



Recap

Commission Recommendation 2011/711/EU & Member States Progress Reports

**1st meeting of DCHE Expert Group
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Commission Recommendation 2011/711/EU

- Recommendation on the **digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation** of 27 October 2011
 - Update of 2006 Recommendation
 - Endorsed by the Council Conclusions of 10 May 2012
- Targets Member States and their national policies, strategies and plans regarding
 - Planning, monitoring and funding digitisation
 - Facilitating online access and reuse
 - Digital preservation

Recommendation – 5 areas

The Recommendation calls on MS to

- Put in place solid plans for the digitisation of cultural material (setting targets, monitoring), and share the cost of digitisation by encouraging public-private partnerships, using structural funds and pooling resources to achieve economies of scale
- Enable access to and re-use of digital public domain material
- Create conditions to digitise and bring online more in-copyright material
- Contribute to the development of Europeana
- Reinforce their strategies and adapt their legislation for the long-term preservation of digital material

Progress reports

- Member States are asked to inform the Commission, every 2 years, of actions taken for the implementation of the Recommendation
 - All national progress reports are published online
 - The Commission publishes a consolidated report, including the most interesting points from the national progress reports
 - Selected good practices and/or challenges presented in meetings



European
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Progress Report 2013-2015

- 27 national progress reports for 2013-2015
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/2015-national-reports-digital-preservation>
- Consolidated report published by the Commission (2016)
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-commission-report-bringing-europes-cultural-heritage-online>
 - Clearer / more comprehensive picture
 - More mature conditions, though still differences across MS and different areas addressed by Recommendation

Digitisation – Planning

- Good progress - continuity of plans or new developments – though different approaches in planning
 - National strategies (10 MS -4 new)
 - supported by national funding programmes or implemented through domain-specific digitisation plans
 - Domain-specific initiatives, by Ministries or by national institutions/major stakeholders (9 MS)
 - Other schemes (8 MS)
 - regional schemes, or planning based on strategies of individual institutions
 - complementary national networks for cross-domain coordination and cooperation (BE, DE)

Digitisation – Planning

- Quantitative targets according to planning approach
 - National level (3 MS), programmes/projects level (6 MS), by domains or individual institutions depending on available / annual funding (8 MS)
- Qualitative targets (17 MS)
 - Recommendations, guidelines, specifications for compliance with national or international standards
 - ! Data quality
- Measures for optimising digitisation capacity (12 MS)
 - Shared services (repositories, IT tools, etc.) for the digitisation workflow of cultural institutions (UK, PL) - **new**
 - Competence / digitisation centres (8 MS), collaborative projects (4 MS), participation in cross-border initiatives eg IMPACT, ENArC (5MS)

Digitisation - Funding

European Structural & Investment Fund

- 15 MS - 5 MS used ESIF 2007-2013 as main funding source
- Plans to use ESIF 2014-2020 by 10 MS

PPPs for digitisation

- Continuation with major private partners: Google, ProQuest, Family Search (in 8 MS)
- Limited local PPPs: in FR, NL, UK (eg BnF-Partenariats)
! Difficult for smaller MS

Other sources

- National sponsoring (ES/Telefonica, FI/Kone Foundation), Lottery funding (UK)

Digitisation – Monitoring

- National monitoring / overviews of digitised material (13 MS)
 - Emerging good practices: National monitoring systems to support automatic collection of digitisation data (BE/Flemish monitor, LT, CZ)
 - ! Needs to be more systematically addressed – challenging
- Contribution to a European level overview of digitisation data
 - ENUMERATE annual surveys to collect data from cultural institutions in Europe (participation encouraged by almost all MS)
 - ! In some cases very low response rates (BE, UK)

Public domain material

- Measures facilitating access to PD material (20 MS) and its reuse (18 MS)
 - dedicated platforms, open data portals and applications
 - user interfaces and APIs
 - PD/CC0 labelling
 - wider use of social media and awareness campaigns
 - virtual education and exhibition tools
 - dropping watermarking/visual protections

! Obstacles to PD material remaining in the public domain after digitisation (9 MS)

e.g. new rights triggered by digitisation, fear of losing control, using PD content to generate income, difficulties in determining PD content

In-copyright material

- Transposition of Orphan Works Directive Directive 2012/28/EU (24 MS)
- Legal backing of licencing solutions (10 MS) and large scale collective licencing solutions for out-of-commerce works (8 MS)
- Increased number of MS contributing to rights databases connected at European level

Europeana

- Content contribution to Europeana in January 2016 well above target numbers
 - ! MS suggest to consider quality issues alongside quantity
- Well established national aggregators in 17 MS (cross domain or domain-specific)
- Significant share of content via domain or thematic aggregators developed by EU-funded projects
- Standards ensuring interoperability, positive attitude to CC0 metadata, though slow pace in some MS
 - ! Metadata quality vs CC0
- Workshops, events and campaigns to promote Europeana to cultural institutions, local networks for sharing information
 - ! Initiatives to raise awareness among general public and in schools

Digital Preservation

- Growing number of countries developing and implementing digital preservation strategies
- Infrastructure, standards and protocols
- New digital deposit laws and arrangements
- Web harvesting provisions
- Collaboration

! Area where further effort is required

Use / reuse

- Growing support to open cultural heritage data
- Increased efforts to support and encourage reuse (APIs, platforms, etc)
- Initiatives to explore possibilities of open cultural data (projects, hackathons, events)
- Some first applications reusing open data
- Improved experience compared to previous period
 - ! Scope for further exploiting use/reuse

MS feedback on usefulness of Recommendation

- Useful instrument for setting up national policies and coordinating activities in MS (SE, ES, SK, RO, PL, NL, MT, LT, DE, GR)
- Raising awareness of the need for action, keeping up with progress, giving momentum to existing policies
- MS support the approach followed in covering all stages of the “digital life cycle”
- Implementation difficulties in some MS
 - e.g. clash with political realities, lack of resources, stakeholders' traditional practices

Next steps

- The Recommendation continues to address an important policy area today
- Possible update / reinforcement of certain areas was suggested by MS, such as:
 - Considering born-digital content
 - Including quality aspects when measuring progress
 - Asking publicly-funded institutions to provide digitisation statistics
 - Reviewing low impact provisions: 'masterpieces', PPPs
 - National networks for cross-domain cooperation as alternative policy to national planning
 - Updating Europeana chapter to current developments

Next Progress Report 2015-2017

- Template– open for review- in June
- Deadline for submission: 31 October 2017
- Overview of current situation, with focus on **new** developments

Further information

Digital Culture, Recommendation on Digitisation and Member States Expert Group:

- <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/digital-culture>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/member-states-expert-group-digitisation-digital-preservation>

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