COMMON EUROPEAN DATA SPACE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

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Strategy 2025-2030

Common European data space for cultural heritage

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PREFACE

This strategy contributes to and is aligned with the European Commission Recommendation (EU) 2021/1970 of 10 November 2021 on a common European data space for cultural heritage. It has been developed by the European Commission with the vital input of the Expert Group on a common European Data Space for Cultural Heritage (CEDCHE) and its subgroup of experts advising on strategic, technical and legal aspects, as well as with the support of the Europeana Initiative in its role as deployer of the data space. We would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to its formulation.

The common European data space for cultural heritage is a flagship initiative of the European Union, funded by the Digital Europe programme. It is operated, since September 2022, by a consortium led by the Europeana Foundation, under a service contract with the European Commission. It builds on the solid background and the achievements of the Europeana Initiative, politically and financially supported by the European Commission and the Member States since its launch in 2008.

Gardenia Stanleyana #0681 - Meise Botanic Garden, Belgium - CC BY-SA.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface 3
Table of contents 5
Introduction 6
Policy context 7
From Europeana to the common European data space for cultural heritage 10
Current landscape and direction 14
Vision 17
Priorities 18
- Priority 1 19
- Priority 2 24
- Priority 3 29

Conclusion 37

INTRODUCTION

The tapestry of Europe's cultural heritage, its sweeping themes and minute details, have been weaved by our history, identities and values. Digitisation gives our cultural heritage a new life, new possibilities so that it can be discovered, understood and appreciated by present and future generations, offering us perspective on and connecting us to the lives and legacies of our ancestors, our history and culture.

Shifting climate, disasters, armed conflicts and economic factors around and within Europe pose significant risks to our cultural assets. Taking decisive steps to protect and preserve this heritage for future generations is important. Digitisation of cultural heritage offers solutions to document and preserve cultural heritage assets, enhancing their resilience in the face of crises.

The common European data space for cultural heritage opens up access to digitised cultural heritage, enables wider data sharing and reuse by economic actors, innovators, creatives, researchers and citizens alike, creating economic value and, at the same time, promotes recognition and appreciation of our cultural heritage and the understanding of instances of history and values we share as Europeans, no matter where we trace our roots to and live.

POLICY CONTEXT

In 2021, the European data strategy set out the vision of creating a single market for data, that will strengthen Europe's competitiveness and data sovereignty. The creation of EU-wide, common, interoperable data spaces in strategic sectors is a pillar of the data strategy. Data spaces bring together relevant data infrastructures and governance frameworks to facilitate data sharing and unleash the potential of data for innovation, economy and society. They are part of the broader EU vision to develop digital infrastructures that serve the public interest and of the commitment to technological excellence and digital sovereignty, while ensuring adherence to European values such as privacy, security, and ethical data usage. The data space for cultural heritage is part of this ecosystem of interoperable data spaces in strategic economic sectors and domains of public interest.
The 2021 Recommendation on a common European data space for cultural heritage was adopted to encourage and accelerate the digitisation and preservation efforts of EU Member States and to increase the availability of cultural heritage content in the data space, in particular 3D and high-quality content. It aims to help cultural heritage institutions seize the opportunities of digital transformation and sets out indicative targets for high quality data by 2030 as an essential step to foster reuse and enable creation and innovation across sectors. It is the continuation of the policy for digitisation of cultural heritage and the investment of the European Commission and the Member States since 2006, when digital libraries and the Europeana initiative started to take shape.

At a time when diversity, inclusion and equal access to reliable and balanced information are at risk, Europe's cultural heritage holds great potential as a

reminder and reflection of our history and values and as a resource and inspiration for shaping our future on our own terms. Making it easier for people, especially younger generations, to access and benefit from our rich and diverse cultural heritage was recognised in the political guidelines of the Von der Leyen Commission 2024-2029.

A shifting geopolitical landscape and worsening climate conditions make it all the more necessary to plan ahead and act on aspects of resilience and security – cyber and physical – to safeguard cultural heritage data resulting from Member States' digitisation efforts.

