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EuropeanaTravel

Survey of research libraries on aggregation of digital content

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Executive summary

This document reports the results of a survey of Europe's research libraries concerning their opportunities for and attitudes to digital content aggregation, specifically by aggregation services capable of feeding Europeana. The survey was carried out as Task 3.4 of EuropeanaTravel. The survey was prepared with input from Europeana, LIBER and the EuropeanaTravel management team. The intentions were to provide a snapshot of aggregation attitudes and activity across Europe, to inform the strategies of both LIBER and Europeana, and to help to inform the long-term development path for the LIBER aggregator which is being developed as part of EuropeanaTravel.

The survey was sent to all LIBER members and ran throughout November 2009. The survey sought to collect information in four main areas: aggregation activity at country level; institutional participation in a range of aggregators capable of feeding Europeana and the expectations of institutions from those aggregators; the perceived aggregation needs of the respondents; and respondents' attitudes to payment for aggregation services. 12 questions were asked in total.

39 responses were received from LIBER member in 22 countries. The respondents collectively identified 30 aggregators to which they already contribute or for which they hold eligible content (Q.4). In all, the potential for 78 new library-aggregator pairings was reported (Q.4). A question (Q.5) designed to highlight aggregators that the survey team might not have been aware of brought 17 suggestions. DART-Europe and DRIVER both received more than one mention as aggregators worthy of incorporation in Europeana in future.

A number of reasons were put forward to explain non-participation in aggregators, with lack of awareness and lack of resources the most frequently offered (Q.6). The participants readily suggested a number of perceived benefits to their institution of aggregation services, with collection visibility and accessibility the most cited (Q.7). Very few suggestions were made for the improvement of existing aggregators (Q.8), but the enhancement of linguistic services was comfortably the most common request. The ability of Europeana to provide raised exposure for collections was the most highly-regarded of all Europeana's potential benefits (Q.9), which is consistent with the responses to Q.7: extra visibility is obviously, for institutions, the biggest driver for participation in aggregation services.

Several ideas for new aggregation services were advanced (Q.10), albeit with no consensus on theme and scope, although a 'research' theme is evident in many of the responses. In spite of the institutional benefits acknowledged earlier in the survey, there is clearly a reluctance to pay for aggregation services, with only one respondent giving an unqualified 'yes' to a question (Q.11) concerning respondents' willingness in principle to pay to participate for aggregation. The final question (Q.12) showed that most respondents feel that aggregation should be subsidised by EU or national funding.

Overall, the results paint a picture of healthy interest in aggregation services among Europe's research libraries. While the main selling-point to these organisations is the opportunity for additional exposure to their collections, there is buy-in for a number of other benefits. Those institutions that are using aggregators seem broadly satisfied with their services. The survey suggests that there is a substantial body of content held by Europe's research libraries which could yet be aggregated by Europeana, even though the detailed responses show a possible lack of clarity about the mechanisms for participation. Europeana and LIBER should perhaps take note of the generally high level of awareness and endorsement of aggregation services which is indicated below, the apparent readiness of respondents to begin to participate in established aggregators, and the suggestions for fresh aggregations that are put forward; although the fact that there is very little enthusiasm for institutional payment to support aggregators must be taken into account.

A final caveat: the work of Europeana and its associated projects, the recent strategic work of LIBER in this area, and the continuing appearance of tools and initiatives to place aggregation within ever-easier reach of libraries and consortia, have all greatly influenced the aggregation scene in the last two years. This report is, of course, only a snapshot of what is currently a very fast-moving environment.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background and purpose

This report forms part of Work Package 3 of the EuropeanaTravel project. The specific task was to survey the access enjoyed by research libraries in EU member states to aggregation services capable of feeding Europeana. A Europeana-feeding aggregator collects metadata from a range of contributors and channels it into Europeana. It may or may not offer access to content independently of Europeana.

The survey was designed to feed into a later EuropeanaTravel WP3 task: to report on the post-project sustainability of the EuropeanaTravel aggregator, making the aggregator available to all LIBER members who do not have other routes into Europeana. It was also designed to inform the implementation of the 2009-2012 LIBER Strategy, especially the priority areas of digitisation and resource discovery. Finally, it was also intended that the results should help to inform Europeana.

The survey was led by EuropeanaTravel, with contributions from LIBER and Europeana. LIBER and Europeana are thanked for their assistance in preparing the survey.

1.2 Methodology

The survey was constructed by the EuropeanaTravel WP3 team, and then expanded and fine-tuned by members of LIBER, Europeana and the EuropeanaTravel management team.

A list of Europeana-feeding aggregators was researched and tabulated. Respondents were asked to identify the aggregators in which they participate, and those in which they do not participate but for which they might hold eligible content. The survey also sought to learn participants' expectations from aggregation services, including Europeana, and their attitudes to the funding of new aggregators.

The survey asked 12 questions, spread across four sections:

1. Your institution and your country
2. Your participation in aggregation services
3. Your aggregation needs
4. Funding matters

The survey ran from 29 October to 30 November 2009. It was sent to all LIBER members, with subsequent targeted chasers to institutions in countries from which no response had been received. Eventually 39 responses were collected, from 22 different countries.

This report presents the results of the survey, question by question. Quantitative responses are reproduced in charts depicting the number and percentage of responses. Frequently a question invited multiple selections from respondents, so it should be noted that percentages in the charts indicate percentage of overall responses rather than percentage of the 39 respondents of the survey.

Some questions invited free-text responses. Some comments are reproduced in the main body of the report; the complete free-text answers are collated in [Appendix 1](#). All comments have been anonymised.

A copy of the original survey can be found in [Appendix 2](#).

2. Participants

Responses were received from 22 countries, shown in the chart below (figure 1).

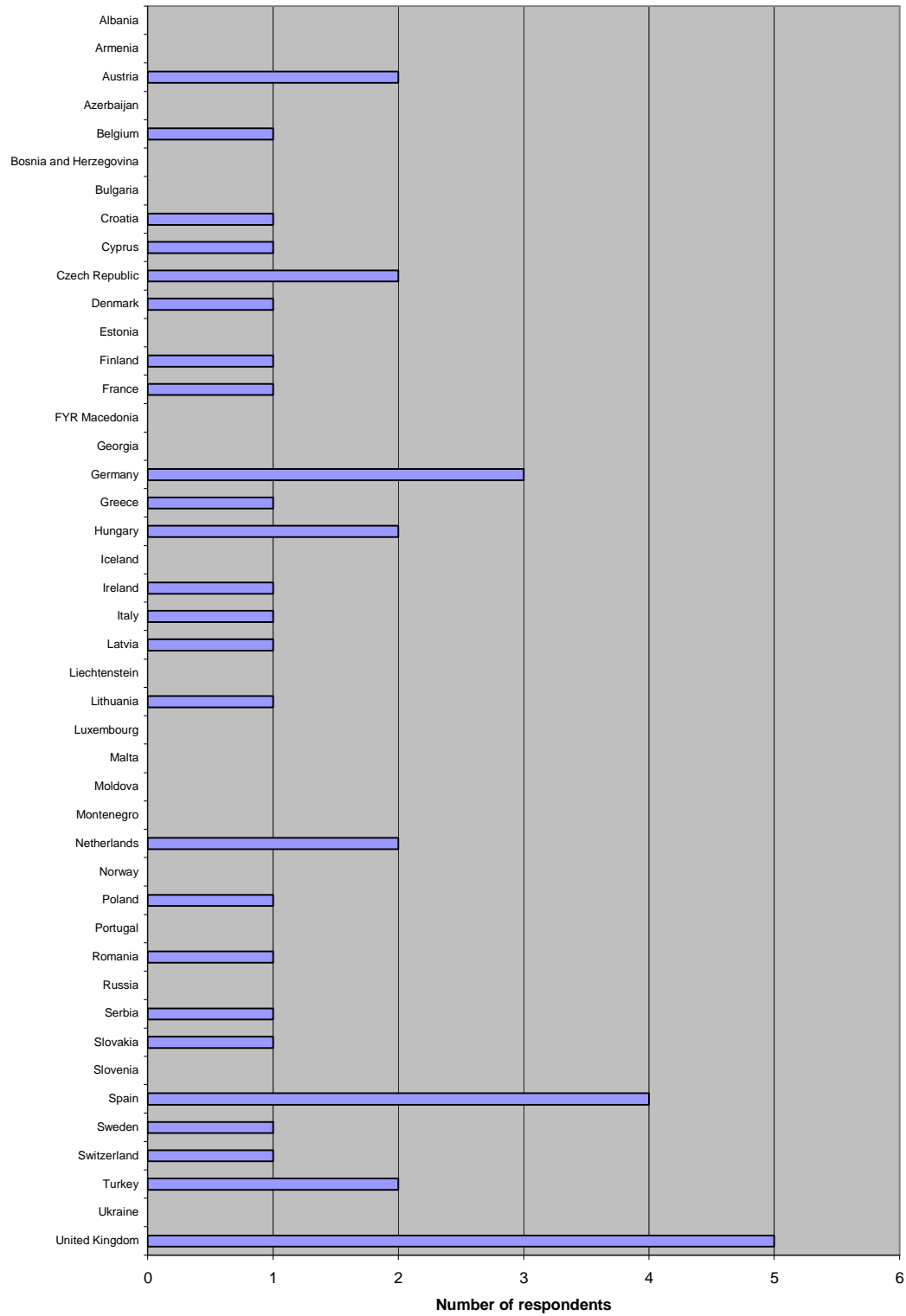


Figure 1. Respondents by country

Of the 39 respondents, 15 (38%) are national or regional libraries or represent national bodies. 24 (62%) are academic and university libraries.

National and regional libraries, national bodies by country

Austria: Austrian National Library
Croatia: National and University Library in Zagreb
Czech Republic: Moravian-Silesian Research Library in Ostrava, contributory organisation
Czech Republic: National Library of the Czech Republic
Denmark: The Royal Library, National Library of Denmark
Germany: Bavarian State Library, Munich
Germany: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz (Berlin State Library - Prussian Cultural Heritage)
Latvia: National Library of Latvia
Romania: Romanian Librarians Association
Slovakia: Slovak National Library
Spain: National Library of Spain
Switzerland: Swiss National Library
Turkey: National Library of Turkey
UK: British Library
UK: National Library of Scotland

Academic libraries by country

Austria: University and Regional Library of Innsbruck
Belgium: Ghent University
Cyprus: University Of Cyprus / Library
Finland: Åbo Akademi University Library
France: Bibliothèque universitaire Pierre et Marie Curie
Germany: Regensburg University Library
Greece: University of Patras
Hungary: The Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Hungary: University and National Library, Univ. Debrecen
Ireland: University College Cork Library
Italy: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – Biblioteca di Ateneo
Lithuania: Vilnius University Library
Netherlands: Leiden University
Netherlands: Tilburg University
Poland: Warsaw University of Technology
Serbia: Nis University Library “Nikola Tesla”
Spain: CONSORCIO MADROÑO (also “Consortio de Universidades de la Comunidad de Madrid y de la UNED para la cooperación bibliotecaria”)
Spain: Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya
Spain: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Sweden: Lund University Library
Turkey: Trakya University
UK: University of Aberdeen
UK: Royal Holloway University of London
UK: University College London

3. Information about aggregation services by country

Many respondents gave useful information about aggregation in their country. The responses are included in full, in country order.

Austria

In Austria, there are two main aggregation services:

1) **Kulturpool** (www.kulturpool.at): Main Aggregator for Austria

Kulturpool offers a centralized access to digitized Austrian resources pertaining to cultural heritage. Museums, libraries and archives can be searched and explored in detail. Kulturpool will be constantly enriched with new content and peer-group specific functionalities. The Kulturpool is in beta-Version. This means, that there might be changes to concept, content or design.

