Wordpress CMS

Filip Herceg

Content

Introduction	
Dashboard	
Profile	
Write	8
Manage	20
Comments	23
Gallery	24
EAO (Frequently Asked Overtions)	28

Introduction

First, an explanation – what is **CMS**? **CMS** or Content Managment System is, by Wikipedia: "Web content management systems are often used for storing, controlling, versioning, and publishing industry-specific documentation such as news articles, operators' manuals, technical manuals, sales guides, and marketing brochures. A Web content management system may support the following features:

- Identification of all key users and their content management roles.
- The ability to assign roles and responsibilities to different content categories or types.
- Definition of the content work flow tasks, often coupled with event messaging so that content managers are alerted to changes in content.
- The ability to track and manage multiple versions of a single instance of content.
- The ability to publish the content to a repository to support access to the content. Increasingly, the repository is an inherent part of the system, and incorporates enterprise search and retrieval.
- Some content management systems allow the semantic layer of content to be separated to some extent from its layout. For example the CMS may automatically set the color, fonts, or emphasis of text."

How does Wordpress fit in all that?

WordPress is a powerful personal publishing platform, and it comes with a great set of features designed to make your experience as a publisher on the Internet as easy, pleasant and appealing as possible. It is publishing software with a focus on ease of use, speed and a great user experience.

The WordPress Roles feature is designed to give the web site administrator the ability to control and assign what users can and cannot do in the site.

Summary of Roles:

- Administrator Somebody who has access to all the administration features
- **Editor** Somebody who can publish posts, manage posts as well as manage other people's posts, etc.
- Author Somebody who can publish and manage their own posts
- Contributor Somebody who can write and manage their posts but not publish posts
- Subscriber Somebody who can read comments/comment/receive news letters, etc.

Wordpress is very easy to use and in next chapters there will be explained, in simplest possible way, how to work in **CMS** environment. In this tutorial, we will go through **Editor** Role.

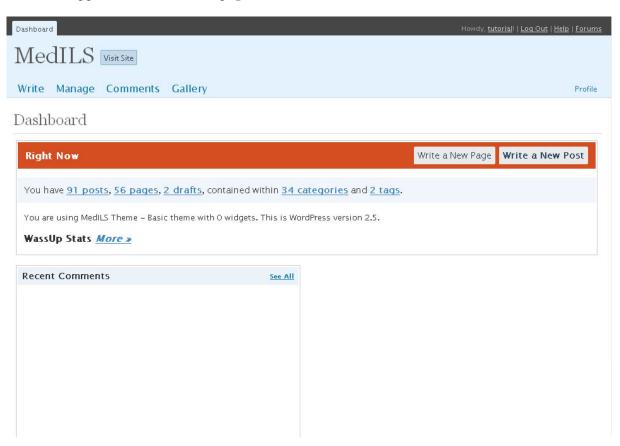
So, let's start...

Dashboard

You can login and start using Wordpress CMS by writing the given username and password:



The first page you will see will look similar to next picture. This page is called **Dashboard** and it is the starting page in Wordpress CMS. You can always return to **Dashboard** by clicking on the link in the upper left corner of the page.



Header is same throughout Wordpress CMS and it consists of some basic links you use to navigate CMS. You will learn about them in next chapters. For now, just some short explanations:



If you click on *Visit Site*, you go to the first page of MedILS web (<u>www.medils.org</u>). Links *Write*, *Manage*, *Comments* and *Gallery* are most important and are in more detail explained

later.



On the right side of the header are links for logging out of CMS (*Log Out*), help (*Help*) - which takes you to official Wordpress help site, forums (*Forums*) – Wordpress messaging board, where you can ask for help if you have problems, and link for editing your own profile (*Profile*).

Next picture shows the main part of **Dashboard** – here you can see some general information about current condition of the site - how many posts, pages and drafts are written so far, Wordpress version and some other details. Also, here you can find shortcuts to write a new post or new page (difference between posts and pages will be explained in chapter **Write**).

