DELIVERABLE

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D2.4   Interim Report on Networking Activities

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Revision History

Revision	Date	Author	Organisation	Description

Statement of originality:

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

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1. Executive Summary

The EUROPEANA COLLECTIONS 1914-1918 Project aims to provide to Europeana before 30th of April 2014 the most ambitious digitised selection of outstanding documents and rare pieces about the First World War coming from the collections of ten European National Libraries and two further partners.

As first ambition, this project aims to provide around 400.000 documents to Europeana, that have been selected by curators with respect of a common list of criteria established within the project under the coordination of WP2 leader, the KBR.

At the same time, the project aims to enlarge the network to other institutions that are not already involved in the project with taking initiatives to convince them joining the circle of WW1 data providers on Europeana. Other nationals libraries, archives, museums, research institutes and universities libraries will have the opportunity to participate to this project.

To achieve this important goal, a special task of establishing network partnerships has been assigned to WP2.

This Interim Report on the Networking Activities summarises all the initiatives that have been taken during the first 18 months of the project by the consortium itself and its partners as well on the project level as on the local level.

This document is structured to give the best possible picture of how these networking activities are coordinated and monitored. It describes the strategy, the communication and the concrete results (contacts, initiatives, events, discussions) during this period.

2. Coordination of networking activities (WP2)

2.1 Objectives

The DoW is very clear about the objectives of the network activities. "Enlargement of the network" is one of the four tasks assigned to WP2. Led by KBR, its objective is to encourage other institutions to enrich and complete the selected collections to make Europeana the first stop for quality content on the First World War on the web.

In order to make Europeana the first stop for quality content on the First World War on the web, the partner libraries will endeavour to enlarge the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 network. Other institutions with relevant collections on the First World War will be encouraged to digitise and to upload relevant material from their collections to supplement the digital content produced by the national libraries of the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 consortium. These libraries intend to contact partners from other Europeana projects, other national libraries from countries not yet represented in Europeana Collections 1914-1918, other libraries with relevant content, especially with content that supplements topics and materials not yet broadly represented in the consortium and other types of memory institutions such as museums, archives, history societies etc. with relevant materials.

2.2 WP2 activities to set up a coordinated networking strategy

According to the DoW networking activities started on Project M7 (November 2011). Some partners immediately started with networking activities on a local level, taking contact with further institutions inside their country to verify the potential interest of this activity. The feedback was immediately positive for many of them who came back with concrete results.

Because of the general interest in the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project, many partners have been invited to talk about the project at several conferences all around Europe and especially in Germany, in Belgium and in France. These meetings were excellent occasions to start networking activities. Furthermore, since the beginning of the project, several requests for network partnerships have been made to the project, most of them in Germany.

As WP2 leader, KBR started the monitoring of this activity with putting this topic at the agenda of the *2nd Consortium Meeting* which took place in Rome in February 2012. Frédéric Lemmers gave a presentation describing the three main objectives of the task: 1) to summarise the state of the art regarding the activities that were already taken; 2) to initiate a roundtable discussion about the needs of collaboration identified by the partners within the project Consortium; 3) to set up a Working Group on this topic which should be the place for further discussions to the set up of a project strategy to catch some network partners.

If the project has no budget available to be given to networking partners, e.g. for digitisation activities, how can the project become attractive for other libraries or institutions? Which kind of services could be offered by the project to other institutions interested in the project goals? What kind of tools are already available for sharing? What are the needs and the expectations from the consortium members about the involvement of network partners?

Current status: If no money! Which kind of offer?