2) **EuropeanaLocal** (<http://www.europeana-local.at/>): Aggregator for smaller Austrian institutions. It is designed to involve and help local and regional Austrian libraries, museums, archives and audio-visual archives:

- to make the enormous amount of content that they hold available through Europeana (the European Digital Library)
- and to deliver new services

EuropeanaLocal is one of a suite of additional projects, funded by the European Commission to help further develop Europeana. EuropeanaLocal will play an important role in ensuring that the enormous amount of digital content provided by Europe's cultural institutions at local and regional level is represented in Europeana.

Belgium

There are several aggregation services in Belgium (in production and test):

- Periodicals : Antilope (<http://anet.ua.ac.be/services.phtml?service=opacantilope>) union catalog of Belgian periodicals
- Books: Unicat/CCB the Belgian Union catalog
- E-Prints: Belgian gateway to the European Driver network of Institutional Repositories <http://www.driver-repository.be/>
- Multimedia: BOM-VI Flemish project to archive and disseminate cultural heritage collections from libraries, museums, ... <http://www.ibbt.be/nl/nieuws/bom-vi-bewaring-en-ontsluiting-van-multimediale-data-vlaanderen>

Croatia

Cultura.hr – Croatian Cultural Heritage Portal is the central access point to digital collections of Croatian heritage institutions (archives, libraries, museums, etc.).

Cyprus

Kypriana (<http://www.kypriana.eu/>)

Kypriana is a collaborative effort of Cypriot institutions to contribute in a coordinated way to the development of the EUROPEANA.

The Cyprus Institute (Cyl) has assumed the responsibility to lead and coordinate this effort in the country (through the EU projects ATHENA and EuropeanaLocal) which aspires to involve all research-educational institutions, libraries, archives, audiovisual and cultural authorities related to Cypriot culture and history.

The objective is to put online and/or link together the digital collections held by Cyprus libraries, archives, museums and audiovisual organizations.

Members:

1. The Cyprus Institute
2. University of Cyprus Library
3. Ministry of education and Cyprus (National) Library
4. Cyprus University of Technology Library and Pattichio (Archives of Limassol municipality)
5. Church of Cyprus
6. University of Nicosia
7. Department of Antiquities
8. Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia

Czech Republic

MANUSCRIPTORIUM (www.manuscriptorium.eu) is integrated resource provided by the National Library of the Czech Republic. It aggregates manuscripts and historical printed books (medieval and early modern manuscripts, incunabula, early printed books, historical maps etc. until ca. 1800) at international/European level. At present it contains up to 6000 fully digitized documents. There are up to 100 partners aggregated resources from partners in 20 countries.

Finland

The National Digital Library project will aggregate information from Finnish libraries, archives and museums, and will aggregate information to Europeana.

Germany

- content aggregation via the "Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek" is envisaged
- for now there are different approaches possible: a) direct harvesting (if OAI and Metadata Standards are set), b) via an aggregator: e.g. Europeana local, Europeana travel, BAM

Greece

Openarchives.gr (<http://openarchives.gr>) - A private OAI-PMH Harvester
Directory of Greek Digital Resources (<http://www.lis.upatras.gr/Libworld/collections/search.php>) – A updated list will all scientific Greek digital resources

Hungary

Major services are coordinated by the National Széchényi Library (OSZK) such as image library and digital library. The other national institute is Neumann Kft. which is responsible for nationwide projects, such as Audio-visual archive (NAVA) and National digital archive (NDA).

Scientific communication has started to be collected in repositories. The Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences has started building one for publicly funded (National Research Fund – OTKA) research papers. The scientific repositories together are ready to form a national body that is in the process of joining DRIVER.

Ireland

RIAN – National Open Access Portal. This is in beta version at present and due for launch in March 2010.

Digital Humanities Observatory – this will be a repository for storing digital artefacts from various digital humanities projects around Ireland. It's possibly not an aggregation service per se, since the public interface will be customised on a project by project basis using the Drupal system but at the back end it offers a flexible storage solution to various projects.

Italy

At present time, we are starting to investigate local aggregation services. We will report to LIBER any upcoming news .

Latvia

National Library of Latvia is the administrator of state program National Digital Library of Latvia "Letonica". The aim of the program is to develop a national aggregator of digital content for all national memory institutions (libraries, archives, museums). National Library of Latvia provides content for both TEL and Europeana (EDLocal and EDTravel projects). Latvian museums take part in Europeana project ATHENA.

Lithuania

VU Library will participate in national digitization project, which final result is national portal ePaveldas (for digital content of libraries, archives and museums). Aggregation of digital content of Lithuanian memory institutes to Europeana will be organized through national portal.

Netherlands

Geheugen van Nederland
The European Library

Netherlands

- * The KB is a partner in TEL
- * Content in the area of economics: Economists Online hosted by Tilburg University
- * Open Access material in the Netherlands is being collected by NARCIS (Royal Academy of sciences)
- * Research data are archived by DANS and by the 3 technical universities (Delft as focal point)
- * Metadata of Printed books of the universities are the National Central Catalogue (NCC)
- * Memory of the Netherlands (KB) : Images, recordings, film footage and texts from Dutch history
- * Various regional activities in the area of heritage collections, such as in the Province of Brabant (already in Europeana local) including a large heritage collection of Tilburg University
- * Erasmus university of Rotterdam cooperates with "Beeld en Geluid" on the archiving of videos

Poland

Aggregation services in Poland are provided by the Digital Libraries Federation (DLF), <http://fbc.pionier.net.pl> . It is a set of advanced network services based on the resources available in Polish digital libraries and repositories deployed in the [PIONIER network](#). These resources are created by many institutions like universities, libraries, museums, archives or research institutions. The Digital Libraries Federation is maintained by the [Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Center](#)

Romania

Romania doesn't have many aggregation activities. Thus, we aggregate scientific content from Romanian journals. The National University Research Council is developing a so called "Romanian Editorial Platform" in which more than 60 important journals will be aggregated in the first phase. In total, about 300 romanian journals will be aggregated in the next 5 years.

Romania is also contributing with some journals to ProQuest and EBSCO aggregation services.

Serbia

General information could be obtain by the National Library of Serbia, University Library "Svetozar Marković (both in Belgrade) and Library of Matica Srpska (in Novi Sad).

Slovakia

The Slovak National Library builds the Slovak Digital Library under the concept of sector aggregators for the library sector including written and printed materials of cultural, scientific and intellectual heritage (books, newspapers, manuscripts, postcards, biographies etc.). The Slovak National Library is presently a national representative of Europeana.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Culture currently prepare a scheme of *Slovakiana* to serve as an umbrella linking integrator for the various sectors contributing the metadata to Europeana.

Spain

Many different levels and partners for aggregation, since in Spain the aggregator market is broken down in several different administration levels corresponding to the different national/regional/local administrations.

Spain

In Spain as far as we know there are two main aggregators: RECOLECTA (scientific research, grey literature - <http://www.recolecta.net/buscador/>), and HISPANA (cultural patrimony - <http://hispana.mcu.es>).

Apart in Catalonia, the national library –Biblioteca de Catalunya is a partner of Europeana and we can aggregate content from Memòria Digital de Catalunya (MDC - <http://mdc.cbuc.cat/>)

Switzerland

Our preferred route to aggregation is through The European Library, of which we are members. There is currently no operational aggregation service in Switzerland. However there are two projects under way: Swissbib, a metacatalogue (www.swissbib.org) and Webportal E-lib.ch (http://www.e-lib.ch/e_lib_e.html) which might fulfil that function in the future.

Turkey

*Turkey Manuscript Portal: The digitized manuscripts are available on this. The future perspective of the portal is to make available the digital content of all manuscripts in Turkey.

For more information <https://www.yazmalar.gov.tr/tarama.php?dill=eng>

* Union catalogue called "Tokat". 2.545.892 catalogue records of 13 research library are available.

For more information ; <http://www.toplukatalog.gov.tr/>

UK

UK research libraries contribute to UK union catalogues e.g. COPAC, SUNCAT. Museums, Galleries and Archives have specific aggregators e.g. SCRAN, 24HourMuseum etc.

The British Library also hosts eTHOS, UKPubMedCentral and the UK Web Archive.

UK

SCRAN is the main aggregator that we are aware of in the UK.

4. Contribution to aggregation services

Respondents were given a table of Europeana aggregators and invited to select those they already feed and those they could feed but do not. All except 1 respondent filled in the table, most selecting multiple aggregators. Altogether, 49 contributions to aggregators and 78 potential contributions were given. The results are in the chart below (figure 2). Of the 48 aggregators named in the survey, only the 30 with actual or potential contribution are represented in the chart.

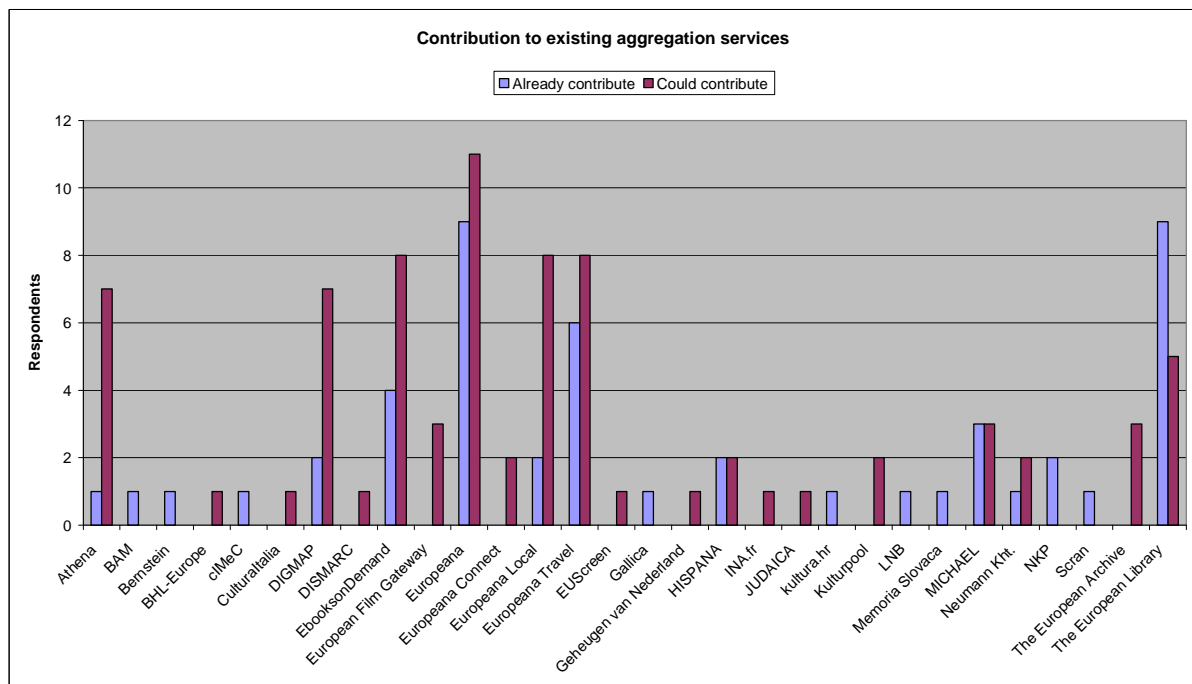


Figure 2. Contribution to existing aggregation services

Where the number of respondents for an aggregator is only 1 or 2, it tends to be a national aggregator for the country of origin. The aggregators with the most participation or eligibility are The European Library (TEL) and Europeana. High response rate to TEL is partly because over a third of the respondents were national libraries and partly because certain academic respondents indicated that they go via TEL for their aggregation needs.

The table of responses below (table 1) contains further information on the aggregators.

