

Members Council Meeting 3 July, 2019
14:00 - 16:00 CET
Virtual meeting

MINUTES

Access information

<https://app.gotomeeting.com/home.html>

Access Code: 477-150-301

Minutes

[Minutes of last meeting](#) (5-6 March, The Hague)

Councillors

Henk Alkemade (HA), Georgia Angelaki (GA), Ina Bluemel (IB), Petra Boettinger (PB), Flavia Bruni (FB), Erik Buelinckx (EB), Tamara Butigan (TB), Michal Čudrnák (MC), Olimpia Curta (OC), Robert Davies (RD), Killian Downing (KD), Maria Drabczyk (MD), Kate Fernie (KF), Barbara Fischer (BF), Karin Glasemann (KG), Susan Hazan (SH), Pilar Irala-Hortal (PIH), Vera Kriezi (VK), Loa Steinunn Kristjansdottir (LSK), Hans van der Linden (HvdL), James Morley (JM), Marta Musso (MM), Clemens Neudecker (CN), Marco De Niet (MdN), Peter Soemers (PS), Marco Streefkerk (MS), Frederik Truyen (FT), Dafydd Tudur (DT), Erwin Verbruggen (EV)

Europeana office

Harry Verwayen (HV), Zuzana Malicherova (ZM), Victor-Jan Vos (VJV), Gina van der Linden (GvdL), Beth Daley (BD), Alba Irollo (AI), Isabel Crespo (IC), Gregory Markus (GM)

Apologies

Sara Di Giorgio (SdG), Antje Schmidt (AS), Steven Claeysens (SC), Stephan Bartholmei (SB), Laura Carletti (LC), Ellen Euler (EE), Maria Engberg (ME)

1. Welcome and introduction

MdN welcomed attending Councillors to the webinar-style meeting. The two-hour agenda was covered in one [common slide deck](#). During the meeting, the Councillors were able to ask questions in [this document](#). The questions were being addressed by VJV, EV and other attendees throughout and shortly after the call.

2. Updates on activities of Europeana Foundation

[Presentation](#) by HV

The EF has recently published its 2019 Business Plan, and is now half way through carrying out its planned activities. Following the 2019 roadmap, the EF teams have been focusing on tightening the product scope with Metis and quality assurance being a central component. EF aims to be more effective and impactful as service operator of a well-structured Europeana initiative. The Pro website is being revised; the Collections website has been incorporating new browse features - Councillors are invited to provide input into these improvement efforts.

HV updated the Councillors on a very successful spring season on "Pioneers" and next planned autumn season "Europe at work", starting in September 2019. Commissioner Gaberiel was highly involved in the Pioneers season that reached around 217 000 visits on Collections in three months. Europe at work season will start in September with a focus on industrial heritage of the 19th and 20th century, and bridge it with the present and future digital transformation by mobilizing local participations. EF plans to collaborate on collection days with commercial partners such as Fiat or Philips that can invite their employees to contribute and possibly be interested in sponsoring.

In absence of SdG, HV gave an update on the latest activities of the EAF.

→ **Action 1: Councillors - to promote the "Europe at work" campaign and share personal stories on how their workflow and work style has changed over the years.**

3. Europeana Strategy 2021-2025

[Presentation](#) by MdN

- Outcomes of the latest DCHE Sub-Group meeting(s) and their input into Europeana Strategy

MdN gave an overview of the overall process of formation of the Europeana Strategy 2021-2025, latest developments since March 2019, and next steps. MdN also explained the main questions posed by the European Commission (EC), and recommendations by the DCHE Sub-Group on five key areas, following the input of the MB. HV stressed the fact that although Europeana aims to identify opportunities and be involved in technological innovation and R&D in projects (Generic Services) it can oftentimes be difficult to implement it in the core service at the practical level.

The Strategy will be written over the summer and the Council can discuss in Lisbon how to implement it as a concerted effort of the EF, ENA and the EAF. The ENA members should advocate for Europeana under the Digital Europe programme (new funding structure of the EC) to make Europeana more prominent.

- What does digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector mean to you?

