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EUROPEANA COLLECTIONS: 1914 – 1918

Abstract. Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project is an EU project for which funds have been approved through the CIP ICT PSP - The European digital library. Full project title is "Europeana Collections 1914-1918: Remembering the First World War – a digital collection of outstanding sources from European national libraries". Project partners are: State Library in Berlin (coordinator), French National Library, National and University Library in Strasbourg, Central National Library in Rome, Central National Library of Florence, Royal Library of Belgium, British Library in London, Royal Library of Denmark, Austrian National Library, National library of Serbia, Humboldt University - Berlin, Central Institute for Unique Cataloguing of Italian libraries in Rome. The project duration is 36 months, from May 2011. to May 2014. During the project on the portal of Europeana over 500.000 freely available documents about the First World War from all national library partners will be included. Europeana Collections 1904-1918 will include many different types of documents. Through the project Europeana Collections 1914-1918 the National Library of Serbia will include in the Europeana portal the following documents: printed books (about 150 books of religious literature, war novels, manuals, travel reports, guides and instructions), music and musical sheets, journals, newspapers, pamphlets and brochures, picture material (photos, postcard with and without picture), maps and plans, manuscripts and various other materials, in total about 1400 documents.

Key words: The European Library, Europeana, National Library of Serbia, Europeana Collections 1914-1918

Introduction

National library of Serbia (NLS) is a full partner in the European Library project since July 2005. The European Library project is realized under the authorities of CENL – the Conference of European National Librarians. All digital collections of NLS, as well as the Union catalog of Serbia are accessible on the European Library portal (<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org>).

Because of the proven success of the collaboration, NLS was entrusted by the European Library in 2007. to coordinate the first pan-European project - "European Roma digital collection", which had its promotion on the European Library portal in March 2010. through the virtual exhibition "Roma journey" (http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/exhibition/roma_journey/eng/index.html). All digital collections of NLS, over the European Library as a aggregator for European national libraries, are available on the website of Europeana, the portal of the European cultural and scientific heritage which is kept in libraries, museums, archives and institutions for audiovisual material, and whose prototype was launched in April 2008. (<http://www.europeana.eu/portal>).

Today, Europeana enables free access to about 15 million digital items (texts, photos, maps, books, letters, newspapers, magazines, journals, music records from the cylinder to a DVD and radio shows, videos from movies to TV shows), and its digital resources include more than 1500 different European institutions. Europeana is funded by the European Union (EU) through a variety of general and individual projects. Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project is one of those individual projects that are financed by the EU.

CIP ICT PSP

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme - CIP, which runs from 2007. to 2013, includes three segments: Information and Communication Technologies - Policy Support Programme - ICT PSP, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme - EIP and Intelligent Energy Europe - IEE. For three of these programmes, in the period from 2007 to 2013 the following funds are attributed: ICT PSP 730 million €, EIP 2.170 million €, IEE 730 million €.

ICT PSP aims to encourage the efficient use of information and communication technologies (ICT) by citizens, public sector, public administration and business entities. The main objective of the programme is to encourage innovation and competitiveness through the widespread implementation of ICT in economic and public sector. Implementation of ICT in industry, small and medium enterprises results in the creation of new products and services, while the use of ICT in public administration results in more efficient and high quality administration, both for economy and for the citizens.

Serbia has joined the CIP Programme on 23rd October 2009. when was signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Accession. For the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the Memorandum was signed by Ms. Jasna Matic, the Minister of Telecommunications and Information Society, and for the European Commission, Ms. Viviane Reding, the Commissioner for Information Society and Media. By signing the Memorandum, the Republic of Serbia became a full member of the CIP Programme in 2010, which means that all interested and relevant entities of the Republic of Serbia, may participate in the programme and submit project proposals under the same conditions as EU Member States.

Europeana collections 1914-1918

Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project is an EU project for which funds have been approved through the CIP ICT PSP - The European digital library. It was the fourth EU Framework call, lasted from 21st January to 1st June 2010, and the type of project is a pilot project B: Theme 2 - Digital libraries.

In all previous European projects the NLS participated with its own funds, because it had not the right to receive funds from the EU. However, since the signing of the above mentioned Memorandum the NLS has the right to apply for EU projects. So, through the project Europeana Collections 1914-1918, NLS for the first time receives funds from the EU for building digital libraries. EU funds for projects are 50% and other 50% of funds should be provided by partners.

Full project title is "Europeana Collections 1914-1918: Remembering the First World War – a digital collection of outstanding sources from European national libraries", its acronym is Europeana Collections 1914-1918. Financing Contract was signed in November 2010. with the European Commission in Luxembourg (Grant Agreement no. 270 894, Ms. Patricia Manson, Executive Director). The total project value is € 5,399,894. EU funds are €

2,699,946 (50%). The payment is done 45 days after signing the contract in the amount of € 1,439,970. The remaining resources are paid after the reports of 12, 24 and 36 months of the project. NLS receives € 73,905, and it has to invest itself the same amount, namely the Ministry of Culture of Serbia, which is not certain that will be done. The NLS did not dare to apply for more funds, because it is not sure who will cover the total cost at 50%.

