

Romania

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A. DIGITISATION AND ONLINE ACCESSIBILITY

A1. Progress on the systematic gathering of information about current and planned digitisation of books, journals, newspapers, photographs, museum objects, archival documents, audiovisual material and the availability of overviews of such digitisation in order to prevent duplication of efforts and promote collaboration and synergies at European level.

In the August-September 2007 period, the National Library of Romania accomplished a study concerning the digitization and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation in the library system in Romania. In the first stage, the study focused on the public libraries. The study continues with the libraries from the educational system. The study devolved already existing projects:

- the National Library of Romania together with CIMEC (Apograp – The National Digital Library of Manuscripts and old books – over 150 000 pages from the Batthyaneum branch of the National Library of Romania)
- the National Academy Library (over 36 000 digital facsimiles from the “Eminescu’s Manuscripts” collection and the “Traian Vuia” Archive)
- the Metropolitan Library of Bucharest (over 5 500 pages of school bibliography)
- the “Panaite Istrati” County Library of Brăila (over 30 000 pages of Romanian literature in accordance with the school curricula)
- the County Library of Braşov – the digitalisation of the collection of “Gazeta de Transilvania” newspaper
- the Central University Library “Carol I” of Bucharest (about 20 000 pages: rare books, manuscripts, serials, current monographs).

In the first stage of the project for the Digital Library of Romania a “documentary corpus” including the documents from the special collections category (rare books, incunabula, manuscripts, photos) representative for the Romanian culture will be identified.

Also an investigation was launched to identify Romania-related digital material exposed by foreign repositories (in order to avoid re-digitisation of those materials). A webography of these materials was started at <<http://www.biblioteca-digitala.ro>>. MoCRA has already made available on-line on its own site the accomplished initiatives for the digitisation of the Romanian cultural resources, within the framework of past projects, such as Eminescu Manuscripts, Apograp Project or the Virtual Library of the Bucharest Metropolitan Library. The digitised content is available at <<http://www.cultura.ro/Documents.aspx?ID=289>>.

CIMEC continues to gather information on digital cultural material (of Romanian significance) already available online, both on Romanian websites and on foreign websites. This inventory is meant to prevent the re-digitisation of material already digitised. Further on, following the consultation process in the elaboration of the Public Policy Proposal on the Digitisation of Cultural Resources and Creation on the Digital Library of Romania, all national stakeholders – owners of cultural resources – have been invited to identify already digitised material, as well as to establish priorities for further digitisation. The main scope of the initiative has been to identify and to consolidate a representative corpus of cultural resources to be digitised in a first stage of the process.

A2. Progress on the development of quantitative targets for the digitisation of analogue material in archives, libraries and museums, indicating the expected increase in digitised material which could form part of the European Digital Library and the budgets allocated by public authorities.

Following the approval of the Public Policy Proposal on the digitisation of cultural resources and creation of the Digital Library of Romania, all the stakeholders, owners of cultural resources (the National Library of Romania with the county libraries, the Institute

for Cultural Memory [CIMEC], the National Centre of Cinematography, the National Film Archive, the National Institute of Historical Monuments and the Directorate for Museums, Collections and Governmental Granting within MoCRA) were requested to send a more refined approximation of the estimated costs over a three years period, taking into consideration:

- number of resources to be digitised
- estimation of time
- necessary equipments
- identification of training needs
- solutions for digitisation.

The information provided will help to forecast a consolidated budget for the first three years of implementation, within the broader framework of the 7 years multi-annual programme established within the public policy proposal.

A3. Progress on partnerships between cultural institutions and the private sector in order to create new ways of funding digitisation of cultural material.

Until now, in Romania, due to the limited financial and human resources of the libraries, as well as in the lack of a coherent national digitization program, there were some isolated, sporadic and small sized initiatives in the field of public-private partnerships.

Through the government approval of the public policy regarding the digitization of the Romanian cultural resources and the creation of the Romanian Digital Library, a development framework for this kind of partnerships and alternative funding is provided.

A4. Progress on the set-up and sustaining of large scale digitisation facilities.

Following the approval of the Public Policy Proposal on the Digitisation of Cultural Resources and Creation of the Digital Library of Romania, the broad action plan proposed for a 7 years programming period, was also agreed upon. In the next period, the efforts will be directed towards the implementation of the approved proposals. The multi-annual programme comprises two stages:

I. 2008-2009

- development of specific software for enriching, maintaining and updating the Romanian Digital Library

- purchase of technical infrastructure (equipment) and provide funding for digitisation
- support to local digitisation initiatives
- professional training.

II. 2010-2014

The activities of the programme can be supported up to 40% through:

- European programmes (eContent, TEL+ etc.)
- participation of Romania in European regional programmes in the digitisation area
- public-public partnerships with local authorities that hold cultural material
- public-private partnerships between MoCRA and/or local public administration structures and private entities.

A5. Progress of cultural institutions, as well as publishers and other rightholders to make their digitised material searchable through the European Digital Library. Describe in particular the progress on the application of common digitisation criteria by cultural institutions and, where relevant, private companies, in order to achieve interoperability with the European Digital Library and to facilitate cross-language searchability.

In the framework of the public policy regarding the digitization of the Romanian cultural resources, the cultural institutions that own cultural material eligible for digitization cooperate in order to set up a coherent and integrated digitization solution at a national level.