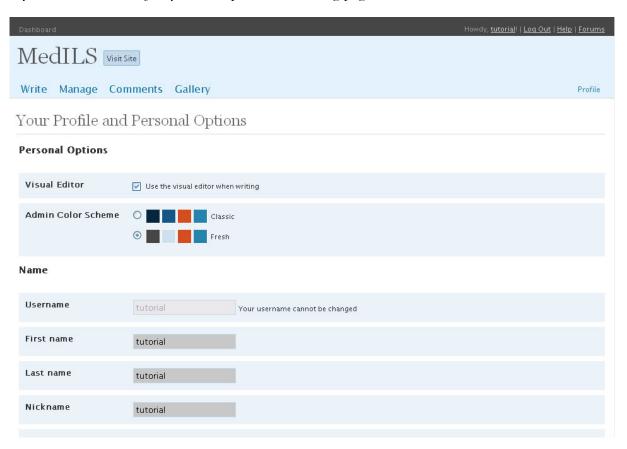
Dashboard



In next chapter you will learn how to change your profile details.

Profile

If you click on link *Profile*, you will open the following page:



Here you can change your basic options and personal info.

First option is to turn on/off the use of visual editor when writing/editing pages or post. If you know HTML and are skilled in writing the code yourself, you can turn this option off. In other cases, I recommend leaving it turned on. As for the color scheme, you can stay with **Fresh**, or change it to **Classic** – that depends only on your personal taste.

You can't change the username you are given, but you can change your first name, last name, or your nickname. (Notice: for now, MedILS site doesn't show your personal info, so you can leave this options empty)

Also, you can change your e-mail, your website or even add some of the popular instant messaging services, like: AIM, Yahoo IM, Jabber/Google Talk. (Notice: same as the last one – this data isn't shown on MedILS site fow now)

If you like, you can add some biographical info, but the same notice as the last two goes for this option too.

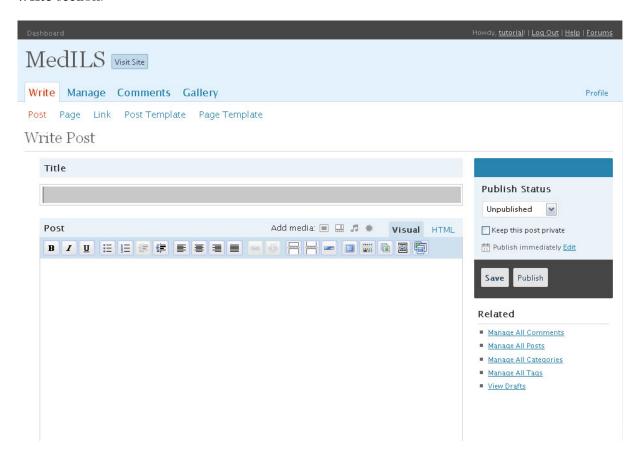
The last option is changing your password and this one is highly recommendable. When you change your password, Wordpress shows you how strong it is – the stronger, the better.

E-mail	tutorial@medils.org Required
Website	http://www.medils.org
AIM	
Yahoo IM	
Jabber / Google Talk	
About Yourself	
Biographical Info	Share a little biographical information to fill out your profile. This may be shown publicly.
New Password:	If you would like to change the password type a new one. Otherwise leave this blank. Type your new password again. Password Strength: Too short Hint: Use upper and lower case characters, numbers and symbols like !?\$%^&(in your password.)
Update Profile	

When you make all the changes you want, just click on Update Profile button.

Write

The most important part of every CMS is adding new content – in Wordpress you do this in **Write** section.



When you click on Write button you will go to page that looks like the upper picture. You can see there are different things you can write: Post, Page, Link, Post Template, Page Template.



We will focus on posts and pages – links aren't used on MedILS web (for now), and Post and Page Template are very similar to writing a post or a page, only difference is you can save them as template (draft) for future posts or pages that are all very similar and need only few modifications – this way you can write posts or pages faster.