- Use of the EC1418's technical identifier for WWI-content

- Use of the EC1418's agreed classification of WWI-content

- Presentation of the items within the thematic platform in preparation

- Share of information about & contact to Europeana and/or Aggregators

- Share of information about selection and/or digitisation issues

- Share of information on funding opportunities for digitization

- Offer to use the partner libraries digitisation infrastructure to digitise some specific content of high interest for the consortium

Strategy for future activities (Agenda M7-M14)

- **What ? → Set up of a common strategy to extend the network**
  - Give more visibility of networking activities :
    - Make a distinction between local and consortium networking activities
    - Provide on the project website a list of all networking activities
    - Publish on the project website a list of all collaborative agreements
  - Creation of a SPOC (single point of contact for networking demands)
  - Encourage the organisation of local workshops by making available informative and promotional tools:
    Already available on the wiki:
    - General presentation about the EC1418 Project
    - Deliverables, leaflets and other work documents like guidelines for selection, survey of user's interests, subject classification…
    In preparation
    - Presentation & Leaflet explaining the advantages to join the movement
    - Presentation to promote the Thematic platform under construction

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The Working Group was composed with one representative for each partner of the project, as well as Frédéric Lemmers (KBR) to chair the sessions. The other members of the working group are: Thorsten Siegmann as Project Coordinator, Ellen Geisriegler (ONB), Agnete L. Rodskjer (KB, Denmark), Guillaume Badou-Barthelemy (BNF), Frédéric Blin (BNU), Maria Teresa Natale (ICCU), Mareike Rake (SBB), Pierantonio Metelli (BNCF), Stanislava Gardasevic (NLS), Matthew Shaw (BL) and Friederike Hoehn (UBER).
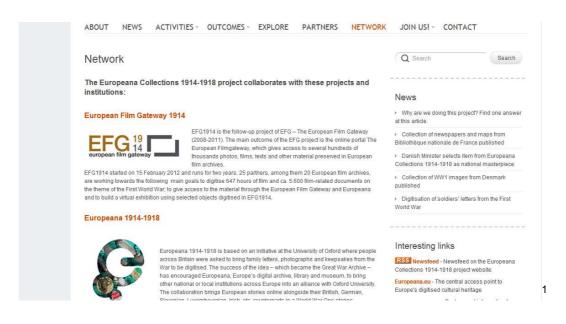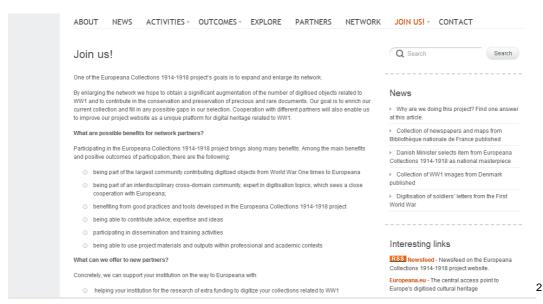
The working group decided to organise some collective activities on this topic
- to focus our attention on other institutions with rarities or content which should fill in some existing gaps in the consortium's selection and on collections which should be really attractive for a large public
- to communicate about this offer of services and our needs on the Project Website by creating a new section "Network" and "Join us" where users can find the most useful information on this topic.

A general draft of a "co-operation agreement" was prepared and published at the project website for downloading.
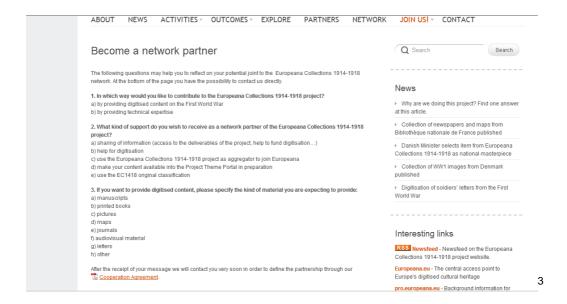

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[1] http://www.europeana-collections-1914-1918.eu/network/

[2] http://www.europeana-collections-1914-1918.eu/join-us/

The 3rd Consortium Meeting which took place in Belgrade in October 2012 was an excellent occasion to start with concrete interactions between collaborative European projects. Representatives of other European(a) projects also active with WW1 topic have presented the project they are coordinating during the Consortium Meeting. Mrs Julia Welter from the Deutsches Filminstitut, Frankfurt/Main, gave a presentation about the EFG1914 (European Film Gateway 1914) which she is coordinating and which aims to digitise films and film-related material from and about WWI. Mr Ad Pollé from the Europeana Foundation gave a presentation about Europeana's WW1 initiatives, with a special focus on the project Europeana 1914-1918 focusing on User Generated Content.

