

The Member States Expert Group on digitisation and digital preservation

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*Reflection Group meeting: Cultural
heritage policy for the 21st century*

Rome 1 December 2015

The background

- NRG (National Representatives Group) 2001
Initiative of MSs supported by the EC with MINERVA project

Objectives:

- Harmonization of policies and programmes on digitisation at European level
- Exchange of good practices among MSs
- Development of guidelines and recommendations
- Creation of a network made up of ministries, governamental institutions, cultural institutions, experts

The MINERVA network (2002-2008)



MINERVA

Funded by the EC IST FP5

2002-2005

7 EU countries

eContent

MINERVAeC

Thematic network supported
by eContentplus

2006-2008

21 EU countries



MINERVAplus

Funded by FP6

2004-2006

14 EU countries + Russia and
Israel

www.minervaeurope.org



MINERVA in practice

The MINERVA network (2002-2008) elaborated guidelines and recommendations shared by the EU Member States for the digitisation of cultural heritage and online accessibility.

ADDED VALUE:

- Bottom up approach
- All cultural fields involved

OUTPUTS:

- Good practices handbook
- Digitisation guidelines
- Quality tools for cultural web sites (handbooks, Museo&Web)
- Cost reduction in digitisation handbook
- Multilingualism report
- IPR report
- Annual Progress Report

Tools and publications

MINERVA – MINERVA Plus – MINERVA EC

GP: more than 150.000 download!



- Buone pratiche di digitalizzazione
- Cost reduction in digitisation
- Multilinguismo
- Qualità, accessibilità, usabilità dei contenuti
- Linee guida tecniche
- relazione annuale sulla digitalizzazione
- Museo & Web
- Linee guida sull'IPR

Available on
www.minervaeurope.org

Michael Culture Association: Minerva follow up



<http://www.minervaeurope.org/>



<http://www.michael-culture.org>

Coordinating digitization in Europe and deploying new services

- Not-for profit organisation
- Founded in April 2007 under Belgian law
- Gathers professionals working in the field of digital cultural heritage
- Members: from all over Europe & beyond including public agencies, cultural institutions and private organisations.
- Funded by the European Commission as a cultural network

Michael Culture Association

The purpose of the association is promoting and valorising European cultural heritage.

Its activities are:

- Networking (Minerva Network)
- Technology watch and dissemination of best practices
- Training and publications
- Management and development of services
 - Michael platform
 - Other services
- Participation in European and international projects

Michael Culture Association: the Network

Michael Culture Association
and Minerva Network

Members

Over 150 institutions from
22 countries from EU and beyond

in Europe

Austria • Belgium • Bulgaria • Czech Republic • Estonia • Finland •
France • Germany • Greece • Hungary • Ireland • Italy • Latvia •
Luxembourg • Malta • Norway • Poland • Portugal • Slovak
Republic • Slovenia • Spain • Sweden • United Kingdom

outside Europe

Azerbaijan • Egypt • Jordan • Israel
Morocco • Russian Federation • Turkey



MSEG

Member States' Expert Group on digitisation
and digital preservation – MSEG
replaces the NRG

Set up by a decision of EC in 2007

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

Meetings at EC in Luxembourg every six months
16^o meeting 13-14 October 2015

MSEG

- Who participates?
- [Representatives](#) come from the national ministries and/or national cultural institutions of all EU countries.
- What are the group's objectives?
- To monitor progress on the implementation of the [Commission Recommendation of October 2011](#), on digitisation and digital preservation.
- To exchange information and good practices of Member States' policies and strategies on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation.
- To assist the Commission in monitoring developments regarding the way cultural digital resources can be innovatively re-used to offer economic opportunities to the cultural and creative industries.

Strategic documents

- UNESCO Charter on the preservation of digital heritage (2003)
- Council Conclusions on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation (2006)
- Council Conclusions on Europeana (2008 and 2010)
- Council Conclusions on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation (2012)
- **Commission Recommendation of 27 October 2011 on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation**
- European Parliament resolution: Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe (September 2015)
- <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P8-TA-2015-0293+0+DOC+XML+V0//IT>

Strategic documents

- Commission Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural materials and digital preservation **(2011/711/EU)**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:283:0039:0045:IT:PDF>

Commission recommendation 2011

- Digitisation: organisation and funding (including PPP)
- Digitisation and online accessibility of public domain material (licenses for metadata and digital content, PSI EU directive)
- Digitisation and online accessibility of in-copyright material (ongoing EU directive)
- Europeana (mission, content, quality of the portal, sustainability)
- Digital preservation

The current debate

- National/regional strategies for DCH (including funding, PPP)
- Reuse of digital cultural content for education, research, tourism
- Licenses for metadata and content (CC licenses)
- PSI EU directive (public domain)
- EU ongoing directive on IPR (in - copyright material)
- Digital preservation
- Europeana sustainability
- Opportunities offered by EC programs (e.g. Horizon 2020)

Conclusions

Digital technologies can be used to

- promote a better understanding of the richness of European heritage
- facilitate the access to CH
- bridge the physical and the digital world
- create new ways for engaging users with cultural resources

Conclusions

Digital cultural heritage is a strategic issue for Member States, European Commission and Cultural institutions

DCH can contribute to economic, social and cultural growth

by fostering innovation, creative industries,

by creating new services for tourism, education, and research

Thank you for your attention

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