

INTERVIEWS
&
PROJECTS

News from EuropeanaConnect

United Kingdom
David Fuegi



EuropeanaConnect is a key project of Europeana, the European digital portal providing user-friendly access to Europe's cultural heritage.

Key data

- Co-ordination: Austrian National Library
- Project partners: 30 institutions from 14 countries
- Duration: May 2009 - October 2011 (30 months)

The screenshot shows the EuropeanaConnect website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links: Home, About, Partners, Workplan, Events & EuropeanaTech Conference, Results and resources, and Related projects. Below the menu, on the left, are logos for Europeana Tech and Europeana (the European Digital Library). The main content area features a central text block stating: "EuropeanaConnect is a Best Practice Network funded by the European Commission within the area of Digital Libraries of the eContentplus Programme. Its overall objective is to deliver core components which are essential for the realisation of Europeana, the European Digital Library as a truly interoperable, multilingual and user-oriented service for all European citizens. EuropeanaConnect will also add the music dimension to Europeana by aggregating a critical mass of audio content. Europeana provides integrated access to digital resources from museums, archives, audiovisual archives and libraries of Europe. EuropeanaConnect started in May 2009 and will last for 30 months." To the right of this text are two news items: "Photos of EuropeanaTech Conference" with a "Read more" link, and "EuropeanaTech: presentations and videos on-line" with a "Read more" link. At the bottom of the page, there are logos for the Austrian National Library (Österreichische Nationalbibliothek) and the European Commission, along with a disclaimer: "EuropeanaConnect is solely responsible for the content of this site, which does not represent the opinion of the Community. The Community is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained on this site."

EuropeanaConnect was a Best Practice Network co-funded by the European Commission within the *eContentplus* Programme. The project developed essential components to enable Europeana to become a truly interoperable, multilingual and user-friendly service. Through Europeana users can access millions of images, books, maps, video, historic writings and audio files representing Europe's cultural diversity.

EuropeanaConnect is unique among the many projects linked to Europeana because as the largest single Europeana technology provider a major challenge for the project was to synchronise its work with the requirements and planning of Europeana. The project was umbilically linked to a real public service and needed to adapt to events. Success in meeting this challenge has provided a solid model for Europeana's future collaboration with technical projects.

The work achieved has been or will be included in Europeana as appropriate as its services develop. All publicly available reports produced by the project and presentations relating to its work can be found at www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php



What EuropeanaConnect achieved

More details on all of the following activities can be found at the urls given.

– Provided multilingual searching and browsing including translation tools and other language resources to enable multilingual searching of objects and data in Europeana.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=2

– Semantically enriched digital content in Europeana creating new connections between objects. Semantic enrichment will make Europeana content more accessible, reusable and exploitable.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=1

Semantic tagging
with the
Context Tag Cloud

– Developed a spatio-temporal interface potentially allowing more academic users of portals where this feature is activated to use time as well as geographical space to search or browse.

– Built a Europeana interface for mobile devices allowing browsing of Europeana on mobile devices independent of location.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=4





– Studied the behaviour of users of digital libraries to understand what users really want from Europeana. Logging tools and methodologies developed by the project help identify additional services required by users.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=3

– Developed methods for Integration of multimedia annotation, eBooks-on-demand and GIS information allowing tagging of digital images, maps, audio and video content in databases other than Europeana which contain the original objects and not simply their metadata. To further enhance Europeana, EuropeanaConnect integrated geographical information services and enabled the ordering of eBooks-on-demand.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=7

Annotations

Add your annotation [Help](#)

Please choose between adding your annotation to the image as a whole, or selecting an area of the image for your annotation to address.

Annotate Annotate fragment

guest (12/9/10 1:32 PM) +0

Heidelberg, photographed by Carl Curman
This photograph of Heidelberg, Germany was taken by Swedish photographer Carl Curman.