This Consortium Meeting was also the right moment for the EC1418 Consortium to stress the guidelines for implementing the project's strategy for enlarging the network. The WP2 leader gave a presentation on the current state of Networking activities and outcomes. This presentation aimed to communicate about the need of a more focused monitoring on this topic as well on the European as on the local level. A roundtable with statements from all the project partners gave the occasion to collect information about further running projects about WW1 heritage.

It was decided to organise four SKYPE meetings during the first part of 2013 to co-ordinate the work of the Working Group on Networking Activities**.**

It also was decided that each partner is going to identify at least five institutions to be contacted regarding WW1 activities. By doing that, the project will strive to identify further digitised content from WW1 times which can be provided to Europeana. This will also help to establish co-operations based on content exchange or co-operations between projects.
To help the partners in this task, WP2 will prepare a template (letter / email) for contacting further institutions regarding networking partnerships. This template will explain what the project is about and invite the contacted institutions to become network partners. The template will be provided to the partners via the working group.
Actions will be monitored during the WG Skype meetings. Results will be periodically published on the project website. With use of RSSfeeds, partners will be immediately informed about these results of networking.

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[3] http://www.europeana-collections-1914-1918.eu/join-us/become-a-network-partner/

3. Interim results

3.1 Collaborations on the European Level

One important area of networking is the collaboration with further European projects that are also providing content from WW1 times to Europeana. SPK has established contact to the **Europeana 1914-1918 User Generated Content project** (http://europeana1914-1918.eu/) as well as to the **European Film Gateway 1914 project** (http://efg1914.eu). The EC1418 project actively collaborates with these projects in the implementation of the project's Virtual Exhibitions on Europeana.eu as well as in the concept for a thematic portal/channel on WW1 content (in case the Europeana Foundation will decide to realise the thematic platform/channel concept in discussion). Both collaborating projects support the EC1418 minimal classification and have explained their interest to provide metadata to Europeana containing the EC1418 subject headings (based on a LCSH subset) and the EC1418 object types. A joint leaflet, proving information on the three initiatives is under preparation.

Further on, EC1418 is collaborating with further European projects that are working on developments which could be useful for our project. Frédéric Lemmers was invited by ICCU to take part in the **Linked Heritage**'s Annual Conference which took place in Stockholm in May 2012 (http://www.linkedheritage.eu) to present the EC1418 networking objectives to the members of this technical European project. This activity has sent out a collaboration between both projects.

The project also collaborates with the **CENDARI** Project (http://www.cendari.eu/research/firstworld-war-studies/), a collaborative European digital Archive Infrastructure, and with **1914-1918 ONLINE** Project (http://www.1914-1918-online.net) which aims to realize an International Encyclopedia of the First World War available online that will give a multi-perspective and public-access knowledge base on the First World War.

Besides the "official" activities within the working group, most of the partners have built co-operations with further institutions active in the area of WW1 digitisation which they have been in contact with, because of former relationships, encounters on meetings etc. Those co-operations have been establishing bi-directionally as these institutions have been contacted by the project partners or the project partners have been contacted by these institutions aware of the project.

3.2 Collaborations on the local/regional/national level

Most of the partners have taken individual initiatives to catch the interest of other institutions to take part in our project.

Besides the contacts and collaboration with further European Projects already described above, **SPK** had contacts with the „Museumsverband Sachsen-Anhalt" which has explained the interest to provide further WW1 items related to an exhibition taking place in the State of Sachsen-Anhalt to the collections through the service www.museum-digital.de in 2013 and 2014; and was assigned the private estate of a Berlin resident from WW1 times which is currently analysed at SBB. The donator was aware of the project and contacted SBB. Further on, SPK established a partnership with the Europeana Newspapers project, also co-ordinated at the SPK. This project will provide reasonable numbers of newspapers from WW1 times to Europeana until January 2015 (besides other material).

