Access to knowledge
The digital shift
Online presence: Scale matters

- Online offer of digitised content from libraries fragmented
  - Not always easy to find
  - Not well indexed by search engines
- Critical mass + network effects matter
- Europeana provides necessary scale
  - 1.500 organisations; > 15 million digitised objects
  - Concrete project rallies political support
‘Europeana effect’
Joining up the pieces of the jigsaw

Co-ordination MS
Co-funding (projects)
Press, general public
Political attention
Dialogue between Stakeholders
Work on Framework Conditions
Digital Agenda for Europe

- Key action 15: sustainable financing model for Europeana and digitisation
- Key action 1: Orphan works and out-of-distribution works
- Improving access to knowledge for people with disabilities
- Open access to scientific information
- Open data strategy

Every European digital
Funding for digitisation

• Digitising our cultural heritage is a huge task
  – Resources are scarce
• PPPs for digitisation necessary
• Boundary conditions set out by the ‘Comité des Sages on digitisation’ (public domain material)
  – Transparency of the agreements
  – Result should be accessible cross-border free of charge
  – Maximum of 7 years of preferential use
PPPs for digitisation, the deer-hunt dilemma
Orphan works
New value in old material

- Avoid a 20th century black hole
- GBS – What is next?
- Commission is preparing a legal instrument for orphan works
- Model for out-of-distribution works
  - Stakeholders’ dialogue underway
Access to scientific information
Past and present...
Access to scientific information

- Publications and data, paid for by public purse
- Effects of the crisis become visible now
- Polarisation between publishers and scientists/libraries persists
- Commission Recommendation foreseen for end 2011 + line for research funded by EU
Open data strategy and cultural material

- Using the digitised material for new information products and services
  - Education, tourism, design, apps based on cultural material
  - Improving language technologies, search, data-mining etc
- Essential that digitised resources + metadata can be re-used (paid for by the public purse....)
- Budget cuts will reinforce the tendency to charge...
Last letter of Mary, Queen of Scots

Title: Last letter of Mary, Queen of Scots
Date: 1567-02-03 00:00:00 - 1567
Creator: Mary, Queen of Scots writer Henri II recipient; National Library of Scotland
Description: England, Northamptonshire, Fotheringhay Castle
Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots
Letter from Mary, Queen of Scots to Henri II of France on the eve of her execution.
Language: en
Format: image/pjpeg
Europeana rights: Rights Reserved - Paid Access
Rights: National Library of Scotland
Provider: Scan, UK

View in original context
Opens in a new window
Conclusion

• Access to knowledge is a central element in the Digital Agenda
• Libraries have a key role to play
• They could improve their visibility in the European arena
• Europeana is not just a project!

*We count on you for the future*