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**EDITORIAL**  
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The European Library Newsletter has adopted a new format; we invite you to circulate it in its user-friendly form to anyone you think may be interested. The newsletter facelift was adopted following the growing amount of registrations and, more generally, the interest in our 'In Focus' interviews and in the community of the national libraries of Europe.

This issue features an interview with Cristina Magliano from the Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU), and an 'In Depth' editorial dedicated to multilingualism on The European Library portal. We also report on the TELplus Work Package 1 workshop in Paris, on Europeana and The European Library Advisory Board.

Additionally, The European Library announces several new jobs in The European Library Office so, if you are interested, click on the link in the [Jobs and Careers](#) section and send us your CV.

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**AGENDA**  
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- + [TELplus WP5 Workshop on Analysis of User Requirements \(Task 1\)](#) - Department of Information Engineering (DEI) - University of Padua, Padua, Italy - 18-19 February 2008
- + **The European Library Management Board meeting** – [Koninklijke Bibliotheek](#) in The Hague, 10 March 2008
- + **Combined event** - Knowledge Sharing Workshop for National Libraries of FUMAGABA project + [TELplus project](#) + Turkey/StPetersburg/Moscow + TELplus M2.1 OAI-PMH workshop - [Koninklijke Bibliotheek](#) in The Hague, 26 March 2008
- + [ELAG Library System](#) – Seminar, Wageningen, The Netherlands, 14-16 April 2008
- + [LAI/CILIP \(Ireland\) joint Conference](#) – Athlone, Ireland, 15-16 April 2008

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**IN FOCUS: CRISTINA MAGLIANO –ICCU - ITALY**  
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**The Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU) is one of the founders of The European Library. As such, it has an excellent track record in partnerships and has considerable experience to pass on to new [Full Participants](#). We asked Cristina Magliano, Head of the Cataloguing Department, to share her experience and opinion about The European Library and to explain the specific situation of Italy as regards the position of the ICCU, which was founded in order to coordinate the cataloguing activities of the Italian libraries.**

The Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU) was founded in 1951 in Rome. It currently employs 50 people divided in 5 departments. Cristina Magliano joined the ICCU in 1980; she now runs the Cataloguing Department responsible for coordinating and promoting activities such as cataloguing standardisation, bibliographic format (UNIMARC), metadata used in national digitisation projects, etc. Cristina is also involved in several committees, such as the IFLA Permanent UNIMARC Committee and the IFLA Cataloguing Section.

**The European Library: "How many people actively collaborate with The European Library in your organisation?"**

Cristina Magliano: "5 employees worked for The European Library when it was first launched in 2005. Their tasks very much evolved around deliverables within Work Packages (WP1: Publisher relations, WP3: Metadata and WP4: Interoperability.) At the moment, there are 2 employees working part time for The European Library, one person is our Contacts Working Group representative and the other one is our Technical Working Group representative. The decrease in staff members is due to the fact that people have left the ICCU, either for other

jobs or because they were retiring and have not been replaced. Work within the ICCU is very much institutional project dependent."

"The partnership with The European Library is prestigious and very important for us; we promote it through all the conferences we attend and our training programmes. Our participation in [The European Technical Working Group](#) gives us the opportunity to share knowledge and experience. It also allows us to develop a cooperative framework for Italians projects based on the model set by The European Library. In "[Internet culturale](#)", for example, our Italian portal for cultural heritage, we apply the same technical model. Furthermore, we have established an Italian metadata profile based on [The European Library Metadata Registry](#)."

**The European Library: "How is the partnership between the ICCU and the [Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze \(BNCF\)](#), which stands as a representative of one\* of the national libraries of Italy?"**

Cristina Magliano: "Our partnership with the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze is very strong. ICCU and BNCF work together on many national and international projects. We cooperate in studies about standards for digitalisation projects, in the "[Italian Committee for Metadata Standards](#)" and the BNCF remains our main partner within the [SBN](#), the Italian libraries network coordinated by the ICCU. Many working groups involved in the development of SBN include BNCF and ICCU employees."

(\* The other one is the BNCR, [Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma](#))

**The European Library: "Is the ICCU currently collaborating with other cultural institutions?"**

Cristina Magliano: "The ICCU has been involved in many initiatives to work on Italian digital library projects and to develop national coordination in the use of metadata for digital objects description. This has been evident in many different projects of cultural heritage. The [MAG Committee](#), for example, has been set up in collaboration with the most important private and public institutions within the libraries, museums and archives sector. I am personally involved as coordinator for the [Italian Committee for Metadata Standards and Application within the Cultural Heritage Sector](#), in which representatives from all three types of organisation are participating. The Committee coordinates metadata implementations in digitisation projects at a national level."

