

REPORT

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Report on Europeana Newspapers Information Day at the National Library of Austria

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This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise.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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1. Executive Summary

This report concerns the seventh Information Day for the Europeana Newspapers Project, organised and held by the Austrian National Library in Vienna. Information Days are a chance for partners to highlight the work they have been doing in the project at national level.

These Information Days increase overall awareness of the project. They should also convey one of the following key messages:

1. The value of collaborating at a national and European level to make newspaper content available online (social, economic, cultural, research, technical etc).
2. How to address the technical issues associated with making digitised newspaper content available
3. The value of online digitised newspaper collections (i.e. highlight available content).

The Austrian Information Day aimed at increasing overall awareness of the project at end-user level. Hence available content and the developed content browser was its focus. The background of participants differed considerably: Besides researchers and librarians also teachers and students were found amongst the audience. In this way it was possible to reach a very heterogeneous set of end-users.

Other partners of the project, namely the University of Innsbruck and the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin attended the event and contributed to the programme.

2. Event Overview

The Austrian Information Day was held on 16 October 2014 at the Austrian National Library. The theme “digitized, historical newspapers as a source” was chosen as a golden thread to connect the different talks. The agenda was developed having participants from very different backgrounds in mind. Therefore that topic was approached using very different angles.

The Information Day was specifically targeted on end-users of the content browser developed within the project. Users of digitized newspapers are a very heterogeneous group – from researchers in digital humanities to ‘amateur users’ interested in very specific regional topics, from professional historians to teachers and students. Hence the programme (see ANNEX I) was developed having these diverse backgrounds of potential end-users in mind.

Attendees from different Austrian universities (e.g. University of Vienna, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, University of Applied Sciences Burgenland), teachers and private individuals were welcomed. But also guests from research facilities like the Austrian Academy of Sciences and from the library sector (e.g. Library of the University of Vienna, Library of Vienna University of Economics and Business) took part. And students attended the event as well. Hence the Information Day was a great opportunity to disseminate the project’s goals and achievements to a very heterogeneous set of attendees, who can be described as potential end-users.

The structure of the Information Day combined talks given by experts with a more practical approach. Each talk consisted of about 20-25 minutes and 5-10 minutes of discussion, hence allowing for an immediate interaction between presenter and the audience. But in order to allow for a more informal discussion we set up Q&A-Sessions with experts in three different fields. The first was on technical aspects and OCR, the second on how to utilize digitized, historical newspapers in schools and the third allowed interested users to explore online newspaper portals by themselves.

Although the event wasn’t paired with any additional seminar or conference, it was possible to attract 63 people including a school class. Promotional material was distributed including postcards and stickers. There was also a survey designed and handed over to the participants in order to have more tangible feedback on the Information Day. An overview and analysis of this survey is given in ANNEX III. The presentations can be found on Slideshare¹ as well as on the research blog of the Austrian National Library². Photos taken during the event are to be found on Flickr³.

¹ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers

² <http://onbresearch.wordpress.com/>

³ <https://www.flickr.com/photos/enewspapers/sets/72157648835039480/>

3. Presentations and Discussion

Registration opened at 09:00 a.m. and every participant received a welcome map, including postcards and stickers of the Europeana Newspapers Project.



Figure 1: The venue of the Austrian Information Day, the so-called 'Oratorium'.

The Information Day was opened by a welcome of Max Kaiser, Head of Research and Development at the Austrian National Library, who also introduced the speakers and moderated the discussion until the coffee break and after lunch.



Figure 2: Max Kaiser welcomes the participants.

The Europeana Newspapers Project was introduced by Hans-Jörg Lieder of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin⁴, who not only gave a comprehensive overview over the project's goals and its current state but also set it into a wider European perspective on digitisation efforts. His very interesting conclusion was that the current state of newspaper digitization is best illustrated by a photo taken shortly after the start of a marathon – a metaphor that recurred during the event and was controversial discussed.



Figure 3: Hans-Jörg Lieder illustrates the state of newspaper digitization with a picture taken shortly after the start of a marathon.

