

REPORT

Project Acronym: Europeana Newspapers

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Project Title: A Gateway to European Newspapers Online

Report on Europeana Newspapers Information day at the National library of the Netherlands (KB)

Revision: 1.0

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Dissemination Level		
P	Public	x
C	Confidential, only for members of the consortium and the Commission Services	

Revision History

Revision	Date	Author	Organisation	Description
0.1	10-11-2014	Sieta Neuerburg and Lotte Wilms	KB	First draft
0.2	13-11-2014	Marieke Willems	LIBER	Reviewed draft
				editing
				Further revision
				Final revision
1.0	17-11-2014	Clemens Neudecker and Sandra Kobel	SBB	Internal review and final version

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This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

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Executive Summary

This report concerns the ninth Information day of the Europeana Newspapers Project, organised by the National library of the Netherlands (KB) in The Hague. As the project was already in its final stage when the Information day took place, the programme was focused on the end users of the collection and the newspaper browser.

The main aims of the Dutch Information day were to:

1. Inform end users interested in newspaper research (professional and amateur historians, genealogists, librarians, archivists, and teachers) of the available content and search functionality offered in The European Library browser
2. Increase overall awareness of the Europeana Newspapers Project
3. Point to the benefits of collaborating at a European level to make newspaper content available online
4. Increase awareness of the value of historical newspapers as a resource for researchers in the (digital) humanities

1. Description of the event

On Tuesday 28 October 2014, the Europeana Newspapers Information Day took place at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, National Library of the Netherlands (KB) in The Hague. The programme spanned the entire afternoon, from 13:00 until 16:30 (see also Annex I).

The main audience was the diverse group of end users interested in historical newspapers (see also above), but we also had visitors from the library itself who wanted to hear more about the project in order to inform our customers about the new possibilities of working with the digitised newspapers.

Our programme included presentations about the digital newspaper collection of the KB, about the Europeana Newspaper project in general and about the newspaper browser by The European Library in particular. Moreover, two academic researchers presented their approach to newspapers as a source of historical information and what they thought was the added value of combining the European newspapers in one portal.

The audience was very active, which led to interesting discussions with each presentation.

Over 40 people (see Annex II for the list of participants) attended the event. At the start of the event, all participants received promotional materials, including postcards printed with a Dutch newspaper from the Europeana Newspapers collection, stickers, and pencils. Moreover, the meeting room in which the Information day took place was decorated with a number of Europeana Newspapers posters.

All pictures of the Dutch Information Day are available at the Europeana Newspaper Flickr account.¹

¹ <https://www.flickr.com/photos/enewspapers/sets/72157649323092222/>



The participants of the Information Day

2. Content of the presentations

The Information day was opened by Dr. Els Van Eijck Van Heslinga², the KB's Director of business operations.

She introduced the Europeana Newspaper project and made clear that participating in these type of projects is very important for research libraries such as the KB. Els van Eijck Van Heslinga showed how the KB's newspaper collection gained in relevance and value by making it available in an international context and



how the new browser developed in the project made it so much easier and attractive to do transnational comparative research.

The next presentation was by Huibert Crijns, Collections specialist at the KB. He described the efforts of the KB in digitizing Dutch language newspapers residing in a large number of institutions in the Netherlands³. The collection of digitised content is available through the website <http://kranten.delpher.nl/>. Huibert Crijns also gave some examples of how OCR allowed for full-text search, but also pointed to the difficulties in creating OCR output for older newspapers.

Dr. Samuël Kruizinga, embedded researcher at the KB and Associate Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Amsterdam, made clear how he makes use of historical newspapers in his current research project on the (collective) memory of the First World War in the Netherlands⁴. He pointed out that newspapers are a rich source of information, because they contain all kind of

