Précis of minutes of 12 March 2020 board meeting

Action proposed: for information

Attendees:
1) (EN) Elisabeth Niggemann, Germany - Chair
2) (MHS) Monika Hagedorn-Saupe, ICOM Europe, Germany - Vice Chair
3) (JLR) Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, EUROCLIO, The Netherlands - Treasurer
4) (MdN) Marco de Niet, Leiden University, The Netherlands (left at 10h30)
5) (SB) Stephan Bartholmei, Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek, Germany
6) (GA) Georgia Angelaki, Documentation Centre National Hellenic Research Foundation, Greece (via GoToMeeting)
7) (SdG) Sara Di Giorgio, Culturalitalia, Italy (via GoToMeeting)
8) (EV) Erwin Verbruggen, Beeld en Geluid, The Netherlands (via GoToMeeting)
9) (EK) Elsbeth Kwant, Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB), The Netherlands
10) (BD) Brid Dooley, FIAT-IFTA, Ireland (parts of the meeting)

Apologies:
2) (SE) Sophie Engelhardt, Ministry of State for Culture and the Media of Germany, German Presidency
3) (JB) Jelena Bilic, Ministry of Culture of Croatia, Croatian Presidency
4) (AM) Agnès Magnien, Institut national de l'audiovisuel, France
5) (JF) Julien Roche, Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER), France
6) (FT) Fred Truyen, Arts KU Leuven, Belgium
7) (KvH) Karin van Honacker, EURBICA, Belgium

Observers:
1) (EF) Elisabeth Freyre, Bibliothèque nationale de France
2) (PK) Paul Keller, Kennisland, The Netherlands
3) (JO) Johan Oomen, Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, The Netherlands
4) (MK) Max Kaiser, Austrian National Library (ONB), Austria (via GoToMeeting)

**Europeana Office:**

(HV) Harry Verwayen  
(AV) Albert Verhaar  
(AN) Andy Neale  
(SA) Shadi Ardalan  

Presentations by Eleanor Kenny (EK), Milena Popova (MP) and Nicholas Jarrette (NJ)

**Guests:**

(MR) Marco Rendina, Chair of Europeana Aggregator’s Forum (partly attended)  
(MP) Martijn Pronk, Van Gogh Museum, The Netherlands

**Acronyms in the minutes:**

EF (Europeana Foundation)  
ENA (Europeana Network Association)  
MC (Members Council of Europeana Network Association)  
MS (Member States)  
DCHE (Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana)  
GS (Generic Services)  
MFF (Multianual Financial Framework)  
EI (Europeana Initiative)  
AB (Advisory Board)  
CH (Cultural Heritage)  
EAF (Europeana Aggregator Forum)  
CHI (Cultural Heritage Institution)  
EC (European Commission)  
DSI (Digital Service Infrastructure)  
DEP (Digital Europe Programme)  
SB (Supervisory Board)  
DB (Director[s] Board)

Some discussions are omitted from this version as they are deemed confidential to the Governing Board at this point in time. The public meeting papers and documents referred to in these minutes can be seen on Europeana Pro.

I. Approval and adoption of minutes, decisions & actions of 19 November 2019 meeting

The Board approved Paper 1A the minutes of 19 November meeting and Paper 1B decisions and actions from the 19 November meeting. Paper 1C, the précis of minutes of 19 November meeting, was published on Europeana Pro in February.

II. Update and discussion on matters relevant to Europeana
**MdN on ENA** - ENA policy documents got a 90% approval rate from 22% of ENA members who participated in the vote. ENA’s Code of Conduct has been finalised and published. The MB will regularly review the code as part of an ongoing process. Some 90 new members joined the Network in January and February bringing the total to 2700 members. ENA Impact Assessment & questionnaire will be discussed at the MB meeting on 13 March. ENA’s Governance WG has a new chair and will help prepare for the 2020 elections. We should be aware of email spoofing, which we’ve experienced regularly recently. Activity plans for communities have been drafted, currently under review by the councillors, and will be finalised around the end of March. The Research and Impact Communities have new chairs; the Tech 3D task force has published a report on 3D content in Europeana. Five new proposals have been submitted for task forces. The MC had a physical meeting in Lisbon on 26 November and discussed what we mean by Digital Transformation and how we can contribute to it. ENA is an association of individuals so our approach to DT should be towards empowerment of individuals. The MC is reviewing the 3D task force results, the community activity plans and the ENA Impact Assessment. The MC will meet in a webinar on 20 March. The MB is working with the EAF towards closer collaboration. The MB is also exploring options for better division of tasks internally.

