

PRESS RELEASE

Contact

Fleur Stigter
The European Library
Tel: + 31 (0) 70. 31.40. 182
Fleur.Stigter@TheEuropeanLibrary.org

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‘ONE MORE STEP TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN DIGITAL LIBRARY’

January 31/February 1 2008 (Frankfurt) - Over 180 representatives of cultural institutions from across Europe are meeting at a specially convened conference. The event will be opened by Horst Forster, Director in the European Commission's Directorate general for Information Society and Media.

The international conference aims to highlight and discuss [The European Library's](#) role in building the European digital library. This is also an opportunity to discuss strategic, technical and semantic interoperability between museums, archives, libraries and audio-visual institutes.

Recently 9 more national libraries and their catalogues and digital collections have been integrated into The European Library with funds from the [eContentplus programme](#). End-users of The European Library can now look for books, images, and other types of material that are stored by any of Europe's national libraries.

Great progress has also been made in:

- making more digitised material available via OAI-PMH
- producing an inventory of digitisation activities in European national libraries
- enhancing the multilingual capabilities of The European Library portal

During the same conference a demo version of the European digital library will be presented for the first time.

More information about the conference can be found via

<http://www.edlproject.eu/conference/index.php>

Notes for Editors:

www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org is a service of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) offering free, item level, access to the combined resources, books, magazines, journals, manuscripts, sound and video archives, both digital and non-digital, from 33 of the 47 national libraries of Europe. The European Library will be build upon the infrastructure of The European Library.

<http://www.EDLproject.eu> is a Targeted Project funded by the European Commission under their e-Content*plus* programma and coordinated by the German National Library. It started in September 2006 and works towards the integration of the bibliographic catalogues and digital collections of the National Libraries of [Belgium](#) , [Greece](#) , [Iceland](#) , [Ireland](#) , [Liechtenstein](#) , [Luxembourg](#) , [Norway](#) , [Spain](#) and [Sweden](#) , into [The European Library](#) . The project also takes the first steps towards collaboration between The European Library and other non-library cultural initiatives.

For more information about the European digital library please visit the project website <http://www.digitallibrary.eu/edlnet/>