⁴ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/europeananewspapersonbinfodayhjlieder

Christa Müller, who is head of the Austrian National Library's digitization department 'Abteilung Digitale Services', provided an insight into the ONB's newspaper portal 'ANNO' (AustriaN Newspapers Online)⁵. An average of 2,500 daily visitors uses the currently 13 million newspaper pages available online of which about 4 million pages are already made searchable. Christa Müller also explained how titles are selected for digitization – preservation of fragile originals, public demand and different projects - and which additional functionalities are planned for ANNO.

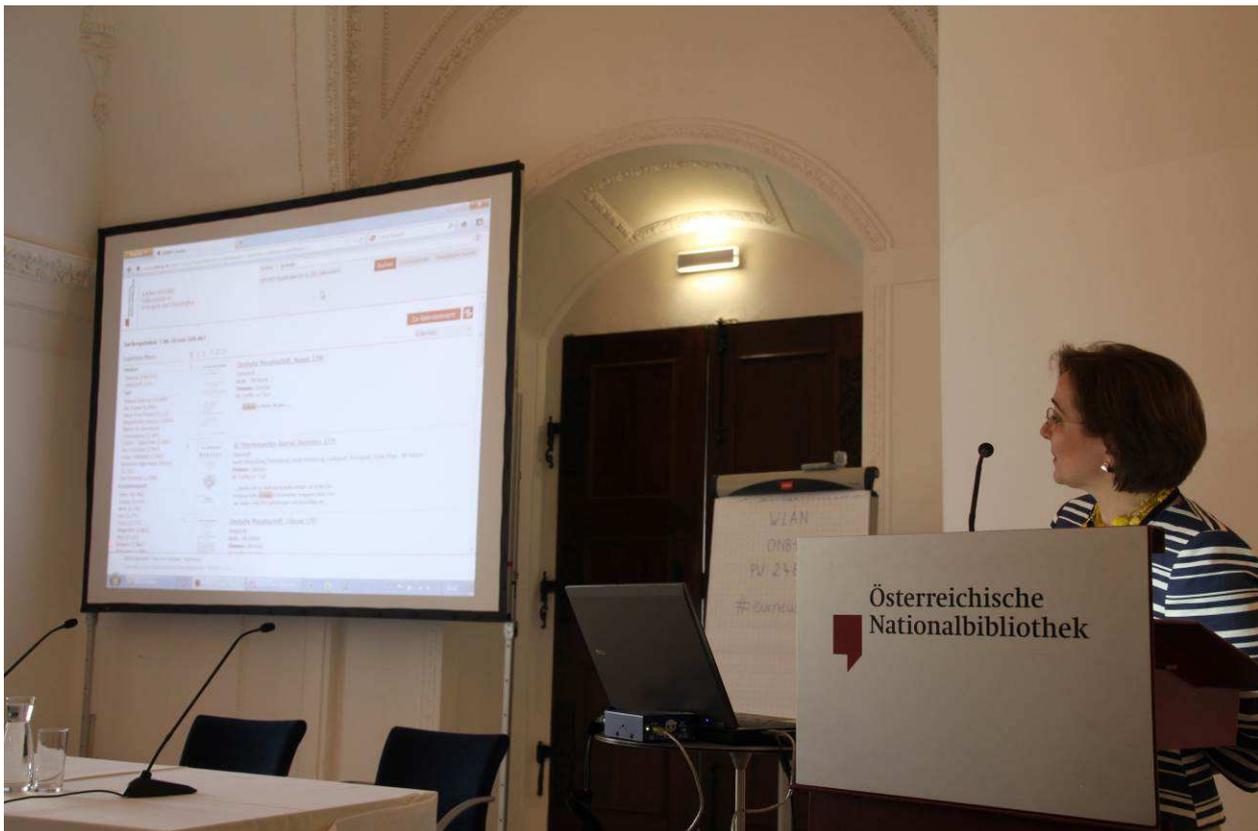


Figure 4: Christa Müller demonstrating full-text search in ANNO.

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

Technical aspects of newspaper digitisation were Günter Mühlberger's (University of Innsbruck) subject⁶. His approach was to highlight and comment the different stages of a digitisation project's workflow. This included thoughts on technology but also covered fields like copyright, metadata and archiving issues. Due to the numerous years of experience in this field he pointed out possible pitfalls but also benefits of a project like the Europeana Newspapers Project.