Access to data is at the heart of the AI Continent Action Plan adopted by the European Commission in 2025 to leverage the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and address its risks, with the aim of enhancing Europe's competitiveness and innovation, safeguarding its democratic values and protecting its cultural and linguistic diversity. It underscores the importance of trustworthy, high-quality, and interoperable datasets for the safe and responsible deployment of AI. As part of the Quality Data for AI initiative, announced in the Data Union Strategy in November 2025, more than 30 million digitised works from Europe's cultural institutions will be made available for AI development, scaling up the EU's cultural and linguistic resources.

Furthermore, the development of the common European data space for cultural heritage is one of the 20 flagship actions in the Culture Compass, the EU's strategic framework for culture, as an action towards strengthening the EU's competitiveness, resilience and cohesion.

Verkade nv. (formerly C.L. Verhagen & van Oorschot nv.) staff in front of buses at the start of a staff outing by Zuiden, Fotopersbureau Het - City Archives' s-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands - CC BY-SA.

FROM EUROPEANA TO THE COMMON EUROPEAN DATA SPACE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

The common European data space for cultural heritage is a flagship initiative of the EU, to accelerate the digital transformation of Europe's cultural sector and foster the creation and reuse of digital cultural heritage content. It builds largely on the achievements of the Europeana initiative, politically and financially supported by the European Commission and the Member States over the past two decades.

The concept of Europeana was initiated in 2005, following a request by 6 Heads of State and Government to the European Commission to create a European digital library. **The Europeana portal (europeana.eu) was launched in 2008** as a single access point to Europe's digital cultural heritage. The Europeana Foundation was established in the Netherlands as an independent, non-profit organisation to develop and coordinate the initiative. Europeana has since then evolved, alongside the digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector, and is today the **reference digital cultural heritage portal of the European Union**, available in all EU official languages.

The **Europeana Digital Service Infrastructure** was established and expanded between 2017 and 2022, funded under the Connecting Europe Facility programme. Further to providing access to the cultural heritage assets on the Europeana portal, **Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and other machine-readable interfaces** have enabled access to the metadata records and digital assets hosted by data providers for **re-use** in education, research and other applications.

Standards and frameworks, including the **Europeana Data Model** and the **Europeana Licensing and Publishing Frameworks**, have been developed over the years in collaboration with the cultural heritage sector, to support metadata interoperability, the contribution of high-quality data, and clear rights information. They are well recognised by the cultural heritage sector and have been further adopted at international level.

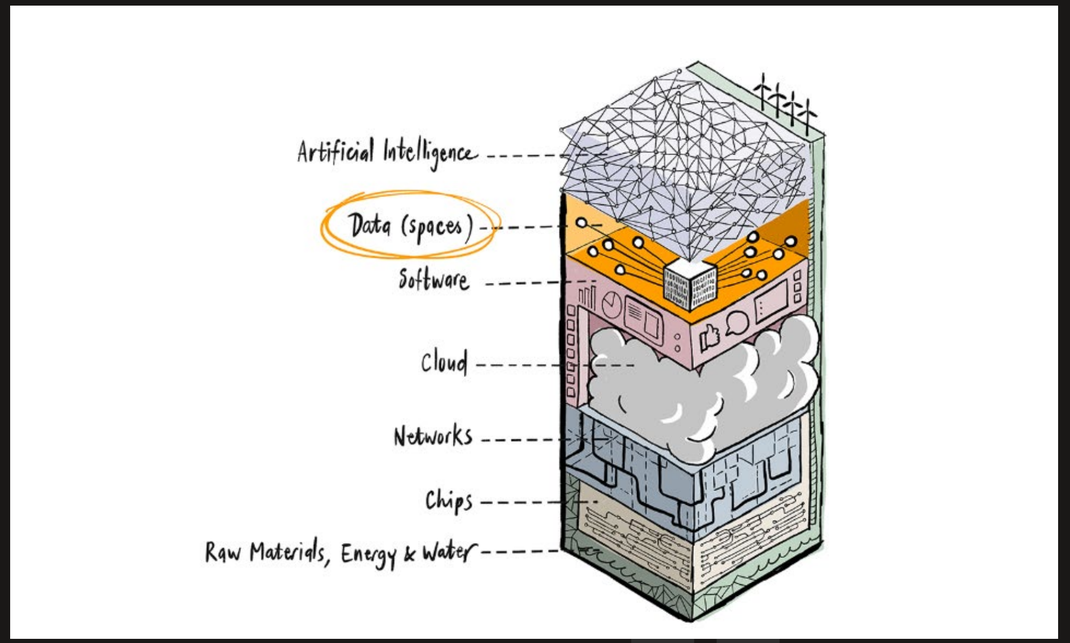
The **deployment of the common European data space for cultural heritage started in 2022**, building on the Europeana Digital Service Infrastructure and the Europeana Strategy 2020-2025, with funding under the Digital Europe programme. As a result of its long-established origin and evolution, the data space currently stands as one of the few operational data spaces in the ecosystem.

