Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana

Introduction

ARROW, the acronym for Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana, is a project of a consortium of European national libraries, publishers and collective management organisations, also representing writers – working through their main European associations and a number of national organisations – which was launched in November 2008 and will last for 30 months.

ARROW is one of the projects selected among 102 ones presented in 2007 at the European Commissions eContent*plus* Programme which seeks to help make digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable.

Partner

This public-private-partnership initially involves high-level know-how from 16 stakeholders in the book value net in 10 European countries. Further organisations have shown their willingness to join the initial partners at a later part of the project.

Libraries
- Biblioteca Nacional de Espana (BNE)
- Bibliothèque Nationale de France (BNF)
- British Library (BL)
- Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (DNB)
- Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB)
- Narodna in Univerzitetna Knijznica (NUK)
- National Library of Norway (NLN)
- University of Innsbruck (UIBK)

Publishers Associations
- Associazione Italiana Editori (AIE)
- Federación de Gremios de Editores de Espana (FGEE)

Reproduction Rights Organisation
- Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA)

International Organisations
- Federation of European Publishers (FEP)
- International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO)

Technology Developers
- Consorzio Interuniversitario per il Calcolo Automatico dell'Italia Nord Orientale (CINECA)
- NUMILOG

ISBN Agency
- Marketing und Verlagsservice des Buchhandels (MVB)

Concept

ARROW aims in particular to support the EC's i2010 Digital Library Project by finding ways to clarify the rights status of orphan and out of print works, so they can be cleared for digitisation and inclusion in the Digital Library. The project also seeks to enhance the interoperability of rights information (i.e. exchange of information) between rightholders, agents, libraries and users. Solutions envisaged by the venture include the establishment of systems for the exchange of rights data, the creation of a registry of orphan works and a network of rights clearance centres. Key to achieving this objective is interoperability, standards deployment and stakeholder involvement.

Work Packages (WP)

	Work Packages (WP)	WP Leaders
1	**Management and Evaluation**	AIE Associazione Italiana degli Editori
2	**Dissemination and awareness**	IFRRO International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations
3	**Legal and business models**	FEP Federation of European Publishers
4	**Interoperability**	BNF Bibliothèque Nationale de la France
5	**Design of system architecture**	MVB Marketing- und Verlagsservice des Buchhandels
6	**Set up of rights information structure**	CINECA Consorzio Interuniversitario per il Calcolo Automatico
7	**Validation**	UIBK University of Innsbruck

Target Groups

Target Group	Added value
Libraries	• Increase services provided to their users • Reduce costs
Right holders	• Access the emerging e-content market • Exploiting marginal niches • Maintaining control over the content
RROs	• Assist right holders • Expanding existing services • Offering new services
eRetailers	• Higher visibility in the Internet to their collections • Provide services to right holders • Reach new potential markets
European Digital Library	• Give access to multiple collections • Redirect users to the appropriate resources or services

Expected results

- Distributed network of sources for information on copyright status
- Data about European literary works for the identification of right holders
- Guidelines and tools to foster interoperability between private and public collections
- Guidelines for the identification of the status of a work
- Creation of an European registry of Orphan Works (ROW)
- Establishment of Rights Clearing Centers