EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT)

Data
Interactive Technologies, Digital for Culture and Education

2nd Meeting of the Sub-group on Europeana
of the
Commission Expert Group on
Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana (DCHE)

28 February 2019
Euroforum Building, 10 rue Robert Stumper, L-2557 Luxembourg
Room EUFO 0/166

Minutes

1. Introduction

This was the second meeting of the Sub-group on Europeana, of the Commission Expert Group on Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana (DCHE). Participants of the meeting were the appointed members and invited speakers from the leader of the consortium operating the Europeana Core Service Platform, Europeana Foundation.

The meeting was chaired by *Ms Rehana SCHWINNINGER-LADAK, Head of Unit of DG CNECT/G2.*

Webpage for the DCHE expert group and the Sub-group on Europeana:
https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/expert-group-digital-cultural-heritage-and-europeana-dche

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public.

3. List of points discussed

▪ **Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed the participants to the 2nd meeting of the Sub-Group on Europeana. A tour de table followed. Members confirmed that there had been no changes since the last meeting that might affect their conflict of interest. The Chair also explained that the participation of the leader of the Consortium operating the Europeana Core Service Platform, Europeana Foundation, is important in the discussions, to ensure that all those that have a stake are involved. The Chair reminded the group that the minutes of the 1st meeting of the Sub-group were shared by email for input and following this process, were considered approved and made available online.

▪ **Adoption of the agenda**

The Chair outlined the agenda, with discussions focussed on two parts:

- Recommendations by the sub-group on some of the proposed changes to the Europeana DSI-4 Implementation Plan; and
- Discussion on how the Commission Report on the Evaluation of Europeana and the way forward can be translated into a concrete Strategy for the future of the Europeana initiative beyond 2020.

The Chair explained that the agenda schedule will remain flexible to accommodate the discussions.

The agenda was adopted without changes, and is available here.

▪ **Procedural aspects**

The Commission explained that penholders had to be appointed for each of the two parts of the discussion, by voting, volunteering, or based on EC suggestions. Penholders will prepare the documents to be presented to the DCHE Expert Group. Drafting will begin during the meeting, but will continue afterwards with input by all sub-group members. The possibility to use collaborative drafting tools, such as Confluence, will be explored. There will be no unilateral communication between penholders and the Commission.

Sub-group members pointed out that it would be beneficial that documentation be sent to them no later than a week or more before the meeting to be able to contribute more accurately and to deliver the feedback required better.

▪ **Part A: Updated Europeana DSI Core Services Platform (DSI-4) Implementation Plan (February - September 2019)**

Presentation by Europeana Foundation is available here.

Mr. Victor-Jan Vos, Head of Programme and Network at Europeana Foundation gave an update on the progress of DSI-4 implementation for the first 6 months of DSI-4 (from 1 September 2018 up until the present), focussing on three main areas: Data quality improvements; Improving the services; and Innovating.

A discussion arose regarding the eTranslation pilot. Sub-group members suggested that Europeana Foundation looks additionally at a possible collaboration with the CLARIN research infrastructure, Wikimedia or the Latvian translation system for cultural corpora, on areas where the eTranslation pilot results were not promising. The Commission explained that making use of the e-Translation DSI and trying to improve translations for cultural data is important. A dedicated slot focused on multilingualism and strengthening this aspect will be scheduled at the next sub-group meeting, involving also e-Translation building block EC staff and other experts.

Appointment of penholders for the Implementation Plan related deliverable:

- Penholder: Chris de Loof
- Backup penholder: Wim van Dongen

Introduction to the topic

The Commission introduced the topic for the discussion, based on the template document with questions titled: "RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUB-GROUP TO DCHE REGARDING SOME OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO EUROPEANA DSI-4 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN", which outlined background information and guiding questions. The working document as a template is available here.

Discussion

Sub-group members exchanged views on the course of action proposed by the DSI-4 Consortium (described above). The sub-group members were overall in agreement with the proposed actions, however they pointed out certain areas where particular attention would be necessary. Sub-group members also inquired about the possibility to get a more granular view of Europeana statistics about non-compliant material. The penholder, together with the rest of the sub-group members will prepare the sub-group's recommendation to the DCHE expert group, reflecting the views expressed in the discussion.

▪ **Part B: New Europeana strategy 2020+**

Appointment of penholders for the Strategy deliverable

- Penholder: Merete Sanderhoff
- Backup penholder: Ana Alvarez Lacambra

New Strategy direction based on the Commission report on Europeana and the way forward

The Chair briefly outlined the Commission report and proposed to focus the discussion on new strategy direction along the set of questions drawing from the report's findings, with the aim to identify where the outlined way forward can translate into concrete direction for the Europeana initiative post 2020. The template document with questions titled "GENERAL TOPICS TO CONSIDER FOR THE STRATEGY OF THE EUROPEANA INITIATIVE 2020+", was provided, and is also available here.

Discussion

Sub-group members had an extensive exchange of views and ideas on questions 1.1-1.2 outlined in the document provided. The remaining questions were clustered as follows: 2.1 effects of the change of focus from the current platform model, 2.6 role of the Europeana portal under the new strategy, 2.7 identifying possible gaps, 2.2-3-4 strategy elements to add, change, discontinue or continue, and 2.5 value to end users.

4. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions

- A dedicated session on multilingualism, including e-Translation pilot for applying automatic translation from the eTranslation DSI building block to selected Europeana virtual exhibitions will be considered for the next meeting;
- Penholders will prepare the subgroup's consolidated recommendation to the DCHE expert group regarding changes to the implementation plan proposed by the DSI-4 Consortium – the deadline is based on earliest possible timeline;
- Penholders will prepare the subgroup's 1st draft of the consolidated recommendation to the DCHE expert group regarding a strategy for the Europeana initiative beyond 2020 – deadline is 8 April 2019.

- The possibility to get a more granular view of Europeana statistics about non-compliant material will be examined.

5. Next steps

The minutes will be distributed to the participants for their comments and will then be considered approved and uploaded on the Commission portal.
All communication related to the DCHE Sub-group on Europeana should be addressed at: CNECT-DCHE@ec.europa.eu

6. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Sub-group on Europeana will take place in Luxembourg on 8 May 2019. It is planned for the meeting to be followed by the 5th DCHE meeting (7-8 May 2019).

The outline of the agenda of the next meeting will be distributed to the group members, no longer than 30 calendar days before the meeting.

7. List of participants

Sub-group members

Ana Alvarez Lacambra	Expert in personal capacity
Harris Kyriakou	Expert in personal capacity
Ismo Malinen	Expert in personal capacity
Zuzanna Stanska	Expert in personal capacity
Wim van Dongen	Expert in personal capacity
Piermarco Rendina	Aggregators for Digital Cultural Heritage in Europe
Merete Sanderhoff	Europeana Network Association
Vassilis Tzouvaras	National Technical University of Athens
Chris De Loof	DCHE BE representative
Marinos Ioannides	DCHE CY representative
Marie-Véronique Leroi	DCHE FR representative
Janis Ziedins	DCHE LV representative

Europeana Foundation

Victor-Jan Vos Harry Verwayen (phone link)

European Commission – DG CNECT, Unit G.2

Rehana Schwinninger-Ladak (HoU) Anisia Avram Krzysztof Nichczynski Katerina Moutogianni Kinga Katona