In 2025, the data space offers access to **over 61 million digitised cultural heritage assets**. These include artworks, historical documents, sites and monuments, artefacts, and other cultural heritage assets, from over 3,200 museums, libraries, archives and galleries across Europe. Around 80% of the

digital assets shared by cultural heritage institutions are available for some form of reuse.

The **strong community of the Europeana initiative** supports the development of the data space for cultural heritage. In addition to the thousands of cultural heritage institutions making available their digital assets, the **Europeana Aggregators' Forum** represents the network of accredited aggregators (national, regional, or thematic) who work with them to help them share their data and enable the exchange of best practices. Further, the **Europeana Network Association** brings together close to 6,000 professionals who provide insights, expertise and guidance in a broad range of disciplines, actively engaging in the development of the data space.

Member States actively engage with and support the data space for cultural heritage. Their representatives in the CEDCHE expert group, together with the European Commission, form the **governance** of the data space. Member States also collaborate in **Europe-wide campaigns**, such as the 'Twin it! 3D for Europe's culture' (Part I and II) bringing together high-quality 3D models of emblematic cultural heritage monuments, sites and artefacts, with the support of consecutive Presidencies of the Council of the EU.



Europe's digital stack, inspired by EuroStack - A European Alternative for Digital Sovereignty, denkschets.nl

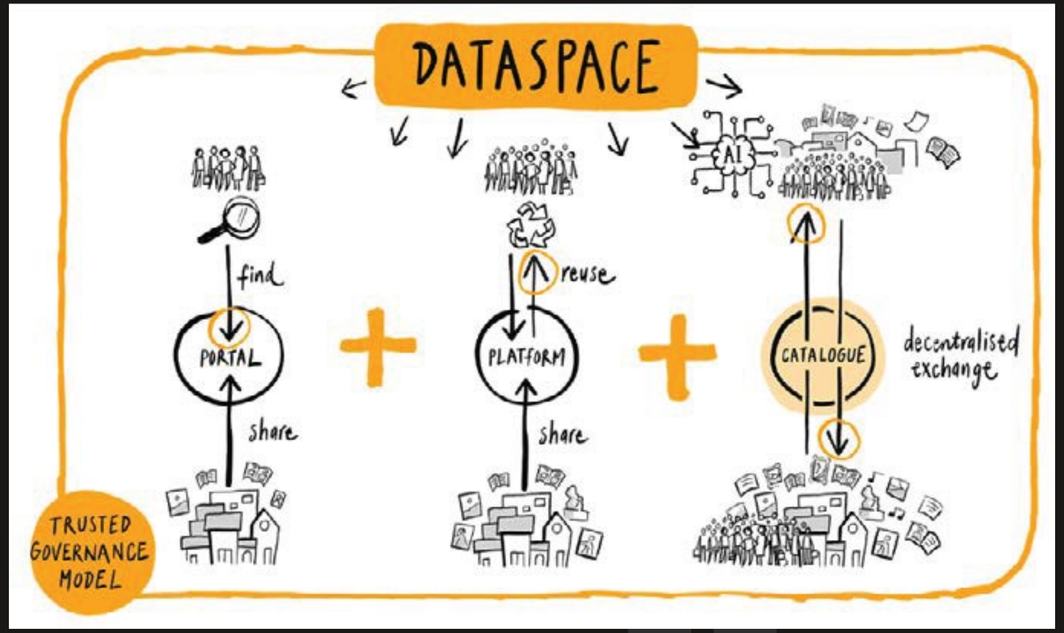
CURRENT LANDSCAPE AND DIRECTIONS

With an evolving landscape around the common European data space for cultural heritage, new opportunities and challenges lie ahead. These are key factors driving the evolution of the data space and shaping the vision and priorities for the data space towards 2030.

