



Improving access to Cultural Heritage

ICT2013 - Vilnius

7 November 2013



Here today...

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Overview

- Introduction
- Digitisation and Refinement
- Aggregation
- User needs
- Project Partner statement
- Sustainability: Best Practice, Networking, Re-use
- Conclusion
- Questions/Answers

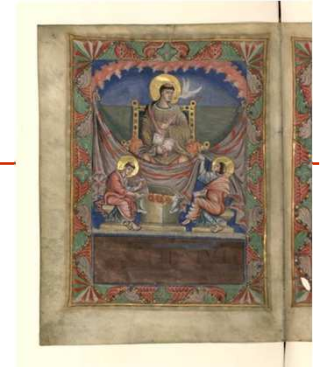


Common Ground

- ❖ Improving access by aggregating digitised content
- ❖ Information available online
- ❖ Access to a large collection
- ❖ Construction of a geographically dispersed collection
- ❖ Comparability on screen
- ❖ Identification of linkages beyond collections and related areas



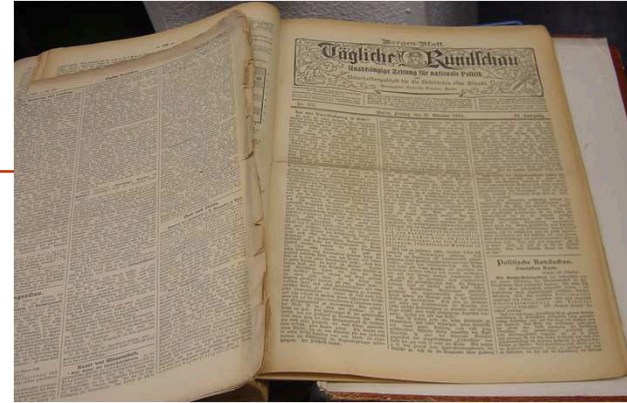
To create a digital collaborative library of 1,298 royal manuscripts in Mediaeval and Renaissance Europe accessible to European and International citizens, contributing to Europeana



Sacramentaire de Charles le Chauve, Latin 1141

Choice of common specifications for digitisation and metadata in order to make them coherent and interoperable for Europeana

→ User-friendly guidelines for librarians as well as users have been published



- 18 million pages
- Image generation:
 - High performance scanner and micro roll film scanner
 - Full text: OCR and OLR
 - depending on material type
 - ENP: basic level (per article)
 - Named Entity Recognition:
 - depending on material type
 - integrate knowledge bases as are deemed fit

Aggregation



Content available at EUROPEANA
→ available not as collection



Content available at TEL and EUROPEANA
→ available as a collection
→ within an specific search environment (TEL)



User needs

Access to documents for different user groups: researcher, teacher, general public, ...

Improvement by

- Full text search capabilities
 - Variety of navigation options (time, space, ...)
 - User specific services (MyENP, alert services, word frequency analysis)
 - Community building: who else in the user community is doing what with what (where to locate such services?)
- Try to create « useable » websites



National Library of Latvia - Project Partner view

1. Digitisation - the more the better
2. European portals – availability and sustainability
3. Network and share of Best Practice
4. National strategy of digital culture heritage and preservation of culture heritage on national level



Sustainability: Best Practice, networking, re-use

Best practice

- Regia: Common specifications for digitisation creates coherence and interoperability for Europeana
- ENP: Create Best-Practice recommendations for Newspaper Metadata (data related to OCR, OLR, NER)
- ENP: Provide aggregation framework for European portals

Networking

- Regia: primarily within scholarly and educational contexts
- ENP: primarily among other public institutions with newspaper holdings



Sustainability: Best Practice, networking, re-use 2

Re-use of digital content

- Regia: scholarly communities, education
- ENP: Who knows?



Conclusion

- Integrate digitisation plans in daily workflows at libraries
- Cultural heritage organisations offer added value by
 - Providing huge catalogues
 - Using authority data (names, corporate bodies, places, events, ...), thus creating “islands of meaning“ in the internet

The European perspective:

- Policy and strategic planning (Digital Agenda)
- Financial support through various funding schemes





Thank you for your attention !





Questions / Answers: Some preliminary thoughts

- Digitisation: high-end vs. mass production
- what is a „European critical mass“?
- rights issues
- multi-linguality of the data
- services and where to place them