Europeana Network Association Update

*Action proposed: For information*

**Overall update**

Since the last update, the Network Association’s activities have revolved around the formation of the new Members Council and the elections of the Management Board, as well as the process of re-defining the Europeana Vision and Association Mission, the Association’s response to EC’s Europeana Evaluation Roadmap, revision of proposals and terms of reference for Task Forces, and preparations of the next Members Council meeting.

**Membership**

Current Association membership stands at **1691** (number updated 31/01/2017).

**2016 Voting and Members Council Elections**

The 28 new Members Council representatives who were elected by the Network Association members in November 2016 are Georgia Angelaki, Erik Buelinckx, Olimpia Curta, Francesca Di Donato, Wim van Dongen, Barbara Fischer, Sanja Halling, Karin Glasemann, Sergiu Gordea, Gill Hamilton, Susan Hazan, George Homs, Lizzy Jongma, Max Kaiser, Julia Katona, Paul Keller, Vera Kriezi, Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, Jef Malliet, Johan Oomen, Lars Rogstad, Cristina Roiu, Merete Sanderhoff, Antje Schmidt, Sorina Stanca, Fred Truyen, Romain Wenz, and Uldis Zarins. Each of the new elected representatives will be presented monthly via 16 dedicated “Meet your Councillors” blogs planned in 2017. The Councillors who completed their two-year term are René Capovin, Jiří Frank, Kerstin Hertt, Jana Hoffmann, Rolf Kallman, Breandán Knowlton, Aranzazu Lafuente Urién, Olivier Schulbaum, and Sašo Zagoranski. Out of 1,523 eligible voters, 444 participated in the elections and voting, which represents a lower participation rate than in 2015 (30% in 2016 vs. 50% in 2015). The new Council started working on 1 January and it already elected the new Management Board. The next Council meeting will take place on 21-22 February 2017.
2017 Europeana Management Board elections

Between 1 and 15 December 2016, eight Councillors came forward as new Management Board candidates: Ellen Euler, George Homs, Max Kaiser, Paul Keller, Joke van der Leeuw - Roord, Johan Oomen, Merete Sanderhoff, and Uldis Zariņš. From 10 to 17 January, the 36 Members Council representatives were then invited to select six of them to form the new Board. All the Councillors participated in the election (100%) and 90% of them provided a full vote (6 candidates). The newly elected Management Board members are Max Kaiser, Paul Keller, Joke van der Leeuw - Roord, Johan Oomen, Merete Sanderhoff, and Uldis Zariņš. Merete Sanderhoff was appointed the new Chair, Max Kaiser the new Vice-Chair, and Paul Keller remains the Treasurer of the Board as of 1 February; the executive appointment of the Association was conducted during the 1st meeting of the new Management board on 1 February.

Joint Europeana Aspiration and Europeana Network Association Approach
(Formerly Europeana Vision & Europeana Network Association Mission Statement)

At their last meeting in Riga, the Members Council discussed the role of the Association within the Europeana ecosystem as well as its collaboration with the Foundation. The Working Group on Europeana Vision and Association Mission together with the Foundation’s Strategy Team then continued to work on updating and revising the general Europeana Vision and Association Mission statement in light of current and future developments. The group held a meeting on 25 January in order to integrate all the inputs into a new statement document called “Joint Europeana Aspiration and Europeana Network Association Approach”. The ENA’s approach (Mission) will be presented to the Councillors for approval at their next physical meeting on 21-22 February and shared with the EF Governing Board for information. The Joint Europeana Aspiration (Foundation and Network Association’s) will be discussed by the EF Governing Board on 27 February for approval or amendments. Finally, the Governing Board will discuss the elements of the Foundation's mission and agree on a working group that will work on it.

Network Engagement

The Network Association members enthusiastically answered the call to Task Forces submission in October and November Network Newsletters. Two TFs - Benchmarking
Europeana and Preparing Europeana for IIIF involvement - were approved by the Members Council and are being set in motion. Another 6 TFs were submitted in December and January and will be reviewed by the new Council in February. The terms of reference of TFs is currently being reviewed and the new setup suggests to have 3 to 4 Councillors appointed by the office to review TF proposals based on their expertise, and then report and recommend to the Council as a whole. The TF evaluation form was also simplified and the office will take care of the related administrative tasks. The revised setup could already be applied to the 6 submitted proposals currently waiting for approval. The remaining Audiovisual Media in Europeana TF that has been running since May 2016 will deliver its recommendations before the MC meeting on February 21-22 for review and approval. 4 WG are currently tackling issues related to Data Quality, Copyright, Europeana Pro, and the #AllezCulture campaigns. A new Governance Working Groups needs to be set-up to monitor the 2017 voting and elections. There is additionally 1 new proposal for a Library WG.

**ENA response to Europeana Evaluation Roadmap**

The final version of ENA’s response to all the sections of the EC Draft Europeana Evaluation Roadmap was submitted on 18 January. The evaluation of Europeana by independent experts will be presented to the EU Council by October 2017, providing clear orientations for the mid and long term development of Europeana.

**1st Members Council Meeting (21-22 February, The Hague)**

This meeting will focus on the following topics:
- Europeana new strategic positioning
- Europeana Vision and Europeana Network Association Mission
- Members Council representation/role and Association engagement
- Association Budget
- Europeana Task Forces
- 2017 #AllezCulture campaigns
- European Year of Cultural Heritage proposed for 2018: ENA’s input

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