DELIVERABLE

Project Acronym: Europeana Newspapers

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Project Title: A Gateway to European Newspapers Online

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D6.3.2   Report on Network Extensions 2

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Contributions: **All partners**

Revision History

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1. Executive Summary

Europeana Newspapers is a 3-year project which is assembling a large collection of historic newspapers from libraries across Europe. This collection will be made freely available on The European Library[1] website. Metadata from the newspapers will also be searchable on Europeana[2]. Some 10 million digital newspaper pages will also be processed using the latest OCR-technology so that the words on the pages are fully searchable and so that named entities such as persons, locations and organisations can be identified.

In order to share these achievements with the broadest possible audience and to engage key stakeholders such as researchers and potential content providers, Work Package 6, dedicated to Dissemination and Exploitation, has organised a number of activities aimed at strengthening and expanding the Europeana Newspapers network. These include Information days, workshops and presentations.

Our efforts in this area serve to widen the Europeana Newspapers network and to support the two main goals of Work Package 6. These are to:

1. make customers, researchers and stakeholders of the newspaper community aware of the latest efforts regarding Europeana / The European Library and the Best Practice Network related goals;

2. increase usage of Europeana and The European Library by increasing awareness of digitised newspaper collections.

This work is led by LIBER[3]: a well-established organisation of research libraries, with over 400 members in some 40 countries. Through Work Package 6, LIBER collaborates with representatives of the project partners to plan and execute all networking activities.

This document describes the networking activities undertaken in Year 2 of the project (from May 2013 up to and including January 2014) and looks ahead to Year 3. The coordinating structure behind these activities is also laid out. Networking activities from the previous 15 months have already been described in the *Report on Network Extensions 1* (Deliverable D.3.2).

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[1] http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org

[2] http://www.europeana.eu

[3] http://www.libereurope.eu

2. Networking activities

This section describes in general terms the activities and methods used to expand and strengthen the Europeana Newspapers network. Specific achievements are outlined in section 3.

2.1 Expansion

The expansion of the Europeana Newspapers network is a key task of Work Package 6. The greater our network, the more potential we have to gather feedback, improve our work and maximise the impact of the project as a whole. The bulk of our networking efforts so far have focused on people and organisations who could potentially:

- provide additional content and/or metadata;
- contribute to and evaluate the technology being developed and used within the project;
- use the service we are building and promote it to others in their own area of specialty.

We have seen success in each of these areas and a major reason for that success was the addition of 11 Associated partners to the project in April 2013. Since that time, these new partners have enthusiastically participated in many activities. They have attended and presented at our workshops, have agreed to ingest metadata and content in the new browser, have provided images for promotional activities and have shared news about the project with their own networks.

The collaboration of our new Associated partners has been particularly encouraged by members of Work Package 6. In all of our activities, we have examined ways in which Associated partners could participate. In addition, Work Package 6 has made a special effort in Year 2 to target potential users of the service. This has resulted in new links with researchers in the digital humanities community and with other European projects.

2.2 Coordinated Promotion

The success of networking efforts within the Europeana Newspapers Project will naturally be greater if partners in the project pass key messages on to their own communities of content providers, digitisation professionals and potential users. This is known as the "multiplier effect" and Work Package 6 has placed a strong emphasis on ensuring that this effect is put into practice to the benefit of the Europeana Newspapers project.

LIBER, the work package leader, has for example ensured that key messages and reports about the project are distributed to the LIBER website, numerous mailing lists and accounts on the major social media networks. LIBER also ensures that the Europeana Newspapers Project is presented at its major annual conference – a must-attend event for academic librarians across Europe, which attracts about 400 delegates each year. Finally, LIBER has shared news about the project with its many partners in the library and academic community[4], many of whom target the same stakeholders as the Europeana Newspapers Project.

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[4] For a full list, see: http://www.libereurope.eu/partners

Across the project network, similar activities have taken place. Partners have, for example, shared news about the project on their websites, email lists and social media channels, have done interviews with local journalists and have presented the project at conferences.