**MHS on museums associations and networks** - Europeana is very active in its networks and the associations of museum networks are active in theirs but there is no connection between the two. Suggestions to make the connection include a yearly meeting with these associations; a session on Europeana at their annual conferences; a liaison officer for networks at EF; partnering in more projects. The EF governance will also ensure stronger connection to the networks and associations in various domains towards a purposeful engagement and use of collective leverage to drive the digital transformation of the sector at best. These links can also be made through ENA. It’s important to boost the encouragement and enthusiasm for not only the ambassadors but all ENA members. While the liaison requires a structure and direction, ownership and accountability, the linking and sharing is something that everyone in the Network should feel empowered and encouraged about. NEMO is the Network of European Museum Organisations, an independent network of national museum organisations representing the museum community of the member states. Together, NEMO's members are the voice of over 30,000 museums across Europe. NEMO, also active in policy making, is currently conducting a survey on the impact of copyright on digitisation in European museums, which is relevant to Europeana. NEMO is a partner in the Horizon 2020 project inDICEs – Measuring the Impact of Digital Culture - where Europeana and Michael Culture are also partners. There are more and more projects where we can work together. Micheal Culture Association brings together a network of trans-domain public and private organisations from all
over Europe. All topics related to digital are relevant for its network. MUSEU-HUB managed by Michael Culture is a reference point for European museums and other cultural institutions hosting museum collections in the field of DCH and aggregation for Europeana. There might be a phase II MUSEU - Hub online platform and we should connect this to Europeana. ICOM-Europe is the organisation of the International Council of Museums and a network of professional individuals. It provides a forum for the exchange of information and cooperation between national committees in Europe. It also represents a framework for cooperation between museums and museum professionals. In an upcoming conference on museums response to the digital challenge in November in Greece MHS can talk about Europeana. CIDOC is ICOM's International Committee for Documentation, and provides the museum community with advice on good practice, an international community that is most relevant to Europeana. At the CIDOC 2020 Conference in September in Geneva, MHS will talk about DT in cultural heritage and can have a Europeana session. Museum4punkt0 which links seven German cultural institutions in one project is another opportunity for networking and connection to Europeana. The goals of the project are technological & methodical insights; multiple access points for diverse audiences; knowledge transfer among project partners; and, sharing learnings & project outcomes with museum professionals.

MR on EAF - ENA and EAF are collaborating closely for better alignment around the Europeana Initiative. This should also be reflected in EAF’s internal structure organisation. The governance and organisation changes will be presented at the next Aggregator’s Forum meeting in May. We are drafting an activity plan which we will present in May. Task forces will be formed to tackle issues. In comparison with ENA, EAF has less members and is an association of organisations. It works relatively differently. But we will follow ENA’s structure and mandate term examples. EAF will add a member to its currently 3 steering committee. We also think EAF has to be part of the governance of EF.

HV on Europeana meeting under the Croatian Presidency - scheduled for 21-22 April on impact, the event might be cancelled due the COVID-19 situation. Together with the Croatian Ministry of Culture, we will decide next week how to proceed.

III. Europeana Foundation governance

The Governance Working Group has made substantial thinking on its recommendations as described in updated paper 2. The governance review has looked at different areas: structure, size and composition, relation to stakeholder groups, domains, institutions, sector
organisations and other Europeana Initiative bodies with the aim to improve effectiveness, inclusivity & representation as well as compliance with the Dutch Governance Cultural Code. The WG has also discussed to some extent and will further refine: roles and responsibilities, profile - capability and culture; election/appointment processes; conflict of interest and integrity.

**Decision 1:** The Governance WG to continue revising and developing their recommendations based on the board’s feedback.

### IV. Management and operational update

**New Europeana Collections** - The release of the updated Europeana Collections is scheduled in March¹. You’ll find the updated website faster and more discoverable with more engaging editorialis. The technology behind the scenes is paying. Engagement and traffic from end users was our primary drive in updating the Collections. We are working on collection pages for institutions. And we will take the Pro-Collection connection into consideration.

**New Europeana Pro** - The updated Europeana Pro was launched on 11 March. The new iteration of Europeana Pro offers a number of improvements over our current website: updated information architecture for easier use and navigation; increased focus on users’ needs, relevance of information findability; clearer communication of Europeana’s value proposition, our main services and tools; refreshed text, stronger narrative around our work and the link Pro-Collections; new branding to reflect a focus on innovation and visual aspects of our work. Our user-centric approach to developing the new Pro included: workshops with aggregators, CHIs, ENA and EF staff to inform the structure of the site; two rounds of user testing and taking on the feedback if from the majority knowing the use of a website is very subjective; a new strategy and approach to better measure the performance of Pro; a cross-team to take ownership of Pro and evaluate its ongoing success.

**Action 2:** NJ to provide the new Pro development process to the interested Board members.

### V. i. Vision and mission of Europeana Foundation

Working Group’s recommendations on positioning - in terms of our expectations of the new purpose and belief, they are not just text, but more what they mean for our work. They shape and drive how we feel about ourselves as an organisation and what we do. They are our touchstone, where we look back if in doubt. We recognise ourselves in them and measure our

actions against them. We have to ask ourselves what they mean for the Board, for the staff, for our Network. How they affect the way we work. How they help us to do things better including our role as the Europeana operator. How they impact the pan-European stories we tell.

VII. Any Other Business

The next Board meeting will be held on 7 May, at 16h30 via GoToMeeting.

End of the meeting.

Dissemination: Europeana Pro