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Editorial

This is the first issue of the ENUMERATE project newsletter. ENUMERATE is about statistics. To be more precise it is about cultural statistics, and especially about statistics in relation to the digitisation of cultural heritage.

Our intention in publishing this newsletter is to inform our audience about developments in the project and the results of its work. We also want to point to other initiatives, projects and actors working at related topics.

In this first issue we give a short introduction to the project and introduce the partners involved. Also ENUMERATE was presented at a meeting of the Member States Expert Group (MSEG), whose *Working Group on Digitisation* is supporting our work, and we report on that meeting.

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Introduction to ENUMERATE



ENUMERATE Partners meeting in The Hague

ENUMERATE is an EC-funded project, led by Collections Trust in the UK. Its objective is to create a reliable baseline of statistical data about digitisation, digital preservation and online access to cultural heritage in Europe.

Its mission is to achieve a long lasting transformation in the quality, accessibility and consistency of statistical information about the digitisation of Europe's cultural heritage. This will be done by:

- Developing a consistent evidential framework for gathering data on

digitisation, digital preservation and online access to digital heritage;

- Creating a baseline of statistical evidence drawn from institutions and programmes throughout the EU, and;
- Fostering a European network to promote collaboration, knowledge transfer and the exchange of intelligence about digitisation.

Currently, statistical data on Europe's digital heritage is tentative and scattered at best. For the European Commission and many of the agencies and actors in the field of culture there is no consistent evidence base for making strategic decisions on investments in digitisation.

For the EC, and many of the agencies and actors in the field of culture, there is no consistent evidence base for making strategic decisions on investments in digitisation.

The project will initiate a Europe-wide community of practice to share statistical data and knowledge on the progress of digitisation. This will be done through a multi-annual programme of coordinated surveys. These will include wide-scale harmonised statistical data-gathering, and more in-depth surveying of digitisation activities. ENUMERATE is funded by the EC's ICT Policy Support Programme. It runs for three years and started in February 2011.

All activities of ENUMERATE start from the principle that heritage institutions will receive useful information in return for sharing their own data. Results will be published on an open data platform, where raw and summary data can be viewed and collated.

ENUMERATE builds on the results of NUMERIC (2007-9). This was a ground breaking initiative to create a framework for the gathering of statistical data on digital cultural heritage. ENUMERATE will improve and refine its methodology, and will bring the data online for re-use.

The project will also take on board the results of a recent study of Collections Trust into the costs of digitising Europe's cultural heritage. These results were published as an annex to the *New Renaissance* report of the EU Reflection Group on bringing Europe's Cultural Heritage online.

The long term vision of ENUMERATE is the creation of an observatory, where:

- Statistics and other data on the digitisation of cultural heritage can be submitted and validated at any time;
- Results are available in static documents and as dynamic data (that can be retrieved using visualisation tools).

This observatory would, in state-of-the-art of statistical monitoring of cultural digitisation and related activities, be a platform to:

- Support digitisation policies and strategies, benchmarking and accountability;
- Promote networking, collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The observatory should be web platform based on open standards that can be further extended and modified on a modular basis by key stakeholders.

This kind of service needs substantial funding, and is therefore beyond the scope of the current project. However at the end of the project, the Network Coordinator will present a business plan with options and commitments for the continuation of the work under the *ENUMERATE Conceptual Framework*.

Looking at the cultural heritage in Europe, the ambition of the current project is to create a reliable baseline of statistical data about its:

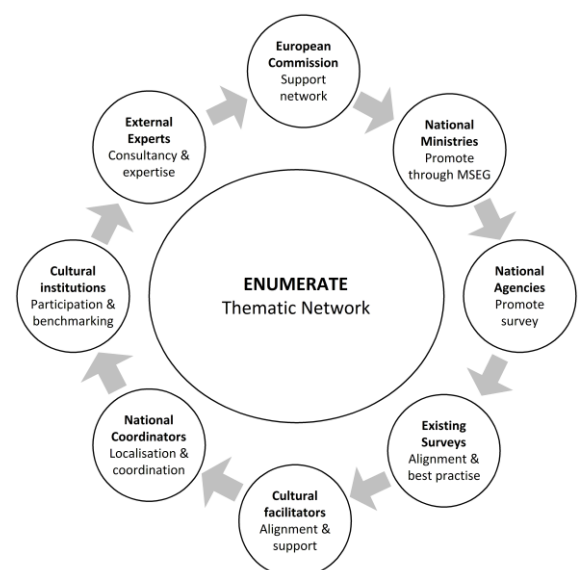
- Digitisation output;

- Costs of digitisation;
- Digital preservation;
- Online access.