In this way, the Europeana Newspapers Project was able to reach an international audience of stakeholders, who can then in turn share project news with their own colleagues and user communities.

To support project partners in their efforts to spread news about Europeana Newspapers, several tools were developed. The main supporting tool for stakeholder engagement is the project website[5], where the latest news and deliverables are published. The website is also where partners can download a number of Communications Tools such as posters, leaflets, postcards and Powerpoint templates.

Behind the scenes, Work Package 6 coordinates networking activities via monthly Skype calls. During these virtual meetings, the participating partners work to identify and plan events and activities that will expand our network. This is recorded in the project internal workspace Sharepoint.

Within Sharepoint, there are specific pages where partners can share the details of relevant events for the dissemination and networking of Europeana Newspapers (e.g. dates, deadline for submissions, audience category, location, event website). Partners can indicate whether they will attend an event and what activities they plan to undertake, such as the presentation of a poster, a paper or participation in a workshop to network with content holders and technology producers.

Another page on Sharepoint monitors attendance at these suggested events. Basic information collected including the attending partner, networking category and the presentation or paper is uploaded here for partners to consult.

2.3 Outreach via Information days and Workshops

Of the many activities that we undertake, Information days are among the most significant in terms of network expansion. These events are hosted by partners in the project and directly target the types of people and organisations we hope to engage with messages about the project, its goals, technical challenges and issues related to the content. They include professionals from the academic sector, from libraries and from policy-making institutions.

In total, three Information days were held in Year 2 and a total of 10 will be held by the end of the project. Each event is organised within a set framework that ensures a uniform standard of quality across these important networking events.

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[5] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu

For each Information day, LIBER provides support for dissemination around the event, helps to source potential experts from partner organisations (if necessary) and provides a small budget for consumables. The impact for each Information day is measured quantitatively by the number of participants and the media coverage around the event and qualitatively by the interaction and networking from participants in the event (See D6.3 Stakeholder Engagement and Media Communication Plan[6]).

Workshops organised by the project are another important channel for relationship building with a broad range of stakeholders. In Year 2 the Project organised three workshops: one in Belgrade, focused on refinement and quality assessment, one in Munich at the LIBER 2013 Annual Conference, focused on improving access to digitised newspapers, and one in Amsterdam at The European Library Annual Conference, focused on Aggregation and Presentation.

All of these workshops were well attended by representatives of our partner network and those from external organisations (commercial and non-commercial). Full details are available in section 3.

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[6] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/ENP_Deliverable_6-3_final.pdf

3. Results to date

In Year 2 of the project, our partners reached out to a wide range of potential content providers, library organisations, policy makers, rights organisations and future users of the service. This work raised widespread awareness of the project. It was also critical to establishing relationships with organisations and experts who have the skills and experience required to help the project reach and exceed its goals. This section of the deliverable details the events which we organised or attended in order to expand our network and the specific outcomes of our activities.

3.1 Networking through workshops

The Europeana Newspapers Project began with 18 partners. By Year 2, our network had expanded to encompass 11 new Associated partners, 22 Networking partners and four European projects. Work Package 6 felt that it was critical to nurture these new relationships and therefore put a special emphasis on ensuring that these partners were continually invited to engage with the project.

A key way in which this was achieved was through two workshops: one in Belgrade (June 2013) and a second in Amsterdam (September 2013). Associated partners were invited to attend the workshops at no cost to themselves (travel expenses were covered by Europeana Newspapers). Networking partners and other interested parties could attend the events for free but had to pay their own expenses.

Both workshops were attended by 90% of Associated partners. Four Associated partners (the national libraries of Slovenia, Iceland, Luxembourg and Czech Republic) also presented their newspaper browsers to the audience in Amsterdam.

The workshops attracted a high level of interest from other parties, including Networking partners and professionals working in universities, museums, cultural heritage organisations and companies across Europe. The table below details the organisations represented at each workshop, outside of the initial and Associated project partners.

