

European Digital Library initiative and CENL

EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting, Reykjavik,
Iceland, 11-12 May 2007

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European Digital Library History

- December 2004: Google library
- European counter-initiative (Jean-Noël Jeanneney, President BnF)
- April 2005: Letter to President of the European Council (Jacques CHIRAC , Aleksander KWASNIEWSKI, Gerhard SCHROEDER, Silvio BERLUSCONI, José Luis Rodriguez ZAPATERO, Ferenc GYURCSANY)

EDL and CENL

- October 2005: Viviane Reding announces an i2010 flagship initiative on digital libraries referring to CENL and The European Library
- Immediately after: CENL welcomes with enthusiasm the Communication i2010 and shares the vision of an EDL
- In early 2006: The High Level Expert Group starts its work
- In August 2006: Recommendations of the Commission to the Member States
- 13 November 2006: Council Conclusions on the Digitisation and Online Accessibility of Cultural Material and Digital Preservation

- The CENL Executive Committee proposed a pragmatic approach to speed up the process with The European Library as an intermediate structure for a European digital library for the time being

The European Library

- Offering uniform access to the digital and non-digital resources of national libraries in Europe
- A model for a technical platform and organisational network of cooperation for national heritage organisations
- Will have 31 full members by the end of 2007

The European Library has achieved many of its ambitions and goals in the last year

The European Library together with the other partners was part of the very successful EU funded project TEL-ME-MOR. All the New Member States national libraries were brought in according to the implementation plan and several other goals were achieved. All TEL-ME-MOR members are now full members of The European Library.

EDLproject

- In September 2006 a new project also funded by the EU started: EDLproject
- it brings the remaining EU and EFTA member states' National Libraries as full members in The European Library
- Two further project proposals under eContentplus, TELplus and EDLnet, have been accepted by the EU

TELplus

- TELplus (Thematic Network) aims to add more content to The European Library through OCRing and OAI compliancy as well as dealing with issues of access, translation and service. It adds Bulgaria and Romania to The European Library. The start date is likely to be September 2007.

EDLnet

- EDLnet is a thematic network that will be run by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands, and The European Library with help from Eremo. It aims to create the organisational and governance environment to build the European digital library.

Pilot (web 2.0)

- Proposal for Pilot to use an external service to share collection descriptions - *National Libraries and Sharing Environments*
- This is a proposal for The European Library to experiment with hosting its collection descriptions on the *Silkworm platform*

EC and building the EDL

Three critical areas of action:

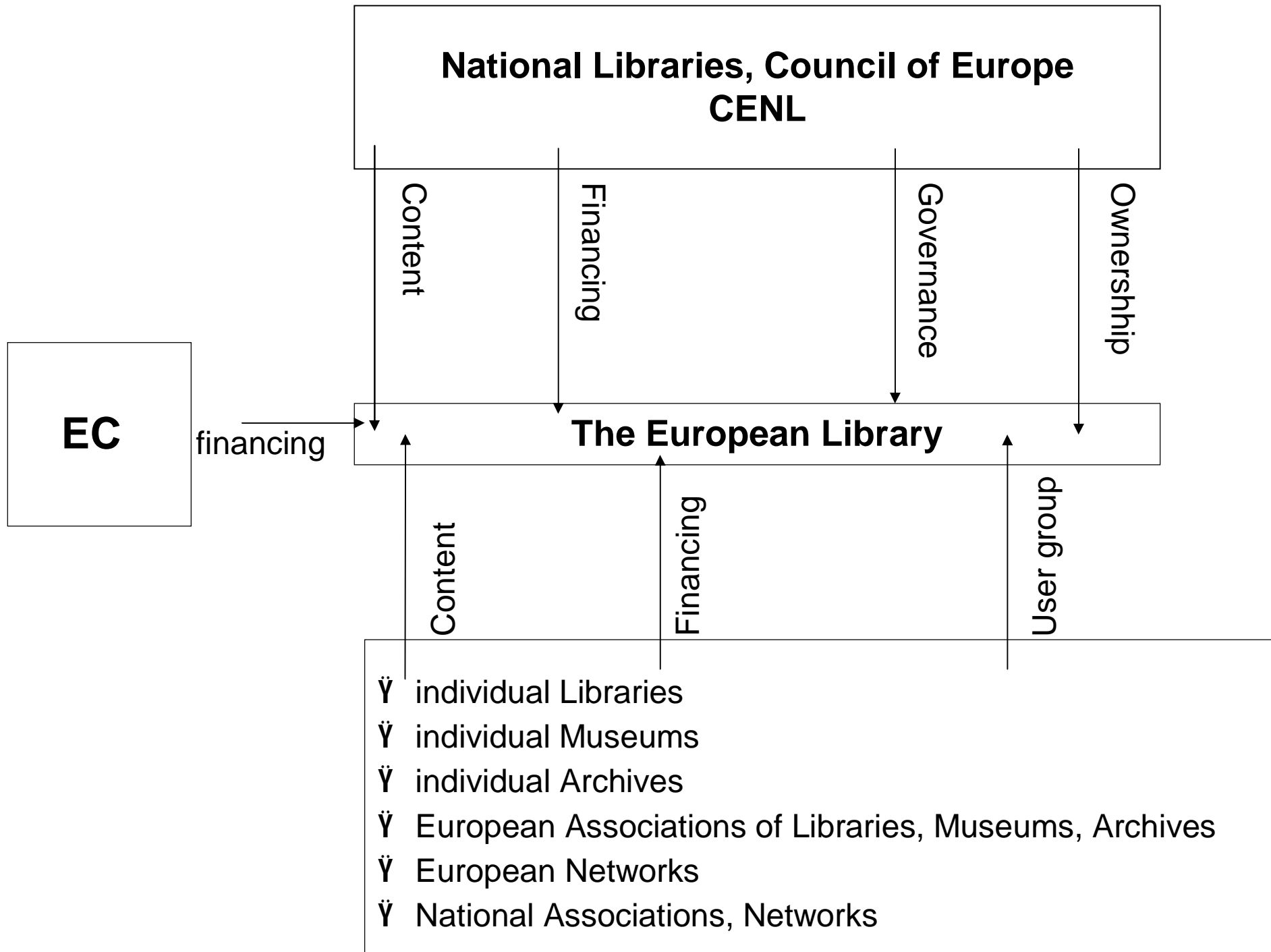
- Cross – domain collaboration
- Interoperability and multilingual access
- Creating a critical mass