Table 1. Aggregators with descriptions and contribution

Aggregator	Description	Already contribute	Could contribute
Athena	Access to Cultural heritage networks across Europe	1	7
BAM Portal zu Bibliotheken, Archiven, Museen	Libraries, archives, museums and other sources in Germany	1	
Bernstein The memory of paper	Content for the study and history of paper	1	
BHL-Europe Biodiversity Heritage Library	Natural history museums, botanical gardens and other cooperating institutions		1
cMeC Institutul de Memorie Culturală	Romanian Institute for Cultural Memory	1	
CulturalItalia	Portal to the world of Italian culture; content from Italian libraries, archives and museums		1
DIGMAP	Old maps	2	7
DISMARC Discovering Music Archives	Audio content: music		1
EbooksonDemand	European books digitized on demand. Aggregates digitized copies	4	8
EFG European Film Gateway	Films, photos, posters, drawings, sound material and text documents from film archives and cinémathèques		3
Europeana	Aggregator of Library, Museum, Archives, Audio visual collections across Europe	9	11
Europeana Connect	Audio content: music		2
Europeana Local	Local and regional content through the European Digital Library	2	8
Europeana Travel	Thematic portal on subject of travel in Europe	6	8
EUScreen	Audiovisual heritage collections		1
Gallica	Gallic digital service of Bibliothèque nationale de France	1	
Geheugen van Nederland Memory of the Netherlands	Images, recordings, film footage and texts from Dutch history		1
HISPANA	Directory and harvester of digital resources in Spain	2	2
INA.fr Institut national d'audiovisuel	Audiovisual content		1

JUDAICA Jewish Urban Digital European Integrated Cultural Archive	Content from European Institutions demonstrating the Jewish contribution to the cities of Europe		1
kultura.hr Croatian Cultural Heritage	Portal to Croatian libraries, museums, archives, government bodies	1	
Kulturpool	A central portal for digitized Austrian cultural heritage		2
LNB Latvijas Nacionālā bibliotēka	Latvian National Library	1	
memoria.sk ; snk.sk Slovenská národná knižnica	Slovak Digital Library	1	
MICHAEL Multi lingual inventory of cultural heritage in Europe	Collection level descriptions inventorying Europe wide cultural heritage collections	3	3
Neumann Kht.	Hungarian cultural and public digital content	1	2
NKP National Library, Prague	National library of the Czech Republic	2	
Scran	Cultural institutions in Scotland and the rest of the UK	1	
The European Archive	Archiving the web in Europe. Snapshots of government web pages, archived sound recordings, government videorecordings, archived websites		3
The European Library	Digital and non-digital content from national libraries	9	5

Two respondents noted that they were still in the planning stages. One was for Europeana and selected the “already contribute” column, and the other was for TEL and selected “could contribute”.

Respondents’ reasons for not contributing to an aggregator for which they have eligible content are explored later in [section 6](#).

5. Missing aggregators

Respondents were invited to give details of Europeana-feeding aggregators not in the supplied list. 12 respondents answered this question. 17 services were suggested, of which six relate to national initiatives for the respondents’ country of origin. DRIVER and DART-Europe were mentioned more than once. The services identified by the respondents are shown in table 2.

(Note that, in fact, not all the aggregators mentioned here currently feed Europeana. The responses to Q.5 should clearly be read in conjunction with those to Q.10, which asked respondents to suggest brand new aggregations for Europeana. Note also that a minority of the services named here are effectively union catalogues with no underlying digital content.)

Table 2. Aggregators missing from supplied list

Have we forgotten any aggregators? Please add details below if you participate in an Europeana-feeding aggregation service which is not listed	
	Not aggregators but specialized hubs, eg. Backstage.ac.uk for archive collections relating to theatres; AIM25; Archives Hub; A2A, – ie hosting archive catalogues etc but could develop into aggregators?
Archives-HUB	UK wide gateway to archive resources held in universities and higher education colleges
Avano http://www.ifremer.fr/avano/	Avano offers access to electronic resources about the marine and aquatic science
BASE	Bielefeld Academic Search Engine
DART Europe E-theses Portal http://www.dart-europe.eu/	DART-Europe is a partnership of research libraries and library consortia who are working together to improve global access to European research theses.
Digital Image Library Might be part of The European Library	www.kepkonyvtar.hu (image collections of 48 Hungarian libraries)
Digital Libraries Federation (DLF) http://fbc.pionier.net.pl	Polish digital libraries and repositories, maintained by the Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Center
Digital national library of Serbia http://digital.nb.rs/scc/index.php	National Library of Serbia, Belgrade
DRIVER – Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research http://www.driver-repository.eu/	DRIVER is a multi-phase effort whose vision and primary objective is to establish a cohesive, pan-European infrastructure of Digital Repositories, offering sophisticated functionality services to both researchers and the general public.
KDK (forthcoming) The National Digital Library (of Finland)	The National Digital Library project will aggregate information from Finnish libraries, archives and museums
Kypriana http://www.kypriana.eu/ (under construction)	The aggregator for Cyprus Institutions. Organising the metadata harvesting of Cyprus digital libraries and collections in the frame of EuropeanaLocal and Athena
Manuscriptorium	Manuscripts and early printed books
Open Archives	http://www.openarchives.org/Register/BrowseSites
RIAN (currently in beta version, due for release March 2010)	RIAN will harvest the research publications of the Institutional Repositories of the seven Irish university libraries to one portal. In turn it will be harvested by DRIVER & DART-Europe.

SCAN	Scottish Archives Network – 63 member institutions across Scotland and across local government, higher education, health and museums which hold Scottish archives
ScientificCommons http://en.scientificcommons.org/	ScientificCommons.org is a project of the University of St.Gallen (Switzerland) and hosted and developed at the Institute for Media and Communications Management. The major aim of the project is to develop the world's largest communication medium for scientific knowledge products which is freely accessible to the public.
“Slovakiana” – under construction	This tool promoted by the Ministry of Culture which outsourced the works to some private entities is now under construction

6. Non-contribution to eligible aggregators

Where respondents have eligible content for one or more of the aggregators listed in Q.4, but do not contribute, they were invited to give reasons for non-participation. 102 answers were given, by 21 respondents naming 19 aggregators. This indicates a degree of convergence by the respondents, many of whom selected multiple aggregators and often for similar reasons. The full responses are collated in [Appendix 1](#). Below is a chart (figure 3) summarising the aggregators named.

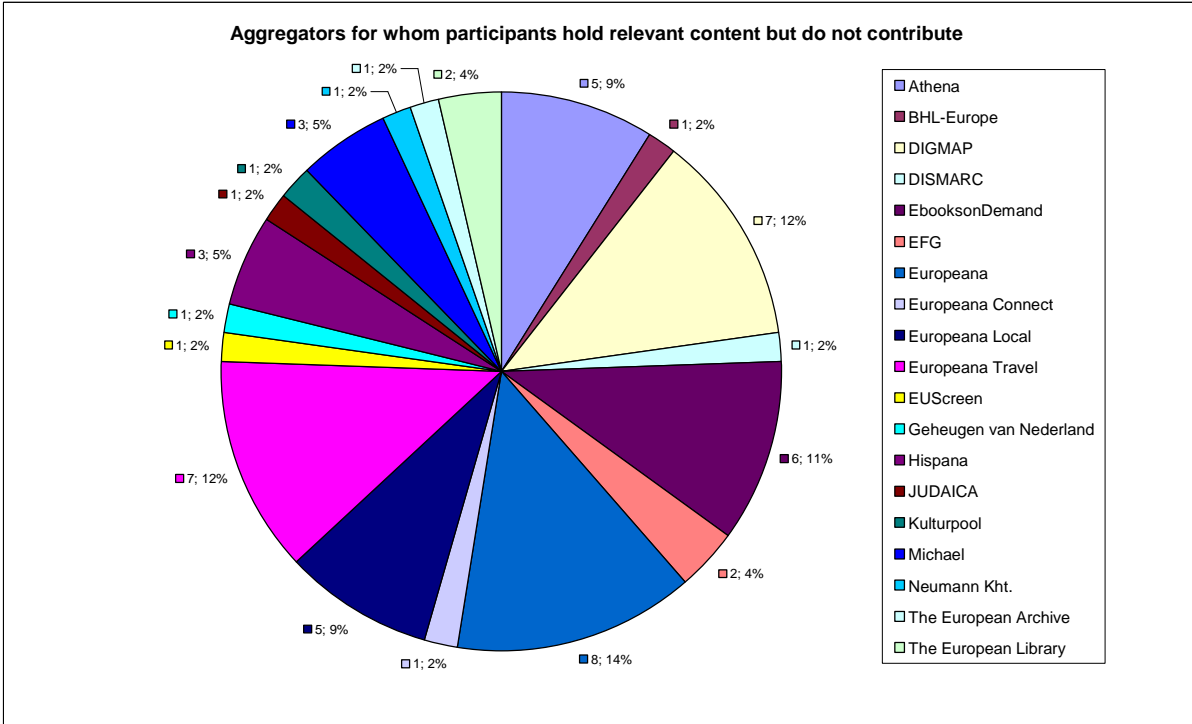


Figure 3. Aggregators with non-contribution

The aggregators to which most respondents do not contribute, despite holding eligible content, are Europeana (8), Europeana Travel / DIGMAP (7), EbooksonDemand (6)and Europeana Local / Athena (5). The tendency to name Europeana and its related initiatives may reflect a high interest in that portal.

Below is a chart (figure 4) summarising the reasons given. Where respondents named more than one aggregator, the vast majority cited identical reasons for non-contribution to each. Many responses also gave multiple reasons for non-contribution to each named aggregator.

In the survey, the choices of “Technical reasons / lack of technical resources”, “Lack of other resources”, “Copyright issues”, “Policy decision” and “Other” were nested below the reason “We have decided not to join”, with the implication that they should be selected only if the respondent had actively decided against contribution. However most respondents ignored this nesting and selected nested choices along with others such as “we were not aware” or “we are already considering”. Each choice has therefore been given equal weighting in the chart.

Respondents were also invited to add comments and these are reproduced in full in [Appendix 1](#). Notable comments and trends are shown below.

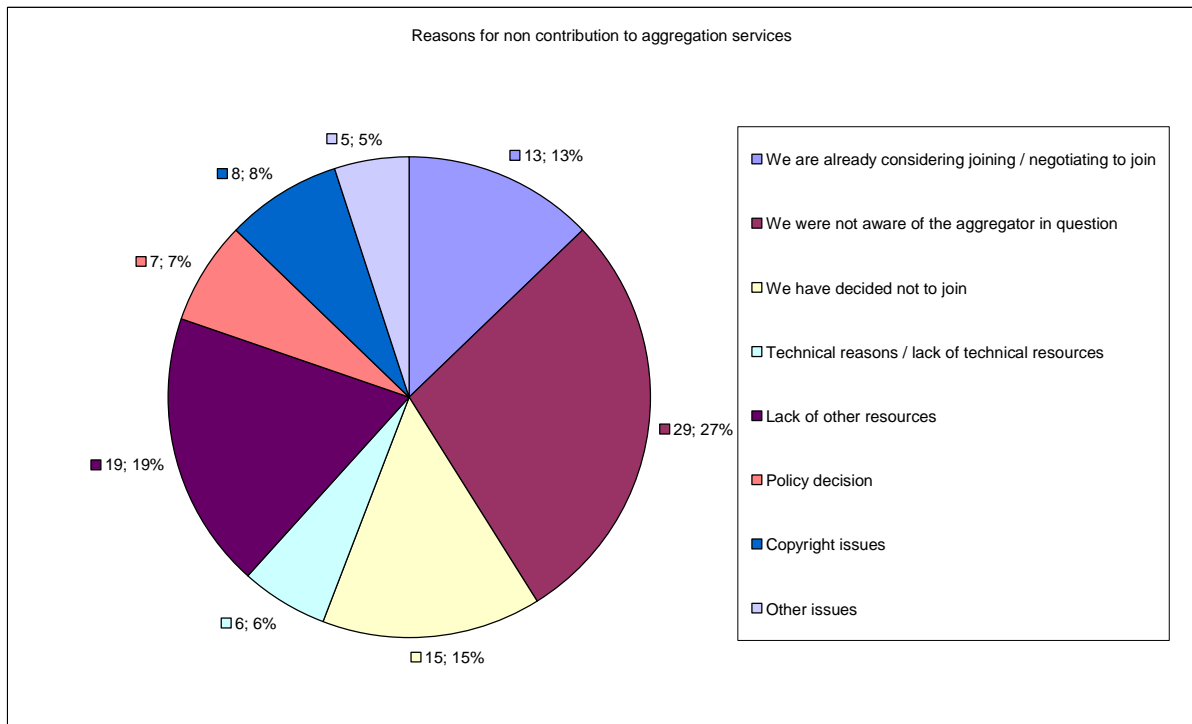


Figure 4. Reasons for non-contribution

The aggregators which respondents are already joining or considering joining are Europeana (3) and 1 each for Athena, BHL-Europe, DIGMAP, EbooksonDemand, Europeana Travel, Geheugen van Nederland, Hispana, Michael, Neumann Kht. and The European Library. The comments indicate that respondents range from the early stages of planning “To be investigated” (EbooksonDemand) to final confirmation of functionality “Sets have been provided and are awaiting harvesting” (Europeana). The respondent who selected EuropeanaTravel noted “We have not yet delivered any material”. Other partners in the EuropeanaTravel project who responded to the survey had ticked the “already contribute” column although strictly speaking no content has been submitted as of the time of this report, December 2009.