The key for working with Wordpress is to understand the difference between posts and pages. Here is a little modified explanation from official Wordpress site:

"In WordPress, you can write either posts or pages. When you're writing a regular news/documents/publications entry, you write a post. Posts automatically appear in reverse chronological order on your news/documents/publications page and they are organized in Categories. Pages, on the other hand, are for content such as "Vision", "Contact us", "Address book", etc. Pages live outside of the normal web site chronology, and are often used to present

information about yourself or your site that is somehow timeless - information that is always applicable. You can use Pages to organize and manage any amount of content."

Some other important things about pages:

What Pages Are:

- Pages are for content that is less time-dependent than Posts.
- Pages can be organized into pages and SubPages.
- Pages can use different Page Templates

What Pages are Not:

- Pages are not posts, nor are they excerpted from larger works of fiction. They do not cycle through your site's main page.
- Pages cannot be associated with Categories and cannot be assigned Tags. The
 organizational structure for Pages comes only from their hierarchical interrelationships,
 and not from Tags or Categories.
- Pages are not files. They are stored in your database just like Posts are.

Let's write one post together...

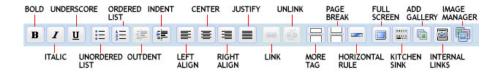
First thing is the title. Let's call our post "Learning to work in Wordpress":

```
Learning to work in Wordpress
```

Next step is to add post content. You do this in WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editor or in HTML editor. Recommendation – use the WYSIWYG editor (it is turned on by default) if you're not skilled with HTML coding. You can switch between this two mods at any time:

```
Visual – WYSIWYG editor; HTML – HTML editor
```

In Visual mod, you're working with WYSIWYG toolbar:



You are already familiar with most of these buttons, so I will explain only new ones:

- Link add link in post
- Unlink delete link from post (only text/image remains)
- More tag extremly important, goes at the beginning of every post the first thing you do after you write the title for post is to click on the More tag button
- Page break not used on MedILS site

- Horizontal rule not used on MedILS site
- Full screen toggles full screen editing mode on/off
- **Kitchen sink** opens or closes the second row of WYSIWYG buttons (explained later)
- Add gallery adds a new gallery on Gallery page (not used in posts)
- Internal links adds a link of existing post or page (post or page that is already written and published on MedILS web site)
- Image manager adds a new image in posts (in detail explained later)

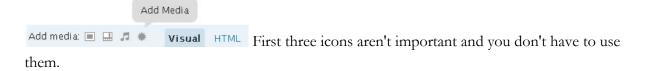
If you open the Kitchen sink, you will have a second row of buttons:



Further explanations:

- Add/change styles here you can find different styles to apply in posts or pages (more about that later)
- Paragraph/heading similar as Styles, you will find out more about headings a bit later
- **Cut** cuts content
- Copy copies content
- Paste pastes content
- Paste as plain text pastes content as simple text, without any formatting
- Paste from Word pastes content with formatting from Word, such as bold, italic, underline and similar
- Remove formatting removes any existing formatting
- Blockquote you use this when adding files to posts or pages, explained later
- **Insert custom character** if you need to insert some special/unusual characters in post/page this is the way to do it
- Non-breaking space in HTML you can have only one empty space at the time (when you press Space button on your keyboard) if you want to have more then one, use this button to insert more spaces (not recommended to use)