CENL and The European Library

“CENL and the European Library office are preparing the organisational grounds for implementing the European Digital Library in line with the Council conclusions of last November. They will take governance and associated organisational models as a first priority, ensuring to include archives and museums” (Horst Forster, 21 February 2007)

Requirements for the EDL

- Content from libraries, archives and museums
- Digitisation: selection and funding
- Online-access via PPP for digitisation, accessibility of works within copyright and technical innovations
- Multilingualism
- Digital long-term preservation and archiving
- Technical interoperability
- Semantic interoperability

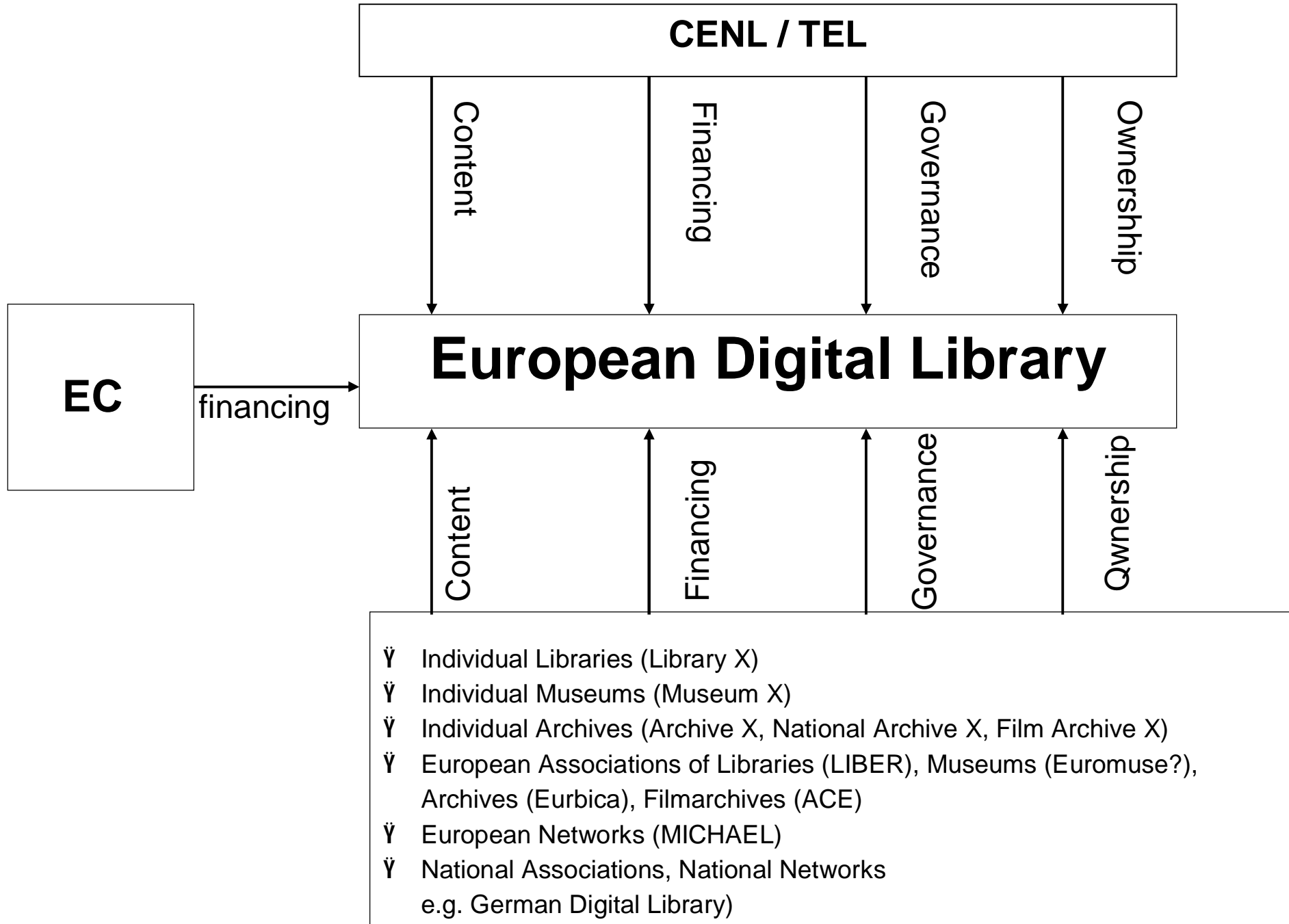


BUT!

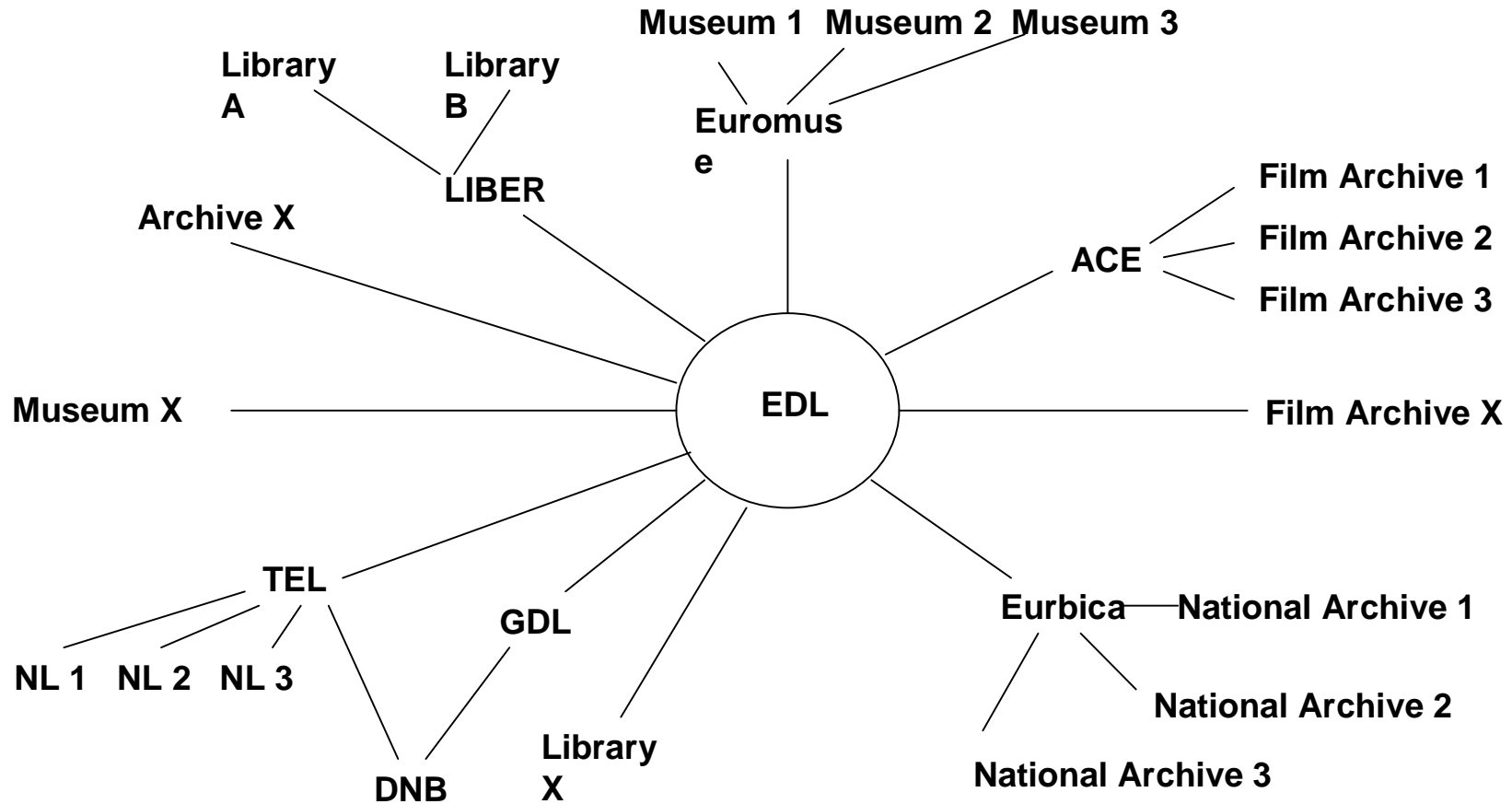
- The European Commission wants a separate legal entity soon!
- EC wants to have an organisation to which it can give funds for creating a EDL
- High Level Expert Group, Minerva and NRG are changing

