Although the repository technology was originally developed to enable scholarly open access, it is well-suited to other kinds of needs as well.

Jyrki Ilva <jyrki.ilva@helsinki.fi> Päivi Rosenström <paivi.rosenstrom@helsinki.fi> & Samu Viita <samu.viita@helsinki.fi> National Library of Finland

Permanent Public Access for Citizens

Finnish Government Publications on a Repository Platform

Institutional Repository for the Government

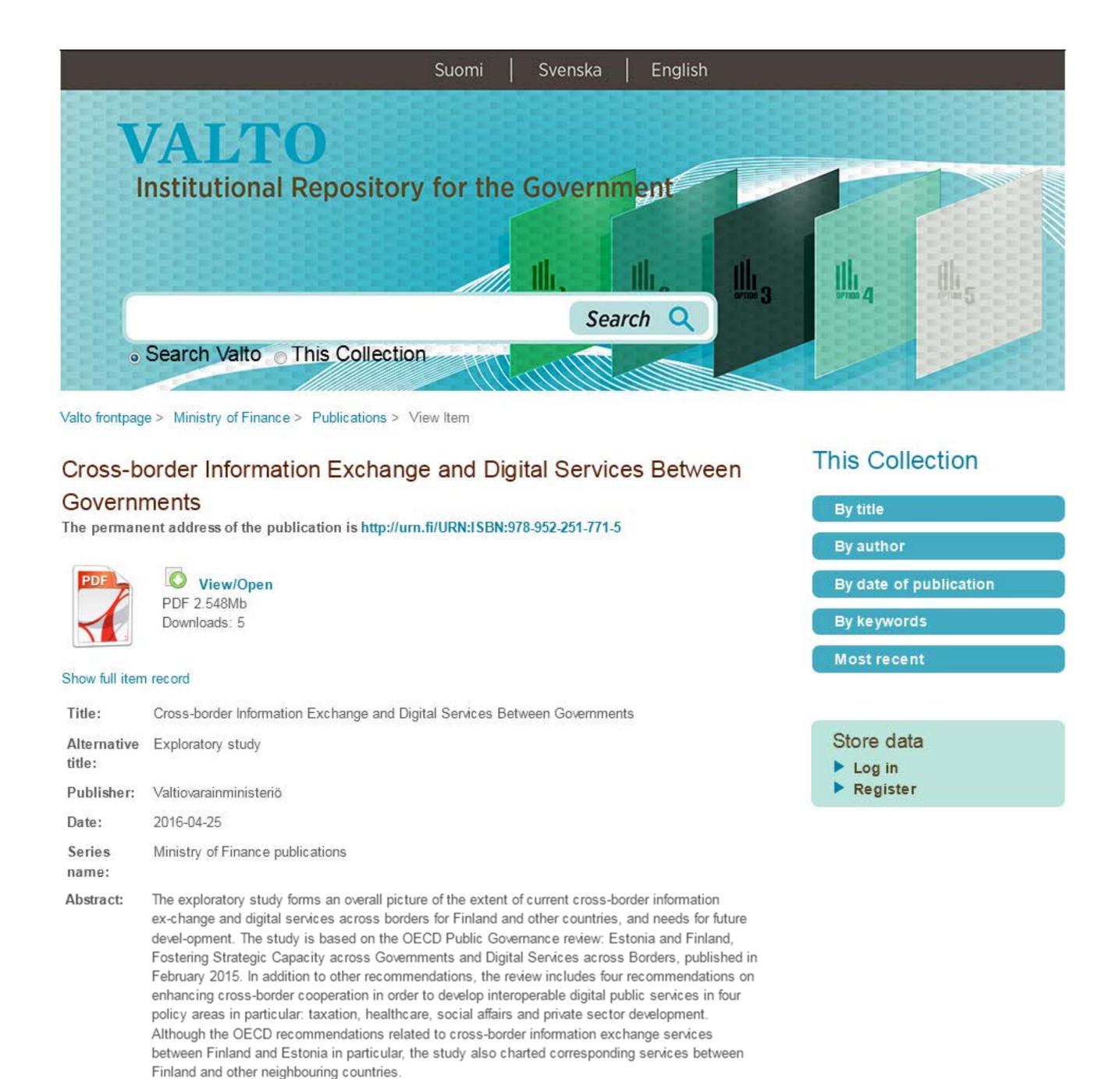
The Finnish government has concentrated the publishing activities of all 12 ministries into one shared publications unit which is part of the Prime Minister's Office. The unit was formed in March 2015, and it has built a new infrastructure which will handle the publications of all ministries.

Valto, a DSpace repository provided by the National Library of Finland, is one element in this infrastructure. The service has been available for public use since March 2016 at http://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi.