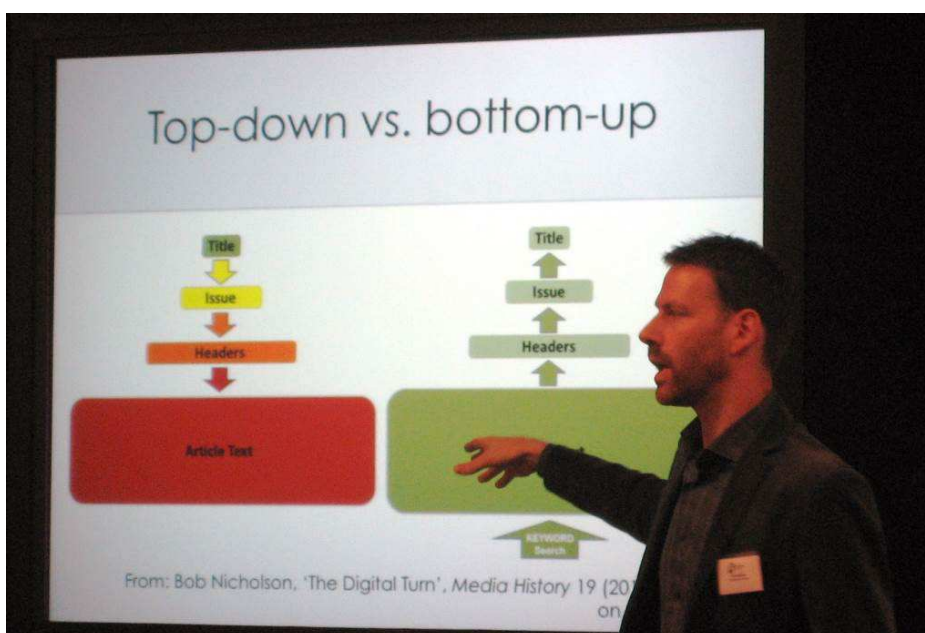
² http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enpdutchinfoodayevaneijck

³ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/huibert-crijns-20141028

⁴ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/samuel-kruizinga-20141028

'hard' data such as financial, legal, commercial and social information. On the other hand, many newspaper articles explicitly or implicitly express the opinion of the authors or editors behind the newspaper. This means that it is very important to establish the position of a certain newspaper and its readers to be able to interpret its content.

Dr. Pim Huijnen, Postdoctoral researcher in the Translantis project at Utrecht University, proceeded by illuminating the 'digital turn' in humanities research⁵. He clarified some of the



practical aspects of using digital resources and the 'bottom-up' approach, i.e. browsing large full-text corpora by means of keywords. Pim Huijnen pointed out that the method of 'distant reading', typical for digital humanities and increasingly popular because of the availability of large digital

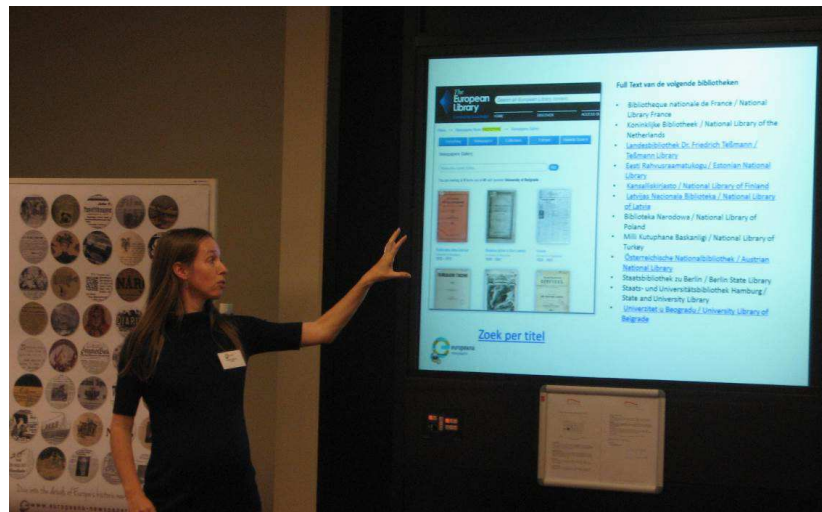
collections, is not enough in itself to answer humanities research questions. However, the use of online newspapers collections such as Europeana Newspapers offers great opportunities to start looking for patterns or developments over time or within different geographical areas.

After a short break, Lotte Wilms, Project leader European Projects at the KB and Work package leader for Europeana Newspapers, gave a detailed description of the work performed within the Europeana Newspapers project⁶. She explained the process of aggregation and the different tasks related to refinement.

⁵ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enpdutchinfoodayphuijnen

⁶ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enpdutchinfoodaylotte-wilms-20141028

Marieke Willems,
Communication Officer EU
Projects at LIBER, presented
the newspaper browser
which was developed within
the project and is now
available through The
European Library⁷. She gave
live demo of the browser and
performed a number of
queries to show the
opportunities for end users. See <http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/tel4/newspapers> for the
browser.



a

⁷ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enpdutchinfoofdaymwillems

3. Results

The main target group for the Information day was the end user. Looking at the list of participants, it is clear that we succeeded in reaching this group. Our audience consisted mainly of librarians (about 50% of the participants), while the others were a mixed group of end users from educational and cultural institutions, archives, and (professional or amateur) researchers.