New legal entity

- Best option: this entity should be founded by European organisations from the library, archive and museum sectors (same level as CENL; CENL as one of the founding members)
- Second best option: If we do not find CENL-like European organisations willing to be a founding member, individual institutions from the library, archive and museum sectors could be founding members



A structure for EDL?



Foundation for the European digital library

- NRG, Minerva and Michael+
- CENL lobbying campaign to improve our visibility at ministerial and EU level
- Mixed messages as it appears to the outside world that there are 2 European digital libraries competing with each other
- Governance of a European digital library

Objectives

The purpose of setting up a new foundation for a European digital library is two-fold:

- to facilitate formal agreement across museums, archives, audio-visual archives and libraries on how to cooperate in the delivery and sustainability of a joint portal
- to provide a legal framework for use by the EU for funding purposes and as a springboard for future governance

Participants

- Participants in the foundation are content owners and will primarily be European and national associations and consortia of heritage institutions (libraries, museums, archives, audio-visual archives).
- Under conditions (to be specified) internationally well-known institutions could participate in the foundation.
- Associate participants, not conforming to full participant criteria, are welcome, non voting additions to the Foundation.
- Every participating institution has automatically a seat in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors discusses all matters regarding the European Digital Library, including the annual budget and annual accounts.
- All participants are obliged to pay a membership fee and are expected to actively contribute to projects.
- Board of Directors decides on the level of fees

Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee has in fact the legal power in the foundation. The Executive Committee approves the annual budgets and annual accounts.
- The host organization will always have a seat on the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee will always comprise one representative from each of the 4 sectors and one from the host organization.
- Depending on the further development of the EDL, the Executive Committee could later be expanded on the basis of a formal procedure and criteria (to be established).
- The Executive Committee should have a maximum of seven members, including the Chair.
- The Executive Committee is a subset of the Board of Directors.

First activities

- Founders to work on Terms of Reference
- A new portal (Europeana) will be designed. The European Library will provide its material as the starting point. Other material would be added during the development of the EDL.

EBLIDA and the EDL

- Further co-operation with other leading library and information organisations (e.g. LIBER, IFLA, **CENL**, NAPLE, EUCLID): *Strategy 2007 – 2010*
- *EDL: Work Programme 2007*
 - > workable solutions for orphan works, out-of-print works and issues of digital preservation
 - > e-content as part of the EDL
 - > EDLnet
 - > DEG for support of open access, digital repositories and trusted federations

EBLIDA and the EDL

- Copyright, DRM
- End-users needs (esp. education, life-long learning)
- Benefit for general public (public libraries)
- Web 2.0 ideas
- EBLIDA – main lobby of archives

EBLIDA and CENL

- CENL Annual meeting in Helsinki
September 27 – 28, 2007
- EBLIDA-LIBER workshop on the
digitisation of library material in Europe (24
– 26 October 2007, Copenhagen)
- EDLnet project
- DEG - TWG

EBLIDA and CENL

Thank you!