---+ Package `TWiki::Prefs`

The Prefs class is a singleton that implements management of preferences. It uses a stack of TWiki::Prefs::PrefsCache objects to store the preferences for global, web, user and topic contexts, and provides the means to look up preferences in these.

Preferences from different places stack on top of each other, so there are global preferences, then site, then web (and subweb and subsubweb), then topic, included topic and so on. Each level of the stack is tagged with a type identifier.

The module also maintains a separate of the preferences found in every topic and web it reads. This supports the lookup of preferences for webs and topics that are not on the stack, and must not be chained in (you can't allow a user to override protections from their home topic!)

ClassMethod new (`$session[,$cache]`)

Creates a new Prefs object. If $cache is defined, it will be pushed onto the stack.

ObjectMethod finish `()`

Break circular references.

ObjectMethod pushPreferences (`$web,$topic,$type,$prefix`)

- `$web` - web to read from
- `$topic` - topic to read
- `$type` - DEFAULT, SITE, USER, SESSION, WEB, TOPIC or PLUGIN
- `$prefix` - key prefix for all preferences (used for plugins)

Reads preferences from the given topic, and pushes them onto the preferences stack.

ObjectMethod pushWebPreferences (`$web`)

Pushes web preferences. Web preferences for a particular web depend on the preferences of all containing webs.

ObjectMethod pushGlobalPreferences `()`

Add global preferences to this preferences stack.

ObjectMethod pushPreferencesValues (`$type,\%values`)

Push a new preference level using type and values given

ObjectMethod mark `()`

Return a marker representing the current top of the preferences stack. Used to remember the stack when new web and topic preferences are pushed during a topic include.

ObjectMethod restore `($mark)`

Resets the preferences stack to the given mark, to recover after a topic include.

ObjectMethod getPreferencesValue `($key) -> $value`

- =$key - key to look up

Returns the value of the preference `$key`, or undef.

Looks up local preferences when the level topic is the same as the current web,topic in the session.

ObjectMethod isFinalised `($key)`

Return true if $key is finalised somewhere in the prefs stack

ObjectMethod getTopicPreferencesValue `($key,$web,$topic) -> $value`

Recover a preferences value that is defined in a specific topic. Does not recover web, user or global settings.

Intended for use in protections mechanisms, where the order doesn't match the prefs stack.

getTextPreferencesValue($key, $text, $meta, $web, $topic) -> $value

Get a preference value from the settings in the text (and/or optional $meta). The values read are **not** cached.

ObjectMethod getWebPreferencesValue `($key,$web) -> $value`

Recover a preferences value that is defined in the webhome topic of a specific web.. Does not recover user or global settings, but does recover settings from containing webs.

Intended for use in protections mechanisms, where the order doesn't match the prefs stack.

setPreferencesValue($name, $val)

Set a preferences value. The preference is set in the context at the top of the preference stack, whatever the current state may be.

The preference is not serialised.

ObjectMethod stringify() -> $text

Generate a TML-formatted version of the current preferences

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