

REPORT

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Report on Europeana Newspapers Information day at the National Library of Turkey

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1. Executive Summary

The Europeana Newspapers Project is aggregating 18 million digital newspaper pages for The European Library¹ and Europeana². Ten million of these pages will also be refined through techniques such as Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and Optical Layout Recognition (OLR), which will allow users to fully search the text of the refined newspaper pages and to identify specific articles and images.

In addition to improving the usability of digital newspapers, the aggregation and refinement work of Europeana Newspapers allows partners involved in the project to learn new skills and share knowledge related to newspaper digitisation. These professional competencies are then shared with the broader library and cultural heritage community through workshops and information days.

This report looks at one event in particular: The Europeana Newspapers Information day held at the National Library of Turkey in Ankara in May 2013. It was the first of 10 planned information days being coordinated by the project, in collaboration with local partners. This report examines how awareness was raised through presentations and a panel discussion. Topics discussed at the event included the importance of Turkish participation in the Europeana Newspapers Project and the importance of digitisation in relation to Turkey's national cultural agenda.

Similar reports will be produced for future information days and together these will form Deliverable D6.31.

¹ <http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org>

² <http://www.europeana.eu>

2. Event Overview

Hosted by the National Library of Turkey in Ankara, the Information day took place on May 3rd, 2013. It had three core aims, which were clearly reflected in the agenda (see Appendix I) and the profile of the invited stakeholders (see Appendix II).

1. To showcase the Europeana Newspapers Project and its importance in relation to the preservation of European culture and history.
2. To share best working practices with the local stakeholders who attended the workshop. They included Turkish academics, librarians and representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
3. To promote the importance of digitisation in relation to Turkey's national cultural agenda.

Publicity for the Information day in Turkey was raised through the Europeana Newspapers newsletter³, emails to the Turkish information society network, blog posts on the websites of Europeana Newspapers⁴ and the National Library of Turkey⁵ and activity on a variety of social media channels. These channels also published reports after the event and Turkish journalists brought news of the Information day to audiences across the country through dozens of articles and broadcast reports (see Appendix III).

From the audience engagement and high media coverage of the event, we can say that the Information day successfully raised awareness of the Europeana Newspapers Project, the importance of digitisation and the benefits of cross-European and cross-sector collaboration in EU-funded projects.

It attracted 51 people and made a significant contribution to reaching the goals of Work Package 6 (WP6), the communications and dissemination taskforce for the Europeana Newspapers Project. Notably, the Information day helped raise awareness among a broad audience of citizen researchers, local communities, local universities and newspaper publishers. People in these groups may not have the expert skills of digitisation professionals (who are also a key audience for the project) but their engagement is critically important in spreading news of the project's work and successes to the public at large.

³ <http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?u=d6917fe9aedb5cab842024bb9&id=e1f7433e2e>

⁴ <http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/digitising-turkeys-newspaper-heritage/>

<http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/take-a-look-at-the-turkish-information-day-program/>

<http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/national-library-of-turkey-will-host-the-first-europeana-newspapers-information-day/>

⁵ <http://www.mkutup.gov.tr/menu/233>

3. Presentations and Panel Discussion

The Turkish Information day consisted of several presentations and a panel discussion.



3.1 Presentations Overview

The presentations began with an introduction to the project by Hans-Jörg Lieder, representing the Project Coordinator, Berlin State Library in Germany. He looked at its core aims and outlined the partners who have joined forces to aggregate and refine millions of digitised newspaper pages.

- http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enp-id-ankarawp1final

Susan Reilly, Projects Officer at LIBER in the Netherlands, spoke about realising the value of Europe's digitised newspaper heritage.

- http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enp-id-ankarawp6final

Refinement technologies used in the project were covered by Clemens Neudecker, Technical Coordinator of Research at the National Library of the Netherlands. He explained how refinement could be used to change an image of a historical newspaper into full text, making it possible to search for names, places, dates and topics covered by the newspaper.

- http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enp-id-ankarawp2final

Günter Mühlberger of the University of Innsbruck, Austria wrapped up the presentations section of the agenda with a look at how one data model will align the various metadata profiles of the many libraries aggregating their newspaper content via The European Library.

- http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enp-muehlberger-ankara1

3.2 Panel Discussion

The presentations were followed by a panel discussion, which allowed Turkish digitisation experts to share their thoughts and experiences about EU projects.

Özhan Yılmaz from the Turkish ICT-PSP Contact Point spoke about Digital Content, Digital Library and Information Society Strategy.