Opportunities

- Innovative technologies allow the data space to grow and to harness the potential of cultural heritage data. Increasing and diversifying the available data can enable new applications and use cases, which can bring economic value to data holders and data users in different sectors.
- New technologies, including data technologies, AI, 3D, or immersive technologies, are becoming more and more accessible and can serve the needs of the sector.
- The ecosystem of initiatives in the area of culture, cultural heritage, and other relevant areas at national, European, and international level is growing [1]. Leveraging synergies and ensuring interoperability is key for sustainable, high-volume data reuse, maximising the value of the data space as the point of reference for cultural heritage data.
- The vibrant, ever-growing community of cultural heritage institutions, accredited aggregators, digital and cultural heritage professionals, around the data space, can act as multipliers for scaling up and supporting the digital transformation of the sector.

[1] Initiatives in the area of culture, cultural heritage, and other relevant areas include, for example the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH), the European Open Science Cloud, the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC, the Time Machine Organisation, the EIT Culture & Creativity, among others, as well as the tourism, media and other data spaces.



Evolution of the data space towards 2030, denkschets.nl

Challenges

- New challenges are brought by the rapid evolution of AI and other transformative technologies that make use of high-quality data. For example, cultural heritage institutions increasingly wish to be in control of the conditions under which their digital data can be reused, particularly for data that can be monetised.
- Cultural heritage institutions need help to benefit from emerging technologies. Continuous awareness raising, capacity building and upskilling are needed and are essential to reduce the digital skills gap especially in smaller institutions.
- Several initiatives are still operating in siloes and are not able to connect and grow. Developing partnerships and other types of collaboration is necessary to reduce resistance, ensure efficient synergies and connections across the initiatives.
- A lack of priority or funding at national level for digitising cultural heritage assets leads to delays in achieving the targets for cultural heritage data in the data space by 2030.

In the years to 2030, the data space will evolve to leverage these opportunities and meet the challenges. It will continue to support the aggregation of trusted, high-quality content from cultural heritage institutions, making it available on the Europeana portal and boosting its reuse by existing and new audiences through its APIs. The data space will also expand by developing a data catalogue, enabling the discovery of heterogeneous datasets shared at source, and mechanisms for the decentralised exchange of data between data providers and data users. Such mechanisms will ensure interoperability with other data spaces and initiatives, and will support diverse types of data and exchange conditions.

VISION

Our vision is to develop a common European data space for cultural heritage that

- continues to open up and democratise access to cultural heritage
- improves the flow of data to support value creation, innovation and competitiveness in Europe
- adapts to the needs of participants and technological developments
- engages a diverse community and serves the digital transformation of the sector with a trusted governance model and attention to ethical considerations and human-centred digital practices.

Scientific worksheets by Szabo Tamàs - Ethnographical Museum of Transylvania, Romania - CC BY-SA.

PRIORITIES

The data space strategy 2025-2030 is built around three core priorities:

Priority 1: Provide a **robust, interoperable data space infrastructure** while increasing the diversity and quality of data.

Priority 2: Facilitate **access** to cultural heritage data and enable its reuse across sectors.

Priority 3: Support the **digital transformation** of the cultural heritage sector through capacity building, networking and innovation.

In addition, three **cross-cutting themes** with deep implications for the deployment, scaling up and success of the data space are present in the objectives of all three priorities:

Artificial Intelligence (AI): leveraging the potential of AI for cultural heritage data and applications and, vice versa, the potential of cultural heritage data for the European AI economy.

3D and extended reality (XR): 3D digitisation is key for preserving and restoring Europe's cultural heritage in case of damage and, together with XR technologies, for engaging immersive applications that bring Europe's cultural heritage to life.

Multilingualism: upholding Europe's cultural and linguistic diversity and enabling access to all elements of the data space for cultural heritage in everyone's own language.

PRIORITY 1

Provide a robust, interoperable data space infrastructure while increasing the diversity and quality of data

This priority focuses on **deploying and expanding** the data space in a way that ensures robustness and interoperability. It includes the infrastructure, frameworks, data governance, and the availability of diverse and high-quality data.