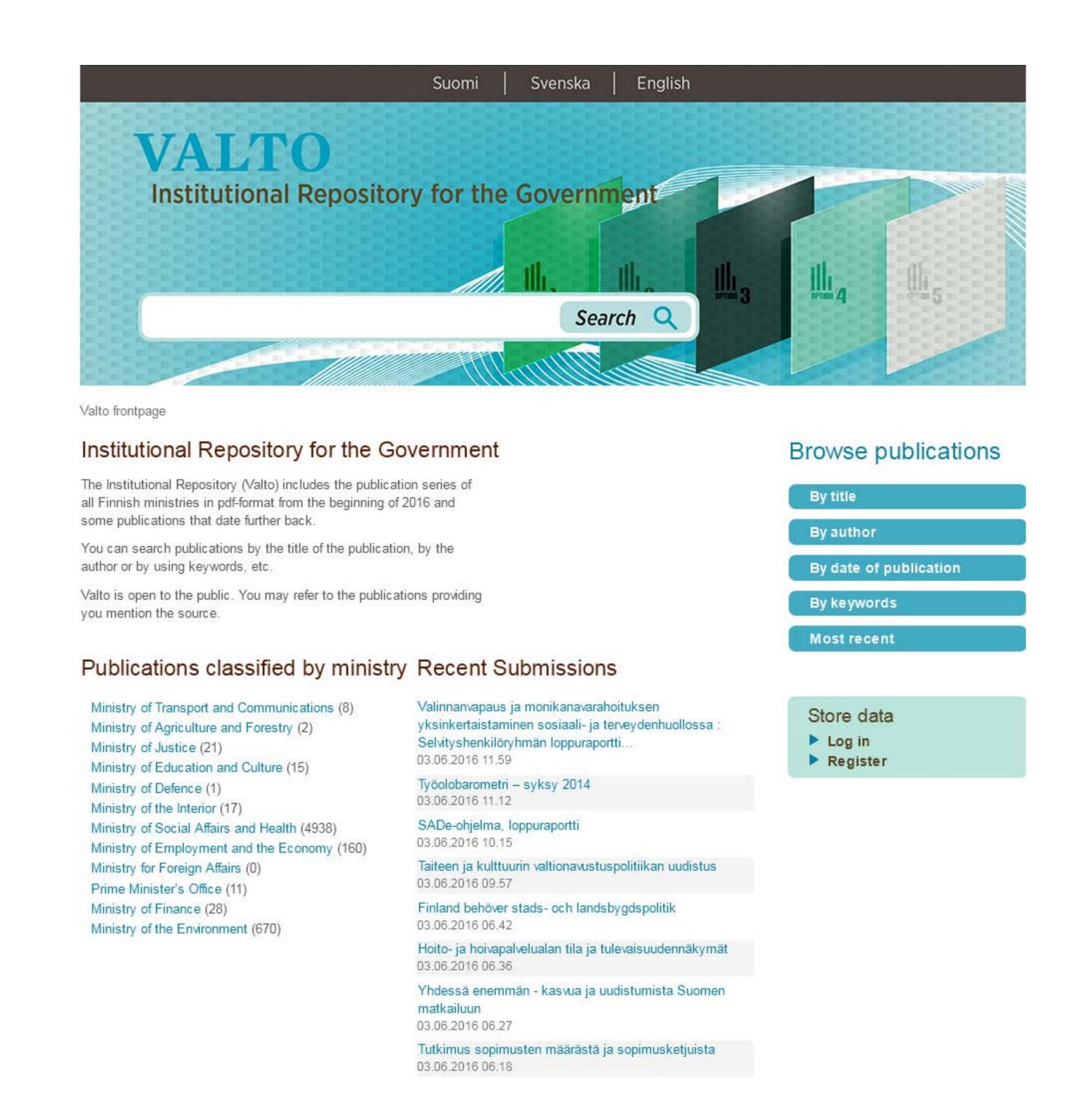
The publications are mostly uploaded to Valto automatically from a separate system which is used for the management of the prepublication process. The metadata harvested from Valto is used to create listings of the publications on the web sites of the ministries. These integrations have been implemented using the existing DSpace APIs.

Open interfaces and simple ingestion format

The ministries utilize OpenSearch and OAI-ORE to pick up their publications to their own sites. These interfaces and OAI-PMH are open for everyone. Simple archive format (SAF) is used for ingesting data from a centralized production system to DSpace. SAF also offers an easy method for the ministries and their software vendors for converting and ingesting old publications from legacy systems to Valto.



services; across; borders; information; exchange; information; management; Estonia; EU



Benefits of using open source software

The use of an open source platform like DSpace provides the government agencies with a reliable and relatively affordable service. With an open source platform and standardized APIs they are not likely to end up with a vendor lock-in situation.

Permanent addresses for publications

Most of the government publications have already been available at the web site of each ministry. However, they are not always easy to find, their URLs may change, or they may disappear altogether. The National Library provides support for the use of persistent identifiers (URNs) and persistent addresses in Finnish repositories. The identifiers are harvested automatically from DSpace for the national URN resolver (http://urn.fi).

Legal deposit and long-term preservation

With the new repository, the ministries will no longer have to send their publications separately to the National Library as legal deposit copies, as they can be harvested directly from Valto. The National Library is also investigating the possibilities of using the repository metadata in the Finnish national bibliography (Fennica) for these publications.

The long-term preservation of the publications will be taken care of by the National Digital Library preservation system, into which they will be ingested in connection with the legal deposit process.

The National Library of Finland (http://www.nationallibrary.fi) is providing DSpace-based repository services for 46 Finnish organizations. The customer organizations include universities, universities of applied sciences and other public sector organizations, including state research institutes and other government agencies.