He pointed out that eBooks would soon surpass printed books in numbers, according to recent research, and libraries should therefore transform themselves to adapt to this new world. The European Commission aims to have 30 million objects of all types – including not only books but also paintings, photographs and multimedia material – digitised by 2015 and Europe's entire cultural heritage digitised by 2025.

This wealth of content will be presented to end users via the Europeana portal, Yılmaz said, with content being aggregated by over 40 EU-funded projects across Europe including, of course, Europeana Newspapers. Finally, Yılmaz noted that libraries would play a critical role in the Information Society, and that their contribution was needed in order to finalise the Information Society Strategy 2014-2020.

Prof. Dr. Bülent Yılmaz from Hacettepe University in Ankara mentioned digitisation activities in Turkey, including the challenges they face and the European Projects in which the university participates. He said the trends in Turkey were similar to other countries. He also raised the issue of specific problems for the financing in Turkey.

In terms of specific activities, Yılmaz noted that the National Library of Turkey digitises all its manuscripts and Ottoman newspapers and journals. The National Archive Institute, libraries and museums also have a number of ongoing digitisation projects.

Turkey possesses a significant collection of manuscripts but Yılmaz said that there was still some scepticism towards digitisation activities. This made it imperative for universities and libraries to create awareness about the importance of digitisation. Prof Yılmaz also stressed the need for a national inventory of digitised content to prevent duplications, and suggested the National Library of Turkey take the lead in coordinating digitisation activities.

“Europeana Newspapers Project is one of the biggest digitisation projects in Europe,” stated Prof. Yılmaz. He stressed the importance of raising awareness of successful projects such as Europeana Newspapers in Turkey. Moreover he highlighted the need for setting national digitisation standards and a partnership between the National Library of Turkey and the Turkish Ministry of Development to realise this initiative.

Hacettepe University was involved in the AccessIT project⁶, through which the National Library of Turkey had provided digitised manuscripts for the first time. Mr. Yılmaz thanked the library for its collaboration.

⁶ <http://www.accessit.hacettepe.edu.tr/index.php?kid=30&s=AccessIT%20AB%20Projesi%20Hakkında>

“It was the first project that created awareness about Europeana,” he said. “This year, we partnered with another EU project which uses cloud technologies for medium sized cultural administrations. We congratulate the people who support Europeana Newspapers Project.”

Next to speak were Hakan Koray Özlük and Hasan Bahadır Onat, both from the Turkish General Directorate of Libraries and Publications. They highlighted the project INDICATE⁷ (International Network for a Digital Cultural Heritage e-Infrastructure) as the first EU project involving the Turkish Ministry of Culture & Tourism. It is co-financed by the European Union FP7 programme which aims to establish a network of common interest made up of experts and researchers in the field of e-infrastructures and digital cultural heritage at a Euro-Mediterranean level. Network participants can share experiences, promote standards and guidelines, and work on common best practices and policies. “We had a great experience with this project and have an opportunity for future cooperation,” said Onat.

In the Question and Answer session, participants stressed the importance of the dissemination of information of European projects. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism in Turkey was encouraged to investigate solutions for the OCR-ing of Ottoman language documents.

Videos of the event can be seen here:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B5yZzem8n8tjaWZGa2FCSzg2NUk/edit?usp=sharing&pli=1>



⁷ : www.indicate-project.eu

4. Impressions and Insights

The Information day in Turkey aimed to raise awareness of the Europeana Newspapers Project and the importance of digitising Turkey's cultural heritage. Based on our observations, comments from Turkish participants and Turkish media coverage we can conclude that the Europeana Newspapers Information day in Turkey has indeed reached this goal. The Information day also highlighted a great Turkish interest in participating in European funded projects.

The strength of the event was largely due to the fact that so many people from across the Europeana Newspapers Project were able to attend and speak about their role within the project. Together they gave participants both a solid overview of the Europeana Newspapers Project and insight into specific work such as the development of refinement technologies and a single data model for digitised newspapers.

The high level of participation did mean slightly larger-than-normal personnel expenses for the Information day but we feel the extra expense was justified as it allowed us to better meet the specific needs of the professionals attending the Information day.

For future Information day we like to formalise the way we collect feedback from participants. In addition to our own observations and comments during the event, we will also send a survey to gauge people's experiences and determine which parts of the workshop were most successful.