Figure 5: Günter Mühlberger explaining technical aspects of newspapers digitization.

After a short break the focus shifted to more practical aspects. Therefore the following two talks provided insights into the day to day work of professional historians with digitized, historical newspapers. Christa Müller introduced the speakers and moderated the discussion until the lunch break.

⁶ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/muehlberger-guenter-enponb

Professor Oliver Rathkolb, head of the Institute for Contemporary History (Institut für Zeitgeschichte) at the University of Vienna showed how he was able to utilize digitized, historical newspapers in his own research. He remarked that on the one hand his efficiency of work increased significantly while on the other hand he is now able to find new, so far unnoticed material. He also emphasized the importance of making more recent historical newspapers available online, e.g. newspapers published in the interwar period.



Figure 6: Oliver Rathkolb shows how he was able to find new sources by using the newspaper portal ANNO.

The following talk by Dr Marie-Theres Arnbom, who is a freelance historian, author, curator and cultural manager, outlined how she is using ANNO through the example of a biography. She chose Victor Léon, a librettist, and showed the audience how it is possible by using full-text search to find obscure and even unknown aspects of a life. Marie-Theres Arnbom concluded that with help of portals such as ANNO it is possible to reconstruct someone's whole life.



Figure 7: Marie-Theres Arnbom exemplifies her way of working with ANNO using the biography of Victor Léon.

After the lunch break the Information Day continued with Clemens Neudecker, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin.⁷ His reflective talk combined digitized historical newspapers with aspects of digital humanities and emphasized not only the ‘relativity’ of big data – what might seem big in terms of newspaper digitization isn’t so much in other fields - but also pointed out certain statistical difficulties that might have an impact when working with this source. For example only an estimated four percent of all European newspaper holdings are digitized so far.⁸ Hence questions about sample size need to be considered.



Figure 8: Clemens Neudecker combined Digital Humanities and digitized newspapers in his talk.

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

⁸ Clemens Neudecker used the Enumerate Report that can be found at:
http://www.enumerate.eu/en/surveys/thematic_survey/

Clemens Neudecker was followed by Eva Maria Naimer. She delivered very interesting insights in her own experiences of utilizing digitized historical newspapers in secondary school teaching⁹. Eva Maria Naimer showed how different topics, such as censorship and the changing image of women can be displayed by examples of newspaper articles. Eva Maria Naimer especially emphasized that digitized historical newspapers provide easily accessible primary sources for students and provide new opportunities to structure and shape lessons.



Figure 9: Eva Maria Naimer demonstrates how she utilizes digitized newspapers in history classes.

⁹ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/enponbinfodayneudecker

The series of talks was concluded by Martin Schaller of the Austrian National Library, who demonstrated different newspaper browsers including the portal developed by Europeana Newspapers¹⁰. He chose the example of the Austro-Hungarian North Pole expedition to demonstrate how the Content Browser can be utilized to gather different European voices.



Figure 10: Martin Schaller showed the functionalities of the content browser with the help of an historic example.

After the last talk, participants had the opportunity to approach experts with their specific questions. As mentioned above, three different fields have been chosen. Each field had its own work station in order to allow for hands-on experience. “Technical aspects and OCR” was covered by Clemens Neudecker and Günter Mühlberger. Eva Maria Naimer answered questions concerning “digitized, historical newspapers in school teaching”, while Martin Schaller oversaw a work station, on which the attendees could explore different newspaper portals on their own.

Finally the participants had also the opportunity to attend a guided tour through the State Hall.

¹⁰ http://www.slideshare.net/Europeana_Newspapers/schaller-martin-onlinezeitungsportale-im-internationalen-vergleich

4. Impressions and Insights

The Information Day held at the Austrian National Library was a success and received positive feedback via the survey but also in discussions during and after the event. The goal of promoting the achievements of the project to end-users was also successfully reached, because, as already mentioned above, participants with very heterogeneous backgrounds were attracted to the event.