The main aims of the Dutch Information day were to

1. Inform end users interested in newspaper research (professional and amateur historians, genealogists, librarians, archivists, and teachers) of the available content and search functionality offered in The European Library browser
2. Increase overall awareness of the Europeana Newspapers Project
3. Point to the benefits of collaborating at a European level to make newspaper content available online
4. Increase awareness of the value of historical newspapers as a resource for researchers in the (digital) humanities

The presentations we organised were chosen to address these issues.. The Europeana Newspapers project and the browser provided by The European Library were promoted in several presentations (Els van Eijck van Heslinga, Lotte Wilms, Marieke Willems). The benefits of European collaboration became clear in these presentations, but also in the presentations about (transnational) historical research in digital resources (Samuël Kruizinga and Pim Huijnen). The more general issue of the value of historical newspapers for historical research was illuminated by these researchers as well as by Huibert Crijns.

During and after the presentations, the participants gave their feedback as questions and comments to the speakers. The most important issues mentioned by participants were:

- Documentation on the functionality and options of the browser should be made available on The European Library's website
- Improved search functionality and downloading options may be needed to make the browser more attractive for end users

- The aggregated content should be made available through an API to be usable in a virtual research environment – this is especially important to digital humanities researchers, who may prefer to use their own tools rather than The European Library's interface
- The Europeana Newspapers collection is very attractive for teachers, but more specific functionality should be provided to allow for educational usage

The Information day provided us with a great opportunity to actually talk to our (future) end users and hear about their experiences and suggestions for improvement. Most participants informed us that they were surprised by the large number of pages available through Europeana Newspapers and the extensive search functionality of the new browser. As such, the Information day appears to have been successful in reaching a new group of potential end users of the Europeana Newspapers collection and spreading enthusiasm about the project.

ANNEX I: Agenda



Programma Europeana Newspapers Informatiemiddag Locatie: Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Zaal B/C

Tijd	Onderwerp	Spreker
12:30-13:00	Registratie	
13:00-13:15	Welkom & opening	Dr. Els Van Eijck Van Heslinga (KB)
13:15-13:45	Delpher kranten	Huibert Crijns (KB)
13:45-14:15	Onderzoeker en de krant	Dr. Samuël Kruizinga (UvA/KB)
14:15-14:45	Op zoek naar 'reference cultures' in big data	Dr. Pim Huijnen (UU)
14:45-15:15	Pauze	
15:15-15:45	Europeana Newspapers project	Lotte Wilms (KB)
15:45-16:15	Europeana Newspapers browser	Marieke Willems (LIBER)
16:15-16:30	Afsluiting	
16:30-17:30	Borrel	

ANNEX II: List of participants



Deelnemerslijst Europeana Newspapers Informatiemiddag 28 October 2014, Koninklijke Bibliotheek

Naam	Instelling
A. Wagenaar	
Andrea Langendoen	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Ans Beers	Penitentiare Inrichting Zwaag
Arjan van Hessen	CLARIAH
Bep Weber	Nationaal Archief
Dominic Farace	GreyNet International
Elke Hamelers	Universiteit Maastricht
Ellen van Breda	Bibliotheek Wageningen University & Research centre
Els Van Eijck Van Heslinga	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Eric Sieverts	
Gerdi Schot	Maritiem Museum Rotterdam
H.A. Hachmer	Veenkoloniaal Museum Veendam
Huibert Crijns	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Irene Rolfes	
Jacques Kleverlaan	
Jan Koreneef	Raad van State; Afd. Bibliotheek
Janneke van Wijk	Mediamucho
Johan Francke	Zeeuwse Bibliotheek
Judith Rog	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Juliette Lonij	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Lotte Wilms	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
M. Bos-Karczewska	Polonia.nl
Maaike Napolitano	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Maarten van Woerden	Informatiespecialist
Marieke Willems	LIBER
Marijke Bessels	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Marijke Tetteroo	Raad van State / bibliotheek

Mirjam Raaphorst	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Nicole Herben	Maastricht University Library
Peter Evers	Amsterdam Informatie Netwerk (AIN)
Pieter Baeten	European Association of History Educators (EUROCLIO)
Pim Huijnen	Universiteit Utrecht
Renee van der Hoeven	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Rinus Schaap	
Robert Soerdjoesing	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Rubrecht Zaat	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
S. van Waardenberg	Murmelliusgymnasium
Samuël Kruizinga	Universiteit van Amsterdam
Sigrid de Grave	Het Utrechts Archief
Sieta Neuerburg	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Steven Claeyssens	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Steven Stegers	European Association of History Educators (EUROCLIO)
Theo Kamphuis	ING Bedrijfshistorisch Archief
Tim Klein Haneveld	Telegraaf Media Groep
Vera Hubers	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
W. van der Meer	

