www.judaica-europeana.eu

Judaica Europeana: single access to Jewish heritage collections online
Europeana — the vision

Europe’s digital libraries, archives and museums online

• A showcase for Europe’s cultural and scientific heritage

• A flagship project of the European Commission and the European Parliament.

“A digital library that is a single, direct and multilingual access point to the European cultural heritage.”

European Parliament, 27 September 2007

“A unique resource for Europe's distributed cultural heritage ... ensuring a common access to Europe's libraries, archives and museums.”

Horst Forster, Director, Digital Content & Cognitive Systems Information Society Directorate, European Commission
Europeana Today

- A partnership network in 33 countries in Europe and outside providing access to their collections through aggregation.
- Start 2008 – 2 million objects
- 2012 – 24 million objects
Europeana Group of Projects

- Biodiversity Heritage Libraries Europe
- Judaica Europeana
- Europeana Local
- Europeana v.1.0
- EuropeanaConnect
- EUScreen
- European Film Gateway
- Athena
- APEnet
- Europeana Travel
- Musical Inst. Museums Online
- The European Library

Presto Prime

Arrow
The Europeana Universe of Projects

- BHL
- Europeana Connect
- Europeana Travel
- Judaica Europeana
- MIMO
- Culture.fr
- CulturaItalia
- BAM
- CIMEC etc......
- European Local
- The European Library
- The European Library
- The European Library
- Sound Archive 1
- Sound Archive n
- Television Archive 1
- Television Archive n
- National Archive 1
- National Archive 2
- National Archive 3
- Film Archive 1
- Film Archive 2
- Film Archive 3
- IMCOM Europe
- Museum 1
- Museum 2
- MICHAEL
- APEnet
- EFG
- EUScreen
- PrestoPrime
- EUScreen
- STERNA
- IMPACT
- Trebleclef
The Judaica Europeana project

- brings digitized Jewish heritage collections online to a single multilingual access point: Europeana.eu
- documents Jewish history and heritage in Europe with a focus on urban life
The Project

Duration: 2010-2011 (Febr 2012)

• Led by the European Association for Jewish Culture and Frankfurt University Library and launched with 10 (11) partners in 7 countries

• Current network includes 26 institutions in Europe, Israel and the US

• Funded by the eContentPlus program of the European Commission, the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe and project partners. Project of 3 million Euro - 50% EU funding
The Network

Founding Partners

• European Association of Jewish Culture, London
• Jewish Division of the Frankfurt University Library / Goethe University Frankfurt am Main
• Alliance Israélite Universelle, Paris
• British Library, London
• Hungarian Jewish Archives, Budapest
• Jewish Historical Institute, Warschau
• Jewish Museum of Greece, Athens
• Jewish Museum, London
• Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activity (MiBAC), Rome / State Archive Venice and Parma Library
• Amitié, Center for Research and Innovation, Bologna (National Technical University, Athens)

Associate Partners

• Ben Uri Gallery / London Jewish Museum of Art
• Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, Amsterdam
• Center for Jewish History, New York
• Centre français des musiques juives, Paris
• Harvard University Library
• Institute for Jewish Policy Research, London
• JDC Archives, New York
• Jewish Historical Museum, Amsterdam
• Jewish Museum Berlin
• Jewish Museum, Frankfurt/Main
• Leopold Zunz Centrum, Halle-Wittenberg
• Lorand Collection, Augsburg University
• National Library of Israel, Jerusalem
• Paris Yiddish Center—Medem Library
• Sephardi Museum, Toledo
• Central Zionist Archives, Jerusalem
• Ministerio de Cultura, Madrid
• Salomon Ludwig Steinheim Institute, Essen
Challenges of the Project

1) Preparation
   • Application requires intensive involvement of staff and large investment of time
   • Detailed enquiries of data

2) In regard to programme:
   • Tight time frame of 2 years
   • Diversity of partners with different facilities and standards
   • Multitude of tasks in different fields as formulated in the agreement:

Dr. Rachel Heuberger, Judaica Division, University Library Frankfurt
Programme of work