That digitized historical newspapers are of great interest showed the lively discussions after each talk. Especially presentations centred on practical aspects like how to use such newspaper portals for different purposes were received very positively. The ‘further comments’ section of the survey also shows that both content as well as organisation of the Information Day were received positively. One participant for example wrote: “Congratulations to this event”, while another stated “very interesting event”.

Participants also engaged in social media activities throughout the day, highlighting especially interesting insights. The usage of #eurnewsVIE in over 40 Twitter messages shows how the audience was taking the content of talks further.

The event combined background information on the Europeana Newspapers Project and online newspaper browsers in general with insights in handling and navigating this source. The Europeana Newspapers project was acknowledged as a pioneering attempt to bundle national and regional efforts and lift them to a European level. Hans-Jörg Lieder tried to illustrate this situation using the metaphor of a marathon shortly after the starting shot. Clemens Neudecker emphasized this point when reminding the audience that only an estimated four percent of all European newspapers holdings are digitized so far.

Great interest within the audience sparked discussions around Optical Character Recognition and Named Entity Recognition, because both topics have a direct influence on the handling of digitized newspapers. Questions such as how to improve full-texts and when Named Entity Recognition will be introduced were followed with great interest.

Seeing how historians work with this kind of source was especially informative. Both, Oliver Rathkolb and Marie-Theres Arnbom, reported that they are able to find otherwise overlooked sources and increase their own efficiency. But both also touched upon limitations: Not every period they consider important for their own research is available so far. This leads to a situation where academic discussions and digitization efforts operate on a different pace. Focus of historical research in Austria begins to shift to the interwar period but full-text search is not available for this era so far. OCR-Errors can also lead to decreased hits in full-text search as a blog article, written after the Information Day, shows.¹¹ Very positive conclusions came from Eva Maria Naimer. As a teacher she uses this source to elaborate on different themes such as censorship. The focus shifted away from technical issues to questions with regards to content: How to overcome the hurdle gothic script? How to contextualize contemporary texts? Such and similar questions showed that familiarizing younger users with this source is a new but fruitful field.

¹¹ <http://mindthegaps.hypotheses.org/1805>



Figure 11: Participants of the Austrian Information Day.



Figure 12: The audience listening to Marie-Theres Arnbom's talk.



Figure 13: Many participants engaged in lively discussions after each talk.



Figure 14: Oliver Rathkolb and Christa Müller awaiting questions from the audience.

ANNEX I: Agenda

Vormittag	
09:00-09:20	Registrierung
09:20-09:30	Willkommen und Vorstellung der Agenda
09:30-10:00	Das Europeana Newspapers Project Hans-Jörg Lieder , Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin
10:00-10:30	Zeitungsdigitalisierung an der ÖNB - AustriaN Newspapers Online (ANNO) Christa Müller , Österreichische Nationalbibliothek
10:30-11:00	Technische Aspekte der Zeitungsdigitalisierung Günter Mühlberger , Universität Innsbruck
Kaffeepause	
11:15-11:45	ANNO in der Praxis Marie-Theres Arnbom , Historikerin, Autorin, Kuratorin und Kulturmanagerin
11:45-12:15	Die digitalisierte Zeitung als wissenschaftliche Quelle Oliver Rathkolb , Universität Wien
Mittagspause	
13:15-13:45	Digitalisierte Zeitungen und Digital Humanities – Probleme und Chancen Clemens Neudecker , Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin
13:45-14:15	ANNO im Klassenzimmer Eva-Maria Naimer
14:15-14:45	Online-Zeitungsportale im internationalen Vergleich Martin Schaller , Österreichische Nationalbibliothek
14:45-15:45	Praxisbezogene Frage-und-Antwort-Session mit Experten Es besteht die Möglichkeit des persönlichen Gesprächs mit Experten zu den technischen Aspekten der Zeitungsdigitalisierung, dem Einsatz im Unterricht sowie verschiedene Online-Zeitungsportale selbst zu testen. Themenkreis 1: technische Aspekte und Optical Character Recognition Themenkreis 2: historische, digitalisierte Zeitungen im Unterricht Themenkreis 3: Online-Zeitungsportale selbst entdecken
16:00	Im Anschluss besteht für die TeilnehmerInnen die Möglichkeit an einer kostenlosen Prunksaalführung teilzunehmen