Workshop in Belgrade	Workshop in Amsterdam
1. National Library of Serbia 2. National Library of Switzerland 3. BCU Lausanne (Switzerland) 4. University of NIS (Serbia) 5. State and University Library of Denmark 6. National Museum of Serbia 7. National and University Library of "St Clement of Ohrid" (Macedonia) 8. Infobiro (digital archive in Bosnia and Herzegovina)	1. National Library of Switzerland 2. Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania) 3. BCU Lausanne (Switzerland) 4. Consortium of European Research Libraries 5. Delegation of the Basque Country to the EU 6. Flanders Heritage Library 7. National Library of Germany 8. University of Amsterdam 9. School of Oriental and African Studies 10. i2s DigiBook Kirtas (digital library services provider) 11. Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic 12. German National Library of Economics (ZBW) 13. State and University Library Bremen 14. LexisNexis (academic services provider) 15. Europeana Collections 1914-1918

Additionally, a third workshop was held at LIBER's 2013 Annual Conference in Munich, Germany[7]. This workshop was slightly different from the others in that only conference delegates could attend but it was nevertheless an excellent networking opportunity. Over 30 people attended the workshop. Many represented libraries outside of our network, including the national libraries of Norway, New Zealand and Switzerland, university libraries in Ghent (Belgium) and Freiburg (Germany) and the UCLA Library in the United States. Companies also attended, for example SCANBIT[8] and Springer[9].

3.2 Networking through Information days

Three Information days were held in Year 2, the first of which was in Ankara[10]. Hosted by the National Library of Turkey, it aimed to showcase Europeana Newspapers and to raise awareness of the importance of digitisation among national policy makers. The Information day was well attended by professionals from universities, libraries, policy making institutions and technology producers – all of whom could potentially exchange content or technical knowledge with the project. In many cases, guests at the Turkish event also had direct links to end-user communities.

Latvia hosted the second Information day[11]. It shared a project overview with a general audience of around 150 people and then held a focused discussion with about 30 people. The discussion looked at how the project could meet the needs of users of digitised newspapers. It was attended by representatives from libraries and archives as well as the most active users of the digitised periodicals portal www.periodika.lv. IT and digitisation professionals also attended the event.

The last Information day in the reporting period was hosted by the National Library of Poland. It was part of the Digital Seminar *#GreatWar*, which showcased both projects: European Newspapers and Europeana 1914-1918[12]. The seminar looked at the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War and was addressed primarily to teachers and librarians.

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[7] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/sharing-best-practices-with-library-professionals-at-liber2013

[8] http://www.scanbit.net/en

[9] http://www.springer.com

[10] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/ENP_Report_Infoday_NLT.pdf

[11] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/ENP_Report_Infoday_NLL.pdf

[12] http://www.europeana1914-1918.eu

Project co-ordinator Ulrike Koelsch presents the project at the Information day in Poland.

The core aim of the seminar was to present digital material regarding WWI and to review the possibilities and limitations of using digital resources. The section of the event dedicated to Europeana Newspapers gave an overview of the project and then examined the challenges and solutions in developing a cross-searchable newspaper browser.

Participants were very interested to find out how the project might provide digital historic resources for school teaching, both from a technical perspective (e.g. the browser and its associated functions) as well as a legal perspective (e.g. copyright). The National Library of Poland was able to engage the audience by explaining its value for teaching. The library and the project also benefited because the Information day provided valuable feedback on the expectations and needs of an important group of target users.

3.3 Networking through presentations and events

Partners in the Europeana Newspapers Project reached out to academics, policy makers and other professionals through a series of presentations across Europe and internationally. LIBER, for example, promoted the project at events such as the International Research Libraries Conference in Mexico City, Mexico (November 2013)[13] and to French information professionals at the FREDOC conference in Aussois, France (October 2013).

