



Europeana Network Association General Assembly 2017

General Assembly Meeting 2017, December 6, 2017
Leonardo da Vinci Science and Technology Museum, Milan, Italy

Minutes

Agenda

Attendees

Management Board of Europeana Network Association including Merete Sanderhoff - Chair, Max Kaiser - Vice-chair, Paul Keller - Treasurer, Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, Johan Oomen, and Uldis Zarins, the Members Council and the participating Members of Europeana Network Association, Jill Cousins - Executive Director of Europeana Foundation, Harry Verwayen - Deputy Director, representatives of Europeana Office, and guests including keynote speakers.

1. Opening & Introduction

The General Assembly meeting, held at the Leonardo da Vinci Science and Technology Museum, started at 15:00 on 6 December 2017. Merete Sanderhoff, the Chair, welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance, and gave a brief overview of the core governance-related matters on the agenda, such as approval of the formal Association documents and the Members Council elections' launch.

The formal decisions of the meeting were chaired by Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, who presented the Network Association governance documents. The financial reports were presented by Paul Keller and the elections were launched by Max Kaiser and Uldis Zarins.

Joke van der Leeuw-Roord underlined the requirement of the voting method to perform a show-of-hand voting during this meeting, which will be complemented by the subsequent electronic voting, in relation to the minutes of the General Assembly meeting 2016, governance documents, financial reports, Association annual report 2017 and activity plan for 2018. Therefore, every decision taken in this meeting will be accepted provisionally, on the condition that a majority of the voting of the Europeana Network Association (hereinafter referred to as ENA) votes in favour thereof during the following voting period.

Merete Sanderhoff first presented the highlights of the Association activities in 2017 and outlined some of the main priorities for 2018. The mission and vision were reformulated into [Joint Europeana Aspiration and Network Association Approach](#). This change has been integrated into the [Association Statutes](#), and now the aim is to turn it into practice.

Another highlight was the success of the [#AllezCulture campaign](#), where we aimed to leverage Europeana's resources and move Europeans forward through culture, this time starting to focus on the theme of migration. In 2017, the Association also went through a [Membership campaign](#)

with an aim to raise awareness about the Association elections, reinforce the active membership and update members' information. The campaign started in May 2017 and came to an end on 1 November with [1,382 members](#) confirming their membership. The campaign resulted in having around 500 unconfirmed members, who were no longer eligible to vote in 2017 elections and approve formal Association documents at this General Assembly meeting, but will be approached again and asked to renew their membership in early 2018. On average, around 40 new members register every month.

The Members Council is currently composed of [36 members](#), out of which [28 were elected](#) in the 2016 elections. Following the launch of the 2017 elections at this General Assembly, the remaining [8 Councillors](#) were (re-)elected. The work of [8 Association Task Forces](#) and [6 Working Groups](#) have continued contributing to the Business Plan and Strategy of Europeana.

In 2018, the main priorities of the Association would be the involvement in [European Year of Cultural Heritage](#), with [Europeana being its digital face](#). Throughout the year, the aim would be to create a real impact for European citizens in the cultural heritage field, with a focus on the theme of migration. The key priorities of Europeana would be the [Migration campaign](#), Centenary Tour, [Europeana Tech Conference](#) in May 2018, and activities for Network educators, researchers, creative industries and end-users.

There were two newly approved Task Forces that would run in 2018 – [Europeana Migration](#), and [Impact Assessment 2.0](#) - and there was a space for three more to be proposed. There would be more new communities of interest formed within the Association, which would facilitate a closer cooperation and a sense of mutuality, ownership and belonging to the Network. Merete Sanderhoff asked the present guests to help achieve these goals and make an impact together.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting 2016

The General Assembly was invited to ask questions, comment or approve the [minutes of Europeana General Assembly Meeting 2016](#) by raising hands. The Members raised hands and approved the minutes.

3. Governance

Joke van der Leeuw-Roord explained the audience the need for amendments to the current version of the Statutes that emerged since the 2016 General Assembly. In accordance with the Dutch law, the General Assembly of ENA was invited to review the [proposed revisions](#) and approve the amended statutes.

A couple of [amendments](#) among other minor changes were agreed upon by the Members Council at their [6-7 July 2016 meeting in Copenhagen](#) and approved by the Governing Board of Europeana Foundation on 23 November 2017 to be proposed to this ENA General Assembly meeting for approval. The proposed amendments, among other minor rewordings, needed to be made to articles 2 (adding English as official language of use), 4 (incorporating the text of the new Joint Europeana Aspiration and Network Association Approach), 8 and 10 (on Association membership), 15 (voting rules), 17 (serving in the Members Council), 27 and 28 (the name of use for Europeana Foundation).

The General Assembly was invited to approve the amendments here above. The Members raised hands and approved the proposed amendments to the Statutes of ENA. The statutes shall be amended by two-thirds of the cast votes.

4. Financial Reports

[Financial Report 2016 and Financial Update 2017](#)

Paul Keller explained the Association budget of 2016 and 2017 and gave an overview of all the expenses. All funding for the Europeana Network Association is provided by the Europeana Foundation. The Budget for 2016 was approved by the Association General Assembly on 3 November 2015. The operational budget of the Association consists of travel costs related to the Members Council and AGM, other costs and funding for the Network Task Forces. In total, the Association spent €22.052 less than budgeted, primarily due to the Task Forces spending significantly less than anticipated. The overspend on other costs consisted mainly of venue and catering costs for the MC meetings and were balanced by a corresponding underspend for travel costs. The unspent money was returned to the general DSI2 budget and have been partially used to support the 2017 budget.

Budget available for 2017 was then assigned from DSI2 and DSI3 funding. The budget cut in the DSI3 funding left the Association with less money available than in 2016. The 2017 operating budget covered the increased number of Councillors and their travel costs, as well as other adjustments upwards based on previous years' spending. The DSI2 funding covered the 2017 budget from January to August, while the expenses of the September - December period were covered from DSI3 budget.

The General Assembly was invited to approve the [Financial Report 2016](#). The Members raised hands and approved the Report.

[Provisional Budget 2018](#)

The projections for 2018 budget were made based on the fact that the funding has been reduced by 12,5% compared to 2017: from €8 million for 12 months of the core DSI3 funding to €7 million for 12 months of the DSI4 funding. This budget cut has left the Association with €50.000 available for its activities during the year. The funding for the 2018 budget would be divided between the DSI3 and DSI4: €27,500 would come from the DSI3 budget and would cover expenses between January and August of 2018; the remaining € 17,000 would cover expenses between September and December 2018 under the DSI4 budget.

The General Assembly was invited to approve the [Provisional Budget 2018](#). The Members raised hands and approved the Budget.

5. Network Association Report 2017 and Activity Plan 2018

[Network Association Annual Report 2017](#)

[Network Association Activity Plan 2018](#)

The General Assembly was invited to approve the Annual Report 2017 and Activity Plan 2018. The Members raised hands and approved the Report and the Plan.

6. Launch of the Elections and Voting

2016 Members Council elections started during this session and will run until 14 December. Uldis Zarins and Max Kaiser thanked the [26 candidates](#), who have come forward in the election to fill 8 open seats in the Council. From 2018 on, the newly-elected Councillors would serve a 3-year term instead of a 2-year term. Based on updated Statutes, each member of the Network Association could from then on cast up to 8 votes in the elections. The members also voted to approved the above-mentioned amendments to the statutes, the financial reports, the annual report and the activity plan. The results of the Members Council elections were announced on 19 December. The new Members Council then started on 1 January 2018.