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**IN DEPTH**  
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#### + TOWARDS MULTILINGUAL "SEARCH & RESULT"

**One of The European Library's objectives is to provide information in all partners native languages; this means having the portal interface translated in all full members' languages. It also implies a more ambitious target that is to extend the multilingual capabilities of the portal; in other words, provide a language understanding of queries and return the appropriate search results in the same language. [EDLproject](#) Work Package 2 aims at integrating the outcomes of multilingual access research into The European Library portal.**

The European Library language policy follows similar guidelines to [Europa](#), the portal site of The European Union: "As far as possible, the aim is to provide the public with the information they are looking for in their own language." This means that the language interface of the [HOME](#) and [COLLECTIONS](#) pages are translated in all [Full Participants'](#) languages. The latest update of the portal interface involves the integration of the [Russian translation](#) provided by the [Russian State Library](#).

On the other hand, [EDLProject](#) Work Package 2 (WP2), **Extending the multilingual capacity of the network**, is developing the European Library network's localisation and multilingual capabilities by improving access for end-users. This is generated through multi-language interfaces and advanced search mechanisms in a standardised way. EDLProject WP2 is led by the [National Library of Slovenia](#) with the input of the [Swiss National Library](#). Since EDLproject is coming to an end, we have asked Genevieve Clavel, in charge of National and International Cooperation for the Swiss National Library, and Maja Žumer, Associate Professor at University of Ljubljana and part-time researcher for the National Library of Slovenia, to help us understand the complexity behind multi-lingual searching.

**The European Library: "Could you briefly explain what controlled vocabulary is?"**

Genevieve Clavel and Maja Žumer: "A controlled vocabulary, contrary to freely assigned keywords, is a list of terms that are used in cataloguing and searching to describe the subjects of resources. The same list is also used when searching. Controlled vocabularies in general improve precision. Sometimes relationships (e.g. hierarchical, associative) between terms are specified, too. Most library users are familiar with subject heading lists, of which Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) is a well-known example."

**The European Library: "What is Multilingual Information Access?"**

Genevieve Clavel and Maja Žumer: "Multilingual access is frequently used to cover a variety of elements. At its lowest level, it may be used in reference to the user interface (display screens, user dialogue, help screens), whereas the actual access points themselves are, in fact, monolingual. In terms of work in EDLProject, Multilingual Information Access refers to two main areas: access to controlled vocabulary assigned in one language through the medium of another (e.g. entering terms in French that are linked to LCSH and thus

enabling the French-speaking user to search in an English language controlled vocabulary); and translation of free-text search terms into one or more languages (either in bibliographic records or full text). Additionally, investigation is required into the feasibility of translating the results of a search into the user's chosen language."

**The European Library: "What is the actual feasibility of The European Library portal being able to translate results in all Full Members' languages?"**

Genevieve Clavel and Maja Žumer: "Given the number of languages (over 30) it is unlikely that, for instance, a search would return translations from 29 languages into another language, for example German. It is more likely that the user will need to choose language pairs that may be implemented progressively in the same way that subject heading languages are linked in clusters."

**The European Library: "Can you specify The European Library integration timing for EDLProject WP2 outcomes?"**

Genevieve Clavel and Maja Žumer: "In the earlier projects ([TEL-ME-MOR](#) and EDLProject) we have explored some of the options and tested some limited prototypes. We now have an overview and planned scenarios. Those will be implemented and tested as part of [TELplus](#) and the Europeana\* interface."

(Europeana is the test website of the European Digital Library, click [here](#) for more info)

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**IN BRIEF**  
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**+ TELPLUS OCRING WORKSHOP IN PARIS**

The [French National Library \(BnF\)](#) hosted a [TELplus](#) workshop on good practices in OCRing on the 28-29 of January 2008 in Paris. The [TELplus Work Package 1](#) aims at making 20 millions OCRed pages of digitised images available via the national library portals and The European Library.

Optical Character Recognition (OCR) is the automatic recognition and interpretation of text into a computer-readable language. The workshop welcomed participants from 13 partner libraries and specifically addressed the legal, financial and organisational aspects of OCRing.

The process of OCRing digitised images and text is a major challenge for libraries because of the costs that are involved and the cumbersome selection of required procedures. Workshop participants shared the experience gained within their institutions; Astrid Verheuzen from the [National Library of the Netherlands](#) (KB) presented the OCRing processes of the KB and, specifically, the [IMPACT](#) project, a 3-year EU funded project that aims at improving existing OCRing practices and tools.

[TELplus](#) is a 27-month targeted project; the first quarter is now over and the first TELplus project deliverable "[Survey of Availability of Digitised Images for OCR](#)" has been completed and posted by Joachim Korb from the [Austrian National Library](#) (ANL) on the TELplus public web site.