Appendix I: Agenda

AGENDA Turkish Information Day Ankara 2013	
PROJECT NUMBER	297380
PROJECT ACRONYM	Europeana Newspapers
Venue of the Meeting	National Library of Turkey, Bahçelievler Son Durak, 06450 Ankara, Türkiye
Previous day, 04. 2013	
Hours	Topic
19.00	Common evening - Dinner
Event Day 04.2013	
Hours	Topic
10.00 - 10:30	Welcome -Zekeriya Batmazoğlu, NLT Acting Director
10.30 - 11.15	Europeana Newspapers Project – Ulrike Kotsch & Hans-Jorg Leder (Project Coordinator - Berlin State Library) Why refinement of digitised historical newspaper pages - Susan Reilly (LIBER)
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
11.30-13.00	Europeana Newspapers Project: • Refinement – Clemens Neudecker (National Library of The Netherlands) • Metadata – Günter Mühberger (University of Innsbruck Library)
13.00 - 14.30	Lunch (NLT)
14.30 - 15.00	Ottoman OCR Demo - IRCICA
15.00 - 15.30	Coffee break
15.30 - 17.00	Digitisation & OCR Panel Moderator: Prof. Dr. Nazan Özeng Uçak- (Hacettepe Üniversitesi) • Prof. Dr. Bülent Yılmaz (Hacettepe Üniversitesi) • Prof. Dr. Yaşar Tonta (Hacettepe Üniversitesi) • Ozhan Yılmaz – Uzman (Kalkınma Bakanlığı) • Hakan Koray Özlük (Kütüphaneler ve Yayınlar Genel Müdürlüğü) • Hasan Bahadır Aydınolat (Kütüphaneler ve Yayınlar Genel Müdürlüğü)
17.00 - 18:00	Drink & Snack
18.00 - 18.30	Guided tour of the NLT (optional)

Appendix II: List of participants



A GATEWAY EUROPEANA NEWSPAPERS ONLINE – INFORMATION DAY
3 May 2013 National Library of Turkey – ANKARA

Name and surname	Institution	Phone	e-Mail
Senay Ünal	Anadolu Ajansı		sunal@aa.com.tr
Önder NARLI	Basın Müşavirliği		
Sadık ERDOĞDU	" "		
Mustafa Gelik	" "		
Burcu BİLİT	OSTÜ & TKD		bkelen@metu.edu.tr
Dr. İzzet Pektaş	m.k.		ozp-@ankara.gov.tr
Melis Özmen	mikrobeta yazılım		melis@mikrobeta.com.tr
Canlı AKIN	mikrobeta yazılım		canli.akin@mikrobeta.com.tr
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A GATEWAY EUROPEANA NEWSPAPERS ONLINE – INFORMATION DAY
3 May 2013 National Library of Turkey – ANKARA

Name and surname	Institution	Phone	e-Mail
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Hayrettin Demirtaş	" "		
Hilfre CR	Millî Kütüphane		
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Ulrike Kodtek	SBB		ulrike.kodtek@europa.eu-nas- pmp01.eu
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A GATEWAY EUROPEANA NEWSPAPERS ONLINE – INFORMATION DAY
3 May 2013 National Library of Turkey – ANKARA

Name and surname	Institution	Phone	e-Mail
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Niyazi Ünver	Milli Küt.		
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Mustafa KIBAK	"	2167388	mkibas.ylb@ hotmail

Resat ARIKAN E.G.M resat.arikan@gmail.com 05055633438

Aylin EROL Milli Kütüphane aylin@mktup.gov.tr

Özgür KOÇABAŞ " " ozgur.kocabas@mktup.gov.tr

Merad ARIKAN Milli Küt. Aksesyon

Yasin YAZICI " " Sosyal Yay.

