

Aggregators for digital cultural heritage in Europe

The Europe-wide network enabling cultural institutions to share their content with Europeana and open it up to new audiences.

Connecting content and people

Aggregators work with cultural institutions and collectors to gather authentic, trustworthy and robust data and content and make it accessible to Europeana, education clouds, research infrastructures, creatives, developers and the general public.



Network

More than 20 national and regional aggregators and more than 10 pan-European domain and thematic aggregators, are accredited to work in the Europeana service, gathering content from cultural institutions across Europe.



Culture partners

Aggregators work with thousands of museums, galleries, libraries, archives, audio-visual archives, collectors and communities.



Expertise

An important source of expertise, aggregators offer advice and support in digitisation, content description, licensing, media formats accessibility, multilingualism and in domain and subject vocabularies.

Archaeology, archives, fashion, film, judaism, libraries, local history, museums, music, natural history, photography, social history, sound and television



Content base

Aggregators supply around 90% of all content to Europeana - 47+ million items including digital images, texts, videos, sounds and 3D objects from Europe's diverse cultural heritage.



Finance

Member States and regional authorities are the main funders of national and regional aggregators.

The domain and thematic aggregators are co-funded by their members and the EU.



Impact

Aggregators are agents of change, encouraging investment in new technologies and digital skills, and contributing to digitisation strategies at national and European levels.

Aggregators are the backbone of content supply to Europeana, connecting and promoting Europeana to their networks and communities

Activities and services

Technology is becoming increasingly important for culture. The domain, thematic and national aggregators foster digital culture, promote open standards and encourage the free flow of data across borders for re-use in applications for education and tourism. Aggregators are catalysts for digital transformation in cultural institutions.



Technology

Aggregators provide tools, services and infrastructure such as data repositories, cloud storage, metadata harvesting, metadata mapping and enrichment services, APIs and portals.

Helpdesks are available for cultural institutions using these services.



Standards

Aggregators use standards, vocabularies and linked data and promote their use by cultural institutions offering case studies and translations to ease their uptake.

Many aggregators contribute actively to the development of international domain and subject standards, and national standards.



Quality

Good data enables better potential for users of the content.

Aggregators work actively to improve and enrich data and content, promote international recommendations for best practices in digital culture, and offer advice, training and support to cultural heritage professionals, researchers and volunteers.



Digital Europe

Aggregators' infrastructure supports connectivity and makes culture data interoperable with portals, education clouds, research infrastructures, Europeana and other users.



Inclusion

Aggregators are well placed to reach out to institutions, communities and enthusiasts to develop metadata strategies that connect objects and collections to audiences, bridging generation and perspective gaps between cultural heritage content professionals and current and future Europeana users.



Highlights

More than 10 thematic collections launched on Europeana, based on content provided by aggregators.

Active role in raising awareness of Europeana amongst European citizens.

100% content carries a rights label.

Aggregators support thousands of cultural heritage institutions and collectors enabling their contribution to Digital Europe.