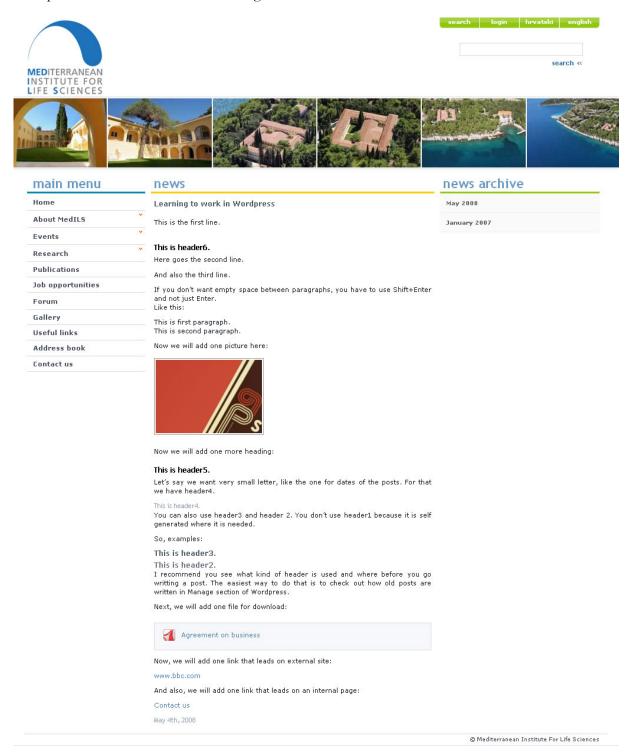
Also, you can add files for download, by clicking on the icon in the **Add media** section:



So, now we can continue writing our post... First, as said before, we add More tag:



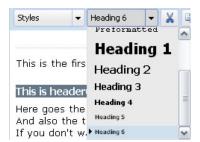
After that, we press Enter and now we can write the content of our post. Let's say we're writing a news post which should look something like this when written:



Title is self generated:

Learning to work in Wordpress

If you want to add a header, write text, select it and choose the type of the header you'd like to use. You can select between Header2-6 - don't use Header1 because it is self generated where it's needed.



I recommend you see what kind of header is used and where before you write a post. The easiest way to do this is to check out how old posts are written in **Manage** section of Wordpress.

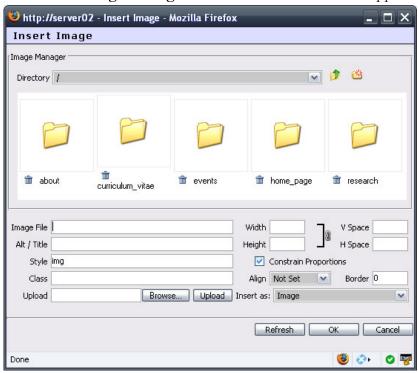
If you don't want empty line between paragraphs, you have to use **Shift+Enter** and not just Enter.

If you don't want empty space between paragraphs, you have to use Shift+Enter and not just Enter.
Like this:

This is first paragraph.
This is second paragraph.

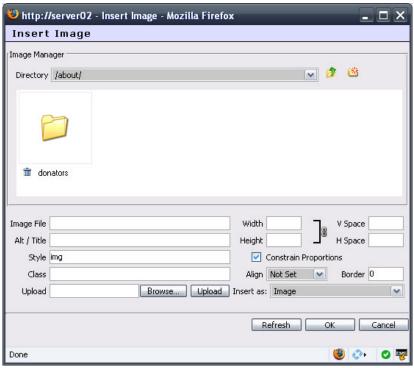
If you want to add an image in post, you have to follow the next procedure:

1. Click on the **Image manager** button. The next screen will appear:

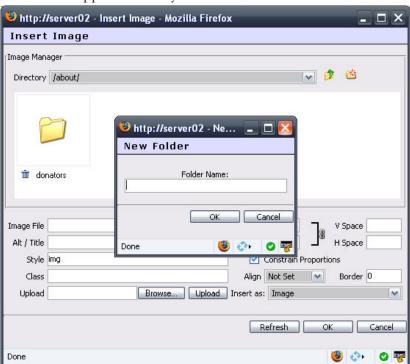


2. If the picture you want to add is already uploaded, you just have to find her in one of the folders and click on the **OK** button. However, if you have to upload picture, just follow the next procedure. Let's say you want to add picture in the **News** category. First, you

