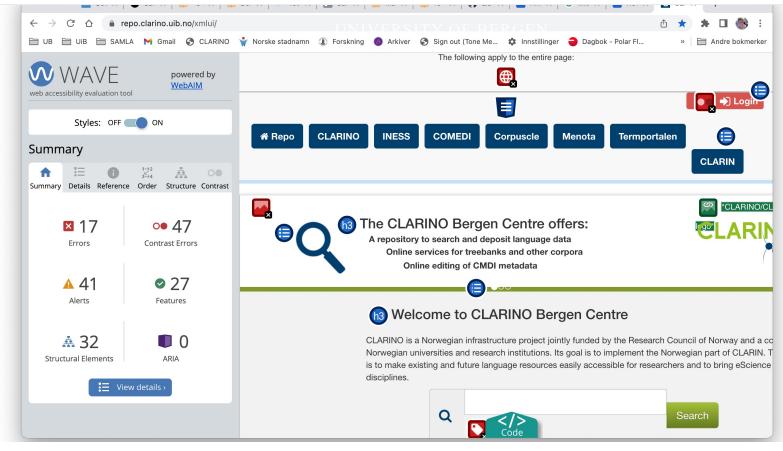
What have we done at CLARINO?

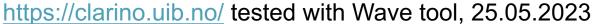


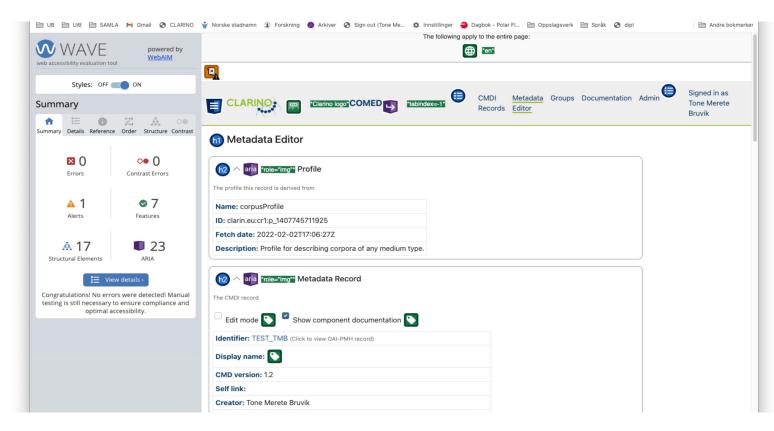
What have we done at CLARINO?

- We have tested all the services on our site (INESS, COMEDI, Corpuscle, Menota, Termportal).
 - Upgraded them if possible.
 - Published accessibility statements.
- Trained the developers and researches.











Are we done?

- No, there are still issues on all our sites.
- The site clarino.uib.no is not very good, waiting for the Dspace upgrade.
- We see that research tools and services are typically not very accessible.
- We will have to do a new check every year.



What about documents?

- Applications like MS Word and PowerPoint have accessibility testing included.
- Take care with graphics. Is it readable in a black and white print?
- Use structure.



Summary



Most important!

- Use good contrast!
- Black and white is not bad!
- Does it work on phones and laptops?
- Give alternative text to graphics and pictures.
- Underline your links and state the purpose in the text of the link!
- State the languages in use!
- Encode your structures!
 - Use regions like header, main and footer.
 - Use headlines hierarchies.





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