A notable comment in this section was from an academic library who said:

- “Europeana (all flavours): We tried badly to contact them in order to provide our OAI data but nothing happened”.

This indicates clearly that there is a wish to contribute content to Europeana from outside the existing partners. This respondent also stated in a later response that their OAI stream is already open. Maybe it would be appropriate to infer that the missing link is the aggregator.

Another respondent, from outside the EU, also expressed a desire to join Europeana Travel. The barrier would be worth following up since it lies in interpretation of the scope of the initiative:

- “We understood that this was only open to participants within the framework of a EU funded project that Swiss institutions could not join. If this is not the case, we would be interested.”

The most common reason given for non contribution to an aggregation service is “We were not aware of the aggregator in question” with 29 answers. The main aggregators named here were EbooksonDemand (5), DIGMAP (4), Europeana Local (4), Europeana (3) and Europeana Travel (3). In 16 cases, respondents also selected “lack of other resources” indicating that even if the aggregator were well known, the respondent may still be unable to join. 7 respondents also added “copyright issues” and 2 added “Technical issues / lack of technical resources”. One respondent also commented that for 5 aggregators “Not high priority, lack of awareness, lack of resource have been the key reasons for non participation”.

“Technical reasons / lack of technical resources” was selected in only 6 responses overall. One respondent commented “The collection of the Library includes a number of maps, not yet digitized because of lack of appropriate equipment.”

“Lack of other resources”, however, was the second highest response with 19 answers. The main aggregators named were Athena (3), Europeana (3), Europeana Local (3) and Europeana Travel (3). One respondent commented “Human resources” but where not specified, it can be supposed that financial resources are also a key factor for respondents.

15 responses said “We have decided not to join”, coming from 6 different respondents for 13 different aggregators. Each respondent repeated their reason if they chose more than one aggregator. Some cited technical issues (3), lack of other resources (3) and copyright issues (1). However the primary reason given by these respondents was either a policy decision (6) or “other” (5). The comments linked to these responses show that they can be regarded together. In 4 cases, the respondent states that adding content to that aggregator should be done by someone else:

- “A task for our national Library”
- “[this institution] is not the main body responsible for audiovisual collections.”

In 8 cases, the respondent prefers to use alternative routes to aggregation. Two use TEL (directly or indirectly) and one has developed an interim aggregator which can channel content to the aggregator named:

- “Prefer to use The European Library as aggregator of [our] metadata into Europeana. Metadata submitted directly to Europeana is only a temporary phase”
- “A task for our national library (we have to go via them)”
- “[Our consortium] has developed its own aggregator; so it’s not a mere data provider. HISPANIA collects all resources which are collected by [our consortium].”

7. Benefits of participation with existing aggregators

Participants were asked the open question, “What do you see as the main benefits of participation in aggregation for your institution?” The respondents were invited to express the benefits in their own words.

The responses were grouped into several broad categories, summarised in the chart below (figure 5).

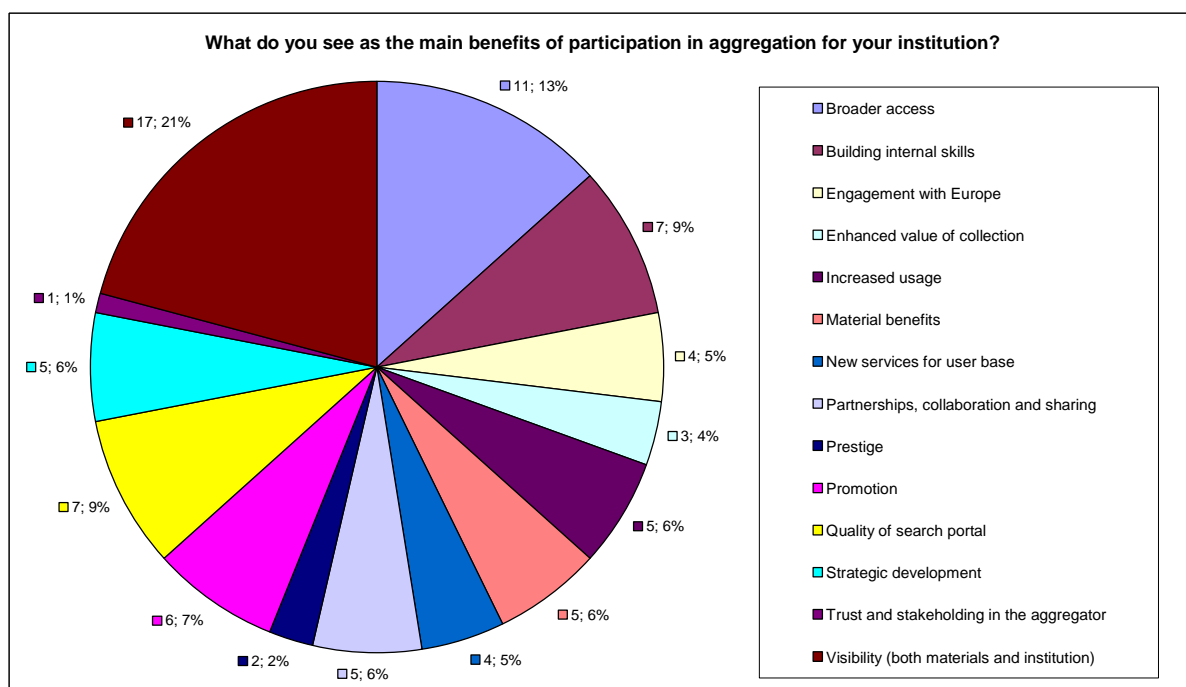


Figure 5. Benefits of aggregation

There was little difference in responses between the national and academic libraries. “Prestige” was mentioned only by academic libraries, presumably because national libraries are aware of their own prestige. “Quality of the search portal” was mentioned predominantly by national libraries who made several comments on the multi-lingual capabilities of TEL. Most of the comments on “Partnerships, collaboration and sharing” and “Strategic development” were also from national libraries. Otherwise the responses were split fairly evenly between national and academic libraries.

The full responses are given at [Appendix 1](#). Below is a representative selection:

Visibility (both materials and institution) (17)

- “Enhanced visibility for our institution and our collections”
- “Increased presence on the Web”
- “International exposure for our collections”
- “Increased visibility of national collections on European level”
- “Raising the profile of the institution and the collections”
- “Greater visibility of the library collection within an international environment”
- “Visibility of institution”
- “Visibility of data in an european context”

Broader access (11)

- “Making material available for research”
- “We see it as our task to bring content to a divers and wide audience as possible”
- “Additional access points to our data and different presentation”
- “Wider reach since it’s another point of entry for different audiences.”
- “Supporting access to relevant special collections, esp. E. Europe”
- “ability to give access to regional resources to all users (according to copyright law)”

Quality of search portal (7)

- “Easier discovery of the much richer paper collections we don’t have yet digitized”
- “achieving better searchability”
- “The European Library is a free service that offers access to the resources of the 48 national libraries of Europe in 35 languages”
- “Increased accessibility of European collections through multilingual tools for national audience”

Building internal skills (7)

- “increase of know-how“
- “Building internal experience”
- “It has been good for staff development and innovation.”
- “support and training”
- “Technical support and expertise for metadata “
- “professional support from the National Library”

Promotion (6)

- “effective global promotion”
- “better promotion for content, exhibitions, etc.”
- “Promotion of our digital library for the professional users”
- “promotion of the regional documents and of our digitisation workplace”

Partnerships, collaboration and sharing (5)

- “it is a way of sharing experiences”
- “Collaborative opportunities with partners”
- “important opportunity to develop cooperation with other national libraries in Europe and to know more about them”
- “Access to shared knowledge and best practice information on technological, metadata and other issues”

Increased collection usage (5)

- “gaining more traffic to virtual collections, exhibitions and content”
- “increase of library collection usage”
- “Increased use of content”

Material benefits (5)

- “Additional funding through projects”
- “Digitisation funding and curatorial benefits”
- “safeguard and preservation of valuable regional materials (newspapers, journals, books) printed on an acidic paper”
- “possibility to gain financial support from the Ministry of Culture”

Strategic development (5)

- “An important driving force for development”
- “Inspiration and motivation to push national scale projects”
- “Development of industry wide standards”
- “coordination of digitisation “
- “investigating new services and possibilities in the technological world”

New services for user base (4)

- “developing better services: collaborative connotations for users”
- “Ability to give access to other resources to our users”

Engagement with Europe (4)

- “Contact with national and European endusers.”
- “Being part of the EC co-financed project and the network.”
- “connecting with different institutions, libraries, archives etc. all over Europe”
- “Participating in a European-wide initiative of great public value (both at home, in Europe and globally)”

Enhanced value of collection (3)

- “The value of our digital collections is enhanced because it may be used and reused in different contexts and by varying user communities.”
- “Giving more relevance and popularity to our collections.”
- “Complementary collections“

Prestige (2)

- “We consider being part of Europeana improves the reputation of our institution.”

Trust and stakeholding in the aggregator (1)

- “The European Library is a self-financing and sustainable aggregator. We have worked with them for 5 years and are part of its governance. We only have to worry about one workflow into it.”

8. Development for existing aggregators

Respondents who already contribute to aggregators were asked to suggest additional or improved outcomes. Only 15 respondents answered this question, perhaps indicating general satisfaction with the status quo amongst those who left the question unanswered.

The responses were in free text but they fall into common themes, summarised below (figure 6).

