

EIJC & Dataharvest 2018

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Crossborder Journalism – the necessary tools

<https://eijc18dataharvest.sched.com/event/EYcl/cross-border-journalism-the-necessary-tools>

Hardly a week goes by without us getting a new USB drive or laptop containing a large volume of digital data. Very quickly we want to decide if there's a story there, or perhaps we want to keep the data for later searching for a future story.

Lots of solutions are available, from commercial 'e-forensic' software, to open source solutions like Friedrich Lindenberg (OCCRP) magnificent Aleph engine, the European Investigation Collaborations' 'Hoover' engine, to the Guardian's brilliant in-house engine.

In my work I wanted to address a different use case: a much simpler out-of-the-box search capability to be able to, within just a few hours and without some big technical team, index a new leak and then place it securely and carefully on a server (in the cloud or within our networks) to allow colleagues (inside Reuters and friends like yourselves) to evaluate that data. I found existing solutions (including Blacklight) far too complicated and difficult to adapt for me.

To that end, I worked last summer with Matthew Caruana Galizia (before Daphne's assassination) to make simple frontend to be able to index with the big-data indexing capability of the ICIJ's extract tool (<https://github.com/ICIJ/extract>

). Since then and with the help of Python tutors like Friedrich and Max Harlow, the journocoder founder now at the Financial Times, I made a demo called SearchBox, which we now use actively and which works on Macs, Linux servers, and can even (almost by accident) work on Windows. You can find it here:

<https://github.com/StephenGrey/searchbox>

There's a screenshot below of an index we've made for the Daphne Project.

Having had fun doing all that, it's obvious there is much duplication going on, and much opportunity to create some common libraries, for example to improve rapid and accurate indexing of any kind of data.

All this is to say that if you have an interest in coding, and testing some new fun ways to handle leaks, please do get in touch with me, as I'd like some partners to make a kind of laboratory to play with new secure solutions and integrate the best of what's being developed across the spectrum.

Best wishes

Stephen

SearchBox

Index:

Tag scores: (click to filter)

Konrad Mizzi 93
Joseph Muscat 62
Keith Schembri 21
Brian Tonna 19
Christian Cardona 8
Lalit Modi 8
John Dalli 7
BT International Ltd 6
KASCO Ltd 6
Colson Services Ltd 5
Adrian Hillman 4
Allied Newspapers Ltd 4
Emmanuel Mallia 4
HSBC Bank Malta plc 4
Malta Labour Party 4
Michelle Muscat 4
Nexia BT Holdings Ltd 4
Dominic Mintoff 3
Hani Hasan Najji Al Salah 3
Shanghai Electric Malta Ltd 3

User tags: (click to filter)

Maria Efimova 3
Karl Cini 2
Keith Schembri 2
Panama Papers 2
17 Black 1
Armada Floating Gas Services Malta 1
Brian Tonna 1
Cini 1
Konrad Mizzi 1
Lalit Mod 1
Michelle Muscat 1
Nexia BT 1
test 1

Sources: (click to filter)

Daphne CG blog 239

Search Terms:

(Accepts wildcards: '?' for any single character e.g T?p = 'Top','Tip' etc
"*" for many characters e.g T*p='Trump', Trop' etc.

'.' to exclude a term e.g. 'Trump -Donald'

Use double quotes "" to enclose a phrase)

Sort by:

- Relevance
- Document name
- Date (oldest to newest)
- Date (newest to oldest)

Results

365 results for search on "Tonna"

1. **So it's Claudio Tonna, Marlene Farrugia's relative and Godfrey Farrugia's chief of staff** Jun 05, 2013
Marlene Farrugia
service and secretary to cabinet, is Claudio **Tonna**, a relative of Marlene Farrugia and her boyfriend the
2. **The Health Czar wars are kicking in** Jul 24, 2013
sacked his chief of staff, Claudio **Tonna**, who also happens to be his girlfriend Marlene Farrugia's cousin
3. **No stress: Brian Tonna spends afternoon by the pool** Jun 04, 2017
outcome of the general election (they are the ones with everything to lose), Brian **Tonna** spent the day by
4. **Brian Tonna: now 'famous' in Spain** May 28, 2016
A Spanish site has picked up one of my posts about corrupt accountant Brian **Tonna**.
5. **Corrupt accountant Brian Tonna set up 'projects' company in January** May 19, 2016
Nexia BT Holdings Ltd
On 27 January last, corrupt accountant Brian **Tonna** – the man at the epicentre of Malta's Panama
6. **Corrupt accountant Brian Tonna flies out to watch football in the thick of scandal** May 18, 2016
Brian **Tonna**, the corrupt accountant at the heart of the government's Panama Papers crisis, was seen
7. **It's my guess that Brian Tonna is going to claim ownership of Egrant Inc** Feb 19, 2017
Konrad Mizzi
Brian **Tonna** and Karl Cini of Nexia BT have refused to appear before the European Parliament's PANA
8. **More corruption: Brian Tonna given €170,000 in direct orders by Gaming Authority in 2015** Apr 25, 2016
Christian Cardona Konrad Mizzi

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