ANNEX II: List of Participants

Austrian Information Day, Vienna, 10. October 2014

Austrian National Library



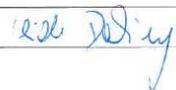
List of Participants

Project: A Gateway to European Newspapers Online

Project reference no: 297380

Date: 16 October 2014

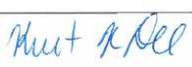
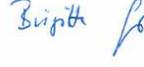
Location: Austrian National Library, Vienna

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3.	Baranes Blandina	European Space Policy Institute	blandina.baranes@espi.or.at		
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5.	Bösch Bianca	Bundesgymnasium BG VIII	bianca.boesch@bg8.at		
6.	Darling Heide	Österreichische	heide.darling@onb.ac.at		

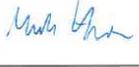
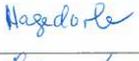
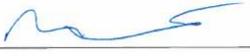


Unterschrift



		Nationalbibliothek		Unterschrift	Newsletter
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				Unterschrift	Newletter
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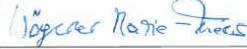


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66					
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72					



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74	Nadine KRAUS			
75	Julia STUMPF-FUECKE			
76	Christina WEIGL			
77	Ivana Mirkovic			
78	Katharina Schwendner			
79	Patricia Ferl			
80	Stephanie Ullrich			
81	Carina Gese			
82	Sarah Lisa BenMohamed			
83	Manuel Nemeth			
84	Carola Brandstetter			
85				
86				
87				
88				
89				

Eventbrite Report of attendees:

Surname	First Name	Email	Quantity
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Müller	Christa	christa.mueller@onb.ac.at	1
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Lehner	Monika	lehner@mail.h-net.msu.edu	1
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Gradauer	Brigitte	martin.schaller@onb.ac.at	1
Moissi	Karmen Petra	karmen.moissi@onb.ac.at	1
Hausberger	Claudia	claudia.hausberger@vetmeduni.ac.at	1
Jäger	Margit	margit.jaeger@chello.at	2
Hartl	Petra	petra.hartl@heustadelgasse.at	1
Gföller	Susanne	gfoeller@mdw.ac.at	1
Poderschnig	Michael	magic6@gmx.at	1
Naimer	Eva-Maria	naimer@spengergasse.at	1
Komadna	Adrian	adrian.komadina@gmx.at	1
Ecker	Alois	aloes.ecker@univie.ac.at	1
Hintersonleitner	Michael	mhinters@gmail.com	1
Kaiser	Max	max.kaiser@onb.ac.at	1
Hagendorfer	Angela	angela.hagendorfer@onb.ac.at	1
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Eberwein	Eva	eva.eberwein@uibk.ac.at	1
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Hyna	Irene	irene.hyna@bka.gv.at	1
Havlicek	Ursula	ursula.havlicek@onb.ac.at	1
Wöber	Veronika	veronika.woeber@onb.ac.at	1
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Hadraba	Manfred	manfred.hadraba@wu.ac.at	1
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Schreiner	Hendrik	hendrik.schreiner@gmx.net	1
Wimmer	Bettina	bettina.wimmer@ing-diba.at	1
Arnbom	Christiane	christl@arnbom.com	1