- Digitisation and aggregation of Jewish heritage content for Europeana.
- Coordination of standards across institutions in order to synchronise the metadata with the requirements of Europeana.
- Deployment of knowledge management tools: vocabularies, thesauri and ontologies for the indexing and retrieval of the aggregated content.
- Dissemination activities to stimulate the use of digitised content in academic research; university-based teaching; schools; museums and virtual exhibitions; conferences; cultural tourism; the arts.
Challenges of the Project

- **Digitization and aggregation** of Jewish heritage content for Europeana
  - digitization of multitude of different source material (text / images of artifacts and objects / audio / video)
  - content enrichment – metadata system
  - Requires efforts within institutions

- **Coordination of standards** across institutions in order to synchronise metadata with the requirements of Europeana:
  - standardization and integration of diverse metadata
  - Requires software know-how and support for uploading between partners

Dr. Rachel Heuberger, Judaica Division, University Library Frankfurt
Challenges of the Project

- **Deployment of knowledge management tools**
  - Controlled vocabularies, thesauri and ontologies for the indexing and retrieval of the aggregated content
  - Collaborative semantic tools
  - Finding know-how of experts from outside

- **Dissemination activities** in different levels
  - Virtual exhibitions
  - School and university courses
  - Public relations
  - Publication of leaflets / newsletter online
  - Engagement and cooperation of a lot of different partners

Dr. Rachel Heuberger, Judaica Division, University Library Frankfurt
Challenges of the project

3) **In regard to workflow:**
- Communication between partners
- Evaluation
  - Monitoring of success by indicators
- Contact to Academic Community
  - Advisory Board
- Reports to be delivered
4) In relation to Europeana:
   • Adapting to Europeana requirements
     – Changing Europeana mapping requirements from ESE (Europeana Semantic Elements) to EDM (Europeana Data Modell)
   • Ingestion of vast amount of metadata due to mass digitization
     – Finding the right aggregator for ingestion
     – Getting time-slot with Europeana

5) Sustainability
   • Future exploitation and re-use of material
Achievements

- Reached and exceeded the goal of the project
  - 3.7 million digital objects of all categories
  - Standardization of very diverse metadata
  - Ingestion of cross-domain content
- Laying foundation for integration of content in new semantic web of Linked Data (LD)
- Development of controlled vocabularies and collaborative semantic tools:
  - Establishment of knowledge management tools: the Haskala (Jewish Enlightenment) Database / Creation of a platform for collaborative research using the semantic mediawiki
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection Name</th>
<th>Type of object</th>
<th>Quantity in pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freimann-Collection</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yiddish prints</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compact Memory</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>700,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alliance Israelite Universelle</td>
<td>Photo-Collection</td>
<td>180,000 Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIU Books and Pamphlets</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIU Bulletins</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIU Photography</td>
<td>Photo-Collection</td>
<td>1,200 Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Museum of Greece Libraries</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>90 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Museum of Greece Textbooks</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>1,000 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>1,716 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breslau, Electors registers</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>5,947 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breslau - Rabbinate</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>2,692 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burial Society</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>21,980 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community members</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>4,335 Text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish cemeteries</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>11,614 Text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Theological Library</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>8,640 Text</td>
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<td>Jewish Charity</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>22,070 Text</td>
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<td>Paper</td>
<td>4,918 Text</td>
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<td>Dothy Street Synagogue</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>1,971 Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews of Pest - Conscription</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>4,000 Text</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.7 million digital objects
Achievements: online access to Jewish heritage

- books / incunabula
- manuscripts
- archives
- newspapers / periodicals

- videos

- photographs
- postcards
- other

- music recordings
- oral history

3,699,149

Text
3,611,000

Videos
2,022

Images
62,608

Sound
23,519
Appendix 3 Europeana 130 direct providers aggregators and content providers

