

Rescuing Scholia #3: We did it!

Egon Willighagen 

Published February 28, 2026

Citation

Willighagen, E. (2026). Rescuing Scholia #3: We did it!. In *chem-bla-ics*. chem-bla-ics. <https://doi.org/10.59350/kd793-2fe02>

Keywords

Scholia, Sparql, Swat4ls

Copyright

Copyright © Egon Willighagen 2026. Distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

chem-bla-ics

It was not a set up, when I openly [wondered if we would be able to rescue Scholia in time](#). I honestly did not know. Three weeks and some serious hacking by an international team later I [was more optimistic](#). Actually, just before christmas, we started writing a [SWAT4HCLS 2026](#) demonstration abstract. This was accepted and you can read the *Scholia 2026: Compliance with SPARQL 1.1* preprint [here](#) and [here](#). This paper describes the work that had to be done, and I am deeply grateful to everyone who contributed with smaller or bigger contributions (Daniel, Peter, Konrad, Johannes, Lars, Wolfgang, Hannah). I am merely first author for the demo, and just another contributor to the long series of patches, in a [branch started by Prof. Hannah Bast](#).

The work actually started long before that, with the *Robustifying Scholia* grant (see [doi:10.3897/rio.5.e35820](https://doi.org/10.3897/rio.5.e35820)), where we explored alternatives. The Wikidata graph (RDF) split has been long coming, and I can recommend [this recent The Signpost article](#) by Lane for a good overview. So, this would not have been possible with [the many people who contributed over the years](#). But this last sprint really made a difference.

The developments of the QLever software in the past year are very important, and the SPARQL endpoint we run now is live updated, just like we knew from the Wikidata Query Service (WDQS). Recent improvement allowed us to replace all the Wikidata and Blazegraph specific aspects of the SPARQL queries, and good discussions led to pragmatic approaches to keep localization features Scholia had for displaying query results from Wikidata.

The work is not completed, however. All queries are SPARQL 1.1 now, but some can still be further optimized, and some still need some fixing. For example, I still spot some QIDs here and there, instead of the localized labels that should be shown instead. Also, we are actively looking in getting everything running again on WMF servers (see [this overview issue](#)), so that scholia.toolforge.org works again.

For now, however, please use qllever.scholia.wiki.