Specific challenges

Data spaces – whether in cultural heritage or other sectors – must cater to globalised, distributed and interdisciplinary interactions and data exchanges. This requires integration and interoperability between different entities, data types, languages, legal and ethical requirements in a fast-changing environment. A robust and interoperable data space needs to ensure content from various domains and sets of data types, bridging such domains and remaining open to future changes.

With increasing digitisation, the range, scope and quality of available data will, too, increase rapidly. In the process, data types may become obsolete, new data types will arise, and new ways of accessing and manipulating such data will follow. Diversifying the data that is offered, both in terms of granularity and type, as well as the mechanisms to share it, are essential for the evolution of the data space.

As the diversity of available data increases, data providers will need to clearly define and control who can access and use their data, as well as under what conditions and for what purposes. With data becoming more accessible and AI technologies increasingly widespread, ensuring the integrity and provenance of data, and protecting it against misuse, is becoming a pressing challenge. Additionally, data must be protected for its potential market value. The data space can support cultural heritage institutions in developing and applying new business models to extract value from their cultural heritage data.

It is also essential to make it as easy as possible for data providers to share their data, by increasing the availability of easy-to-use frameworks and tools, and to provide clear frameworks that enable data reuse and integration, for example, in education, AI training, or immersive applications. FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics) data principles need to be observed.

Objectives

Objective 1.A: Provide, support and expand the infrastructure, frameworks and tools to enable new sharing mechanisms and diverse types of cultural heritage data

The well-established aggregation infrastructure, frameworks and tools will be maintained and supported, allowing cultural heritage institutions to make high quality content available to the data space, supported by the strong network of aggregators.

Moreover, alternative sharing mechanisms including a data catalogue will be developed to accommodate heterogeneous content and datasets, covering domain-specific and user-specific needs and enabling smart access in alignment with the broader goal of bridging domains and maintaining data sovereignty. Data providers will be able to control the conditions under which their data can be shared and used. Expanding the infrastructure with decentralised data sharing mechanisms, enabling sharing data at source, will allow a wider range of participants to join the data space.

The use of machine-readable markers specifically designed for AI, indicating content rights, source, and intended use, will greatly benefit the ecosystem, particularly in the context of AI-generated outputs or interpretations.

P. Simanavičius - pedagogas, muziejininkas. 1929 m. by Nežinomas autorius - Rokiškis Regional Museum, Lithuania - Public Domain.

Portrait of Ugolino Martelli
University of Oslo, Norway - CC BY.

Objective 1.B: Expand governance mechanisms and ensure interoperability for infrastructure, data, tools and services.

Ensuring interoperability with other common European data spaces, and other European, national, and regional initiatives, to enable data exchange and sharing is crucial. This need is further amplified in a fast-changing and diversified environment. The data space will prioritise work to enable interoperability, by leveraging standards, protocols and frameworks that become available as part of the ecosystem of data spaces, such as the **Simpl middleware platform**, as well as those already being developed in the data space, such as persistent identifiers to make the data identifiable and trusted over time.

Common policies, legislative bases and access rights protections need to be in place. Particularly, all cross-cutting legal frameworks applicable to the data spaces, such as data protection, intellectual property rights, competition law and rules on cybersecurity. Offering clear and fair data sharing rules and scalable policies to different user groups will be part of an expanded governance framework to cover heterogeneity in data, tools and services.

Objective 1.C: Increase multilingual, high-quality content, 3D, and other datasets

Trustworthy cultural heritage content lies at the core of the common European data space for cultural heritage, guaranteeing that digital records of cultural heritage objects are accurate and verifiable. This has been and will continue to be achieved through a long-time close collaboration with an extended network of cultural institutions, museums, libraries, archives, and research centres, which provide authenticated, multilingual, high-quality content.

The aim is to continue to increase the availability of high-quality, usable, and accessible content, including 3D models of cultural heritage at risk and of the most physically visited cultural and heritage monuments, buildings and sites, as well as to pay special attention to cultural heritage domains with a low level of digitisation. This will support the achievement of the ambitious targets for content contribution to Europeana and the data space by 2030, both in terms of new high-quality records and 3D digital assets, as set in Annex I of the 2021 Recommendation. High-quality content made available in the form of datasets shared at source and published through the data space catalogue will contribute to the achievement of the targets.

PRIORITY 2

Facilitate access to cultural heritage data and enable its reuse across sectors

This priority focuses on **amplifying the value of the data space**, by providing easy, multilingual access to Europe's cultural heritage and by enabling the reuse of trusted data from cultural heritage institutions in different sectors through use cases.