Project partners are:

- State Library in Berlin (coordinator),
- French National Library,
- National and University Library in Strasbourg,
- Central National Library in Rome,
- Central National Library of Florence,
- Royal Library of Belgium,
- British Library in London,
- Royal Library of Denmark,
- Austrian National Library,
- National library of Serbia
- Humboldt University, Berlin,
- Central Institute for Unique Cataloguing of Italian libraries in Rome.

The project duration is 36 months, from May 2011. to May 2014. Since the 2014. will be the centenary of the beginning of the First World War, it is obvious that the interest of a broad audience, as well as researchers and professionals will be increased for all topics related to the First World War. During the project on the portal of Europeana over 500.000 freely available documents about the First World War from all national library partners will be included. Selected contents and documents will be varied according to the experiences of groups and individuals they represent in the view of ethnic, political, ideological and religious orientations, the positions of all parties involved in the war. Europeana 1904-1918 will include many different types of documents: old and rare books, old magazines and newspapers, manuscripts, music scores, maps, fiction, novels, children's literature, religious literature, reference books, paintings, original works of art, diaries of soldiers, prayer books, guides, posters, photos, postcards, cartoons, comic books, letters, reports, memoirs, pamphlets, leaflets, medals and banknotes and so on.

Project working packages

The project has four Working Packages - WP:

1. WP1 - Coordination and management of the project, assessment and monitoring (coordinated by the State Library in Berlin)
2. WP2 - Coordination of content and enlargement of the network (coordinated by the Royal Library of Belgium)
3. WP3 - Digitizing and full-text creation / OCR, aggregation to Europeana (coordinated by the Austrian National Library)
4. WP4 - Dissemination and educational activities (coordinated by the British Library in London).

Concise description of the activities of the work packages:

WP1 - Project administration and financial coordination, creating the web-based work environment, evaluation and quality control, risk management, project documentation, correspondence and meetings with the European Commission.

WP2 - Workshop on principles of material selection, selection of material, a questionnaire on the interests of researchers, enlargement of the network of partners.

WP3 - Workshop on the plans of partners to include the digital content, digitization planning, digitization of documents in accordance with the plan, planning input of metadata in Europeana via the European Library, contacts with Europeana, entering metadata into Europeana, presentation of digital documents in Europeana.

WP4 – Media communication (the promotion of the project web site), learning microsite for support (to make the content and ideas of the project accessible to a broad audience, particularly schools, in an engaging and interactive manner), a regional workshop on the importance of the project (the presentation of the best practices examples to reuse of content for purposes of research and education - Strasbourg, London, Copenhagen, Rome and Belgrade), the organization of various events and at least four physical exhibition in early 2014 (in the national libraries of Belgium, France, Germany and Great Britain).

Future activities

Here are some other planned activities:

- Workshop on development of standard metadata for digital documents,
- Survey of researchers interests,
- Enlargement of the network of partners to other European projects and organizations (such as Europeana Local, CENL - Conference of European National Librarians, The European Library, etc.), other libraries, archives, museums and historical societies with significant contents about the First World War,
- Workshop about creating a database of full-text documents with OCR technology,
- Workshop on the aggregation of documents in Europeana via the European Library,
- Virtual exhibitions on the sites of partner institutions,
- Creation of a project website,
- Several conferences for researchers, students and teachers in partner libraries,
- Printing promotional materials (leaflets, posters, catalogs).

National Library of Serbia in the project

Through the project Europeana Collections 1914-1918 NLS will include in the Europeana portal the following documents: printed books (about 150 books of religious literature, war novels, manuals, travel reports, guides and instructions), music and musical sheets, journals, newspapers, pamphlets and brochures, picture material (photos, postcard with and without picture), maps and plans, manuscripts and various other materials, in total about 1400 documents.

All images will be in TIFF and JPEG format, 300 dpi, in colour and gray scale. The majority of metadata will be exported from the NLS e-catalogue and for smaller number the new bibliographic records will be created from the card catalogue of NLS special collections. OCR will be done for small number of books. NLS records will be sent to the European Library, as aggregator for the project, in MARC 21 XML format.

The results of the project will be accessible also as one of the digital collections of the NLS. Information about project will be distributed to Serbian newspapers and reviews, electronic media, through web site, NLS Youtube chanel, Facebooks, Twiter etc. Regional workshop for presentation of the project will be organized in the NLS in February 28th 2014, for the Day of the Library with some domestic and foreign professors of history. In June 28th 2014, for the Centenary of the First World War, the NLS will organize also the physical exhibition dedicated to this historical event, with documents from the NLS collections and other libraries partners in the project.

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