

The Digital Agenda for Europe and Access to Knowledge

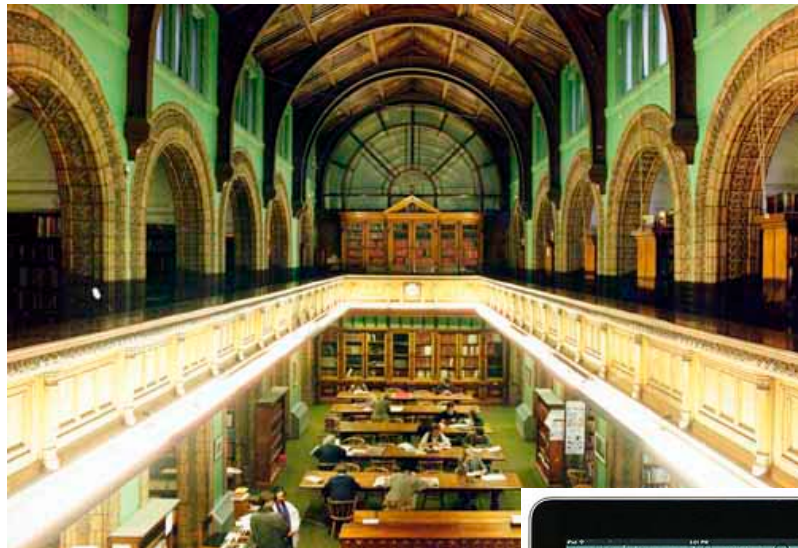
Yvo Volman
European Commission
DG Information Society and Media