Today statistical data on Europe's digital heritage is uncertain and scattered at best. The project will bring about major improvements in its availability, quality and accuracy. In this way, it will support and drive strategic decision-making at European, national and institutional level, and therefore support the *Digital Agenda 2020*.

Within this overall ambition, the objectives of the ENUMERATE Thematic Network are:

- The development of a European community of practice, connecting practitioners in statistical analysis and digital content creation and preservation and supporting the sharing of knowledge and best practices.
- The creation, promotion and development of a statistically valid open methodology for surveying the digitisation, use, preservation and associated costs of cultural heritage materials in Member States.
- The implementation of a multi-annual programme of coordinated surveys based on this methodology, including wide-scale harmonised statistical data-gathering and more in-depth surveying of digitisation activities by European cultural heritage institutions.
- The creation and maintenance of an open data platform to collate and promote the use of the normalised data and intelligence arising from these surveys.



ENUMERATE actors and core roles

Meet the partners

Collections Trust, UK



Collections Trust is the UK-based knowledge centre for collections management and

digitisation in museums, archives and libraries. It supports and develops networks and communities of practice to promote knowledge transfer and the development of standards which deliver public value and support more effective practice. It does this by:

- Providing know-how;
- Promoting excellence in collections;
- Challenging existing practices;
- Pioneering new ideas;
- Bringing experts together.

Collections Trust has been involved for many years with the collection of statistics on museum and museum collections. Two aspects are worthy of mention:

- Collections Trust has collected basic information on museums, their collections, and their use of IT within the UK. These have been published on a fairly regular basis.
- During the EC-funded EMII project, which Collections Trust (as MDA) coordinated, information about the collections and the use of standards was gathered.

Contact: **Nick Poole**

Web: <http://www.collectionstrust.org.uk>

The DEN foundation, Netherlands

The DEN Foundation is the Dutch national ICT knowledge centre for cultural heritage. It supports archives, museums and other heritage institutions to improve their digital strategies and services. The sharing of knowledge of and experiences with ICT is a core mission.



Furthermore, DEN encourages the institutions to invest in open technology, to implement ICT-standards and to make use of other tools that contribute to sustainable information services.

DEN maintains a quality assurance system on digital heritage to promote relevant ICT

standards and share information on basic and best practices.

DEN organises expert meetings, workshops and conferences to support cross-sectoral co-operation. DEN is an active partner in national and international heritage and research communities. DEN is a member of the core committee for the technical development of Europeana. DEN was the Dutch national coordinator for the Numeric Survey and is currently the chair of the EU Special Interest Group (SIG-STATS) on digital heritage statistics.

Contact: **Marco de Niet**

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Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Germany

SPK comprises the 16 Staatliche Museen zu



Berlin (National Museums in Berlin), the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin (State Library), the Geheimes Staatsarchiv (Secret State Archives), the Ibero-Amerikanisches-Institut (Ibero-American Institute) and the Staatliche Institut für Musikforschung (State Institute for Music Research), all with their origins in the collections and archives of the State of Prussia, are linked to form a close network for cultural transmission.

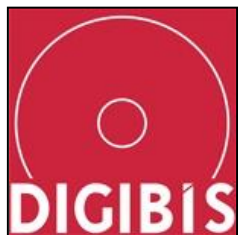
The Foundation embodies the shared governmental responsibility for culture in Germany. The Federal Government and the sixteen individual states share the legal and financial responsibility.

The following institutions will mainly be involved in the project: the Institute for Museum Research, the Art Library and the Museum of Decorative Art. The Institute for Museum Research conducts the annual statistical survey on museums in Germany, is involved in standard developments in digitisation and e.g. the LIDO harvesting format for museum data and the German partner in EGMUS.

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DIGIBÍS, Spain



DIGIBÍS is a leader in the field of digitisation, information processing and knowledge management for archives, libraries and museums, using self-developed software based on standard metadata schemas.

It has produced most of the virtual and digital libraries all over Spain, including Ministry of Culture's *Hispana*, the fourth largest contributor to Europeana, which aggregates 25 ESE compliant repositories.

Recently DIGIBÍS has produced more than 10 million of digitised pages and has developed over a hundred projects involving OCR, digital edition and mark-up of historical texts. It also has developed a web based application for the management of public library statistics. Its team has a wide experience in Spanish RD projects and in EC funded projects.

DIGIBÍS has a strategy of technological surveillance, especially in the technical and legislative process that has led to the Digital Agenda for Europe, Europeana, the functional specifications for the 'Danube Release', and the Europeana Data Model (EDM). As a result they are implementing EDM (and Linked Open Data) in their software and applications, and are opening new lines of work in other areas of the *Agenda*, particularly in the area of e-Justice and especially in the European Case-Law Identifier.