ANNEX III: Survey Results

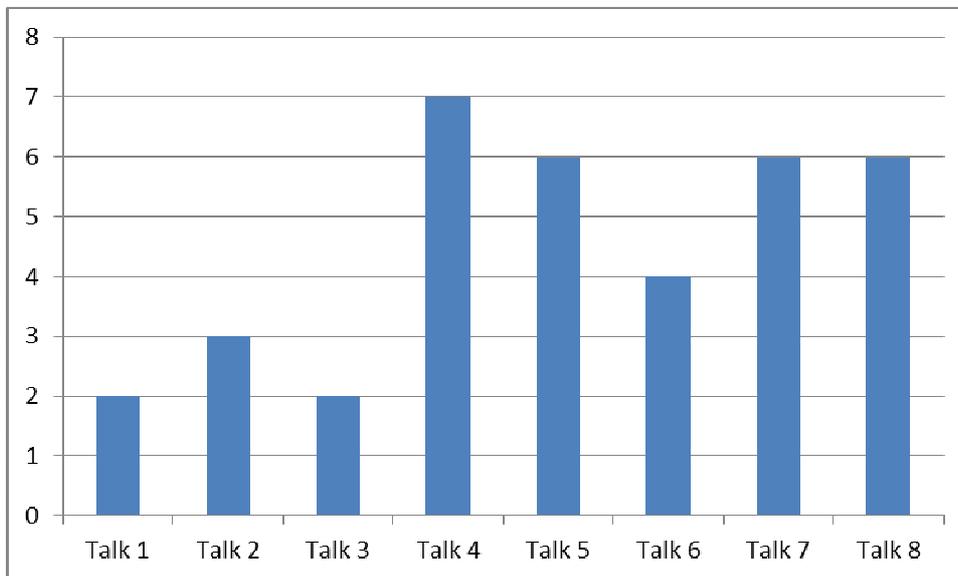
Every participant received a survey consisting of seven questions. Although turnout was lower than expected – thirteen completed surveys were returned – some fruitful conclusions can be drawn from these.

Question 1: Did the Information Day reach your expectations (1: Did not reach expectations at all; 5: fulfil expectation completely)

1	2	3	4	5
0	0	3	3	6

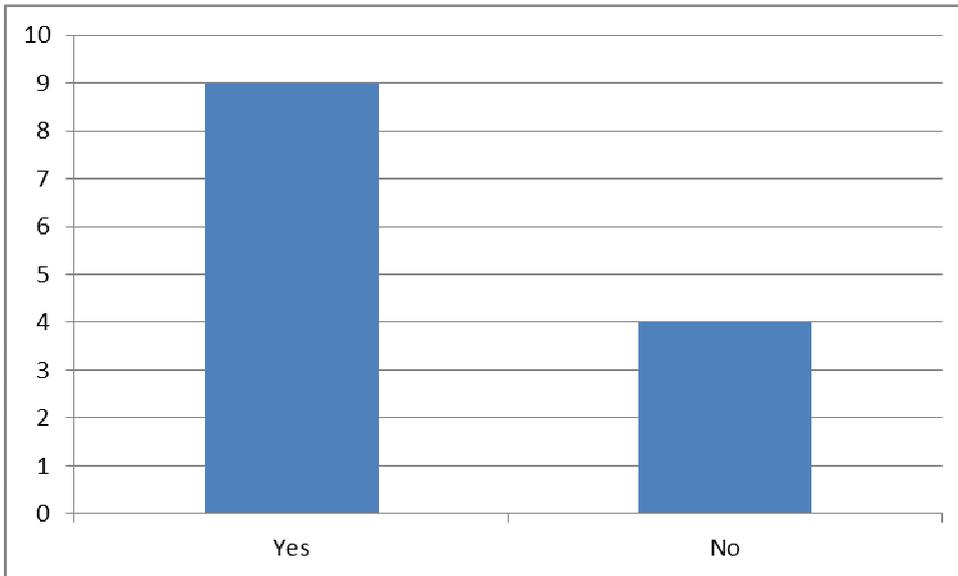
Average: 4,25¹²

Question 2: Which talk did you find especially helpful? (multiple answers possible)