- **Athena** (3,976,482)
- **The European Library** (3,457,501)
- **moteur Collections : France** (2,205,082)
- **Hispana** (1,762,759)
- **Norsk Kulturråd** (1,352,518)
- **Swedish Open Cultural Heritage** (1,262,773)
- **Saxon State and University Library, Dresden / Deutsche Fotothek** (1,104,117)
- **Irish Manuscripts Commission** (907,837)
- **CARARE** (812,972)
- **Federacja Bibliotek Cyfrowych** (783,275)
- **CultureGrid** (696,036)
- **Archives Portal Europe** (555,370)
- **EFG - The European Film Gateway** (546,352)
- **OpenUp!** (514,198)
- **Bayerische Staatsbibliothek** (465,614)
- **Judaica Europeana** (460,883)
- **DISMARC - EuropeanaConnect** (347,929)
- **Hope** (190,471)
- **Riksarkivet** (132,597)
- **Universiteitsbibliotheek Gent** (129,918)
- **ASSETS** (128,887)
- **Bernstein project: http://www.memoryofpaper.eu** (119,961)
- **Rijksmuseum** (112,589)
- **Erfgoed Brabant** (111,664)
Content in Europeana by content provider TOP 15

![Pie chart showing top 15 content providers in Europeana]

Figure 3 Europeana Content by content provider TOP 15
Haskala database functionalities

New functionalities provided by Semantic MediaWiki:

- Improved data structure
- Searching for information – creating own queries
- Automatically generated up-to-date lists
- Visual display of information – timelines, graphs, maps
- External reuse – data source for other applications

The Haskala database content

Over 1,000 books

- detailed data on 521 books
- more basic data on 359 books
- detailed data on 343 people: authors, editors, translators, booksellers etc
- data on 2,430 people in total
- data on publishing houses

David Friedländer (1750-1834), writer, banker and communal leader
Dissemination of Judaica content

100 events in 25 cities:
Successful Dissemination

Yiddish Theatre in London

From the late 19th century, Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe brought a rich and expressive form of theatre to the East End of London.

 Plays were performed in Yiddish, the language spoken by Central and Eastern European Jews. They ranged from comedy to tragedy, drawing on Yiddish folk tales, adaptations of Shakespeare and stories of immigrant life. The early 20th century was the heyday of Yiddish theatre in London, with packed theatres and long queues for tickets.

In this virtual exhibition you can find out more about the people, buildings and plays that made Yiddish theatre in London so special, as well as explore the unique collection of Yiddish theatre photographs, documents and objects held at the Jewish Museum London.

Ausstellung starten

Contact  Objekte ansehen  Über die Ausstellungen  Contact Museum

Wählen Sie eine Sprache
Continuation of the Project

Second Stage 2012-14:

• Formation of Judaica Europeana Consortium
• Continued aggregation of collections of a growing network of associate partners
• Participation in ‘Digital Manuscripts to Europeana’, (DM2E), a new EC-funded digital project, which will contribute content and technology to Europeana.
• New technology – user generated content / crowd sourcing
• Positive impact on the institutions
  – Improved visibility, new funding for projects, addition of new positions

Dr. Rachel Heuberger, Judaica Division, University Library Frankfurt
Judaica Europeana Newsletter

Number 3, 2011

Judaica Europeana collections uploaded

Judaica Europeana is a growing network of 25 heritage institutions, led by the European Association for Jewish Culture in London, which will bring digitized Jewish content collections to Europeana – a portal of Europe’s museums, archives and libraries. The digitization of partners’ collections has proceeded apace over the last year alongside the harmonization of their metadata. Once the collections’ databases have been uploaded, users will be able to find and view each and every object together with its cataloguing data. The first batch of Judaica Europeana collections uploaded on Europeana included a substantial part of the Freimann Collection at the Frankfurt University Library.

More about uploaded collections

Spotlight on partners’ collections

Ben Uri — The London Jewish Museum of Art

Ben Uri was founded in 1915 in Whitechapel in the heart of the Jewish East End of London. It has a fascinating history and is the longest-established Jewish cultural institution in Britain. It is no coincidence the histories of the Ben Uri and that of 20th century British art are closely intertwined; the blossoming of the immigrant generations of Jewish artists was mirrored by the development of modernist painting in Britain. The outburst of creativity, which burgeoned in London’s East End and gave the country so many of its 20th century masters, including the group now known as the Whitechapel Boys, also gave birth to the Ben Uri.