



#### **4.15 MC-DNAM Year 3 Dissemination Workshop Report for Greece**

Authors: Dr Elena Kountouri, Dr Eri Papatheodorou

##### **Event Details**

Title: Promotion of Archaeological Monuments and Historical Buildings to Europeana: Best Practices in Documentation and Management of Cultural Heritage.

30 January 2013 in the Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens.

##### **Workshop Marketing**

How was the workshop marketed before the event?

Target audience: Archaeologists, experts in museum documentation, digital infrastructures and archives.

Channels used: Website of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports, e-mail list and posters.

What materials were provided at the workshop?

Promotional Dissemination Folder which contained the program, a CD\_ROM with the presentation-abstracts, a CARARE card, a notebook, a bookmark and a pencil.

##### **The Workshop**





Around 165 people attended the Workshop. The main themes were digital documentation, curation and management of the cultural heritage. The aim of the Workshop was the information about the Best Practices on preparing and on re-using extant digital data, creating and managing digital data and guidance to ensure proper preparation and documentation of these data for long term archiving. The partners of CARARE, National Technical University of Athens (IVML) and Athena Research and Innovation Centre in Information (DCU and ILSP-Xanthi [CETI]) presented the technical approach, the tools of the CARARE aggregation service and guidelines on the documentation of cultural content.

The Workshop consisted of two sessions with twelve presentations overall and lasted five hours. The programme was as follows:

9.00-9.30 Registration

9.30-9.45 Dr Lina Mendoni, General Director of the General Secretariat of Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, Culture & Sports, *Introduction*.

9.45-10.00 Sheena Bassett (Dissemination Manager for the CARARE Project), *CARARE: Project Overview*.

10.00-10.15 Dr Elena Kountouri, Vassilis Oikonomou, Dr Eri Papatheodorou, Effie Patsatzi (Directorate of the National Archive of Monuments, General Secretariat of Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, Culture & Sports), *CARARE / EUROPEANA: the D.N.A.M. contribution to the network*.

10.15-10.30 Konstantinos Chatzichristos, Katerina Moutogianni, Maria Kotlida (Directorate of Informatics and Telecommunications, General Secretariat of Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, Culture & Sports), *EU Projects for online Accessibility to Cultural Content and e-Infrastructures: the Contribution of the Directorate of Informatics and Telecommunications*.

10.30-10.45 Konstantinos Kollias (Professor of the National Technical University of Athens, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering), *The Management of the Digital Cultural Heritage and the European Experience*.

10.45-11.00 [Panos Constantopoulos](#) (Professor Athens University of Economics and Business and "Athena" Research Centre), *Digital Curation, Digital Cultural Memory, and Digital Infrastructures*.

11.00-11.15 Christodoulos Chamzas (Professor of Democritus University of Thrace) - Dr. Anestis Koutsoudis (CLEPSYDRA: Digitisation Centre of Cultural Heritage", Xanthi, 'Athena' Research and Innovation Centre), *CARARE and 3D-ICONS: Providing 3D Content to EUROPEANA*.

11.15-11.30 Dr. Evi Sachini (Strategic Planning and Development Dept., Deputy Director National Documentation Centre, National Hellenic Research Foundation), *Creating eInfrastructure and Services for the Collaborative Development and Dissemination of Greek Digital Cultural Heritage*.

Coffee Break



Session chair: Dr Metaxia Tsipopoulou (Honorary Director of the National Archive of Monuments)

11.45-12.00 Dr. Despoina Tsiafaki (“Athena” Research Center), Digitization of Cultural Heritage: a necessity for the Documentation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

12.00-12.15 Alexandra Bounia (Associate Professor at the University of the Aegean, Cultural Technology and Communication), *Promotion of the Cultural Heritage*.

12.15-12.30 Dr Pantos Pantos (Honorary Director of the National Archive of Monuments), *National Monuments Records in European Countries*.

12.30-12.45 Dr Anastasia Lazaridou (Director of the Byzantine and Christian Museum), *Documenting the collections of the Byzantine and Christian Museum*.

12.45-13.00 Ifigenia Dionissiadou (Information Technology Department – Benaki Museum), *Implementing the international museum documentation standards at the Benaki Museum*.

