

EU actions for bringing Europe's cultural heritage online

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A Digital Agenda for Cultural Heritage: Where are we?

2005-2010: i2010 Digital libraries initiative

- The issue of Digital Libraries has raised a high level of political attention
- Europeana
- Improved basic conditions for digitisation, online accessibility and digital preservation

2010- 2020: European Digital Agenda

- Continued effort to bring our cultural heritage online
- "...A sustainable financing model for Europeana and digitisation of cultural heritage..."
- Other actions on: orphan and out-of-commerce works, update Recommendation to Member States, research and innovation, PSI/open data and cultural sector



THE NEW RENAISSANCE



REPORT OF THE 'COMITÉ DES SAGES'

REFLECTION GROUP ON BRINGING EUROPE'S
CULTURAL HERITAGE ONLINE



European Commission
Information Society and Media

The work of the Comité des Sages



- Appointed by Commissioners Kroes and Vassiliou in April 2010
- Three personalities
 - M. Lévy (CEO Publicis)
 - E. Niggemann (DG German national library)
 - J. De Decker (Journalist and writer)
- Report presented to the Commission on 10 January 2011
- Stresses the economic aspects next to the cultural aspects
- 'Access' is the central concept
- Digitisation is more than a technical option, it is a moral obligation



Comité des Sages on Europeana



The issue

- Europeana central in the strategy
- Should be strengthened to become the reference point for European culture online

Key recommendations:

- Financial and political efforts should be concentrated
- Public funding for digitisation conditional on free accessibility through Europeana
- By 2016 all public domain masterpieces accessible through Europeana
- Europeana to be actively and widely promoted at all levels

Sustainability of digitised resources



The issue

- Preservation: essential for digitisation and for born digital material
- Cultural institutions have a key role to play

Key recommendations:

- Avoid that the same content needs to be deposited in different EU countries
- Copyright legislation must enable cultural institutions to make archival copies and file conversions
- Implement persistent identifiers in each digital object



Funding issues



The issue

- Cost of digitising European cultural heritage is 100 bn euros
- Mass-digitisation susceptible to efficiency gains due to scale
- Digitisation: an opportunity for new business

Key recommendations :

- Step up public investments. The crisis cannot be ignored, but cannot be a reason for not acting
- Involvement of private partners to be encouraged
- Funding of digitisation and of Europeana is a package: MS pay for digitisation, EU pays for Europeana
- Turn digitisation into new development opportunities for European firms

Public-private partnerships



The issue

- Private funds for digitisation are necessary
- Cultural institutions enter partnerships 'unprepared' and 'unequipped'

Key recommendations:

- Conditions for partnerships:
 - Agreements to be made public
 - Digitised public domain material freely accessible and available in all MS
 - Same quality of files for cultural institutions
- Maximum time of preferential use is 7 years
- Create favourable conditions for the involvement of European players in PPPs

Commission Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation (2006)

- Planned update to take into account:
 - Evolution of Europeana;
 - Report by CdS;
 - Proposal for an Orphan Work Directive



Europeana

More content wanted!

- Still big quantitative difference between Member States in terms of contribution
- Different types of contributions from Member States
- **Audiovisual content and film material still too low!**
- Importance of classics and masterpieces
- A Roadmap with recommendations to increase accessible content is being developed by Commission and Member States



Europeana Funding 2008-2013

- eContent plus Programme and Competitiveness and Innovation (CIP) Framework Programme:
- Co-financing available for projects on content aggregation and digitisation
- AV and Film heritage projects:
 - EFG, EUScreen, Videoactive,...



2014-2020 Connecting Europe Facility

- June 2011: Commission proposal EU budget 2014-2020
- Infrastructure Connecting Europe Facility: energy, transport and **digital networks**
- 2014-2020: € 40 billion
 - Energy €9.1 billion
 - Transport €21.7 billion
 - **ICT/Digital €9.2 billion**



Europeana 2014-2020

- **Broadband and 9 European Digital Infrastructures, including:**
- **Enabling access to digital resources of Europe's cultural heritage – *Europeana*:**
- *“Service infrastructure to explore the digital resources of Europe's museums, libraries, archives and audio-visual collections”*



ICT Research for Cultural Heritage

- **Long body** of ICT research for culture from 5th to 7th Framework Programmes: access to culture, competence centers on digitisation, digital preservation research
- R&D projects focussed on **AV content**: Prestospace, Prestoprime, Axes, ...
- 2014-2020: **Horizon 2020**, framework for Research and Innovation (merging of FP, CIP and ETI)



Open Data strategy and cultural material

- Open Data strategy
- Review of the Directive on the re-use of public sector information
- Open access to scientific information

Every European digital

