European Digital Library
CENL, EDL & EDLnet

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European Economic & Social Committee
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Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)

- Independent Federation of Directors of European National Libraries
- 47 Libraries from 45 Member States of the European Council
- Founded in 1987
- Foundation under Dutch law since 1999
- INGO (International Non Governmental Organizations of the Council of Europe) since 2006
- Creation of The European Library with EC help beginning in 2001
- From 2004: The European Library has been supported, used and developed by a growing number of members of CENL
The European Library started as an EU funded project, led by The British Library - now fully operational service

Owned by CENL, funded solely by the National Libraries, The European Library has been live since 17 March 2005

Digital Collections from 32 National Libraries - Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy-Florence, Italy-Rome, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia-Moscow, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK

2008 - Adds the remaining Eastern European countries through Swiss Development Agency money and Bulgaria and Romania via TELplus

Russia St Petersburg and Turkey have also said they wish to join = 46 of 47 national libraries in CENL by end of 2008.
The Role of CENL

CENL

The European Library Management Board

The European Library Executive Group

The European Library OFFICE

- Contacts Working Group
- Editorial Working Group
- Language Working Group
- Technical Working Group
“A common multilingual access point would make it possible to search Europe’s distributed - that is to say, held in different places by different organisations - digital cultural heritage online. Such an access point would increase its visibility and underline common features. The access point should build on existing initiatives such as The European Library (TEL), in which Europe’s libraries already cooperate. It should where possible closely associate private holders of rights in cultural material and all interested stakeholders. A strong commitment by the Member states and cultural institutions to arrive at such an access point should be encouraged.”

European Union Communiqué August 2006
With these goals

- End 2006 full collaboration among EU national libraries.

- From 2007 collaboration to be expanded to archives and museums.
  
  - 2,000,000 books, films, photographs, manuscripts, and other cultural works accessible by 2008

  - At least 6,000,000 works by 2010
Purpose:

- to provide cross-domain access to Europe’s cultural heritage.

So the Foundation will:

- facilitate formal agreement across museums, archives, audio-visual archives and libraries on how to cooperate in the delivery and sustainability of a joint portal.

- provide a legal framework for use by the EU for funding purposes and as a springboard for future governance.
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| | Edwin van Huis |
| | Claudia Dillmann |
| | Massimo Negri |
| | Elisabeth Niggemann |
| | Hans Geleijnse |
| | Christophe Dessaux |
| | Wim van Drimmelen |
Timeline to date

- **June 29**  
  Small meeting of major European Associations to discuss concept and first draft of statutes for Foundation

- **Summer 07**  
  Agreement on Articles for Foundation

- **Sept. 12**  
  Founder Meeting and nominations for Executive Committee

- **Oct. 07**  
  Legal Foundation in place

- **Next Board Meeting November 07, Brussels**
De tes traitres yeux,
Brillant à travers leurs larmes.
Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,
Des meubles luissants,
Polis par les ans,
Décoreraient notre chambre;
Les plus rares fleurs
Mêlant leurs odeurs
Aux vagues senteurs de l'ambre
Les riches plafonds,
Les miroirs profonds,
La splendeur orientale,
Tout y parlerait
À l'âme en secret
Sa douce langue natale.
Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Vois sur ces canaux
Dormir ces vaisseaux
Dont l'humeur est vagabonde;
C'est pour assouvir
Ton moindre désir.
EDLnet - An inter domain network

To establish trust between the institutions
– Thematic Network Partner Group –
– EDL Foundation

- Propose a practical implementation of the European Digital Library. A user defined prototype

- To make recommendations for future research to continue to ensure access to the digital heritage of Europe.
Demand not supply

For the users it is not important whether the sources of knowledge and experience are kept by archives, libraries or museums, but to get access to the sources they want, and to be able to use these sources across types of sources and sectors of institutions.
WP3 – Users for Usability
User requirements for Maquette
User testing – focus groups, surveys
Prototype 1-3– user testing, mouse click registration, logfile analysis

WP2- Technical & Semantic Interoperability
Access, metadata schemas, language, search and display solutions

WP1 Human, Political & Intercommunity
Governance
Organisational Structure
Roadmap
Business Model
Content and a user site

Portal will take any content from the institutions of Europe if it conforms to standards

- Unicode
- Metadata
- Harvesting

Proviso's:
- Copyright
- Multilingual Access
Stakeholder Integration

Thematic Network Partner Group delivers Content from small and large across 27 countries

- EDL Foundation partner in several current eContentPlus proposals:
  - Apenet Archives
  - Arrow Rights Management Libraries & Publishers
  - Athena Museums
  - EDLlocal Local & Regional Museums, Libraries, Archives
  - EFG Film

With requests for the next round from:
- Art & Architecture
- Video
- Natural History
The roadmap to a European Digital Library

- EDLnet start
- EDL Foundation set up Sept. 07
- EDLnet Thematic Partner site Sept 07
- EDLnet Thematic Partner Kick Off Sept. 07
- www.European Digital Library.eu Sept. 07
- Project plan - outline Sept. 07
- Work Group meetings -
  - WP3 User requirements - end Oct 07
  - WP1 Content Themes - end of Nov 07
  - WP4 Tender for Website Design end of Oct 07
  - WP1 & 3 Maquette Requirements beg. Dec 07
  - WP1 Name chosen Dec 07
- EDL Maquette - Jan. 08
- User testing of Maquette - Feb-Mar 08
- Prototypes 1 & 2 for User Tests Apr. to Aug. 08
- Final Prototype November 2008
European Digital Library

Thank You