13.00-13.15 Dr. Prodromos Tsiavos (Scientific Associate of the National Documentation Centre, National Hellenic Research Foundation), *Public Sector Information and Cultural Information Reuse vs. Cultural Heritage Protection: The nexus of provisions of laws 2121/1993, 3448/2006 and 3028/2002 and the Creative Commons licences*.

13.15-13.30 Discussion and final questions

13.30-14.30 Lunch

## Abstracts of the Presentations

**Dr Elena Kountouri, Vassilis Oikonomou, Dr Eri Papatheodorou, Effie Patsatzi:** In 2009, the Directorate of the National Archive of Monuments became a content providing partner of the CARARE Best Practice Network. The D.N.A.M. was entrusted to collect, curate and convey rich digital content of the Hellenic General Secretary of Culture. A set of almost 6000 unique digital resources, deriving from Regional and Central Services of the G.S.C., was collected during the lifespan of the project; this content is hosted on ODYSSEUS, the national cultural portal of Greece (<http://odysseus.culture.gr>). The presentation also discusses issues of management and methodology of our contribution.

Facing the need for long-term data preservation and the challenge of the effective promotion of cultural content, the D.N.A.M. has currently undertaken two new actions funded by the Operational Program 'Digital Convergence' of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007 – 2013: a) Enrichment of the Digital Collections of Movable Monuments and Development of a new Information System for the National Archive of Monuments; b) Digitization of the Photographic Collection of the Historical Archive of the Archaeological service

**Konstantinos Chatzichristos, Katerina Moutogianni, Maria Kotlida:** Over the last 5 years, the Ministry and the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications actively participate in European networks and projects to facilitate online access to the Greek digital cultural content and the use of e-infrastructures for the benefit of cultural institutions. As part of the MICHAEL Plus project for the development of a multilingual inventory of cultural heritage in Europe, the Greek MICHAEL online catalogue of digital collections was created. In the Networks of Best Practice



ATHENA, Linked Heritage and AthenaPlus, the Directorate coordinates and supports the ingestion and delivery of content from Greek cultural institutions to EUROPEANA. To enable online access to the content of the Archaeological Service, a new cultural portal presenting artefacts from the public Museums was developed in cooperation with the Directorate of the National Archives of Monuments. For CARARE, the cultural portal “Odysseus” was used as a platform for importing and publishing new content for Monuments and Archaeological Sites and exporting it in a format suitable for CARARE. The FP7 projects DC-NET and DCH-RP initiate the connection of e-infrastructure networks with cultural institutions and the pilot implementation of a federated e-infrastructure for the preservation of digital content. NUMERIC and ENUMERATE are EU initiatives for gathering statistical data on the digitisation of cultural content across member states and bringing the data online for re-use.

Prof. [Panos Constantopoulos](#): The last two decades have witnessed an ever increasing penetration of digital media initially in the management and, subsequently, in the study of culture. From collections management, object documentation, domain knowledge representation and reasoning, to supporting the creative synthesis and re-interpretation of data in the framework of digital productions, significant progress has been achieved in the development of relevant knowledge and software tools. Developing a standard ontology for the cultural domain stands out as the most prominent such development.

As a consequence of this progress, digital repositories are created that aim at serving as digital cultural memories, while a process of convergence has started among the different kinds of memory institutions, i.e., museums, archives, and libraries, in what concerns their information functions. The success of digital cultural memories will be decided against rivals with centuries-long tradition. The advantages offered by technology, mass storage, copying, and the ease of searching and quantitative analysis, will not suffice unless reliability, long-term preservation, and the ability to re-use, re-combine and re-interpret digital content are ensured. To this end digital curation is exercised.

In this talk we will briefly examine the development of digital cultural memories using digital curation. More specifically, we will discuss the current examples of the European programme CARARE and the digital research infrastructures for arts and humanities DARIAH (european) and ΔΥΑΣ (greek).