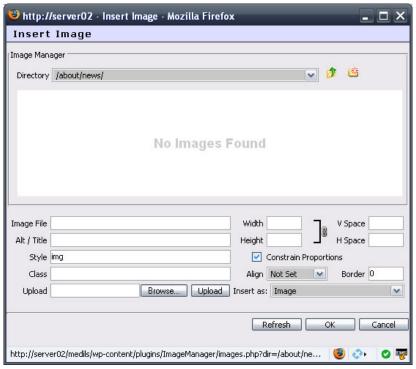
have to click on the about directory:



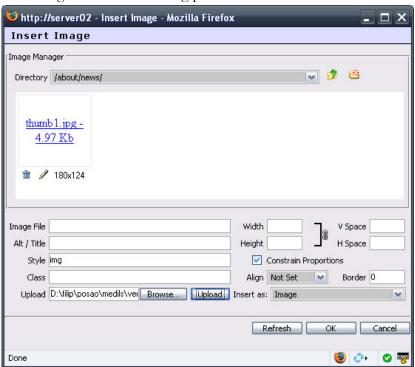
- 3. Here you can see that folder **News** doesn't exist, so you have to create it. Click on the **New folder** button:
- 4. Next screen appears here you write the name for the new folder and then click:



5. You successfully created new folder – now click on the folder you made and you can see that it is empty.

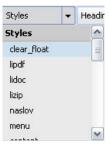


6. You have to upload new image so click on the **Browse** button, find image on your computer, click **OK**, and then click on the button **Upload**. Make sure the names you give images are meaningfull and easily recognized. If everything went successfull, you will see something similar to following picture:



7. Now you just have to click on the image and **OK** button – congratulations, you added your first image to Wordpress. When you add image, it always stays in the exact place you add it – you can use it as many times you like in different posts or pages...

If you don't want text below the picture to be wrapped around the picture, just press Enter right after the picture, go to **Styles** menu and select *clear_float*.

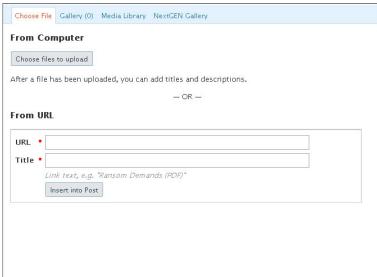


Next, we will add one file for download:

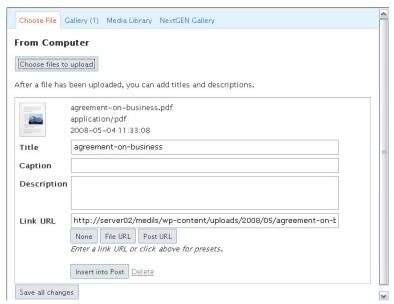
1. Click on the **Add Media** icon:



2. Click on the **Chose files to upload** button for uploading a new file, or **Media library** button for adding an already uploaded file. If you choose to upload new file, just select a file or files on your computer and click **Open**. Your files will be uploaded.



3. When all the files are uploaded, you just have to select the one you want to insert in the post and click on the **Insert into Post** button. Before doing that, make sure the title of the file is correctly written, ie. don't give the file name *aob.pdf* and title *aob* – file name should be *agreement-on-business.pdf* (you can name file *agreement on business.pdf*, Wordpress will take care it's called *agreement-on-business.pdf* when you upload it), and file title *Agreement on business*.

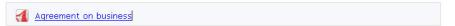


4. When the link to file download is inserted in post, you have to select a style for it. Let's say you've uploaded a *.pdf* file. Go to Styles and select *lipdf* (when the link to file you just inserted is selected):

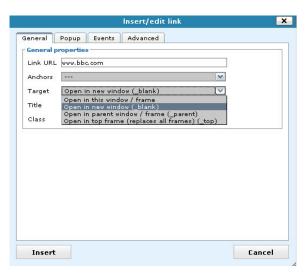


Same goes for .doc files (lidoc), archive files (lizip), movie files (limovie)...