ANNEX III: Dissemination

Medium	Date	URL
Website KB	25SEPT2014	http://kb.nl/nieuws/nieuws-2014/europeana-newspapers-informatiemiddag-28-oktober
Twitter: "@KB_Nederland"	07OCT2014	https://twitter.com/KB_Nederland/status/519492416232239104
Twitter: "@KBNLresearch"	16OCT2014 & 28OCT2014	https://twitter.com/KBNLresearch/status/522739096519974912 & https://twitter.com/KBNLresearch/status/527039933643771904
Twitter: "#eurnewsNL"	28OCT2014	https://twitter.com/hashtag/eurnewsNL?src=hash
News item on website Digitaal Erfgoed Nederland (DEN)	19SEPT2014	http://www.den.nl/agenda/bericht/4463
News item on website CLARIAH	19SEPT2014	http://www.clariah.nl/en/home/57-hoofd/nieuws/203-europeana-newspapers-informatiemiddag
News item on website Informatieprofessional	22SEPT2014	http://www.informatieprofessional.nl/nieuws/2014/09/kb-organiseert-informatie/
NEDBIB-L, E-mail discussion list for librarians and information professionals	19SEPT2014 & 17OCT2014	http://list.ecompass.nl/listserv/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind1409&L=NEDBIB-L&F=&S=&P=12827 ; <NEDBIB-L@LIST.ECOMPASS.NL>
E-mail invitation to partners in Delpher newspaper collection	03OCT2014	http://kranten.delpher.nl/nl/pages/partners

Promotion on the news page of the National library of the Netherlands: <http://kb.nl/nieuws/nieuws-2014/europeana-newspapers-informatiemiddag-28-oktober>



Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Nationale bibliotheek van Nederland

KB-catalogus
website

Over de KB

Nieuws

Organisatie en beleid
Werken bij de KB
Expertise
Research
Voor uitgevers
Voor de pers
Vrienden van de KB

[Home](#) » [Nieuws](#) » [2014](#) »



delen

Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag 28 oktober

De KB nodigt u graag uit voor de Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag op 28 oktober 2014 van 13:00 tot 17:00 uur.

Het project Europeana Newspapers

In [Europeana Newspapers](#), dat in januari 2015 zal worden afgerond, worden zo'n 18 miljoen krantenpagina's beschikbaar gesteld via [Europeana](#) en [The European Library](#). 10 miljoen krantenpagina's zullen full text doorzoekbaar zijn. De kranten zijn afkomstig van bibliotheken uit uiteenlopende landen, waaronder Duitsland, Estland, Letland, Finland, Servië en Polen. Ook de KB is partner in dit project en heeft een deel van de eigen krantencollectie beschikbaar gesteld.

Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag

Graag lichten wij op 28 oktober de mogelijkheden van deze digitale collectie verder toe. We geven het woord aan onderzoekers die werken met digitale kranten, we horen meer over de KB-krantencollectie en zullen het project en de zoekmogelijkheden presenteren. We sluiten de middag af met een borrel.

Voor wie is deze middag bedoeld?

De Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag is bedoeld voor iedereen met interesse in historische kranten, zoals historici, genealogen, erfgoedinstellingen, bibliotheekmedewerkers, docenten en journalisten.

Deelname is gratis, maar het aantal plaatsen is beperkt. Wij horen graag of u aanwezig zult zijn. Aanmelden kan tot en met 22 oktober met behulp van dit [formulier](#).

KB

Zoeken

De bibliotheek

Exposities & collecties

Over de KB

Promotion on the news page of CLARIAH, The Netherlands:

<http://www.clariah.nl/en/home/57-hoofd/nieuws/203-europeana-newspapers-informatiemiddag>



Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag



De Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) nodigt u graag uit voor de Europeana Newspapers informatiemiddag.

Datum Dinsdag 28 oktober 2014

Tijd 13:00 - 17:00 uur

Locatie Koninklijke Bibliotheek te Den Haag

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Twitter messages with #eurnewsNL:

<https://twitter.com/search?f=realtime&q=%23eurnewsNL&src=hash>