The European Library presented the project during a plenary session at its Annual Conference in Amsterdam (this was in addition to the workshop mentioned in section 3.1). During the session, an emphasis on WWI made it possible to connect Europeana Newspapers with the CENDARI[14], EFG1914[15] and Europeana Collections 1914-1918 projects. Synergies were identified and further developed through connections made at the event. The outcome was further enhanced and exposed at the launch of the Europeana 1914-1918 platform in Berlin on 30-31 January, 2014[16].

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[13] http://www.slideshare.net/libereurope/reilly-xi

[14] http://www.cendari.eu

[15] http://project.efg1914.eu

[16] http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/tel4/newsitem/4000

The European Library also accepted an invitation from EUScreen[17], another cultural heritage project funded by the European Union, to present the Europeana Newspapers browser to 25 scholars and post-doctorate students in the humanities and social sciences. This was an excellent opportunity to record feedback at an early stage of the prototype. More usability testing will be conducted at Alpha version milestone.

In November, representatives from the National Library of France, the National Library of Latvia and the Berlin State Library travelled to Lithuania for a joint networking session with Europeana Regia at ICT2013[18]. This presentation, which identified the links and shared goals between the two projects, was well attended by policy makers and cultural heritage professionals.

At the 12th International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR2013) in Washington D.C., the University of Salford published two papers[19][20] with results related to Europeana Newspapers. The University of Salford also organised:

- a tutorial on Performance Evaluation based on tools developed in the course of the project;
- a competition with the goal of assessing the current state-of-the-art technology in Layout Analysis for historical newspapers.

For a full list of presentations, please see D6.1.3 Media Report Year Two

3.4 One-on-One Networking

Arguably one of the most important networking results of Year 2 came from the Berlin State Library. Acting in its role as Project Coordinator, the library met several times with representatives of the European Newspapers Publishers' Association (ENPA) and the EU Project Officer. Constructive talks were held on the scope of the project and the general development of digitisation projects. Thanks to these meetings, the relationship between the two organisations has grown closer and ENPA has agreed to participate in the final workshop of the Europeana Newspapers Project in 2015.

Hans-Jörg Lieder of the Berlin State Library also networked with the University of California to highlight a specific section of content from the Europeana Newspapers project –namely the refinement of the "Deutsches Nachrichtenbüro", a much sought after resource of the Nazi period.

In the United Kingdom, the University of Salford reached out to tranScriptorium[21] and eMOP[22] – two organisations with technical expertise related to the refinement of digital newspaper collections, in particular with regard to Optical Character Recognition.

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[17] http://www.euscreen.eu

[18] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/successful-networking-at-ict2013/

[19] ICDAR2013 Competition on Historical Newspaper Layout Analysis - HNLA2013; A. Antonacopoulos, C. Clausner, C. Papadopoulos, S. Pletschacher; Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR2013), Washington DC, USA, August 2013, pp. 1486-1490

[20] The Significance of Reading Order in Document Recognition and its Evaluation; C. Clausner, S. Pletschacher, A. Antonacopoulos; Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR2013), Washington DC, USA, August 2013, pp. 688-692

[21] http://transcriptorium.eu

[22] http://emop.tamu.edu

The collaboration with tranScriptorium was focused on finding better ways of refining handwritten content. Together transScriptorium and the University of Salford collected requirements for handwritten content, drafted a proposal for extensions to the existing PAGE format, sought feedback from all involved partners and implemented changes based on this feedback. The result was the release of a new version of the PAGE framework, which allows for more precise representation of handwritten annotations as well as documents that are entirely handwritten.

With eMOP, the University of Salford worked on improving OCR training tools. This resulted in the release of better tools for generating training data from existing ground truth files for a number of OCR-engines (eg. Tesseract, Gamera). Extensions were also released to the list of special characters not currently supported by Unicode.

In the Netherlands, the National Library of the Netherlands continued its work from Year 1 with the Institute for Dutch Lexicology (INL)[23] on the preparation of the Named Entity Recognition (NER) workflow. INL is a previous partner of the KB from the IMPACT project[24] and has shown excellent knowledge of NER. This expertise is of great use for the project. By drawing on accumulated experience and previously developed tools, Europeana Newspapers will be able to avoid duplication of work and begin analysing the NER workflow much earlier than would have been possible without this collaboration.