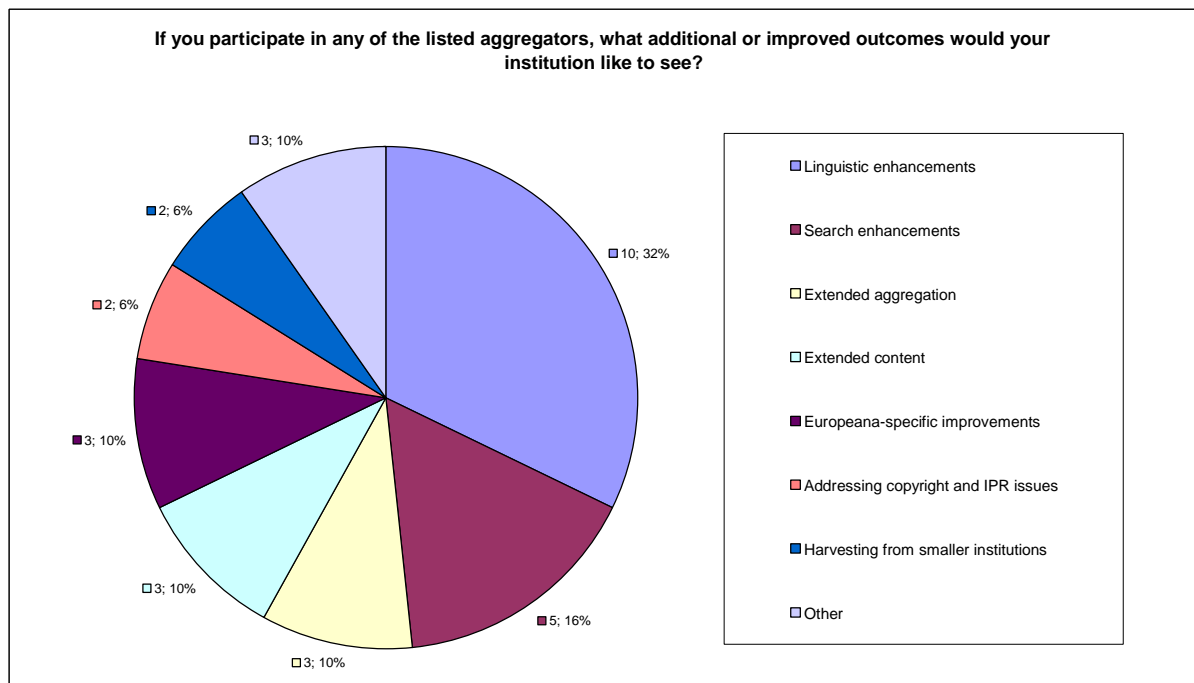


Figure 6. Improvements for aggregation

The most common request is for linguistic enhancement, which gained 10 comments of which 5 specified multilinguality. There were no comments from academic libraries on extended content, extended aggregation or copyright issues; but otherwise responses were evenly split between national and academic libraries. Full responses are in [Appendix 1](#) but a representative selection is below.

Linguistic enhancements (10)

- “Improved multilingual access tools, including search”
- “Diminishing the isolation of unique language content (such as Hungarian, for example)”
- “Semantic search”
- “Faultless display of multilingual metadata:
Multilingual content, mainly characters other than normal Latin ones (such as Greek characters), do not appear correctly in several aggregators.”
- “To make all the content of the European library portal available in Turkish”

Search enhancements (5)

- “Faceting”
- “Relevance”
- “Easier tools to provide access to our content to a wide variety of users, platforms, services (e.g. mobile services)”
- “Deduplication of metadata:
Harvesting is taking place by more than one OAI harvesters. This means that one single record-item from an institutional repository can be harvested by more aggregators, which are later harvested by others. The result is that the original single record appears in multiple instances-copies within a single (let’s say) third generation aggregator and this happens to more than one aggregators. Deduplication is needed in a certain phase of the procedure.”
- “Image thumbnails, most needed for documents such as old maps.”

Extended aggregation (3)

- “For The European Library: Feeding into other services such as Europeana”
- “The aggregation of current information located on research repositories.”

Extended content (3)

- “Visibility and content connected in (Pan)European context”
- “To have digital object in Turkish in TEL”
- “cross-domain coverage”

Comments specific to Europeana (3)

- “We would like to see Europeana be more hospitable to user-generated content.”
- “We would also like it to have a sustainable business model.”
- “So far the focus of Europeana was too much centered on national libraries”

Addressing copyright, IPR and orphan works (2)

- “To explore different solutions for the digitization and accessibility to the material under copyright or orphan works”
- “Common access gateway to copyright clearance services”

Harvesting from smaller institutions (2)

- “We feel that the threshold for smaller institutions to become a data provider to an aggregator generally is high. Publicly funded aggregators ought to provide an infrastructure especially for those smaller institutions that are not able to publish their holdings based only on their own resources.”
- “providing services for smaller institutions, that enables them to share their data (e.g. mapping, conversion, thesauri)”

Finally, three individual responses corresponding to “other” in the chart:

- “To increase the usage of the TEL”
- “Additional visibility for national **sponsors of digitisation** on European level”
- “Cooperation on digitisation of items of national importance located in repositories of other countries”

9. Benefits of Europeana

Respondents were asked which of the potential benefits of Europeana they find most attractive. Only two respondents left this question unanswered. Of those who responded, the majority selected more than one benefit, with two selecting all the benefits listed. The chart below (figure 7) shows the number of respondents for each potential benefit.

By far the most attractive potential benefit of Europeana to the respondents is international exposure for their collections. 84% of the 37 respondents selected this answer. This is consistent with section 7 where visibility was the top benefit from participation with existing aggregators. Cross-domain

coverage was important to 57% of respondents and 54% were attracted by having a new distribution channel resulting in more traffic. Just over half (51% of respondents) like Europeana’s multilingual search. Almost as popular were effective promotion by Europeana (46%), enabling users’ access to external resources (46%) and the bringing together of different formats of content (43%). Only 24% of respondents were interested in enhancing their own portal to enable access to Europeana. The lowest response (16%) was for the ability to get back enriched metadata eg with language knowledge in the metadata.

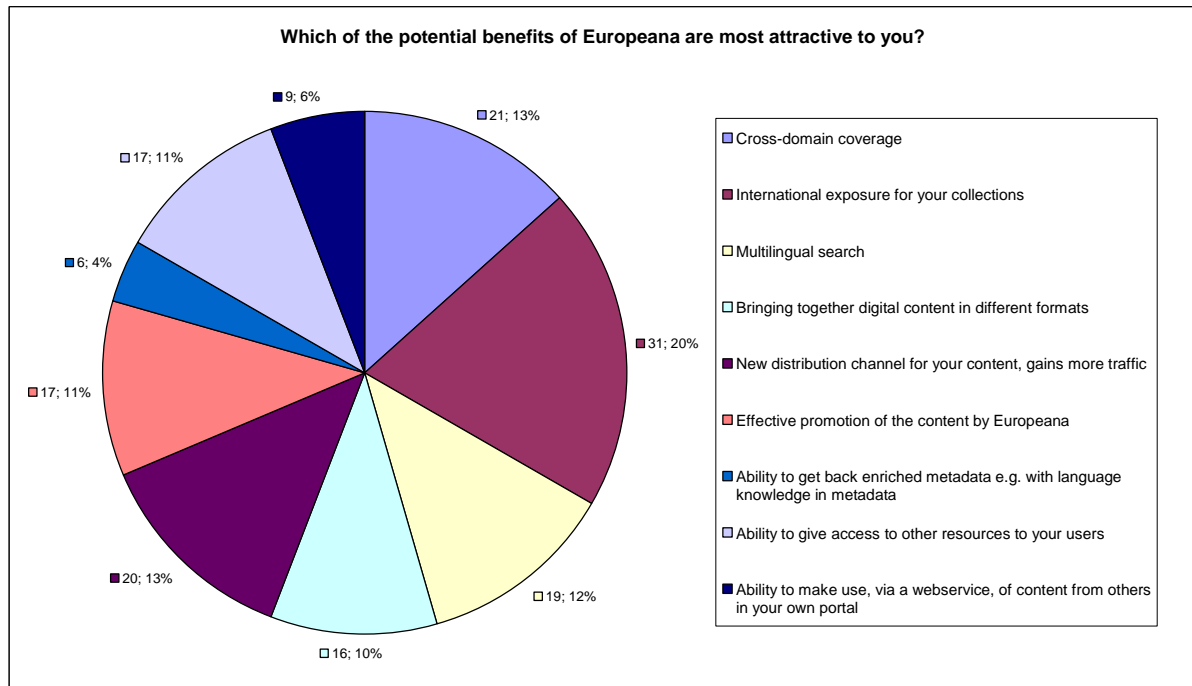


Figure 7. Benefits of Europeana

In addition to the fixed choices, respondents were also invited to make comments. A noteworthy comment challenged the notion that Europeana may bring benefits to a national library:

“Actual benefits from Europeana are limited - there could be a counter-argument that, given our size and brand, we should deal directly with Google, Wikipedia etc.

Europeana needs national and domain aggregators to make its task easier as an aggregator of aggregators, but we worry about the sustainability of Europeana itself and the aggregators below – nobody likes to pay twice.

The relationship between Europeana and the World Digital Library needs to be explored.”

10. Aggregation needs

Respondents were invited to propose new aggregations to meet their needs. Few participants (10) answered this question, making 16 suggestions in all. The low response partly reflects the fact that a third of respondents (the national libraries) already have TEL available as an aggregator, and among the others it is perhaps an indication of general satisfaction with services already available.

The responses given suggest that the question was ambiguously-worded. One interpretation was for new areas where there is no present aggregation. Another interpretation was to name existing services or portals, with the implication that they might be developed to become aggregators for

Europeana or others. Both interpretations are given in the table below (table 3). The responses to this question should be read in conjunction with those from Q.5.

Most respondents indicated Europe-wide coverage. The subject-related themes proposed are Art, History of technology, Social sciences/humanities and Women's education. Other suggestions define the aggregator by material type: two respondents suggested an aggregation of historic journals and newspapers, and existing portals for manuscripts and early printed books are suggested as potential contributors for Europeana.

The most common theme is that of Research. Two respondents suggest aggregating content from academic and research libraries, one mentioning Europe-wide or international participation, and the other specifically mentioning cultural content from those libraries. The latter would be ideally suited for aggregation into Europeana, given its scope for cultural heritage. Several respondents also indicated an interest in the aggregation of current research activity, including primary data and published output, and two existing portals (Recolecta in Spain, and DART-Europe) were suggested.

Table 3. Suggested new aggregators

We are interested in identifying gaps in the provision of aggregation services that could be of value to the LIBER community, both from a stakeholder and a user perspective.		
Using the table below, please outline any <u>new aggregations</u> that you would like to propose.		
Domain	Geographic coverage	Scope of aggregator
Art		What about coverage of collections which may be under the responsibility of other parts of the organization eg. Picture Gallery and Royal Holloway Art Collection
Libraries	Europe-wide	History of technology
Cross domain	Central-Eastern Europe	Social sciences and humanities with multilingual search option
ALM	Europe	historic newspapers
Old European Journals	Europe	
Women's education	Europe	
Education	European	Aggregating data about alumni communities across europe
Academic and research libraries	Europe but open to international participation	
Library	Europe	All research libraries' cultural content
Scientific institutions and libraries	Europe	Primary source research data
Science, Research	European	Aggregating data about research activities and its results throughout Europe
Research Libraries	Spain	Current research in the Universities of Spain. For instance, Recolecta.
Library	Europe	Open Access research e-theses: DART-Europe content

<p>Cross-domain</p> <p>http://www.danpa.dk/</p>	<p>Denmark</p>	<p>History</p> <p>Danish private archives from a variety of persons, societies, organizations, institutions, businesses, companies etc. are collected and preserved by a great number of cultural institutions. This ensures fairly comprehensive coverage at the collecting stage, but may make it more difficult for users quickly to get a general view of the existing material and to identify the institution(s) in possession of the required material.</p> <p>The Private Archives Committee, founded by the Danish Ministry of Cultural Affairs, has established as a high priority its desire to promote access to this valuable accumulation of knowledge within multiple repositories documenting private organizations and lives in Denmark.</p>
<p>Libraries</p> <p>http://cerl.epc.uu.se/sportal/?lang=en</p>	<p>Europe</p>	<p>History. Codicology</p> <p><u>Manuscripts:</u></p> <p>The CERL Portal provides access to distributed databases containing manuscripts materials, printed works, photographic material and other special materials. The focus lies on manuscripts materials, but the Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB) and the English Short-Title Catalogue can be included in the search as well. Databases that are included are either 'harvested', i.e. the records have been collected from its original database and stored in an integrated, local index, or are accessed 'on the fly' – the records are collected through a live connection. The portal, which has been developed by the Electronic Publishing Centre of the University Library of Uppsala in Sweden (EPC), offers simultaneous searches in either all databases, or in a selection of one or more. More databases will be added in the near future, making this search portal a useful instrument for those researching manuscripts and other early written materials.</p>
<p>Libraries</p> <p>http://www.cerl.org/web/en/resources/hpb/main</p>	<p>Europe</p>	<p>History. Codicology</p> <p><u>Printed books:</u></p> <p>The Heritage of the Printed Book Database now contains just under three million records of books from the beginning of printing to the middle of the 19th century. Searches are across the files provided by the 22 institutions listed below. Every year further files are added, while others are updated. Most files consist of high-level bibliographical records, created by book-in-hand cataloguing. Some of the files are created in retroconversion projects, and gradually replaced by sections with improved records.</p>

11. Willingness to pay

Respondents were asked whether they would be willing in principle to pay for aggregation services. Results are shown in the chart below (figure 8). Those who indicated willingness to pay are outnumbered over two to one. 8 (21%) said YES and 19 (48%) said NO. 12 respondents (31%) did not answer this question, but that did not necessarily indicate that they held no opinion: several went on to make comments which indicated that a Yes/No choice was too clear-cut and neither option could be ruled out.

