Europeana: A Multilingual Trailblazer

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Europeana facts

“A digital library that is a single, direct and multilingual access point to the European cultural heritage.”

European Parliament, 27 September 2007

- 23.5 million objects
- 14.5 million images, 8.4 million textual objects, 400,000 sound files, 200,000 av files
- From more than 2,200 institutions
- From 33 countries
Multilingual digital objects & users

Digital objects (April 2012)

Users (2011)

USA: 7%
8% 7% 16% 16% 11% 14% 7% 9%
Multilingual Access in Europeana
The Dimensions of multilingual access

- Interface
- Search
  - Query translation
  - Document translation
- Result presentation
  - Enable user to assess the relevance of a document
- Browsing
Europeana’s approach

- Interface translated into 26 languages
- Query translation: prototype developed (EuropeanaConnect)
- Query result filtering by language
- Document translation (user enabled)
- Semantic data layer
  - Multilingual alignment of controlled vocabularies
  - Multilingual enrichment of metadata
Bridging "isles of information" by connecting objects from different domains via cross-vocabulary links.
How does EDM work?

- Distinction between “provided item” (painting, book, movie, etc.)
  - digital representations
  - metadata record describing it
- Allow for multiple records on one object
- Support for objects that are composed of other objects
- Represent contextual resources
- Allow specializations
Current status of EDM

→ There will always be potential enhancements to EDM, but stable version

→ Confirmed feasibility in community workshops (archives, libraries, audio-visual archives, museums)

→ EDM case studies
  http://pro.europeana.eu/web/guest/case-studies-edm

→ Linked Open Data Pilot
  • ~ 2.4 Mio objects
  • Main contributors: Spain, Norway, Austria, Sweden, Belgium
Multilinguality and EDM
Multilingual and semantic alignments

Datacloud as developed in EuropeanaConnect, 2011
Language Tags

- edm:WebResource
  - http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/kinggeorge/a/003ktop00000043u058b0000.html
  - edm:hasView
  - edm:hasView
  - edm:hasView

- ore:Aggregation
  - ex1:aggregation/KtopXLIII_58b
  - edm:aggregatedCHO

- edm:WebResource
  - edm:hasView
  - edm:aggregatedCHO

- edm:ProvidedCHO
  - ex1:proxy/KtopXLIII_58b
  - dcterms:title
  - "A view of Stone-Henge, Wiltshire"@en

- edm:ProvidedCHO
  - ex1:proxy/BB88_02614
  - dcterms:title
  - "Stonehenge, Amesbury, Wiltshire"@en

- edm:ProvidedCHO
  - ex1:proxy/BB88_02614
  - dcterms:title
  - "Stonehenge"@en

- skos:prefLabel
  - "ストーンヘンジ"@ja

- ens:Place
  - http://sws.geonames.org/2636812/
  - dcterms:spatial
  - dcterms:spatial
  - dcterms:title
A multilingual example

http://www.europeana.eu
Thank you

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