Specific challenges

Technical, legal and organisational aspects often hinder the access and re-use of cultural heritage data instead of fostering it. A lack of interoperability and common technical standards, as well as copyright issues and unclear or missing licensing conditions are among the most pressing challenges for cultural heritage institutions pursuing a digital vision of sharing data for re-use purposes. In addition to open access policies, appropriate licensing schemes and their machine-readable integration in metadata are key to enable a wide re-use of cultural heritage data.

The data space should foster a trusted digital ecosystem where cultural heritage data can be accessed, shared and re-used in many ways, while respecting copyright, personal data protection and the Digital Services Act. In addition to technical and legal challenges, the multilingual landscape of the EU poses difficulties. With 24 official languages, language barriers are a significant hindrance to the accessibility and use of cultural heritage content.

In a complex landscape of synergistic initiatives, such as the ecosystem of common European data spaces, the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage, the Time Machine, and other initiatives, strengthening partnerships and collaborations is necessary to maximise the reuse of the vast collection of cultural heritage data for innovative purposes.

Objectives

Objective 2.A: Provide easy, multilingual access to trusted cultural heritage data

The common European data space for cultural heritage will keep on promoting Europe's rich and diverse cultural heritage, shaping community identity and upholding democratic values. Europe's rich cultural collections will continue to be easily findable and accessible through the Europeana.eu portal, catering to a wide range of user groups, from cultural heritage professionals, researchers, data scientists to the casual user. Furthermore, high-quality thematic narratives and curated exhibitions will bring Europe's shared history and values closer to people.

The set of APIs and digital toolkits provided by the data space will offer enhanced opportunities for re-use by developers, data users and content creators, including through optimised search and discovery functions. Decentralised sharing mechanisms will offer additional opportunities for access to data. To reflect the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of the EU, the data space will strive to continuously develop its multilingual capabilities. By providing access to cultural heritage data, and editorial content in all 24 official European languages, the common European data space for cultural heritage will be accessible for all European citizens in their native language, utilising ethical AI-powered translation models.

Objective 2.B: Enable broader reuse of cultural heritage data through new demand-driven use cases

The common European data space for cultural heritage will offer easy access to diverse, trusted, cultural heritage data for a wide range of uses. To further leverage the potential of cultural heritage data, the data space will focus on demand-driven use cases, driving the development of the right datasets and toolkits for each potential use case.

The reuse of cultural heritage data within the common European data space for cultural heritage will be significantly enhanced through innovative digital tools and technologies. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning enable the automatic enrichment of cultural data but also enhance semantic search and thus improve data discoverability. Cultural heritage data will be valuable for training European AI systems, as well as ensuring that Europe's cultural richness and linguistic diversity is present in AI models. 3D digitisation and the use of models in extended reality (XR) applications allow for immersive interactions with cultural heritage, making it possible to explore historical sites, artifacts, and artworks in virtual environments, and ensuring that historical content remains relevant and engaging in the digital age.

Continuing to promote open access to cultural heritage data while enabling the exchange of data under contractual conditions will also allow the combined reuse of open data and non-open data in new innovative use cases.

Factory in Weaver House warehouses by Desconegut Ajuntament de Girona, Spain - Public Domain.

Objective 2.C: Build partnerships to foster the reuse of cultural heritage data

Fostering a strong and innovation-driven community around the reuse of cultural heritage data requires active engagement between cultural heritage institutions, researchers and creative industries on the one hand and tourism, media, education, entertainment, new technology and further innovative sectors on the other hand as well as all interested citizens.

The data space will build and expand trusted partnerships, across a range of sectors, to not only engage with cultural heritage data but to also drive the growth of sustainable, high-volume data reuse. Through data curation, data adaptation, and tools, the data space will aim to support the data requirements of each potential user and bring the data space closer to their needs.

Encouraging cultural and creative industries to integrate cultural heritage data into digital storytelling, gaming, and immersive experiences can generate economic and educational value from reuse. Stakeholder engagement, such as through hackathons and competitions, will drive technological advancements linked to the reuse of datasets, such as in data visualisation, XR development or AI-driven data analysis.