5. Link to file still being selected, just click on the **Blockqoute** button. Final result is:



Now, all that's left to learn is how to add links to post. Links can be internal (links to diffrent posts or pages on MedILS site) or external (links to different web sites). If you want to add an external link, just select the text, click on the **Link** button and write URL of the site and don't forget to select option to open site in new window or tab:

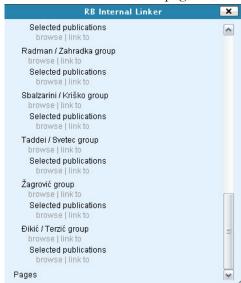


Adding an internal link is a bit more complicated:

1. Let's say you want to add a link to Contact us page on MedILS site. Click on the **Internal** links button. Here you see the list of categories/posts.



2. You want to add a link to page so scroll to the bottom of the window.



3. Click on the **Pages**. Now you see list of the existing pages on MedILS web site. Choose Contact us page (third one).



4. Now you have a couple of options. You can change link text, class, target or add anchor – I recommend you leave everything as it is. Just click on **Insert link** button.



5. Now the text you selected as link has a yellow background.

Contact us

There, we've gone through the hardest part of the tutorial. All you have to learn now are some details. First, how to publish a post:

You have to select a category in which you wish to publish the post.



After that, you have to write an excerpt (you can just copy the first sentence of your post).

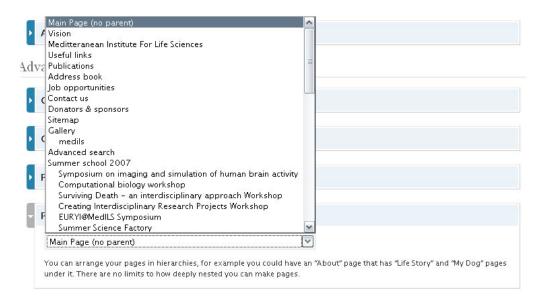


All that's left now is to click on the **Publish** button and your post is published on web site.



Pages are very similar to posts, but there's a few differences. Most important, you don't use **More tag** when writing a page.

You can arrange pages in hierarchies as shown on picture below. You do this with **Page parent** option. There are no limits to how deeply nested you can make pages, but MedILS site is for now adjusted to work with just 2 depths.



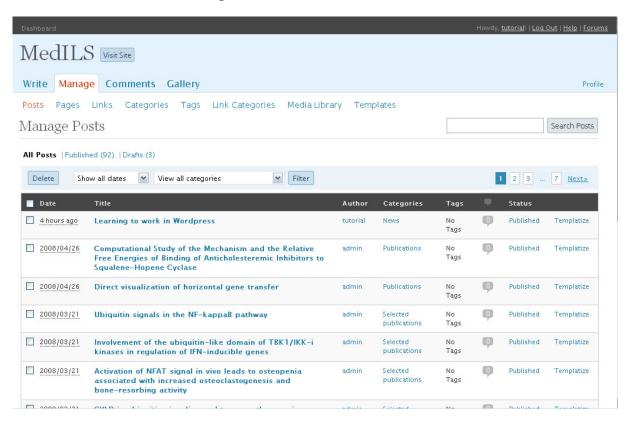
Also, MedILS site has a couple of Page templates – you can assign a custom template to a page. Templates add additional features or custom layouts. For example, *Home Page* template gives a 3-column layout of a page, while, by default, pages have a 2-column layout. New templates can be added if neccessary.

In this chapter you could read about some basic things about writing a post/page in Wordpress, but I recommend you visit the following page and read some great advices about post writing:

http://codex.wordpress.org/Writing_Posts

Manage

Of course, Wordpress CMS offers posibility of editing already written posts, pages, categories and so on... You do this in **Manage** section:

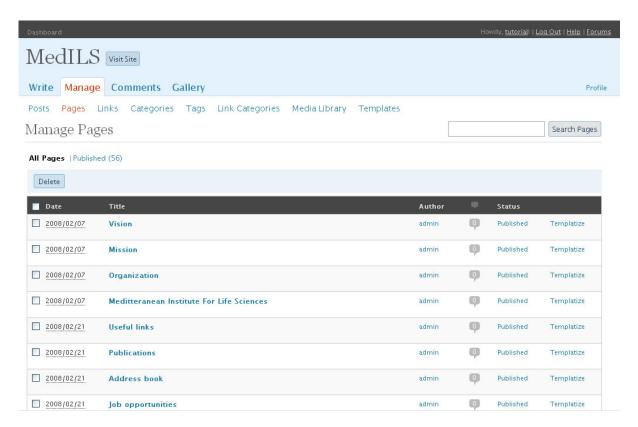


Just click on the name of the post you want to edit and that's all there is to know.

You can filter post by dates or by categories:



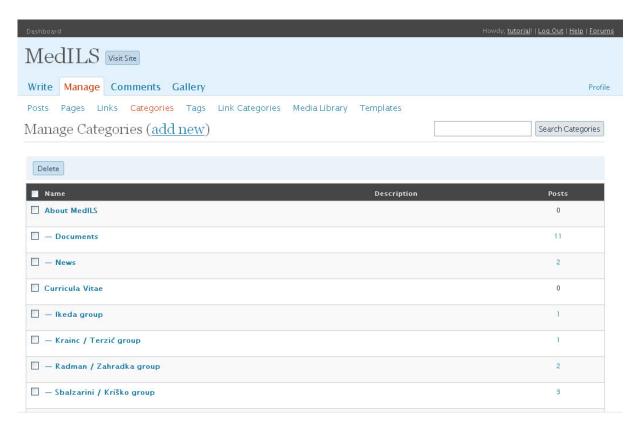
Managing pages is as easy as posts, just click on the title of the page you want to edit.



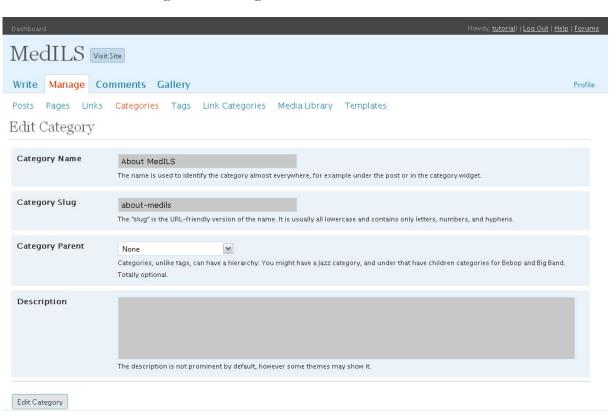
Posts are organized in categories – more about that from Wordpress documentation: "Each Post and Link in WordPress is filed under one or more categories. This aids in navigation and allows Posts and Links to be grouped with others of similar nature.

Each category may be assigned to a Category Parent so that you may set up a hierarchy within the category structure. In creating categories, recognize that each category name must be unique. Thus, even if two categories have two different parents, they must still have different names."

When someone viewing MedILS site clicks on one of the category links, a page with all the posts belonging to that category will be displayed.



You can alse add new categories, or change information about old ones:

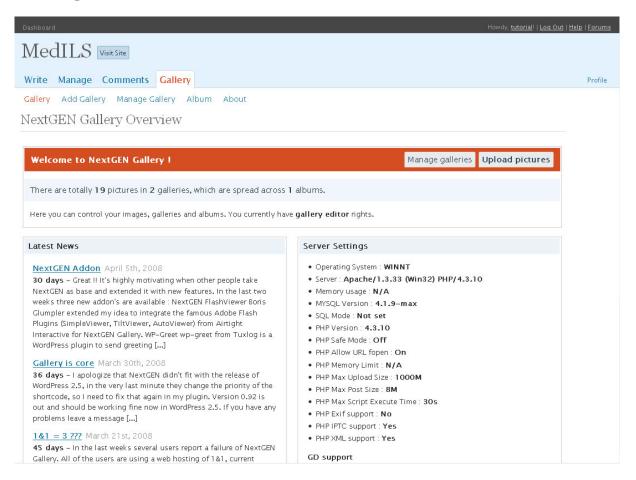


Comments

Comments aren't enabled for MedILS web site, and because of that visitors can't leave their remarks or suggestions. Also, because of that, this chapter about writing, deliting and moderating comments won't be explained for now.

