

# Information Architecture for Organizations

## Ontological status

### Objectives

- A formal framework to be applied in the context of modern technologies like the Semantic Web
- Basis for the architecture for organizing information and knowledge within organizations
- Integration and organization of the extensive variety of information systems in charge of corporate procedures

Corporations ...

- ... maintain their identity over time
- ... have real existence separated from their members
- ... are artificial (or fiat) entities
- ... are non-summative aggregates
- ... are long-lasting entities

Descriptive

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Structural

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Principles of top-level formal ontologies

## Corporations units

## Duties, obligations and responsibilities

Normative

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Corporate-related activities

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Social ontology

### Granular Partition Theory

Theory A

Theory B

Define units and subunits (or cell and subcell)

Relations between sets and subsets

Relations between a set and his members

Fiat objects are created through the projections of the partitions in reality

What kind of whole corporation would be? (based on BFO)

### Aggregate

Mereology deals with materials and does not seem to be the best framework to explain corporations and its units.

- are not defined in terms of their own elements
- have detached parts that integral wholes do not have
- have members linked together
- are material entities consisting exactly of a plurality of objects
- and these objects are member parts of it all times at which it exists

A fiat object comes to existence through cognition and is sustained in existence when the verbal form of corporate norms is translated to written form

### Social Acts Theory

It is a process carried out by someone and directed toward another one, who perceives it.

Speech Acts

Language is a way to perform acts through words.

Declarations

It is a social act that brings about, transfers, or revokes a (S)GDC.

Documents Acts

It is a declaration made using a document in order to to temporally extends the effects of a declaration.

SGDC: a kind of generically dependent continuant for social contexts (under test).

Adaptado de Almeida, M.,Pessanha, C.,Barcelos, R.: **Information Architecture for Organizations: an Ontological Approach.**