REVIEW

PROJECT EUROPEANA LIBRARIES

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Massive digitization projects are going on all over the world. The most well-known is Google Books, which started as a private company project with the idea to build world digital library by scanning books from biggest public and university libraries. Google did not resolve in advance the problems with copyright of the digitized materials and tried to settle it with US representatives of right owners. In March 2011 United States District Court, Southern District of New York, decided not to allow the settlement between Google and representatives of rights owners, so that decision will stall the project.

In Europe the approach is different. European Commission proclamed Digital Agenda and in 2008 launched the project *Europeana*, European digital library with 2 million objects from EU countries' museums, archives and libraries. The idea behind *Europeana* is to build an aggregator that will provide access to all European digitized heritage by 2025. „*Digitisation and online accessibility are essential ways to highlight cultural and scientific heritage, to inspire the creation of new content and to encourage new online services to emerge. They help to democratise access and to develop*

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the information society and the knowledge-based economy" (European Council of Ministers on the launch of the Europeana prototype, Brussels, 20 November 2008). To achieve that goal, *Europeana* needs cooperation from all European institutions that collect and digitize, or are planning to digitize, objects belonging to European heritage. The other thing needed is the reform of copyright law, because nowadays it is possible to digitize and make freely available only materials that belong to public domain or the ones that right owners permitted to be made available in an open access mode.

European Association of European Research Libraries, LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche), proposed to the European Commission an ICT PSP fourth call Best Practice Network project for aggregating and enhancing content for *Europeana*. Project is entitled **Europeana Libraries** and it will aggregate the digitized content from 25 research institutions based in 11 European countries. The coordinator of the project is Royal Library of Netherlands in Hague, the scientific coordinator is the president of LIBER, Paul Ayris from London School of Economics, and partners are research libraries from EU countries (Austria, Estonia, Germany, the Netherlands, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, UK), Switzerland and Serbia. There will be 5,168,453 units of material indexed. The most important for the research community are about 200,000 full-text research theses and dissertations in open access indexed on DART-Europe portal and about 370,000 articles from open access scientific journals indexed on DOAJ (Directory of open access journals) portal, but there is a lot more, e.g. all books in public domain scanned from Bodleiana Library and Bayerische Staadsbibliothek. University Library „Svetozar Mark-

ovic" from the University of Belgrade is the only partner from Serbia. Library will provide *Europeana libraries* with 686 digitized islamic manuscripts concerning mostly European part of the Ottoman empire and with the full-text searchable private library of Heinrich Kristensen, professor from Hamburg (1849-1912), consisting of 150 books about Alexander the Great.

This project will provide *Europeana* with searchable full text of all books, articles and other texts from participating libraries and create a service that will be potentially extendable to all research libraries in Europe, starting with member libraries of LIBER and CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries), and that means over 400 libraries from 40 countries. Very important part of the project is standardization of metadata describing digital objects included in *Europeana Library*. At the moment there are different systems of object description in libraries, making it difficult to aggregate them. In September 2011 the manual for standard metadata scheme will be produced and made freely available to all partners in the project and to all other libraries, since the full text of the manual will be in open access.

A part of the project are workshops concerning metadata creation and providing full-text searchability digital texts. Librarians from University Library „Svetozar Markovic" will attend these workshops, and after the training is completed, translate the manual for European metadata standard to Serbian language and distribute it free of charge to all libraries in Serbia. We hope that it will help Serbian libraries to intensify cooperation with Europeana and make Serbian library collections and scientific and cultural heritage visible and available to potential users all over the world.