Germany Heidelberg Carl Curman

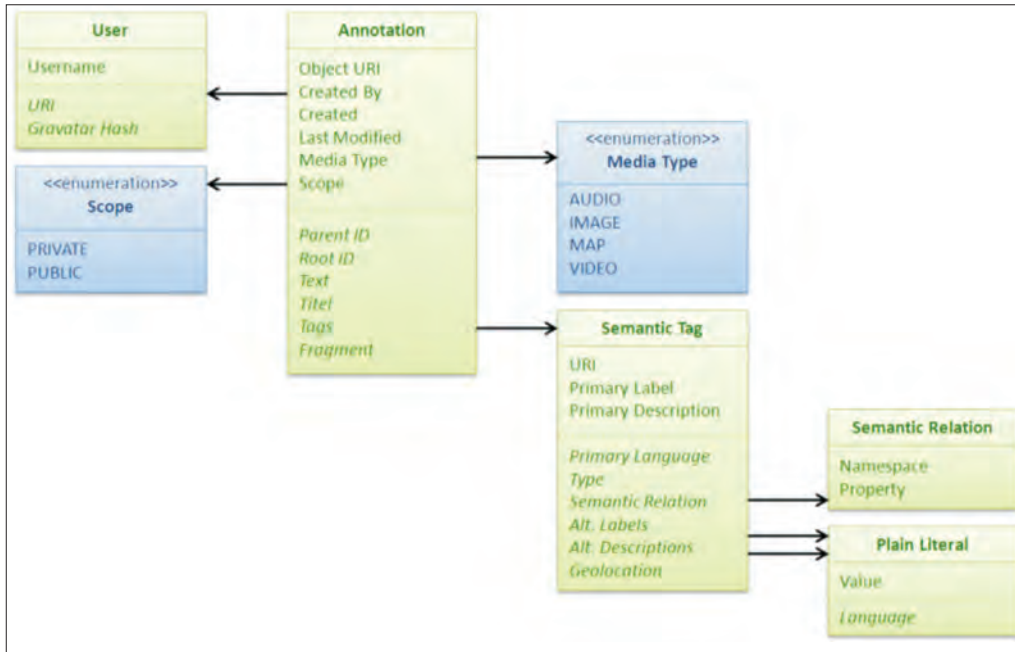
Reply Reply with fragment Edit Delete

guest (12/9/10 1:32 PM) +0

Re: Heidelberg, photographed by Carl Curman
Carl Curman travelled extensively, in particular to Germany and Spain.

Reply Reply with fragment Edit Delete

YUMA annotation class model



– Built and validated a set of Europeana rights licenses assisting in the selection and development of the correct licenses for digital metadata content provided to Europeana. EuropeanaConnect helped develop the Europeana Data Exchange Agreement.
www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=8

– Created an audio-aggregation infrastructure and added music by harvesting audio from hundreds of audio archives and aggregating 350.000 music files for Europeana. EuropeanaConnect also provided the infrastructure for harvesting, analysis and storage of audio metadata prior to integration into Europeana.
www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=9





Audio segment annotation (HTML 5 prototype)



– Deployed key infrastructure components for Europeana including an OAI-PMH (Open Archive Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting) Management Infrastructure to handle large-scale metadata harvesting, a Metadata Registry to ensure interoperability, a Service Registry to enable integration of external added-value services and a Resolution Discovery Service to allow unique resource identification.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/results-and-resources.php?page=5

EuropeanaConnect ended in October. To celebrate its achievements and to look forward to the future it organised EuropeanaTech, a final conference in collaboration with Europeana Foundation. This major event to be attended by more than 200 people took place at the Austrian National Library, Vienna, Austria, 4-5 October 2011 and was organised by the Austrian National Library in collaboration with the Europeana Foundation.

www.europeanaconnect.eu/europeanatech/

For more information about the project and its partners please browse the website.

Contact and further information

Max Kaiser – Project Coordinator

Austrian National Library

Josefsplatz 1, A-1015 Vienna

Tel: + 43 1 53410-370, Fax: + 43 1 53410-681

Email: EuropeanaConnect@onb.ac.at

www.onb.ac.at

www.europeanaconnect.eu