IFLA Presidential Meeting
The Hague, 14 April 2011





Access to knowledge The digital shift



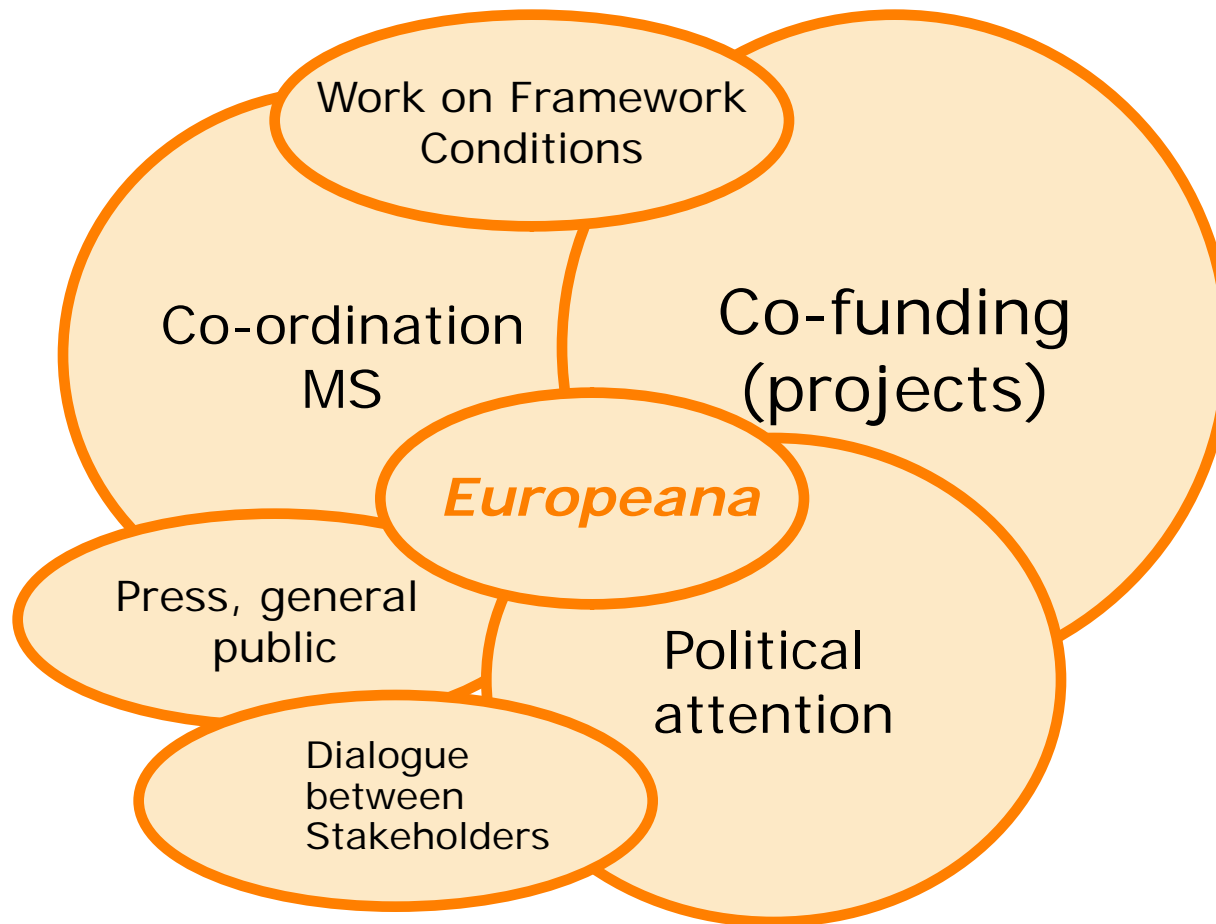
Online presence: Scale matters

- Online offer of digitised content from libraries fragmented
 - Not always easy to find
 - Not well indexed by search engines
- Critical mass + network effects matter
- Europeana provides necessary scale
 - 1.500 organisations; > 15 million digitised objects
 - Concrete project rallies political support



'Europeana effect'

Joining up the pieces of the jigsaw





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Digital Agenda for Europe

- Key action 15: sustainable financing model for Europeana and digitisation
- Key action 1: Orphan works and out-of-distribution works
- Improving access to knowledge for people with disabilities
- Open access to scientific information
- Open data strategy

Every European digital



Presence of libraries in the European political arena

Content

Content

Content

Content

Content

Content

Process

Funding for digitisation

- Digitising our cultural heritage is a huge task
 - Resources are scarce
- PPPs for digitisation necessary
- Boundary conditions set out by the 'Comité des Sages on digitisation' (public domain material)
 - Transparency of the agreements
 - Result should be accessible cross-border free of charge
 - Maximum of 7 years of preferential use



PPPs for digitisation, the deer-hunt dilemma



Orphan works



New value in old material

- Avoid a 20th century black hole
- GBS – What is next?
- Commission is preparing a legal instrument for orphan works
- Model for out-of-distribution works
 - Stakeholders' dialogue underway

Access to scientific information Past and present...

10027056

PHILOSOPHIÆ
NATURALIS
PRINCIPIA
MATHEMATICA.

AUCTORE

ISAACO NEWTONO,
EQUITE AURATO.

EDITIO ULTIMA

Cui accedit ANALYSIS per Quantitatum SERIES, FLUXIONES ac DIFFERENTIAS cum enumeratione LINEARUM TERTII ORDINIS.



DAYRRIGHS
STAATS-
BIBLIOTHEK
MÜNCHEN

AMSTÆLODAMI,
SUMPTIBUS SOCIËTATIS.

M. D. CCXXIII.



Access to scientific information

- Publications and data, paid for by public purse
- Effects of the crisis become visible now
- Polarisation between publishers and scientists/libraries persists
- Commission Recommendation foreseen for end 2011 + line for research funded by EU



Open data strategy and cultural material

- Using the digitised material for new information products and services
 - Education, tourism, design, apps based on cultural material
 - Improving language technologies, search, data-mining etc
- Essential that digitised resources + metadata can be re-used (paid for by the public purse....)
- Budget cuts will reinforce the tendency to charge..





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Last letter of Mary, Queen of Scots

Title: Last letter of Mary, Queen of Scots

Date: 1587-02-08 00:00:00 ; 1587

Creator: Mary, Queen of Scots writer Henri III recipient ; National Library of Scotland

Description: England, Northamptonshire, Fotheringhay Castle
Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots

Letter from Mary, Queen of Scots to Henri III of France on the eve of her execution.

Language: en

Format: image/jpeg

Europeana rights: [Rights Reserved - Paid Access](#)

Rights: National Library of Scotland

Provider: Scran ; Uk

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Drawing of the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots (...)

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Conclusion

- Access to knowledge is a central element in the Digital Agenda
- Libraries have a key role to play
- They could improve their visibility in the European arena
- Europeana is not just a project!

We count on you for the future