Since the beginning of the project, **BNF** is collaborating with other French partner institutions like the French Ministry of Defence and BDIC**.** Furthermore**,** the enlargement of the network is led by the Department of Cooperation towards French regional/local libraries and museums. Some

contacts have been taken with libraries and archives of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Historical Service of the city of Paris. An Information Day was organised at the BNF on the 16th of December 2011 in collaboration with **BNU** and **BDIC** under the title "Numériser le patrimoine pour le Centenaire de la Grande Guerre"[4].

BNU and BDIC are collaborating since the beginning of the project. A contract has been written to formalise this partnership. Other contacts have been taken by BNU with several institutions in France and Germany, to whom we explained the project. Preceeding the official launch for France of the "Europeana Erster Weltkrieg" programme, **BNU** advertised on *Europeana Collection 1914-1918* towards the civil society. Following this event, BNU was contacted by some private persons who asked for digitization of their private documents which was done by four different persons inside the BNU.

The BNU is also in contact with the Interdepartmental Rhenan Archeological Pole, in Sélestat, which has the project to valorize a WWI Trench via the reconstitution of this trench into a museum and the digitisation of Alsacian Front Maps coming from different French and German institutions. BNU will be their partner for digitisation and online setting.

BNCF has established contacts with the "Fondazione di Studi Storici Filippo Turati" in Florence (http://www.pertini.it/turati.html) which holds a collection of photographs about WW1, not a large but a significant collection. Furthermore**,** on 9th of November 2012, BNCF will present its digitization activities at the University of Turin and will talk about the EC1418 project and will try to catch some potential network partners in the audience.

BNCRM reports on a library in Rome which hosts around 11.000 documents from WW1 times.

KBR has contacted other federal institutions like the Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, the National Archives, some libraries of Universities in Brussels and Liege, the AML (Archive and Museum of Litterature) and made a presentation of the project on the Europeana Flemish platform. Some good contacts. Possible collaboration might take place in the following months with universities and the AML for providing WWI unique content. In November 2012 KBR will take part in the EVA Conference in Moscow to look out for partners in Russia which should have some interesting WW1 material to provide to Europeana.

Discussions have been held at the **British Library** about possible enlargement of the network with the National Library of Wales, Oxford, Cambridge and Sussex Universities. BL representatives have attended three UK-wide meetings, established by JISC and the Imperial War Museum, which is co-ordinating the UK's digital commemoration of the First World War. BL is pursuing, with JISC, possible enlargement of the UK network involving sharing of images with the IWM. The National and London projects Heritage Lottery Fund seminar witch took place at the Imperial War Museum on May 23 2012 and the IWM meeting of 19 November 2012 were good occasions to stimulate this dynamics.

The Danish **KB** has set up a national Europeana network community in cooperation with Danish Agency for Culture. Annual meetings and activities regarding contacting potential institutions with material relevant for this project have been put off till at later time. Being a National Aggregator for Europeana, the KB may have a contributory effect on the institutions they are to contact in the nearest future. This role is now at such a stage that the KB has established a workflow for carrying out the aggregation if needed. Among institutions, that the KB intends to get in contact with is the National Archives, Sønderborg Castle, Arbejdermuseet & Arbejderbevægelsens Bibliotek og Arkiv, Danish Defense Library and Museum of Copenhagen.

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[4] See http://www.bnf.fr/documents/GIRARD__intervention_2011.pdf

NLS has actively been working on the enlargement of the network, and by now Archives of Serbia, the Serbian Academy of Science and Art (SASA) and the Military museum, which have agreed to cooperate on this project. Those institutions have already started the selection of the materials. NLS also plans to collaborate with the National and University Library of the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia and Hercegovina). NLS will digitise some Northern American Newspapers from Chicago within a network partnership. NLS is in contact to the Faculty of History of University of Sofia, Bulgaria which has run a digitisation project and might be interested to become a network partner of EC1418.