**Prof. Christodoulos Chamzas - Dr. Anestis Koutsoudis** For more than a decade now 3D digitisation has been applied in many fields. Apart from entertainment, industrial design, prototyping and medicine, high accuracy 3D digitisation is considered now a common practice in the cultural heritage (CH) domain. This is due to the fact that 3D digitisation is able to provide solutions to divergent necessities such as the importance to preserve our cultural thesaurus and the dissemination to the broad public. CH 3D digitisation projects that involved the use of different digitisation methods have been crowded with success and produced photorealistic, dense and of high accuracy 3D replicas of artefacts, monuments, architectural and archaeological sites. In addition the development of new technologies has simplified and reduces considerably the cost of a 3D digitization, archiving and retrieval process for a cultural object. EUROPEANA, the European Cultural Heritage Portal, recognising the new era in archiving, supports programs that generate 3D content. The Department of Cultural Heritage of Athena R.C. in Xanthi (CETI), participates in two such European Projects, CARARE, and 3D-ICONS, digitizing in 3D, monuments of Hellenic origin.



The first 3D objects ever uploaded in EUROPEANA were produced by CETI and they are, three Urban Areas of Cultural Importance in Northern Greece (Xanthi, Kavala, Drama), two temples in the area of Mani, and the Byzantine Castle of Kavala. CETI through 3D-ICONS, will digitise in 3D and upload in EUROPEANA Byzantine Churches of Northern Greece, identified by UNESCO as being of outstanding cultural importance.

**Dr. Evi Sachini:** The development of eInfrastructures for the preservation and dissemination of cultural heritage is an important line of policy at the European level, as well as a key priority for Greece. This presentation focuses on the collaboration between the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Culture, the Managing Authority of the Operational Program Digital Convergence and the National Documentation Centre in view of the implementation of the European and national policies on Digital Cultural Heritage. The talk focuses specifically on the collaboration enabling character of the services offered by the National Documentation Centre in the framework of calls 31 and 31.2 of the Operational Program Digital Convergence. The core and auxiliary services offered by EKT aim at fostering collaborative cultural content and meta-data development, as well as supporting the institutional role of the cultural content providers participating to calls 31 and 31.2. It further discusses the core and auxiliary services, especially Repository as a Service, Library Services, Secure Storage/ Preservation services, Validation services, and Common Digital Cultural Environment search and reuse services. Further points of discussion include the benefits of the eInfrastructure and related services for the content providers. It also highlights opportunities for collaborative development of cultural content and offering of value-added services by third parties. It is argued that the services and the veritable ‘alliance’ developed between the aforementioned institutions with distinct roles and responsibilities within the digital culture ecosystem, substantially supports the international promotion of the Greek cultural heritage and ensures the sustainability of this collective effort.

**Dr. Despoina Tsiafaki:** The complete and accurate recording of our cultural heritage is a principal goal of each researcher in the field as well as of every respective organization, in order to present this heritage to the public. The recognition and the acknowledgment of this necessity in order to understand and study the Greek culture can be traced back to the earliest ‘scholarly’ works that had the form of catalogues. Throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> c., during of which took shape the methodology and the major axis of Archaeology, it was used primarily the current technology of the period.

It was during the 20<sup>th</sup> c., that they were formed the issues, the questions, and the problems of the fields studying the Culture. The setting, however, for their solution and answer, was always the catalogues in which they are recorded the objects, monuments, and the sites of the Cultural Heritage. Eventually the basic recording was transformed into documentation, meaning the systematic recording and analytical description of the data and metadata included in every cultural object. Again, it was used the current technology of the time and they were exploited its potentials.

The technological evolution and especially of the Information Technology, during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. had an impact to a number of sciences. Although, Archaeology and the fields of Culture in general, were not among the ones that responded immediately or broadly, the recording and the documentation of the cultural heritage were the first sectors to employ the Information Technology. It was already during the ‘70s that Museums employed Databases to catalogue their collections.



The digitization of the cultural heritage, with the mean of the electronic recording, that begun in USA and Europe, it was introduced to Greece during the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. It was at that time that started the digitization of the Greek cultural heritage; that was done both individually and coordinated & centrally through the Ministry and the stakeholders. The result was the formation of an important fund of digital cultural heritage.

The necessity nowadays of the use of digitization for a complete and precise documentation of our cultural heritage is the principal focus of this paper. Through this aspect it will be presented the potentials for the understanding and study as well the preservation and presentation of our Culture. At the same time, they will be exploited issues regarding the principles and the rules for an accurate digital cultural documentation and the problems that come out of that. Standards, issues of terminology, data and metadata will be approached, in order to present the digital documentation as globally as possible.