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**+ EUROPEANA, UNIQUE ACCESS TO THE DIGITISED RESOURCES OF EUROPE**

The test website of the European digital library, branded *Europeana*, will bring together millions of digitised resources from Europe's archives, museums, libraries and audio-visual collections through a single portal. The site model was demonstrated to holders of digital content, including curators, archivists, publishers and librarians in Frankfurt on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

The attendees were shown how a user would be able to find paintings, photographs, objects, books, newspapers, archival records, films and sound that have been digitised by Europe's heritage organisations.

[Horst Forster](#), Director of Digital Content and Cognitive Systems in the Information Society Directorate, attended the conference, and commented, "*Europeana is ambitious in its scale and scope. It's making the connections between the whole network of cultural heritage digitisation programmes in Europe, and promises to be a very powerful service.*"

Additionally, Jon Purday, Communication Manager of Europeana, launched a [promotional web video](#) encouraging European institutions to make their digital content available through *Europeana*. "In the video," Jon said, "Vincent van Gogh teams up with Nancy Sinatra on a trip through Europe's heritage. Animation and a display of images, documents, sounds and film combine to make this a quirky introduction to *Europeana*. It's generating a good response: people are visiting the site and signing up"

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**+ USER ADVISORY BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN LIBRARY**

**The European Library has set up an Advisory Board to help the Office improve The European Library portal readability and understanding.**

The User Advisory Board members are all candidates recommended by national libraries throughout Europe. The Advisory Board members' selection was based on candidates' background and position in the literary/library environment. Click [here](#) to visit the User Advisory Board page.

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**+ STATS & FACTS**

**The European Library website broke all records in January! Never before has The European Library been visited by so many!** The number of visitors has increased by 60% in just four months. Spain has greatly contributed to this rise.

Several improvements on the portal have led to this record; for example, the introduction of the new [Libraries](#) section based on a European map access. Generally, the increase of non-English content has had very beneficial effects; the [Czech Rare Books](#) page in particular has become increasingly successful.

You can now design your **Mini Library widget for specific themes**. A map provider website for example can now install a widget that solely focuses on maps' related collections of The European Library. [Click here for more information.](#)

Note that 573 Mini Library applications have been installed by [Facebook](#) registrants.

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**PARTNERS UPDATE**

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**THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PORTUGAL (BNP) EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS**

The [National Library of Portugal](#) currently features the following exhibitions, web-exhibitions & events:

+ [Peninsular War - 200 years](#): The Peninsular War allied Portugal and Britain against France in the context of the Napoleonic Wars. It constituted a turning point in the history of Portugal. The National Library of Portugal organises an exhibition through different media: documentary, music, pamphlets, etc. Open until February 9, 2008.

+ The publication of [an account by Mme Junot of her stay in Portugal \(1805-1806\)](#) will be launched in the Library bookshop on 7<sup>th</sup> February.

**To come:**

+ The exhibition '[Aula da Esphera](#)': **the scientific manuscripts of the Santo Antão College**, will open on 21<sup>th</sup> February, featuring the most important scientific authors and writings of this Jesuit institution.

+ The publication of **Braziliana**, a comprehensive bibliography of Portuguese editions about Brazil up to 1808, will be released on 13 May 2008. The exhibition **Brazilian Treasures in the Collections of the National Library of Portugal** will further supplement this publication.

+ **Vieira and the Brazil**, an exhibition celebrating the fourth centenary of the birth of the Jesuit Priest António Vieira (1608-1697) will open on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

The BNP also maintains a regular series of bibliographic displays and short exhibitions on Portuguese authors, celebrating literary prizes and other writers' news, as well as other cultural topics. Currently featuring: [Augusto Abelaira \(1926-2003\)](#). Stay informed by visiting the [BNP Cultural Agenda](#).

The European Library invites all national libraries to tell others about their national library initiatives or exhibition programmes through our Newsletter. To do so, send your email to: [Info@TheEuropeanLibrary.org](mailto:Info@TheEuropeanLibrary.org)

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**JOBS AND CAREERS**

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**+ JOBS AT THE EUROPEAN DIGITAL LIBRARY!!!**

Desperately seeking highly motivated employees

The European Library Office has 2 jobs to fill:

- [Senior Developer](#)

- [Junior Developer](#)

Are you interested? Do you know *the* person who wants to work on one of the most exciting projects in the cultural heritage area ever? Are you allowed a secondment?

The jobs are based at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, The Netherlands.  
Interested? Then click on [this link](#) and send us your CV.

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**ABOUT THE NEWSLETTERS**  
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The editorial content of the above Newsletter was gathered with the kind cooperation of **Cristina Magliano**, from the Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU), **Genevieve Clavel** from the Swiss National Library and **Maja Žumer** from the National Library of Slovenia, **Dulce Maria Fernandes G. Fontes** from the National Library of Portugal, Louise Edwards, Olaf Janssen, Jon Purday, Georgia Angelaki and Aubéry Escande from **The European Library Office**.

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