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SPIRL 2013 prize awarded the Stanford Prize for Innovation in Research Libraries

Two leading European digital libraries, founding members of the EU-funded **IMPACT Centre of Competence** on digitisation and active partners in the EU **SUCCEED** project have been awarded the [Stanford Prize for Innovation in Research Libraries](#) [1] (SPIRL). The winners were chosen from 24 libraries worldwide ([see the full list](#) [2]).

Two projects managed by the [Bibliothèque nationale de France](#) [3], [Gallica Library](#) [4] and [Discovery Service](#) [5] were termed "a wonderful and inspiring example of how to transform a great national library to expand its relevance as national and international cultural treasure in the digital age." by Richard E. Luce (Associate V-P, Professor, and Dean of Libraries at the University of Oklahoma) ([See judges' full comments](#) [6].)

The other winner was the [Biblioteca Virtual Miguel de Cervantes](#) [7], qualified by Dame Lynne Brindley (Chair, Former CEO at The British Library) as "simply an inspirational model for us all." ([See judges' full comments](#) [8].)

This prize highlights the work Europe is doing to digitise its vast and rich cultural heritage and make our treasures accessible to all. The [IMPACT Centre of Competence](#) [9] contributes by making the digitisation faster, better and cheaper. It was supported by the European Union at the start of FP7 and currently through the [Support Action Centre of Competence in Digitisation \(SUCCEED\)](#) [10].

These initiatives support the execution of the [Commission Recommendation](#) [11] on Digitisation by contributing to optimising the use of Europe's digitisation resources.

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