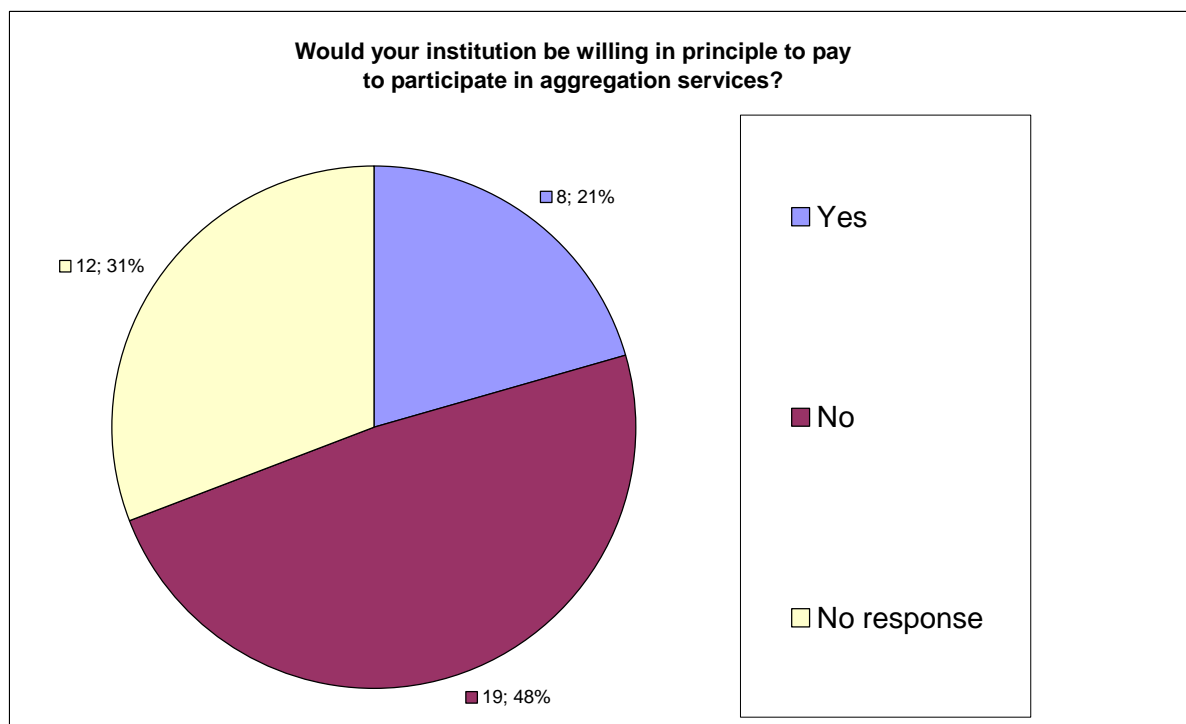


Figure 8. Willingness to pay

The comments made by those respondents who left the Yes/No answer blank tended to focus on costs and benefits or an indecision in present circumstances:

- [Neither yes nor no] "Yes if the cost is reasonable and justified."
- [Neither yes nor no] "No, unless we obtain a clear benefits (traffic, resources,..)"
- [Neither yes nor no] "We feel that our commitment should be toward the selection / acquisition of valuable resources, eligible to be included into an aggregation services. Such activities is definitely time/resources intensive, but it's part our mission. We guess that any aggregator willing to be paid, should be able to show – in advance - it's own unique value proposition or the saving which will be provided to contributing institutions."
- [Neither yes nor no] "Not in the short term."
- [Neither yes nor no] "Maybe, I am not sure."

Of the 8 respondents who indicated willingness to pay, only one was an unqualified YES. Two respondents clarified by saying they are referring to their existing subscription to TEL:

- [Yes] "We already pay to participate in The European Library"

- [Yes] “[We are] already paying an annual fee to The Europeana Library, but would not be willing to pay for any other services. “

Others clarified on the grounds of cost:

- [Yes] “But this could only be a small contribution in view of current financial climate”
- [Yes] “YES in principle but unfortunately in the current economic climate, it is very unlikely that library budgets could extend to providing funding for aggregation services.”
- [Yes] “In theory I agree with the payment, in practice it has to be carefully examined how much the contribution is and how it is calculated.”
- [Yes] “Subject to resources; and we would have to look closely at the costs and benefits before reaching a decision”

Another needed demonstrable benefits:

- [Yes] “Depending on the “revenue” plan of “investment”. Although we are not looking for getting money back from our investment (read “participation fee”), we are looking for the benefits we’ll have participation to such aggregation activities. For example, participating in Europeana *Travel* and paying a fee to it, we’d like to know if we can attract more tourists to Romanian cultural sites (e.g. Fortified Churches in Transylvania or Moldavian Monasteries, etc).”

Respondents who said NO, they are not willing to pay for aggregation, were less likely to expand on their reasoning. 11 recorded a categorical “No” without comment. Of the 8 respondents who did comment, several echoed points made by others about costs and already paying for aggregation:

- [No] “No funds for that.”
- [No] “We already pay a subscription to The European Library but would be unwilling to support other aggregators financially.”
- [No] “No. We already pay to DANPA and CERL and CENL”

The remaining 5 made a reasoned objection to the principle of paying:

- [No] “That is not a sustainable financial model for our institution.”
- [No] “Aggregators should be available without fees. Otherwise many smaller institutions will be excluded.”
- [No] “payment for an aggregation service is an outdated business model”
- [No] “The libraries already carry quite a lot of the digitisation costs on their main budget - for infrastructure development, mass digitisation programs and/or human resources, although quite often the burden is shared with some kind of special program budget, either national or European. We feel that content providers are usually more givers than takers regarding aggregation services, therefore it would be unfair to require any additional funding for participation in aggregation services.”
- [No] “No need to, our OAI stream is open and so should be any aggregator using our data.”

12. Funding of new aggregators

Respondents interested in the development of new aggregation services were asked how they envisage that the development and sustained running of such services would be funded. Fixed choices were offered, and the responses are shown in the chart below (figure 9). 10 respondents did not answer the question, possibly indicating they are not interested in the development of new aggregation services. Of the 29 respondents who answered this question, most selected two or more

of the possible choices. Few respondents were happy to see advertising on a search portal. The majority of respondents believe that new aggregation services should be funded by the EU, and this was commonly selected in conjunction with national or Europeana funding.

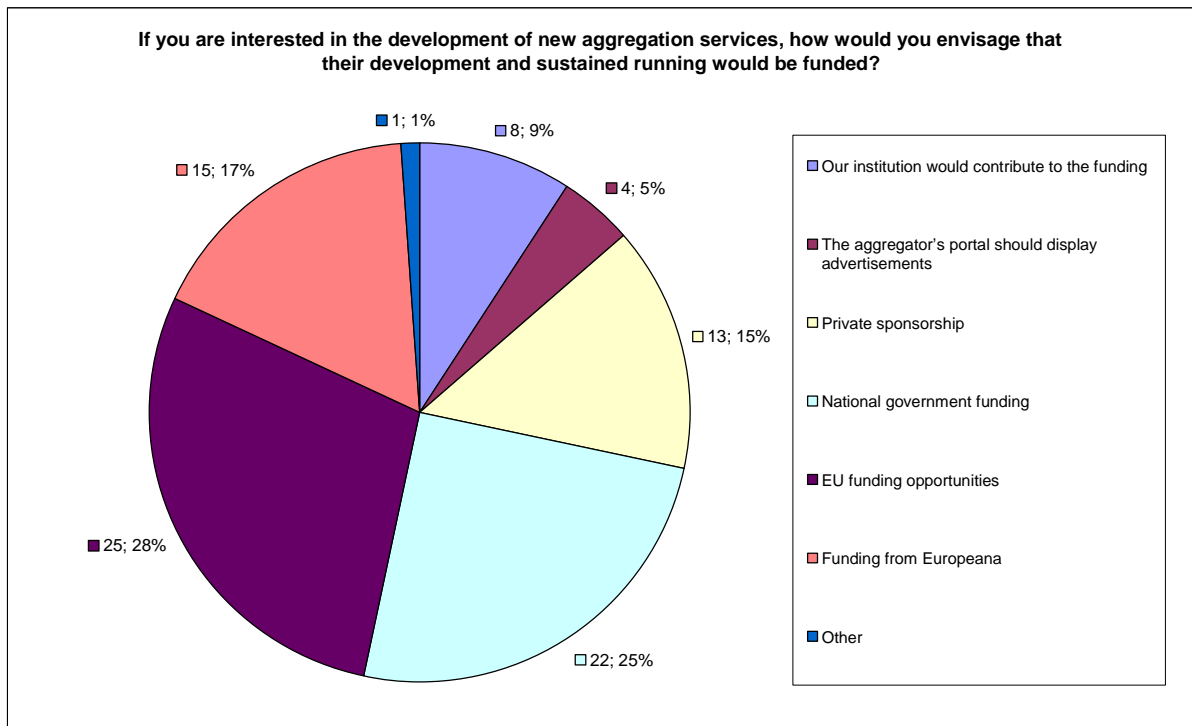


Figure 9. Funding for new aggregators

The respondent who selected “Other” qualified with this comment:

- “Depending on the target of the aggregator the main responsibility of funding must be assume by the organization that promote the development of the aggregator.”

There were four other comments. Sustainability is a key issue identified, and another respondent had some insightful remarks about sponsorship.

- “As for an efficient aggregation service is very expensive multisource funding is needed.”
- “Long-term sustainability is important so Europeana and project-based funding are unrealistic. So probably is national government funding in [this country]. All forms of membership, sponsorship, advertising should therefore be considered.”
- “Funding model needs to be sustainable, and this can only be guaranteed via support at national and European level.”
- “In case of national government funding it should be matched by EU/Europeana funding in best case scenario. In case of private sponsorship it should not affect the scope and depth of aggregation, e.g., sponsors should not be able to decide (at least single-handedly) on the content. Some advertisement could be allowed in case of private sponsorship, but it must be strictly regulated; in any case the service should not be turned into general service advertisement platform. If content providers are able to attract national level sponsors for digitisation projects, their support must be properly attributed on both collection and item level also on the aggregator.”

Appendix 1. Full Text Responses

Where responses to the questions are summarised in the report, the full text responses are reproduced here. They have been anonymised but are otherwise verbatim.

6. If you have eligible content for any of the aggregators listed above, but do not contribute to it/them, why do you not contribute?

For each aggregator, please select any that apply. Please repeat for as many aggregators as are relevant.

[none listed]

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Technical reasons / lack of technical resources

Athena

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Lack of other resources

Copyright issues

Athena

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Lack of other resources

Athena

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Athena

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join

Athena

We have decided not to join

Technical reasons / lack of technical resources

Lack of other resources

BHL-Europe

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join

DIGMAP

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Lack of other resources

Copyright issues

DIGMAP

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Lack of other resources

DIGMAP

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

DIGMAP

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

DIGMAP

We have decided not to join

Policy decision

“Prefer to use The European Library as aggregator of [our] metadata into Europeana. Metadata submitted directly to Europeana is only a temporary phase.”