In Year 2, the KB also worked with Lip6 laboratory of the Paris University Pierre et Marie Curie[25]. This lab is collaborating with the National Library of France on NER for the French language and the KB has been in regular contact with them to ensure the integration into the ENP workflow is seamless. This collaboration will continue into Year 3.

One-on-one networking also helped us to reach end users of the project. Three examples of this come from LIBER and The European Library.

First, LIBER cultivated a relationship with EuroClio[26], a European Association which prepares packages of study material for history teachers. The relationship began in the autumn of 2013 when EuroClio expressed interest in developing packages of digitised newspaper material about nine events from World War One. In exchange for the material, EuroClio would translate the articles and share these translations with the project and the contributing libraries.

Ultimately it proved more difficult than expected to provide this material to EuroClio since the relevant pages were only scheduled for ingestion towards the middle or end of 2014. LIBER did, however, put EuroClio in contact with partner libraries holding the content and is maintaining contact with EuroClio in order to facilitate future collaboration once more of the Europeana Newspapers content is freely available online.

More recently, LIBER has been building contacts within the research community, notably through a series of interviews with researchers who use historic newspapers as a resource[27]. Four interviews

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[23] http://www.inl.nl/our-work-and-working-methods

[24] http://www.impact-project.eu

[25] http://www.lip6.fr/presentation/directeur.php?LANG=en

[26] http://www.euroclio.eu

[27] http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/category/interviews-with-researchers

have been conducted and published on the Europeana Newspapers website. In addition to providing information about researchers' needs, these articles have raised awareness among researchers about the project, have given us valuable contacts within university departments and have been among the most read and shared items on the website. LIBER has now asked Work Package 6 members to conduct their own interviews with researchers and to share these on the Europeana Newspapers website.

The European Library had similar success in reaching researchers, through a personal contact at Complutense University of Madrid. This contact is part of The European Library's internal focus groups, has a particular interest in pan-European collections of historic newspapers and teaches at the university. As a result of his relationship with The European Library, the scholar has agreed to try the browser with his students and feed specific requirements back to The European Library. This will give the Project valuable input from users.

Other meetings and contacts so far have included:

- Hamburg State and University Library have extensively promoted the project to various committees of the library network IFLA, including the IFLA Standing Committee on Newspapers. This provides good opportunities to present aspects of the Europeana Newspapers Project at IFLA's Annual Conference (one the most important yearly events for libraries worldwide) and at various smaller IFLA conferences which have an interest in newspapers and our refinement work.

- Hamburg State and University Library also reported about the project to the German Microfilm Archive Board, the German Regional Libraries Group and the German Regional Portals Group.

- Berlin State Library networked with many organisations in the German research community, including the libraries of Halle, Dresden, Bremen and Munich. This resulted in an extensive exchange of knowledge. Representatives from Bremen and Halle will also present at the Berlin State Library's Information day, due to be held at the end of February 2014.

- Berlin State Library worked with the Europeana Collections 1914-1918 Project (a Networking partner) to produce a promotional film about the activities of both projects. The documentary-style film centres around digitisation of content, using examples from the First World War as a case study. It is available on YouTube[28].

3.4 Internal Networking

Internally, Work Package 6 engaged Associated and Networking partners by asking them to contribute images for a variety of promotional items and articles. Partners responded enthusiastically to these requests. The images that they contributed were used for blog posts,

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[28] http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC80a6lES-lq7pBjCk3eEHtQ

updated communications materials such as posters and on our social media channels. In Year 3, some of these images will also be used in a promotional video (currently in production).

Images from Associated partners were incorporated in a number of promotional items and articles on the website.

The European Library also carried out a significant amount of networking within the project. It communicated with UIBK in order to collect the OCRed full text, and with partners to gather metadata and images in the required formats for the online historic newspapers browser.