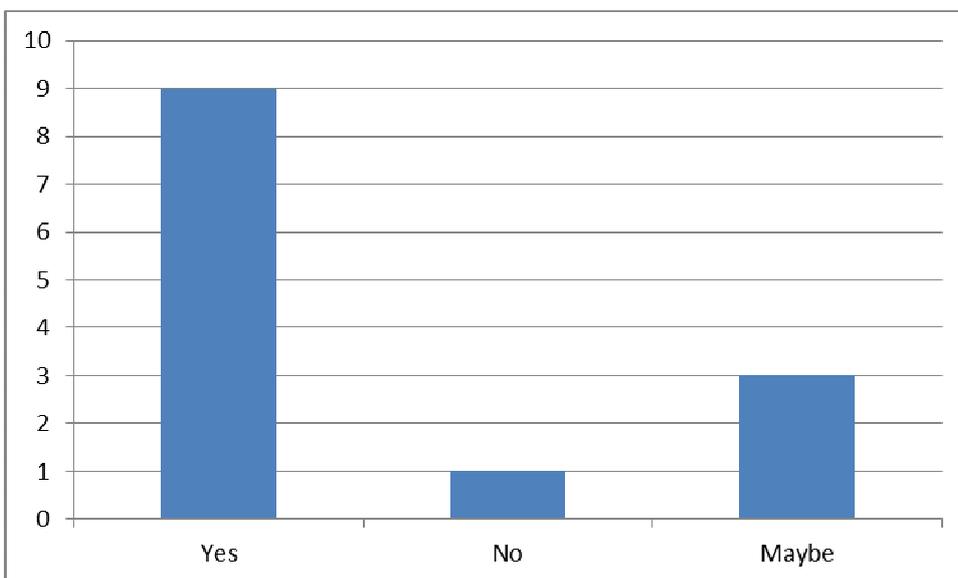


Question 3: Have you heard about the Europeana Newspapers Project before?

¹² Only twelve answered this question



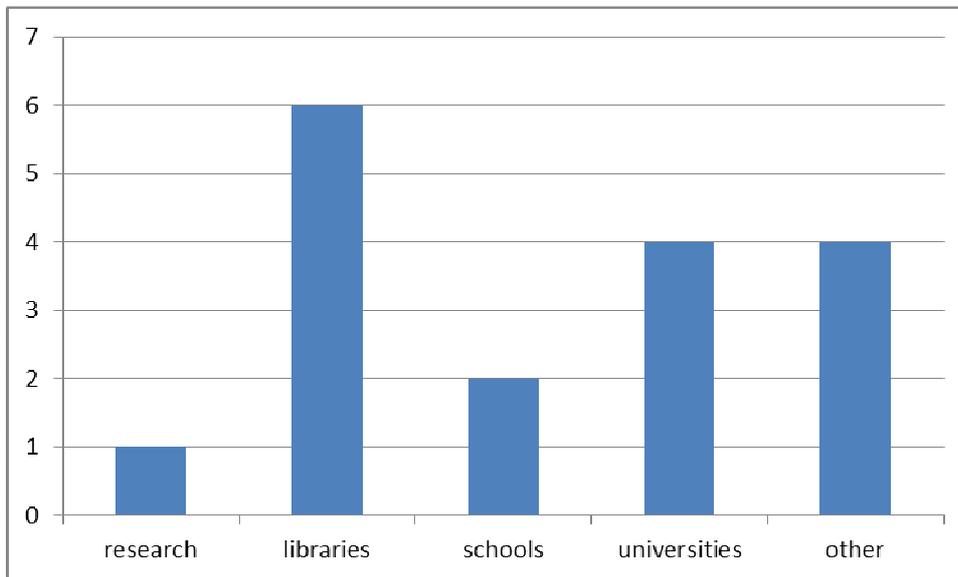
Question 4: Will you be using the developed content browser within the next month?



Question 5: Which online resources are you using mainly?

ANNO, Library Press Display, Factiva, JSTOR, IMDB, Springer Link, Europeana, ALEX

Question 6: In which field are you working? (multiple answers possible)



Question 7: Any further comments?

ANNEX IV: Media Coverage

- Blogposts
- Twitter
- Flickr



Monika Lehner @MonikaLehner · 16. Okt.

[mindthegap(s)] Schon aus den Startlöchern? Lose Gedanken nach [#eurnewsVIE](https://mindthegaps.hypotheses.org/1805) mindthegaps.hypotheses.org/1805

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.

[#eurnewsVIE](#) Now Martin Schaller, @ONB_RD providing an overview of various digital newspaper portals

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.

[#eurnewsVIE](#) Fascinating presentation by Eva Maria Naimer about potential of digitised historical newspapers in secondary school teaching

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

Martin Schaller @ONB_RD now closing the afternoon presentations [#eurnewsVIE](#) with a comparison of international online newspaper portals.

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Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker · 16. Okt.