As 'homework' for November, MdN asked Councillors to think about the concept of digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector and what it means to them; how they expect it to

manifest itself in their own work in the coming years; and how the MC and ENA can actively contribute to the execution of the new Europeana Strategy.

→ **Action 2: Councillors - to brainstorm on what digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector means to them in preparation for the MC meeting in November.**

4. ENA Communities

[Presentation](#) by GA, GM, AI, IC, MD, EV, PS

The session was chaired by GA. Present community chairs and managers gave a [progress update](#) on the six communities since March regarding their current Steering Group composition, Task Forces, community meetings, overall work progress and ongoing activities, and next steps to follow-up on.

The Europeana event aims to bridge the communities and promote their outreach towards the public. In line with the new Europeana Strategy the ENA and communities should contribute to reaching out not only to individuals such as researchers and educators but also to CHIs in an effort to support their digital transformation and bring new content to Europeana. Communities are also free to engage with other organisations and networks. It is also vital to strengthen the relationship between the CHIs and educators/researchers; the communities can play a role in connecting them.

GA asked the Councillors that have been active in communities to share their impressions and experiences so far, and those that haven't been active to share their reasons. In response, HvdL mentioned experiencing a lack of response and not a very transparent process of the Impact SG appointment as a lesson to be learnt for the future. The discussion then revolved around how to make all the Councillors affiliated with communities and ENA members more active. From the point of view of the EC, making communities active and run successfully is very important. The community structure is now well established, there has been a very good progress since the idea was born a year ago, and it is now time to focus on new initiatives and ways to involve the community members.

→ **Action 3: Councillors - to contact the community chairs and managers in case they feel that something is holding them back from actively participating.**

→ **Action 4: PS - to share the proposal on using various possible hashtags for ENA with the MC, Councillors to provide feedback before 13 July 2019.**

5. Association business

[Presentation](#) by MdN, GvdL, FT

- *[Europeana 2019 conference/AGM](#)*

GvdL presented the draft [programme](#) of the event, practical information regarding the venue and hotel reservations, and gave an overview of the ticket sales so far. The capacity is expected to be

filled up, but the Councillors are welcome to promote the event in their networks. The speakers will start to be invited and the draft programme published by the end of July.

→ **Action 5: Councillors - to book their travels to Lisbon and inform the office about the flight details and costs as soon as possible.**

- Budget update

FT updated the Council on the current budget stand and explained that the Board has looked into possible revision of the [current reimbursement rules](#). The Board proposes not to change the current system but instead add flexibility towards an extra night and allow for easier travel planning, otherwise the calculated costs would be higher than expected. If anyone needs an extra night they should contact the office in advance. For Europeana 2019, there are [specific rules will be in place for participants](#). The communities and TFs are encouraged to make use of their budget and have meetings in Lisbon.

Various Councillors expressed interest in making Europeana activities climate neutral, particularly in terms of organizing the event in Lisbon and future events. The events should be organized as eco-friendly as possible and open to new initiatives such as travelling by train and claiming the flight costs of CO2 emissions as part of the event reimbursement. However, although Europeana welcomes such initiative, it cannot influence how eco-friendly local CHIs operate, therefore, in this case we don't have control over the venue and catering services of the Portuguese National Library.

- Governance WG update

In SB's absence, MdN gave a brief update on current and upcoming activities of the Governance WG.

- Communication among MC members

MdN reminded the Councillors about the main communication channels available to them, and that the communication efforts among/across communities is being looked into. He encouraged the Councillors to think whether they feel adequately informed and involved, and whether they need any additional communication channels. BF suggested that Basecamp use can be overwhelming by amount of email notifications. Some Councillors also seem reluctant to react to online messages or put forward their ideas and opinions. As an improvement, it was suggested to specify the goal of every Basecamp message, whether it is just an update, question or a call to action.

6. Wrap-up and next steps

MdN thanked the present Councillors for their participation and asked them to reflect on the questions regarding digital transformation and ENA's contribution to Europeana Strategy as a 'homework' preparation for the physical MC meeting in Lisbon, where these points will be on the agenda.