Gallery

Gallery is a Wordpress plugin for adding albums of photos on web site. First page of the Gallery section is general overview:



If you want to add new gallery, you have to go click on Add Gallery:





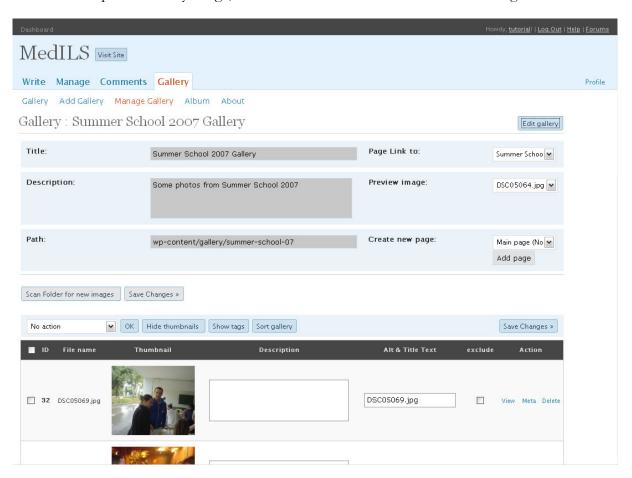
Here you can add new gallery and upload new photos. I recommend you put photos you want to upload in a .zip file, and you name the .zip file as you wish to name the gallery – for instance, summer-school-07.zip.



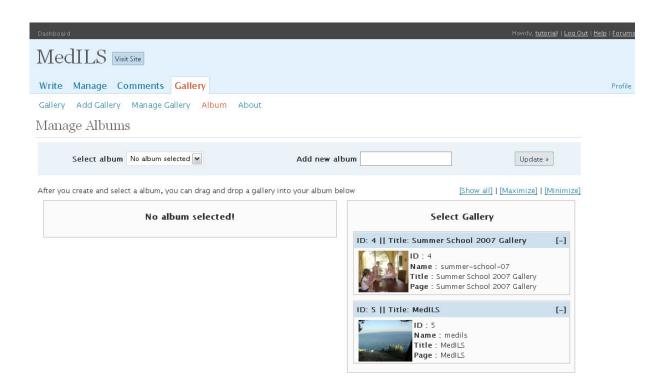
When you've uploaded photos, you can manage the gallery by clicking on **Manage Gallery** button and then **Edit** link:



You can edit things like *Title* or *Description* of the Gallery, and change the *Preview image*. You can also add description of every image, as well as alternative and title text of the image.

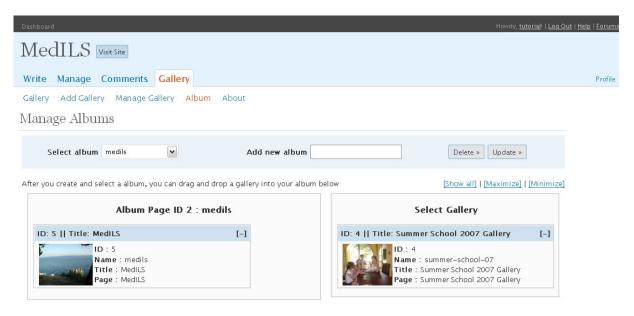


When you've edited the gallery, you have to add it to an album. First, you select the album you wish to add gallery to:





After that, you just have to drag and drop the gallery to album, and click on the **Update** button.



FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Awaiting your questions..:)

Also, feel free to e-mail me if/when you find mistakes (language or content-wise) in this tutorial or if you have some suggestions how to improve it. Thank you.

filip.herceg@gmail.com