Martin Schaller (ONB) now showing differences and commonplaces between various digital newspaper portals internationally [#eurnewsVIE](#)

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

E.M.Naimer: with ANNO students can learn historic orthography/fonts /vocabulary, analyze topics like censur/advertising/scandals/ [#eurnewsVIE](#)

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

How can we use ANNO anno.onb.ac.at in the classroom? Eva-Maria Naimer is answering this question now [#eurnewsVIE](#).

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

.@cneudecker closes with illuminating illustration of the issues related to Digital Newspapers: bit.ly/1xV4Fmo @eurnews [#eurnewsVIE](#)

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.

#eurnewsVIE @cneudecker: challenges: only fraction of collections digitised, quality varies, different granularity, bad OCR, copyright

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

Still a way to go. @cneudecker reminds us that only 10% of European cultural heritage is digitized! strategy2020.europeana.eu #eurnewsVIE

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.

#eurnewsVIE Now @cneudecker about digitised newspapers and the #digitalhumanities #DH @eurnews

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

After lunch now Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker and the problems and opportunities of digitized newspapers and #digitalhumanities. #eurnewsVIE

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

Through the example of the librettist Viktor Léon, Arnbom shows ANNO can be used to follow the entire career of a public figure #eurnewsVIE

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

Marie-Theres Arnbom arnbom.com and the practice of using ANNO for research #eurnewsVIE!

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Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker · 16. Okt.

Oliver Rathkolb: 'I am more efficient navigating digital repositories than my students who grew up with Google - how come?' #eurnewsVIE

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.

#eurnewsVIE Very interesting report by Austrian historian Oliver Rathkolb on how he is using digitised newspapers in his research practice

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.

Oliver Rathkolb now with a presentation about digitized newspaper as a source for scientific research! #eurnewsVIE

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Manuel N. @dopeofaphrodite · 16. Okt.
#eurnewsVIE

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.
#eurnewsVIE Mühlberger: #newspaper digitisation should be seen as an intrinsic activity of libraries, rather than a project activity

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Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
Mühlberger: #Digitization as standing infrastructure or only project-based activity #eurnewsVIE

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.
#eurnewsVIE Now Günter Mühlberger about technical aspects of newspaper #digitisation @eurnews

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ONB R&D @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.
Next speaker is Günter Mühlberger from @uniinnsbruck: All about the "Technical Aspects of Newspaper Digitalisation". #eurnewsVIE

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Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
Mühlberger (UIBK) stresses the transdisciplinary character of #digitalhumanities #eurnewsVIE

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Max Kaiser @maxkaiser · 16. Okt.
RT @cneudecker: Discussion on named entity recognition at #eurnewsVIE - @eurnews is working on tools for NER: [github.com/KBNLresearch/e...](https://github.com/KBNLresearch/europeanp-ner)

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Clemens Neudecker @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
Discussion on named entity recognition at #eurnewsVIE - @eurnews is working on tools for NER: [github.com/KBNLresearch/e...](https://github.com/KBNLresearch/europeanp-ner)

 **GitHub**

KBNLresearch/europeanp-ner
europeanp-ner - Named Entities Recognition Annotator Tool for Europeana Newspapers

[Im Web anzeigen](#)



-  **ONB R&D** @ONB_RD · 16. Okt.
ANNO full text search: more than 100.000 hits in seconds! anno.onb.ac.at
[#eurnewsVIE](#)
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[#CopyrightCliffOfDeath](#)
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[#eurnewsVIE](#) ANNO: 13M newspaper pages, 650 different titles, 650K single issues anno.onb.ac.at [@eurnews](#)
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-  **Clemens Neudecker** @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
We need more digital (& physical) library labs! Examples: [@BL_Labs](#)
[@KBNLresearch](#) [#eurnewsVIE](#)
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-  **Clemens Neudecker** @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
Search & browse historical newspapers from [@eurnews](#) in the live portal of [@EuropeanLibrary theeuropeanlibrary.org/tel4/newspapers](http://theeuropeanlibrary.org/tel4/newspapers) [#eurnewsVIE](#)
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-  **Clemens Neudecker** @cneudecker · 16. Okt.
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Lieder: Vom Bild zum Text - Massenverarbeitung digitaler Zeitungen im @eurnews Projekt #eurnewsVIE



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