Partners (including Associated partners) were also invited to contribute additional metadata records to the browser. The result is that at least 30 million metadata records will be searchable through the browser by the time the Europeana Newspapers Project ends. This is extra content beyond what is specified in the Description of Work. The European Library has also had extensive contact with the Europeana 1914-1918 project about the newspaper content they have from the period of World War I and the possibilities to aggregate this to the Europeana Newspapers Project content.

4. Monitoring

Some 100,000 records are currently showcased on the prototype version of the browser. This number will gradually increase as the browser enters its Alpha version phase (April 2014) and Beta version phase (September 2014).

The following table represents a selection of indicators relevant to our networking efforts. The full table is available in D6.1.3 Media Report Year Two.

Channel	Description	Currently (mid-April 2013)	Target end of Year 2	Results end year2	Target end of Year 3	Rationale	Monitoring
Conference papers and posters	Presentation of ENP and its achievements and important networking moments	18 papers 2 posters	35 papers 4 posters	Papers posters	60 papers at the end of the project And 5 posters	Papers presentations form the most important way of dissemination for ENP. The aim should be to get 20 papers a year submitted to relevant conferences.	Publications Log on SharePoint
Articles in journals or newspapers	Articles in Journals to raise the awareness of the project	1	3 in total by end Y2	2 in total	5 in total by end Y3		Publications Log on SharePoint
Workshops	Stakeholders will be engaged in the project network	-	2 in total by end Y2	2 in total	3 in total by end Y3	The impact of the workshop can be measured quantitatively by the number of participants and qualitatively by the interaction of the participants and appearance in news items or blogs other than the project channels.	Media coverage Hosting library attendants
Information days	Stakeholders will be engaged in the project network	-	3 in total by end Y2	3 in total	10 in total by end Y3	The impact of the Information day can be measured quantitatively by the number of participants and qualitatively by the interaction of the participants and appearance in news items or	Media coverage Hosting library attendants

					blogs other than the project channels.	
Network extensions	Stakeholders will be engaged in the project network	11 Associated partners, 22 networking partners, 1 European project	11 Associated partners, 30 networking partners, 4 European projects	11 Associated partners, 22 networking partners, 4 European projects	11 Associated partners, 40 networking partners, 6 European projects	Europeana Collections has 5 European Projects in its network (in Y3) CENDARI has 12 European Projects in its network (Y2)	

5. Outlook

In the third year of the project, the major networking event will be held in London on September 28-29th. This will be a high-profile workshop dedicated to looking at how access can be improved to digital historic newspapers. Discussions on policy issues and the Digital Agenda for Europe will be a particular focus.

There are also seven national Information days scheduled for Year 3. The first will be held at the Berlin State Library at the end of February, 2014. Of the remaining six, at least four are likely to take place in December – at the same time as Europeana Newspapers coordinates a number of other events to accentuate the end of the project.

At the annual LIBER conference, Europeana Newspapers will present a poster on the development of the newspaper browser to date and is also discussing with workshop organisers about the possibility to present the project to workshop participants.

In the table below, we also outline a number of events at which we hope to present the project. In some cases (e.g. IFLA, LIBER) proposals have been submitted and are under evaluation by the relevant committees.

Table 1: Upcoming dissemination and networking events:

Event	Dates	Place	Web Page	Audience
Girona 2014: Archives and Cultural Industries	10/11/2014	Girona, Spain	http://www.girona.cat/web/ica2014/eng/presentacio_ica2014.php	Cultural heritage
DAS2014 - 11th IAPR INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON DOCUMENT ANALYSIS SYSTEMS	4/7/2014	Tours – Loire Valley, France	http://das2014.sciencesconf.org	Technical (OCR, OLR, NER)
IFLA (Newspapers Section)	13-14/8/2014	Geneva, France	http://www.ifla.org/node/8206	Libraries
LIBER 43nd Annual Conference	2-5/7/2014	Riga, Latvia	http://www.lnb.lv/en/liber2014	Libraries