UBER was in contact with 1914-1918-Online International Encyclopedia of the First World War (since January 2012); with the German-French student reporters from "Grand méchant loup | Böser Wolf" (since April 2012); and made some contacts for WWI in general, more on the level of reusing the content of Europeana for other projects. For the Clio-online portal, UBER is staying in touch with some German archives and libraries. UBER also forwarded to the consortium interest of the Bulgarian National Library to share digital content.

ICCU is collaborating with the Biblioteca di Storia moderna e contemporanea of Rome (BSMC) who became partner of the project for providing content. ICCU has established contacts with Fondazione Museo storico del Trentino which is partner of Europeana Awareness, for a future collaboration with Europeana Collection 1914-1918. In May 2012, ICCU has invited Frédéric Lemmers to present EC1418 project in Stockholm at the Linked Heritage Annual Conference. Furthermore, ICCU has taken part in several exibitions and events:

1.Title of Exhibition: RADICI. La memoria del passato e le nuove generazioni. Nuovi materiali e tecnologie per la costruzione dell'identità storica nazionale. Roma, Complesso del Vittoriano June 1st – July 22nd 2012

2. Interview of Marco Pizzo (Museo del Risorgimento) and Rossella Caffo (ICCU) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXefiOyuLPs

3. Title of Exhibition: Verso la grande guerra. Storia e passioni d'Italia. Dalla crisi di fine ottocento a d'annunzio. Roma, Complesso del Vittoriano, November 4th 2012 – January 6th 2013

ICCU also wrote some articles to promote the project in Italy:

1.Title: Ricordando la prima guerra mondiale di Paola Gioia, Marco Pizzo e Adriano Santiemma.

In Digitalia (print and on line versions) June 2012
http://digitalia.sbn.it/upload/documenti/DIGITALIA%20N%201-2012.pdf?l=it
Other italian institutions have still to be contacted by ICCU for defining a collaboration:

1. Cinecittà Luce Archivio storico Luce – Portale
http://www.archivioluce.com/archivio/

2. Centro di documentazione Monte Grappa
http://www.comune.crespano.tv.it/images/museo_resistenza/frame.htm
Foto storiche del Grappa

3. MUSEO DELLA BONIFICA San Donà di Piave (Ve)
http://www.museobonifica.sandonadipiave.net/index.php?l=ITALIANO&cat=84

4. Museo della Grande Guerra 1914-1918 a Cortina d'Ampezzo
http://www.cortinamuseoguerra.it/

5. Regione Veneto. La Grande Guerra
http://www2.regione.veneto.it/cultura/grande-guerra/default.asp

6. Soprintendenza per i beni storici, artistici ed etnoantropologici per le province di Siena e Grosseto
Collection "La Grande Guerra. La memoria" (1915-1918). In CD-ROM

7. Museo civico del Risorgimento di Bologna
http://www.comune.bologna.it/museorisorgimento/

8. Museo della battaglia di Vittorio Veneto
http://www.museobattaglia.it/index2.php

4. Next Steps

Due to the upcoming centenary of the First World War, the project partners expect an increasing interest in the project and in the commemorations of the events one century ago, when WW1 broke out. In parallel with the increasing interest, the number of meetings, events and conferences dedicated to WWI topics will necessarily increase in Europe within the 18 next months. Whenever possible, the project partners will send a representative to those events to present the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project and to look out for network partners to contribute to the project. A special focus will be put on partners who could provide digitised material to our project.

For example, the EC1418 project will be presented at the EVA/Minerva-Conference Israel in Jerusalem by Thorsten Siegmann in November 2012 and by Frédéric Lemmers in Madrid at the TEL Conference "The Researcher of Tomorrow – The European Library/Europeana Libraries" in the beginning of December 2012.

Within the activities of network extension, it will be one important objective to encourage the network partners for the support of the minimum classification, developed within the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 project. The project partners will be invited to communicate about those collaborations

The WP2 leader will co-ordinate the networking activities within the consortium of partners and monitor precisely the activities of the project partners. Information about the extension of the digital corpus provided to Europeana will be collected, analysed and published on the project website.

This information will also be shared with other WP leaders to assure the technical feasibility of those collaborations and their integration into the dissemination activities.