This solution takes into consideration the compliance with the requests and standards established by The European Digital Library, thus ensuring the interoperability with EDL.

The National Library of Romania, through the participation in the TELplus project, has made already the first steps in this direction, being in the integration phase of its collections in The European Library and the implementation of the specific standards. Also, as an associate partner in the Manuscriptorium and Enrich projects, the National Library of Romania has adopted all the requested standards of interoperability, which are compatible with the European Digital Library.

A6a. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of orphan works.

Following consultations organised both by the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, as well as the Romanian Copyright Office with regard to the issue of orphan works, amendments to the Copyright Law were suggested. Further consultation will follow.

A6b. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of works that are out of print or out of distribution.

Following consultations organised both by the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, as well as the Romanian Copyright Office with regard to the issue out of print or out of distribution amendments and additions to the Copyright Law were suggested. Further consultation will follow.

A6c. Progress on the availability of lists of known orphan works and works in the public domain.

Following consultations organised both by the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, as well as the Romanian Copyright Office with regard to the issue related to the availability of lists of known orphan works and works in the public domain, amendments and additions to the Copyright Law were suggested. Further consultation will follow.

A6d. Progress on the identification of barriers in your legislation to the online accessibility and subsequent use of cultural material that is in the public domain – and the steps taken to remove them.

Following consultations organised both by the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, as well as the Romanian Copyright Office with regard to the issues related to the online accessibility and subsequent use of cultural material that is in the public domain amendments and additions to the Copyright Law were suggested. Further consultation will follow.

B. DIGITAL PRESERVATION

B1. Progress on national strategies for the long-term preservation of and access to digital material. Describe the organisational approach, indicating the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved as well as the allocated resources. Describe the specific action

plans outlining the objectives and a time-table for the specific targets to be met.

The Public Policy Proposal elaborated by MoCRA has been approved by the General Secretariat of the Government. The main objectives of the approved public policy target are:

- improvement, coordination and efficiency of digitisation processes of cultural material at national level
- increasing the number of digitised representative cultural material, diversification and digital preservation
- improvement of public accessibility to national cultural material.

A broad action plan has been set up, for the 7 years programming period, which comprises two stages. As mentioned in the public policy on the digitisation, the main roles envisaged for the parties involved were foreseen as follows:

- MoCRA will be the coordinator of the process at the national level and will provide software that would support and guarantee a common framework for the digitisation of cultural material; specialised training will also be provided to the upper management of cultural institutions involved in the process, as well as to the operators directly involved in the process
- the local authorities and the local level cultural institutions will support the actual digitisation process of the cultural material (externalisation, specialised human resources, and in a second phase of the programme establishment of Public-Private and/or Public-Public partnership and financing from various European programmes)
- the National Library of Romania, the National Institute for Historical Monuments, the National Centre for Cinematography and the Institute for Cultural Memory (CIMEC) will do the implementation and supervision of the coordination mechanisms on each thematic pillar
- the Copyright Office and the collective rights societies will work together to find viable solutions to resolve issues related to orphan works and out of print.

Currently, at the level of MoCRA the necessary steps are taken for the creation of a special compartment in charge of the digitisation process, as well as for the establishment of specialised commissions for each thematic pillar (a board of specialists and a technical working group).

B2. Progress on exchange of information with other Member States on your strategies and action plans.

During the last year, the National Library of Romania has signed cooperation agreements with national libraries of Hungary, Moldova and Czech Republic, with the purpose of mutual promoting and development of common projects, especially in the digitization field.

The National Library of Romania as associate partner in Manuscriptorium and Enrich projects will contribute with its digitized documents to this data base.

The Institute for Cultural Memory (cIMeC) is a partner in the EDLnet project. Within this project (periodically, at the monthly technical meetings within the Royal Library in The Hague) information is exchanged with partners about the digitisation activities in the partners' respective institutions, as well as at the national level, in general. The information exchanged focuses mainly on the metadata describing the digitised material.

B3. Progress on legal provisions for multiple copying and migration of digital cultural material by public institutions for preservation purposes.

The issues related to provisions in legislation to allow multiple copying and migration of digital cultural material, deposit procedures and provisions for web harvesting will be addressed in the modifications envisaged for the regulatory framework, namely, the Copyright Act and the Legal Deposit Law and for which consultation and negotiation are still in progress.

B4. Progress on policies and procedures for the deposit of born-digital material. Please note how you are taking into account developments in other Member States in order to prevent a wide divergence in depositing arrangements.

The Legal Deposit Law, no. 111/1995, republished, refers only to the documents on material support. We intend to initiate a legislative proposal, complementary to this law, which will contain clauses concerning the born-digital documents. In this sense, the National Library of Romania has initiated a research study on the elaboration of an argumentation paper on the necessity of such a law.

B5. Progress on legal provisions for the preservation of web-content by mandated institutions.

The operating Legal Deposit law does not include clauses regarding the archiving and preservation of the web-content.

Note:

The National Library of Romania has realized a feasibility research study on digitization, digital preservation and online accessibility of library resources. On this purpose, it has been evaluated the documentary corpus of the national library system, the stage of the digitization process, the technical infrastructure, as well as the training level of the staff. Presently, a digitization solution proposal and budget estimation are being under elaboration.