Contact: **Jesus Dominguez**
Web: <http://www.digibis.com>

FARO, Belgium



FARO is the interface centre for the sector of tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the Flemish Community in

Belgium and is subsidised by the Flemish government.

FARO's aim is to strengthen and support the cultural heritage field in Flanders, within the framework of the Cultural Heritage Decree and with the intention to realise the main objectives of the decree:

- To develop an integrated cultural heritage policy, namely to stimulate qualitative management, long term sustainability and the unlocking of the cultural heritage;
- To start up a network of cultural heritage organisations to cultivate, to represent, to acknowledge and to valorise the different ways the public participates in and experiences cultural heritage;
- To stimulate a further development of the different cultural heritage practices, museum, archival and library sciences, and ethnology;
- To create awareness with regard to cultural diversity within the cultural heritage policy.

FARO gathers statistical information about the cultural heritage field in Flanders in the framework of a systematic monitoring of the needs of the sector. Currently they are developing a tool to standardise quantitative data. The ENUMERATE project will help them to monitor changes in the digital heritage field, and to include this information in their data gathering tools.

Contact: **Jeroen Walterus**
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Ministry of Culture & Communication, France



Since the beginning of 1996, the DREST (Department for Research, Higher Education and Technology) coordinates the activities of scientific and technical research of the departments, services and institutions of the Ministry of

Culture, as well as the National Digitisation Plan for cultural heritage.

The committee responsible for the National Digitisation Plan produces common guidelines, promotes technical standards and coordinates national strategies for digitisation, digital preservation and online access to cultural heritage. This responsibility includes the valorisation and statistical evaluation of digitisation activities and work programmes.

MCC has also developed in 2007 a national portal "Collections.fr" giving common access to all those collections and gathering resources from libraries, archives and museums. It is a national aggregator to Europeana.

MCC was actively involved in Numeric together with the Ministry of Culture Statistical Department and is part of SIG-STAT.

Contact: **Sonia Zillhardt**

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Austrian National Library



The Austrian National Library (ONB) is the main research library of the Republic of Austria. With a history dating back to the 14th century, the ONB, its ten special collections and three museums hold a significant part of the world's cultural heritage.

In addition the ONB acts as a research centre which has been involved in numerous national and international digital library initiatives. It has been a partner in several projects funded by the European Commission in FP4, FP5, FP6 and FP7, as well as in the eContent and eContentplus Programmes. It is strongly involved in the Commission's European Digital Library initiative and acts a project coordinator of *EuropeanaConnect* which is a core project in the actual implementation of Europeana.

The ONB has been conducting large scale digitisation programmes for many years. In 2003 ONB started a programme for mass digitisation of historical newspapers. Also it is carrying out selective digitisation projects, e.g. of the papyri collection, the incunabula collection or of its collection of first editions.

In 2010 the ONB announced large-scale digitisation cooperation with Google. It will digitise its complete holdings of public domain books from the 16th to the 19th century (c600 thousand volumes). These will be made available without restrictions and free of charge via the digital library of the ONB, via *Google Books*, and through Europeana.

Contact: **Max Kaiser**

Web: <http://www.onb.ac.at>

National and University Library of Slovenia



National & University Library as the main library in Slovenia acts as national, state and university library. It was established in 1774 by decree of Empress Maria

Theresa. Library is entitled to receive legal deposit and to build national collection of library materials.

The Library publishes Slovenian national bibliography, exerts bibliographical control, leads programme of preservation, professional education, research and development. It is involved in many national and EU projects, e.g. Europeana and the European Library.

It is also one of the key providers of digital cultural heritage in Slovenia and is actively involved in digitalisation and long term preservation of digital materials. It has developed portal: *Digital Library of Slovenia - dLib*. The portal contains digitalised and born digital materials of the library and other partners.

The Library has the official mandate to collect and report statistical data about libraries in Slovenia. The *Library System Development Centre* of the Library conducts an annual series of statistical surveys and publishes data on the Web. The Centre is committed to reliability, consistency and comparability of statistical data including data on materials in digital form. Centre is also involved in research and development, advises in preparation of legislation, coordinates regional public libraries, and maintains the official library register.

Contact: **Gorazd Vodeb**

Web: <http://www.nuk.uni-lj.si>

National Széchényi Library, Hungary

 ORSZÁGOS SZÉCHÉNYI KÖNYVTÁR

The National Széchényi Library (NSL) is the Hungarian national library since 1802. Its collections consist of paper documents published in Hungary: more than 2 million books, periodicals, manuscripts, documents, images, etc.