Emel KOÇTEPE Milli Kütüphane Bşk. - emel.koctepe@mktup.gov.tr

Fulga KARAKOCA Milli Kütüphane Bşk. - fulga@mktup.gov.tr

Erdal NANEÇİ Milli Kütüphane Bşk. - erdal@mktup.gov.tr

Ömer KILIÇ Datateknik - omerkilic@datateknik.com.tr

Ömer KILIÇ Datateknik - omerkilic@datateknik.com.tr

Appendix III: Turkish Media Coverage

Media organisation	Web address
Haber7	http://www.haber7.com/tarih-ve-fikir/haber/1021787-milli-koleksiyonlar-avrupa-kutuphanelerinde
Haberler	http://haberler.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-4588349-haberi/ http://www.haberler.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa-ya-acildi-4589769-haberi/ http://www.haberler.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa-ya-acildi-4589769-haberi/ http://www.haberler.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa-ya-acildi-4589769-haberi/
Turizm Haberleri	http://www.turizmhaberleri.com/haberayrinti.asp?ID=25274
Mikrobeta	http://www.mikrobeta.com.tr/2013/05/03/europeana-newspapers-information-day/
AirTV	http://www.airtv.com.tr/haber/guncel_1/avrupada-milli-kutuphane-kolleksiyonlarimiz/342.html
Son Dakika	http://www.sondakika.com/haber/haber-europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-4588349/
News-eu	http://news-eu.com/haber/6147-milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa39ya-acildi.html
Yeni Safak	http://yenisafak.com.tr/kultur-sanat-haber/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlarini-paylasima-acacak-04.05.2013-517462
2Haber	http://www.2haber.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada-875834h.html http://www.2haber.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-878763h.html
Beyaz Gazete	http://www.beyazgazete.com/haber/2013/5/3/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-1782988.html

Media organisation	Web address
Haber X	http://www.haberx.com/europeana_projesi_milli_kutuphanede_tanitildi%2817,n.11308623,933%29.aspx
Haberciniz	http://haberciniz.biz/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada-2015496h.htm
T24	http://t24.com.tr/ajans/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa-kutuphanelerinde---koleksiyonda-yer-alan-400-bin-sayfa-gazete-icerigi---34europeana-newspapers-projesi34-kapsaminda-avrupa-dijital---kutuphanesi-ile-paylasilacak/2372587
Hurriyet daily news	http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-national-library-to-digitize-cultural-heritage.aspx?pageID=238&nID=46024&NewsCatID=386
Basin Odasi	http://basin.kulturturizm.gov.tr/TR,51201/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada.html http://basin.kulturturizm.gov.tr/TR,51223/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi.html
Haber Vespor	http://www.habervespor.com/kultur/milli-koleksiyonlar-avrupa-kutuphanelerinde-guncel-haber-sitesi-son-dakika-haberleri-spor-haberleri-h8151.html
Yarin	http://www.yarin.com.tr/gazeteler/20110909gazete.pdf
Yeniadana	http://www.yeniadana.net/web/HaberDetay.aspx?id=56573
DNS haber	http://www.dnshaber.com/genel/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-h48069.html
BBY Haber	http://www.bbyhaber.com/bby/2013/04/30/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-abde-europeana-newspapers-projesi/#more-10851
IHA	http://www.ihacom.tr/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-20130503AW000868-ankara-haberi
Turkiye Turizm	http://www.turkiyeturizm.com/news_detail.php?id=43600#.UZlqYUpz8fE

Media organisation	Web address
Haberexen	http://www.haberexen.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-296869h.htm
Haber3	http://www.haber3.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupa-kutuphanelerinde-koleksiyonda-yer--haberi-1942258h.htm
Senato Haber	http://www.senatohaber.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-haber-121911
Yeniasya	http://www.yeniasya.com.tr/haber_detay2.asp?id=54709
Corlukent	http://www.corlukent.com/mobil/haber.asp?id=45840
Durustsengel	http://www.durustsengel.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi.html
Marasgundem	http://www.marasgundem.com/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada-458935h.htm
Haber yurdum	http://www.haberyurdum.com/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-269h.html
Haber Inozu	http://www.haberinozu.com/genel/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada-h215935.html
Haber Flash	http://www.haberflash.com/EUROPEANA-PROJESI-MILLI-KUTUPHANEDE-TANITILDI-85773.html#.UZlrZ0pz8fE
Buyuyen Turkiye	http://www.buyuyenturkiye.com/haber/kutuphane-eserleri-avrupa-yolunda
Akaci Haber	http://www.akacihaber.com/kultur-sanat/milli-kutuphane-koleksiyonlari-avrupada-h8843.html

Media organisation	Web address
Sondevir	http://www.sondevir.com/tarihtebugun/129647/milli-kutuphane-avrupa-ile-paylasilacak.html
Zaman Fransa	http://www.zamanfransa.com/haber/toplum/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi.html
Ogun Haber	http://www.ogunhaber.com/haber/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-haberi-141897h.html
Ankara Haber	http://ankarahaber.info/haber/europeana-projesi-milli-kutuphanede-tanitildi-1614412.html
TR Haberleri	http://www.trhaberleri.com/milli-koleksiyonlar-avrupa-kutuphanelerinde-h29618.htm
BT Haber	http://www.bthaber.com/avrupa-gazetelerine-acilan-kapi/