**Dr Pantos Pantos:** The National Monuments Records (NMR) in Europe and elsewhere were set up in different periods for different reasons and aims. Some of them, like the French *Inventaire*, have a history of almost one century.

One of the main reasons for the creation of cultural heritage inventories or lists was the protection of the monuments and cultural property in general, endangered by a number of risks (wars, natural destructions, every kind of uncontrolled development etc.), but also as a mean of effective management and study. One of the main obligations for the Member States in the frame of the international cultural heritage conventions, adopted after the Second World War (Hague convention 1954 and Second Protocol 1995, UNESCO Conventions 1970, 1970 etc., Conventions of the Council of Europe, etc.) and ratified by many countries, is to produce catalogues of their protected cultural goods, tangible and intangible, movable and immovable. Almost every European State has compiled lists of its cultural heritage assets, and some of them are now accessible online.

The European States have entrusted the creation of the NMR, according to their constitution and legislation and as a result of the traditions concerning the cultural heritage protection in each country, either to public services and/or organizations, or to private law entities, usually depended and financed by the Governments. In the short time available, we will try to describe some of the most important NMR institutions in European countries (France, Italy, UK, Spain, Germany, Switzerland).

**Dr Anastasia Lazaridou:** Recent years (since 2000) have been characterised by the positive use of new technologies for the organisation, development and dissemination in all kind of activities. The cultural sector has not remained untouched by this technological explosion and largely followed its development, through policies that supported the protection and promotion of cultural heritage based on the digital and technological development.

The Byzantine and Christian Museum, one of the Hellenic national museums and of the most internationally important museums for the art and culture of Byzantine and post-Byzantine period, following the urgent needs of our time, created the necessary framework processes and structures and used of all the opportunities available to actively participate in the new digital era.

From 1999 until today, the aim was the gradual upgrade and modernisation of the Museum, in a way that responds to contemporary challenges. Key role in this effort was the restructuring of the collections' management system, as well as the digital registration, documentation and dissemination



of them, in such a way that the Byzantine museum will continue to operate as a public institution with scientific, cultural and social role in a globalised environment with an increased role of technology.

In this context, this paper attempts to highlight the key collections' management issues faced by the Museum during the past decade: the implementation of a new system for indexing the collections and archives, the creation of a single format of documentation with common terminology compatible with the international standards, digitisation of the collections and management of digital information, as well as the continuous and active participation of the Museum in research projects funded by the European Union (i.e. MICHAEL, EUROPEANA, Digital Registration of the Mobile Monument of the Ministry of Culture, O.P. "Digital Convergence").

Nowadays, nearly 100 years since its founding, the Byzantine and Christian Museum has established the bases for the proper and comprehensive digital curation of the cultural heritage and targets to further actions that aim at improving the quality of management, documentation and display of digitised cultural material and its diffusion within the society.

**Dr. Prodromos Tsiavos:** This talk explores the interaction between the legislation for the protection of cultural heritage and the legislation regulating the further use of public sector information. More specifically it examines: (a) the applicability of Law 3448/2006 regarding the further use of public sector information in conjunction with the cultural project in the Operation Program Digital Convergence (b) the degree to which the Creative Commons or other open licences are compatible with the provisions of Law 3028/2002 regarding specific categories of cultural content (data or meta-data) (c) issues of regulation of other types of cultural content (e.g. from religious organisations) regarding their re-use (d) a comparison of the Europeana Data Transfer Agreement and the MoU between EKT and the organisations of Calls 31 and 31.2 (e) Case Study: the EKT project "platform for the provision of services for the deposition, management and dissemination of open public data" as a case study for the elucidation of issues a-d.

## The workshop in the media

**Ethnos**, daily newspaper  
[url:http://www.ethnos.gr/article.asp?catid=22784&subid=2&pubid=63775194](http://www.ethnos.gr/article.asp?catid=22784&subid=2&pubid=63775194)

**To Vima**, daily newspaper  
url: <http://www.tovima.gr/culture/article/?aid=495757>



## Feedback



The participants showed great interest in the e-infrastructures, services and management of digital cultural heritage.