European Commission

Expert Group on Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana (DCHE)
Scope and tasks

1st DCHE Meeting

10-11 May 2017

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Background

Council Conclusions of 31 May 2016 explicitly invited Commission to:

- continue the work of the MSEG and to renew and revise its mandate until 2020,

- strengthen its role to review and discuss policies for digital cultural heritage,

- closely involve the group in defining the general objectives, priorities for actions and the envisaged level of funding to be proposed for the Europeana core service platform and generic services.

Background

Proposed way forward (discussed at the last MSEG meeting in November 2016):

- **New decision,** rather than 4th extension, also in order to include new horizontal rules on Commission expert groups,

- **New name:** Expert Group on Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana,

- **New objectives:**
  - ➢ to review and discuss policies for digital cultural heritage,
  - ➢ to support the EC in defining the general objectives, priorities for actions and the envisaged level of funding for the Europeana.

- **MSEG** mandate (set up by the Commission Decision 2007/320/EC of 22 March 2007) expired on 31 December 2016,

- **DCHE** has been set up by the Commission Decision C(2017)1444 of 7 March 2017 with the applicability until 31 December 2020 - as a continuation of the MSEG & building on its strengths, previous work and achievements.

The DCHE tasks

The MSEG initial tasks remain unchanged:

➢ Monitor and assess progress and the impact of implementation of 2011 Commission Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation - Article 2(a),

➢ Provide forum for cooperation between MS bodies and Commission - Article 2(b),

➢ Assist Commission in monitoring developments regarding economic opportunities arising from re-use of digital cultural resources (task added in 2013) - Article 2(d).

DCHE role in practice – tasks unchanged

➢ Use the EC recommendation to improve the framework conditions for digitisation, the online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation,

➢ every 2 years coordinate drafting and submission of national progress reports,

➢ Actively contribute to shaping meeting agendas and to discussions on matters related to digital cultural heritage (e.g. the PSI Directive, Orphan works Directive, copyright),

➢ provides the Commission with expert advice on the areas covered by the recommendation and related Council conclusions,

➢ coordinating efforts towards collecting Europe-wide digitisation statistics & helping in monitoring economic opportunities arising from re-use of digital cultural resources,

The DCHE tasks

New tasks added, as envisaged by the Council Conclusions:

➢ to review and discuss policies for digital cultural heritage - Article 2(a),

➢ to contribute to the evolution and sustainability of Europeana; to support the Commission in defining the general objectives, priorities for actions and the envisaged level of funding to be proposed for the Europeana core service platform and generic services - Article 2(c),

- **New role** for possible **sub-groups** – in case of the need to call upon the expertise of external experts to provide high quality, independent advice, e.g. on Europeana Strategy.

DCHE role in practice – new tasks

➢ Provide Commission with guidance on the mission, governance, priorities, strategy and funding of Europeana,

➢ Establish relations with all relevant stakeholders, including:

- ministries in charge of digital cultural heritage and CEF,
- other respective authorities,
- cultural heritage institutions,

➢ Act as liaison between national stakeholders and Commission to be able to present a co-ordinated view from their Member State.

DCHE role in practice – new tasks

Re: guidance on the mission, governance, priorities, strategy and funding of Europeana

➢ Input on CEF work programmes:

- Important to gather feedback from stakeholders
- DCHE: advisory role to Commission - CEF Cttee: formal opinion

➢ Strategy documents submitted by Europeana

- Gather feedback from stakeholders to present 'formal' view of MS

Let's discuss ...