DIGMAP

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
"The collection of the Library includes a number of maps, not yet digitized because of lack of appropriate equipment."

DIGMAP

We have decided not to join
Other issues
“A task for our national Library”

DISMARC

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

EbooksonDemand

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
We were not aware of the aggregator in question
"To be investigated for 1000 books free of copyright published before 1800. Financing has been arranged for digitization which is estimated to be completed on June 2010."

EbooksonDemand

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
Copyright issues

EbooksonDemand

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
“Not high priority”

EbooksonDemand

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

EbooksonDemand

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

EbooksonDemand

We have decided not to join
Policy decision
“Prefer to use The European Library as aggregator of [our] metadata into Europeana. Metadata submitted directly to Europeana is only a temporary phase.”

EFG

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
Copyright issues

EFG

We have decided not to join
Policy decision
“[Our institution] is not the main body responsible for audiovisual collections.”

Europeana

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
Copyright issues

Europeana

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources

Europeana

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
"Not high priority"

Europeana

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
"We are providing our metadata through the DLF (Polish digital libraries federation)"

Europeana

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
"Sets have been provided and are awaiting harvesting"

Europeana

We have decided not to join
Other issues
"A task for our national library (we have to go via them)"

Europeana

Policy decision
"See HISPANIA."

Europeana (all flavours)

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
"We tried badly to contact them in order to provide our OAI data but nothing happened"

Europeana Connect

We have decided not to join
Policy decision
"[Our institution] is not the main body responsible for audiovisual collections."

Europeana Local

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
Copyright issues

Europeana Local

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources

Europeana Local

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
"Not high priority"

Europeana Local

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Europeana Local

We have decided not to join
Other issues
"A task for our national library (we have to go via them)"

Europeana Travel

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources

Copyright issues

Europeana Travel

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources
"Not high priority"

Europeana Travel

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Europeana Travel

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
"We have not yet delivered any material"

Europeana Travel

We have decided not to join
Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
Lack of other resources

Europeana Travel

"We understood that this was only open to participants within the framework of a EU funded project that Swiss institutions could not join. If this is not the case, we would be interested."

EUScreen

We have decided not to join
Policy decision
"[Our institution] is not the main body responsible for audiovisual collections."

Geheugen van Nederland

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join

Hispana

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join

Hispana

We have decided not to join
Copyright issues
"We join Hispana but some of the collections we are digitizing are not in the public domain and we are negotiating copyright and privacy rights."

Hispana

Policy decision
"Consortio Madroño has developed its own aggregator; so it's not a mere data provider. HISPANIA collects all resources which are collected by Consortio Madroño. "

JUDAICA

We were not aware of the aggregator in question

Kulturpool

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
"Although Kulturpool is described as aggregator for museums, libraries and archives on the website, so far only museums have contributed content. ?!?!"

Michael

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join

Michael

We have decided not to join
Other issues
"A task for our national library (we have to go via them)"

Michael

We have decided not to join
Lack of other resources
“Human resources.”

Neumann Kht.

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
We have decided not to join
Technical reasons / lack of technical resources

The European Archive

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Lack of other resources

The European Archive

We were not aware of the aggregator in question
Technical reasons / lack of technical resources

The European Library

We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
“As a recent member of Europeana we are at the early stages of planning to contribute via TEL”

The European Library

We have decided not to join
Other issues
“A task for our national library (we have to go via them)”

7. If you participate in any of the listed aggregators, what do you see as the main benefits of participation for your institution?

Please list the main benefits here.

[National and regional respondents]

The European Library is a self-financing and sustainable aggregator. We have worked with them for 5 years and are part of its governance. We only have to worry about one workflow into it. It also has extensive multi-linguality. It has been good for staff development and innovation.

Our institution is aggregator.

Additional access points to our data and different presentation
Enhanced visibility for our institution and our collections
Complementary collections
Technical support and expertise for metadata

[Our institution] participates in the Kramerius program coordinated by the National Library of the Czech Republic. The results of our digitisation activities can be seen at <http://camea.svkos.cz>.

The main benefits:

- safeguard and preservation of valuable regional materials (newspapers, journals, books) printed on an acidic paper
- ability to give access to regional resources to all users (according to copyright law – materials under the protection of copyright act are accessible only to users using PC located at our premises)
- promotion of the regional documents and of our digitisation workplace
- professional support from the National Library of the Czech Republic
- possibility to gain financial support from the Ministry of Culture

The main benefits are to increase the visibility and use of our digital collection. As the same time, it is a way of sharing experiences and of investigating new services and possibilities in the technological world

1) [Our institution] mainly participates in the aggregator TEL: Main benefits:

-) making content available through various additional channels
-) connecting with different institutions, libraries, archives etc. all over Europe
-) gaining more traffic to virtual collections, exhibitions and content
-) getting more international exposure
-) developing new services for users
-) better promotion for content, exhibitions, etc.

2) Kulturpool: Main benefits:

-) gaining better visibility in Austria
-) achieving better searchability
-) developing better services: collaborative connotations for users
 - Building internal experience
 - Access to shared knowledge and best practice information on technological, metadata and other issues
 - Inspiration and motivation to push national scale projects
 - Additional funding through projects
 - Development of industry wide standarts
 - Increased visibility of national collections on European level
 - Increased accessibility of European collections through multilingual tools for national audience

Raising the profile of the institution and the collections

Wider access to and greater use of our digitised collections

Participating in a European-wide initiative of great public value (both at home, in Europe and globally)

Collaborative opportunities with partners

Promoting broader access to the library

We have completed our integration to the European Library as a means of catalogue records. And we are planning to put some digital contents to the European Library. The European Library is a free service that offers access to the resources of the [48](#) national libraries of Europe in [35 languages](#) including Turkish. It is so important for our researchers to search [48](#) national libraries catalogue records and digital content in local language. And it is also provide very important opportunity to develop cooperation with other national libraries in Europe and to know more about them.

Cultura.hr

- national portal of digital content with cross-domain coverage
- coordination of digitisation
- support and training

Visibility of data in an european context

[Academic respondents]

Visibility, contact with a national and European endusers.

Being part of the EC co-financed project and the network.

Increased presence on the Web

Easier discovery of the much richer paper collections we don't have yet digitized

We see it as our task to bring content to a divers and wide audience as possible

Not relevant yet.

- The main benefits are a better promotion and visibility of our holdings.
- We consider being part of Europeana improves the reputation of our institution.

- The value of our digital collections is enhanced because it may be used and reused in different contexts and by varying user communities.

An important driving force for development
 Good contact and cooperation with partners
 Good learning and sharing experience

Giving more relevance and popularity to our collections.

Exposure of collections to as wide an audience as possible.

Making material available for research

International exposure for our collections
 Ability to give access to other resources to our users
 Effective promotion of the content
 New services for our uses

The main benefits for us are: creating a new distribution channel for our digital content, international exposure and effective global promotion.

- Visibility of the contents for the users
- Promotion of our digital library for the professional users

Digitization funding
 Greater visibility of the library collection within an international environment
 increase of library collection usage,
 increase of know-how

Wider reach since it's another point of entry for different audiences.

- Increased use of content
- Prestige

Digitisation funding and curatorial benefits.
 Visibility of institution.
 Supporting access to relevant special collections, esp. E. Europe

8. If you participate in any of the listed aggregators, what additional or improved outcomes would your institution like to see?

(Examples might include technical features such as metadata enrichment or multilingual search, or other outcomes such as the channelling of your content into different services.)

Please list the additional outcomes, if any, that you would like to see from your participation in aggregation services.

[National and regional respondents]

We would like to see Europeana be more hospitable to user-generated content.
 We would also like it to have a sustainable business model.

- multilingual search
- channeling our content into different services
- cross-domain coverage

Visibility and content connected in (Pan)European context

Our institution is aggregator.

Multilingual search

Faceting

Relevance

For The European Library: Feeding into other services such as Europeana

- Common access gateway to copyright clearance services
- Improved multilingual access tools, including search
- Additional visibility for national sponsors of digitisation on European level
- Cooperation on digitisation of items of national importance located in repositories of other countries

- A multilingual access
- To explore different solutions for the digitization and accessibility to the material under copyright or orphan works
- The aggregation of current information located on research repositories.

For Future perspective;

- To have digital object in Turkish in TEL
- To make all the content of the European library portal available in Turkish
- To increase the usage of the TEL

Etc.

- provision of technical and semantical service
- providing services for smaller institutions, that enables them to share their data (e.g. mapping, conversion, thesauri)

[Academic respondents]

Multilingual search

Diminishing the isolation of unique language content (such as Hungarian, for example)

Image thumbnails, most needed for documents such as old maps.

[1] Deduplication of metadata.

Harvesting is taking place by more than one OAI harvesters. This means that one single record-item from an institutional repository can be harvested by more aggregators, which are later harvested by others. The result is that the original single record appears in multiple instances-copies within a single (let's say) third generation aggregator and this happens to more than one aggregators. Deduplication is needed in the a certain phase of the procedure.

[2] Faultless display of multilingual metadata.

Multilingual content, mainly characters other than normal Latin ones (such as Greek characters), do not appear correctly in several aggregators.

Visibility of our Library's digital content.

Easier tools to provide access to our content to a wide variety of users, platforms, services (e.g. mobile services)

We feel that the threshold for smaller institutions to become a data provider to an aggregator generally is high. Publicly funded aggregators ought to provide an infrastructure especially for those smaller institutions that are not able to publish their holdings based only on their own resources. So far the focus of Europeana was too much centered on national libraries.

Semantic search.

9. Which of the potential benefits of Europeana are most attractive to you?

Please select any that apply.

- 21 Cross-domain coverage
- 31 International exposure for your collections
- 19 Multilingual search
- 16 Bringing together digital content in different formats
- 20 New distribution channel for your content, gains more traffic
- 17 Effective promotion of the content by Europeana
- 6 Ability to get back enriched metadata e.g. with language knowledge in metadata
- 17 Ability to give access to other resources to your users
- 9 Ability to make use, via a webservice, of content from others in your own portal

Additional comments:

We are harvested by TEL

Actual benefits from Europeana are limited - there could be a counter-argument that , given our size and brand, we should deal directly with Google, Wikipedia etc.

Europeana needs national and domain aggregators to make its task easier as an aggregator of aggregators, but we worry about the sustainability of Europeana itself and the aggregators below – nobody likes to pay twice.

The relationship between Europeana and the World Digital Library needs to be explored.

11. Would your institution be willing in principle to pay to participate in aggregation services?

- 12 No response
- 8 Yes
- 18 No

Comments:

[Neither yes nor no] Maybe, I am not sure.

[Neither yes nor no] Not in the short term.

[Neither yes nor no] Yes if the cost is reasonable and justified.

[Neither yes nor no] No, unless we obtain a clear benefits (traffic, resources,..)

[Neither yes nor no] We feel that our commitment should be toward the selection / acquisition of valuable resources, eligible to be included into an aggregation services. Such activities is definitely time/resources intensive, but it's part our mission.

We guess that any aggregator willing to be paid, should be able to show – in advance - it's own unique value proposition or the saving which will be provided to contributing institutions.

[Yes] But this could only be a small contribution in view of current financial climate

[Yes] In theory I agree with the payment, in practice it has to be carefully examined how much the contribution is and how it is calculated.

[Yes] YES in principle but unfortunately in the current economic climate, it is very unlikely that library budgets could extend to providing funding for aggregation services.

[Yes] Subject to resources; and we would have to look closely at the costs and benefits before reaching a decision

[Yes] [Our institution] is already paying an annual fee to The Europeana Library, but would not be willing to pay for any other services.

[Yes] Depending on the “revenue” plan of “investment”. Although we are not looking for getting money back from our investment (read “participation fee”), we are looking for the benefits we’ll have participation to such aggregation activities. For example, participating in Europeana *Travel* and paying a fee to it, we’d like to know if we can attract more tourists to Romanian cultural sites (e.g. Fortified Churches in Transylvania or Moldavian Monasteries, etc).