The Hungarian Library Institute is part of the National Library. It has countrywide coordination tasks among its goals. The NSL gives home to the Hungarian National Shared Catalogue as well. The NSL was one of the first partners (together with French and Portuguese libraries) participated in the former version of Europeana developed by the French National Library.

The National Library joined The European Library project, the library catalogue and digital records added to the TEL Database. The NSL is the leader of digitisation efforts of Hungarian libraries, and as a National Library it has opportunity to coordinate the statistical data collection of Hungarian libraries.

Contact: **Lajos Vonderviszt**

Web: <http://regi.oszk.hu>



The European Library

(hosted by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Netherlands)

The European Library is a free service that offers access to the resources of the 48 national libraries of Europe in 36 languages. Resources can be both digital (books, posters, maps, sound recordings, videos, etc.) and bibliographical.

It is also the coordinator of an EC funded project *Europeana Libraries*. This project aims at providing The European Library and Europeana with 5 million digitised objects from 19 leading European research libraries by December 2012.

Cultural statistics are relevant to The European Library because they can help them establish a content strategy across their network.

Contact: **Aubrey Escande**

Web: <http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/en/index.html>

National coordinators in Europe



In addition to the partners in the project:

- Austria
- Belgium;
- France;
- Germany;
- Hungary;
- Netherlands;
- Slovenia
- Spain;
- United Kingdom.

ENUMERATE has already recruited National Coordinators in countries not represented in the project:

- Cyprus;
- Estonia;
- Finland;
- Greece;
- Ireland;
- Latvia;
- Lithuania;
- Malta;
- Norway;
- Poland;
- Romania;
- Slovakia;
- Sweden;
- Switzerland.

The National Coordinators will enable ENUMERATE to carry out its work in more countries than those represented by the project partners. Further recruitment is taking place and it is hoped that all EU Member States will be represented.

ENUMERATE and the MSEG



MSEG members listening to ENUMERATE presentation

The Member States Expert Group (MSEG) was set up in 2007, when it replaced an informal intergovernmental group on digitisation. It is made up of representatives coming from national ministries and/or cultural organisations appointed by their ministry.

The objectives of the Group are:

- *To monitor progress on the implementation of the Commission Recommendation of 24 August 2006, on digitisation and digital preservation and of the related Council Conclusions of 13 November 2006;*
- *To exchange information and good practices of Member States' policies and strategies on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation.*

The MSEG regularly reports on the progress being made by the members' countries in implementing the 2006 recommendation. These reports are every two years, with the next one due in 2012. This date is significant for ENUMERATE because it means that its work can be used for the next report.

The presentation of ENUMERATE to the MSEG was carried out in the framework of the first meeting of the MSEG *Working Group on Digitisation Statistics*. This took place on Monday 27th June at the EC's offices in Luxembourg.

The day-long event began with a welcome, from Mr Javier Hernández-Ros, Head of Unit INFSO E3 'Cultural Heritage and Technology Enhanced Learning', EC. He then went on to discuss the objectives of the Working Group:

- Where we are – the current status of the digitisation in the EU;
- Why are statistics on digitisation needed;
- What are the difficulties and barriers;
- What is expected from the Group.

The main conclusion, relevant for ENUMERATE was that all the actors involved will have to be realistic about what can be achieved with the available resources.

This was followed by a series of presentation by ENUMERATE partners on:

- *ENUMERATE and its precursors;*
- *Methodology: lessons learned from the past.*

Members of the MSEG then gave brief overviews of the state of the initiatives for monitoring the progress of digitisation in their own countries. As a result of this Nick Poole (ENUMERATE Coordinator) said it is necessary to build a profile of each country, with the help of the national coordinators, on intelligence about the statistical efforts in each country.

Marco de Niet (ENUMERATE WP leader) presented a draft overview of the methodology for the first Core Survey of the ENUMERATE project – dealing with the current state of digitisation in general terms. This was followed up by group discussions on the survey in the areas of:

- *Core Survey;*
- *Sample Methodology;*
- *Input/Output measures;*
- *How to liaise with other relevant statistical surveys and other stakeholders.*

All of these discussions gave valuable input into the role of ENUMERATE National Coordinators. They will:

- Give guidance to the cultural institutions regarding the surveys;
- Manage and maintain the national website;
- Profile the institutions taking part in the surveys;
- Sample the institutions to participate in the surveys;
- Be advocate of the digitisation statistics;
- Create a community for digitisation statistics;
- Ensure that people will answer when the core survey is run.