

Public consultation Europeana - next steps

European Commission
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Comments from **FOBID Netherlands Library Forum (www.fobid.nl)**

FOBID Netherlands Library Forum is the national umbrella organisation and forum for co-operation between the national library organisations:

- the [Netherlands Public Library Association](#)
- [NVB](#), the Netherlands Association for Library, Information and Knowledge Professionals
- [KB](#), National Library of the Netherlands, and
- [UKB](#), the co-operative Association of University Libraries.

FOBID Netherlands Library Forum strongly supports the submissions by CENL (Foundation Conference of European National Librarians), EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations), EDL (Foundation European Digital Library), and LIBER (Association of European Research Libraries)

In addition FOBID would like to submit the following answers.

Questions for consultation

Question 1

Which orientations would you suggest for the future development of Europeana as a common access point to Europe's cultural heritage in the digital environment?

We suggest that Europeana, reflecting Europe's cultural heritage, makes a stronger connection with the general public, their local identity and local collections. The digitisation of special collections in local public libraries should be encouraged and funded.

Question 3

Has Europeana struck the right balance between making Europe's digitised cultural heritage searchable through a common entry point and at the same time giving visibility to the institutions that contribute the material, or should the material accessible through Europeana be presented in a more unified way?

We suggest to increase the user perspective in access and use of Europeana, and also for example to make use of the large network of public libraries to communicate and to include Europeana sources in their cultural and educational programmes around local, European cultural heritage.