[Yes] We already pay to participate in The European Library

[No] No funds for that.

[No] We already pay a subscription to The European Library but would be unwilling to support other aggregators financially.

[No] No. We already pay to DANPA and CERL and CENL

[No] That is not a sustainable financial model for our institution.

[No] Aggregators should be available without fees. Otherwise many smaller institutions will be excluded.

[No] payment for an aggregation service is an outdated business model

[No] The libraries already carry quite a lot of the digitisation costs on their main budget - for infrastructure development, mass digitisation programs and/or human resources, although quite often the burden is shared with some kind of special program budget, either national or European. We feel that content providers are usually more givers than takers regarding aggregation services, therefore it would be unfair to require any additional funding for participation in aggregation services.

[No] No need to, our OAI stream is open and so should be any aggregator using our data.

12. If you are interested in the development of new aggregation services, how would you envisage that their development and sustained running would be funded?

Please select any that apply and then give details in the box below.

- 8 Our institution would contribute to the funding [but see comments]
- 4 The aggregator’s portal should display advertisements
- 13 Private sponsorship
- 22 National government funding
- 25 EU funding opportunities
- 15 Funding from Europeana
- 1 Other

Please give details of suggestions for funding or sponsorship.

[other]

Depending on the target of the aggregator the main responsibility of funding must be assumed by the organization that promotes the development of the aggregator.

As for an efficient aggregation service, very expensive multisource funding is needed.

Long-term sustainability is important, so European and project-based funding are unrealistic. So probably national government funding in [our country]. All forms of membership, sponsorship, advertising should therefore be considered.

In case of national government funding, it should be matched by EU/European funding in the best case scenario. In case of private sponsorship, it should not affect the scope and depth of aggregation, e.g., sponsors should not be able to decide (at least single-handedly) on the content. Some advertising could be allowed in case of private sponsorship, but it must be strictly regulated; in any case, the service should not be turned into a general service advertising platform. If content providers are able to attract national level sponsors for digitisation projects, their support must be properly attributed on both collection and item level also on the aggregator.

Funding models need to be sustainable, and this can only be guaranteed via support at national and European level.



Appendix 2. SURVEY FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES ON AGGREGATION OF DIGITAL CONTENT

Welcome to the joint EuropeanaTravel – LIBER Aggregation Survey. You have been invited to participate as a member of LIBER. Thank you for your time and help in completing this survey.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Purpose

A Europeana aggregator collects metadata from a range of contributors and channels it into Europeana. Examples include culture.fr, which aggregates data from French museums and libraries, and The European Library, which aggregates the content of European National Libraries.

Many organisations contribute digital content to such aggregation services. This short survey is designed to identify which of LIBER's research libraries are participating in Europeana-compliant aggregators of digital content, and to identify any gaps in the availability of aggregation services to Europe's research libraries.

The results of the survey will help to inform the implementation of the 2009-2012 LIBER Strategy, especially the priority areas of digitisation and resource discovery.

Content

The survey has four main sections:

- **Your institution and your country.**
Information about your institution and aggregation activity in your country.
- **Your participation in aggregation services.**
A list of Europeana aggregators, including Europeana itself, is provided. You are asked to identify the aggregators in which you participate, and those in which you do not participate, but for which you might hold eligible content. We are also interested in your expectations from aggregation services, including Europeana.
- **Your aggregation needs.**
Your suggestions, please!
- **Funding matters.**
Information about your institution's attitudes to the funding of aggregators

There are 12 questions in total. Please answer as many of the questions as possible.

Further information

For further information about this survey, please contact Kathy Sadler, c/o the EuropeanaTravel Project, at katherine.sadler@ucl.ac.uk

How to participate

Please return your responses to this survey as an email attachment by 13 November 2009, to Kathy Sadler:

katherine.sadler@ucl.ac.uk

Your institution and your country

1. Your institution's name

Name:

2. In which country is your institution located? (select one)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Albania | <input type="checkbox"/> Germany | <input type="checkbox"/> Portugal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Armenia | <input type="checkbox"/> Greece | <input type="checkbox"/> Romania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Austria | <input type="checkbox"/> Hungary | <input type="checkbox"/> Russia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Azerbaijan | <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland | <input type="checkbox"/> Serbia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belgium | <input type="checkbox"/> Ireland | <input type="checkbox"/> Slovakia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bosnia and Herzegovina | <input type="checkbox"/> Italy | <input type="checkbox"/> Slovenia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria | <input type="checkbox"/> Latvia | <input type="checkbox"/> Spain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia | <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cyprus | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithuania | <input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Czech Republic | <input type="checkbox"/> Luxembourg | <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Denmark | <input type="checkbox"/> Malta | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukraine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estonia | <input type="checkbox"/> Moldova | <input type="checkbox"/> United Kingdom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finland | <input type="checkbox"/> Montenegro | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FYR Macedonia | <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> France | <input type="checkbox"/> Norway | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Poland | |

3. If you are able to summarise the aggregation scene in your country, or have any information about aggregation activity in your country which might be of interest to LIBER, please provide it in the space below.

Information about aggregation services in your country:

Your participation in aggregation services

The table below shows a list of Europeana aggregators.

4. Which of the following aggregators already harvest your digital content?

Please tick all that apply in the "Already contribute" column.

5. For which of the aggregators to which you do not contribute do you have relevant digital content?

Please tick all that apply in the "Could contribute" column.

Aggregator	Description	Already contribute to this aggregator (√)	Could contribute to this aggregator (√)
ABM-centrum	Archives, libraries and museums in Sweden		
ABM-Utvikling Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority	local and regional Norwegian archives, libraries and museums via EuropeanaLab		
Across Limits	Maltese partner in Europeana Local and ePSIplus Public Sector Information consortium		
Athena	Access to Cultural heritage networks across Europe		
BAM Portal zu Bibliotheken, Archiven, Museen	Libraries, archives, museums and other sources in Germany		
Bernstein The memory of paper	Content for the study and history of paper		
BHL-Europe Biodiversity Heritage Library	Natural history museums, botanical gardens and other cooperating institutions		
BSZ Bibliotheksservice-Zentrum Baden-Württemberg	South-west German libraries, museums and archives		
ciMeC Institutul de Memorie Culturală	Romanian Institute for Cultural Memory		
CITER	Repository for history textbooks		
Culturalitalia	Portal to the world of Italian culture; content from Italian libraries, archives and museums		
Culture.fr	French portal for museums, genealogy, libraries		
digiCULT	Museums of Schleswig-Holstein		

Det digitale Nasjonalbiblioteket Norwegian national digital library	Digitising the National Museum's Norwegian materials and all material published in Norwegian; archiving of websites from all .no domains		
DIGMAP	Old maps		
DISMARC Discovering Music Archives	Audio content: music		
dLib.si Digitalna knjižnica Slovenije	Slovenian Digital Library		
EbooksonDemand	European books digitized on demand. Aggregates digitized copies		
EFG European Film Gateway	Films, photos, posters, drawings, sound material and text documents from film archives and cinémathèques		
Erfgoedplus.be	Belgian heritage (collections, monuments, archives, stories and traditions) from Limburg, Flemish Brabant and Louvain		
The European Archive	Archiving the web in Europe. Snapshots of government web pages, archived sound recordings, government videorecordings, archived websites		
Europeana	Aggregator of Library, Museum, Archives, Audio visual collections across Europe		
Europeana Connect	Audio content: music		
Europeana Local	Local and regional content through the European Digital Library		
Europeana Travel	Thematic portal on subject of travel in Europe		
EUScreen	Audiovisual heritage collections		
FMP Finnish Museum of Photography	Finnish photograph archive		
Gallica	Gallic digital service of Bibliothèque nationale de France		
Het Geheugen van Nederland Memory of the Netherlands	Images, recordings, film footage and texts from Dutch history		
HISPANA	Directory and harvester of digital resources in Spain		
INA.fr Institut national d'audiovisuel	Audiovisual content		
JUDAICA Jewish Urban Digital European Integrated Cultural Archive	Content from European Institutions demonstrating the Jewish contribution to the cities of Europe		

K2N Key to Nature	Biodiversity discovery site: tools for identifying species		
KMM Knowledge Management in Museums	Swedish museums and cultural heritage		
kultura.hr Croatian Cultural Heritage	Portal to Creation libraries, museums, archives, government bodies		
Kulturpool	A central portal for digitized Austrian cultural heritage		
LNB Latvijas Nacionālā bibliotēka	Latvian National Library		
MICHAEL Multi lingual inventory of cultural heritage in Europe	Collection level descriptions inventorying Europe wide cultural heritage collections		
MIMO Musical instrument museums online	Digital content and information from the collections of musical instruments held in European museums		
Neumann Kht.	Hungarian cultural and public digital content		
NKP National Library, Prague	National library of the Czech Republic		
RAA Riksantikvarieämbetet	Swedish National Heritage Board		
Scran	Cultural institutions in Scotland and the rest of the UK		
snk.sk Slovenská národná knižnica	Slovakian Digital Library		
SOCH	Swedish cultural heritage		
The European Library	Digital and non-digital content from national libraries		
VideoActive	TV history, television programmes and stills from audiovisual archives across Europe		
Vlaamsekunstcollectie Flemish Art Collection	Fine arts museums in Antwerp, Bruges and Ghent		
Have we forgotten any aggregators? Please add details below if you participate in an Europeana-feeding aggregation service which is not listed			

6. If you have eligible content for any of the aggregators listed above, but do not contribute to it/them, why do you not contribute?

For each aggregator, please select any that apply. Please repeat for as many aggregators as are relevant.

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

[Q6. continued]

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

Aggregator: _____

- We are already considering joining / negotiating to join
- We were not aware of the aggregator in question
- We have decided not to join:
 - Technical reasons / lack of technical resources
 - Lack of other resources
 - Policy decision
 - Copyright issues
 - Other issues (please specify)

Further details

7. If you participate in any of the listed aggregators, what do you see as the main benefits of participation for your institution?

Please list the main benefits here.

8. If you participate in any of the listed aggregators, what additional or improved outcomes would your institution like to see?

(Examples might include technical features such as metadata enrichment or multilingual search, or other outcomes such as the channelling of your content into different services.)

Please list the additional outcomes, if any, that you would like to see from your participation in aggregation services.

9. Which of the potential benefits of Europeana are most attractive to you?

Please select any that apply.

- Cross-domain coverage
- International exposure for your collections
- Multilingual search
- Bringing together digital content in different formats
- New distribution channel for your content, gains more traffic.
- Effective promotion of the content by Europeana
- Ability to get back enriched metadata e.g. with language knowledge in metadata
- Ability to give access to other resources to your users
- Ability to make use, via a webservice, of content from others in your own portal

Additional comments:

Your aggregation needs

10. We are interested in identifying gaps in the provision of aggregation services that could be of value to the LIBER community, both from a stakeholder and a user perspective.

Using the table below, please outline any new aggregations that you would like to propose.

Where applicable, please specify the domain (for instance libraries, museums, archives, or cross-domain), the geographic coverage (for instance regional, national, Europe-wide) and the scope or main purpose of the aggregator (for instance, history of science; video; etc.)

Please extend the table to include as many suggestions for new aggregations as you feel to be appropriate.

Domain	Geographic coverage	Scope of aggregator

Funding

11. Would your institution be willing in principle to pay to participate in aggregation services?

YES / NO

Comments:

12. If you are interested in the development of new aggregation services, how would you envisage that their development and sustained running would be funded?

Please select any that apply and then give details in the box below.

- Our institution would contribute to the funding
- The aggregator's portal should display advertisements
- Private sponsorship
- National government funding
- EU funding opportunities
- Funding from Europeana
- Other

Please give details of suggestions for funding or sponsorship.

Thank you for the time you have taken to complete this survey.

Please return the survey as an email attachment **by 13 November 2009**, to Kathy Sadler:

Email: katherine.sadler@ucl.ac.uk