CASE STUDIES ON DIGITAL CONTENT REUSE IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEANA CLOUD

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WHAT WAS EUROPEANA CLOUD?
• Start Date – **February 2013**

• End Date – **April 2016**

• Total Project Cost – **4.75m Euros**

• EU Funding Contributing 3.8m Euros (80%)

• Matched Funding 950k (20k)

• co-funded by the

• CIP-ICT Policy Support Programme

  [http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp](http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp)

• CIP-ICT-PSP-2012-6 - Project number 325091
• Development of an effective research content strategy for Europeana vis a vis Humanities and Social Sciences research communities and improvement of understanding of digital tools, research processes and content throughout the research lifecycle.

• Engagement of the Humanities and Social Sciences research communities in the use of Europeana as a valuable resource for Digital Humanities research.

• Management of Europeana Research, which aims at opening up cultural heritage content for use in research, by fostering collaborations between Europeana and the cultural heritage and research sector.
AND HOW DID WE DO THIS?
• Identification of research communities
• Web Survey
• Expert Forums
• Use cases on digital tools
• Focus Groups
• Case Studies on particular research topics
The Case Studies

Ernest Marini - dancer in a costume
Ernest Rude
1921, Oslo Museum
Norway, CC BY-SA
Population Movement as a Result of Conflict in the 20th Century

Case Study

Parameters of the study

Investigated conflicts ranging the 20thC:
- Greek/Turkish Conflict of 1920s
- Hungarian Revolution of 1956
- Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s

Asked theoretical questions of the data we found:
- What was the international response to displaced population resulting from each conflict?
- How does this compare with the response to displaced populations in the 21st C?
Population Movement as a Result of Conflict in the 20th Century

Case Study

Resources found

Within Europeana:
- Newspapers had some info
- Radio Free Europe transcriptions offered first hand accounts of those fleeing Hungary
- EuroPhoto has a wealth of photos

Beyond Europeana:
- Hungarian Archive Portal
- Fortepan
- Columbia University Library Archival Collections

- Nothing could be found externally for the Greek-Turkish conflict at the time of this study
- Similarly, there were problems with finding much on the Yugoslav Wars...

https://www.facebook.com/anthoula.izmir/photos/a.362542673864696.1073741827.362533947198902/728105007308459/?type=1&
Population Movement as a Result of Conflict in the 20th Century

Case Study

Problems encountered

- Within Europeana
  - Newspapers (at the time) were not properly searchable
  - Metadata was often incomplete or inaccurate

- Beyond Europeana
  - Specifically for the Yugoslav Wars, these are still subject to
    a) government embargoes,
    b) cultural sensitivity, and
    c) lack of resources to maintain records

Hungarian Revolution 1956 memorial nearby Parliament
Commons.wikimedia.org
http://snappygoat.com/b/981a973c9c270e2223d30f195e1a18e87364a5ef
Public Domain
Population Movement as a Result of Conflict in the 20th Century

Case Study

Considerations for Europeana

- This was a worthwhile study, and there is much content beyond Europeana that can be potentially absorbed as part of a collection.
- Europeana needs to create stronger links to existing content and maintain that.
- Cultural sensitivities may be a problem in obtaining data, particularly for the more recent conflict of the 1990s.
- Financial issues may also be a problem for maintaining records and content within local GLAMs.
CASE STUDY: CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
Definition: “Children’s Literature is (among many other things) a body of texts (in the widest senses of that word), an academic discipline, an educational and social tool, an international business and a cultural phenomenon”.

Matching Children’s Literature to academic disciplines:
History, Cultural History, Literature and Languages, Education, Library Studies, Philology, Textual Studies, Linguistics and Media Studies

Diverse audience
Diverse needs

Searching Europeana for related content resulted in:
Text (1596) / Image (194) / Video (25) records ranging chronologically from 1450 to 2014 and geographically from all over Europe, mainly the United Kingdom.

Diverse content retrieved in Europeana can be considered as brainstorm of results

Suggestions for promoting digital content reuse within Europeana:

1) Enrichment of content in the topic of Children’s Literature, even through potential collaborations with other digital libraries:
   - Gap in geographic coverage of available digital material
   - Collections as means of organising content
   - Easy access to references, databases, journals and books
   - Map of publications

2) Mobilizing already existing associations of this area in respect to new digital resources, tools and services will increase the number of potential users and community.

3) Further development of digital tools and services on such content gathers great attention among researchers who still employ more traditional, non-digital approaches in their research.
Findings from Europeana Cloud

• Different research disciplines use different types of data in different ways
• Data aggregation horizontal rather than vertical: Not useful for high-level, advanced research, but very useful for teaching
• Need for collection-level descriptions
• Need for user-friendly tools and services which will enable re-use of Europeana data

What is still needed

• Better understanding of how content and metadata is actually used, and its relationship with digital methods and tools
• Targeted outreach and engagement methods
• Empirical understanding of technical tools that will increase use of content and metadata.
AND NOW… ON TO EUROPEANA RESEARCH!

Colombes : championnats de France d’Athlétisme : rivière, le speaker
Agence de presse Meurisse
1921, National Library of France
France, Public Domain
Introducing… Europeana Research

“Europeana Research will help open up cultural heritage content for use in cutting-edge research. It will run a series of activities to enhance and increase the use of Europeana data for research, and develop the content, capacity and impact of Europeana, by fostering collaborations between Europeana and the cultural heritage and research sector. It will provide an important focus for the emerging communities of practice who rely on Europeana for their research, and support the European investment in digital cultural heritage”.

http://research.europeana.eu

@eurresearch
THANK YOU!

@DigCurationUnit