To facilitate these collaborations, the data space will also leverage its connections with other data spaces and relevant large-scale initiatives.

PRIORITY 3

Support the digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector through capacity building, networking and innovation

This priority focuses on actions to ensure that the **digital transformation** in the cultural heritage sector continues in a practical, structured, sustainable way, delivering tangible economic and societal benefits to cultural heritage institutions and communities

Specific challenges

Cultural heritage digitisation continues to lack widely accepted standards for data acquisition, metadata structuring and preservation. Furthermore, there are no certified workflows, including paradata, to ensure the authenticity, accuracy and long-term accessibility of digital assets.

Different levels of access and a digital skills gap present another significant challenge. Smaller institutions, NGOs, and regional organisations often lack the necessary resources to digitise their collections or engage with the data space, and even more the skills needed to navigate digital preservation, AI and 3D technologies.

Additionally, a digital divide remains between countries, regions, institutions and individuals. Fragmented collaboration and limited knowledge-sharing and exchange of best practices between the cultural heritage, academic, creative and technology sectors, further hinders progress and

Maritime letter from Inhambane Bay - 1700
National Library of Portugal, Portugal - Public Domain.

limits innovation. Policymakers often have varying levels of awareness of digital transformation needs and benefits, resulting in uneven funding priorities without long-term sustainability.

The digital transformation of the cultural heritage sector should engage institutions, practitioners, and policymakers at national, regional, and local levels. Digital transformation must also bridge the gap between European strategies and national implementations, ensuring harmonisation, interoperability, and the capacity to scale innovations across the EU.

Objectives

Objective 3.A: Lead the adoption of common approaches, standards and frameworks for advanced digitisation, data preservation, and data sharing

This includes the adoption of frameworks or standards for digitisation, metadata and paradata structuring, and digital preservation, to address the demands of emerging and new types of data. Emerging technologies will also call for new certified workflows, such as for AI-driven content curation, storytelling integration, and intangible cultural heritage representation. It will be important to align digital acquisition methodologies with existing and emerging European regulations, to ensure uniform application across all EU-funded cultural heritage initiatives, long-term usability and interoperability.

Common approaches, standards and frameworks are also a major enabler for decentralised data sharing, such as for the standardised description of catalogue entries, the quality compliance of datasets, or the authentication/authorisation of data space participants, aligning and ensuring interoperability with the broader ecosystem of data spaces and other initiatives.

Objective 3.B: Accelerate the uptake of emerging technologies such as AI, XR, 3D and linked open data in a responsible manner

Deep integration with emerging technologies, ensuring AI, XR, and linked open data should serve as enhancements rather than replacements of cultural heritage. This objective includes establishing concrete guidelines and KPIs for the use of AI, 3D modelling

and XR in cultural heritage documentation. Ethical AI governance frameworks, ensuring responsible use of automation, AI-generated metadata, and digital storytelling need to be developed.

Multilingual training programmes, resources and tools for cultural heritage professionals and stakeholders, as well as cross-sector collaboration between cultural institutions, academia, and creative industries (gaming, XR, tourism), need to be promoted to facilitate knowledge transfer, accelerate the uptake of emerging technologies and innovation, and contribute to the upskilling of the sector.

Objective 3.C: Build capacity through inclusion

A strong focus on capacity building and inclusion will ensure that all institutions, regardless of size, have access to digital tools and training. This objective includes broadening the reach and impact of upskilling opportunities and strengthening the training offer to support smaller institutions, including underfunded organisations and organisations of underrepresented communities. It also entails ensuring technology adoption is phased and adapted to institutions at different levels of digital maturity across Member States. Professional exchanges, mentorship programmes, and peer-learning initiatives between digitally mature and less-experienced institutions will be fostered within expert communities such as the Europeana Network Association.

Objective 3.D: Support Member States' engagement to reach the Recommendation targets

The success of the data space relies on the active and continued engagement of Member States. They are crucial to achieving the data space's goals and to meeting the targets of the 2021 Recommendation for 2030.

This includes close collaboration with national, domain and thematic aggregators, cultural heritage institutions, Europeana Initiative country groups, and other partners in Member States. Expanding the data space network locally, maximising support for national, regional and local communities and intensifying language-specific efforts will help increase data sharing in the Member States and

Ungdomar från Madagaskar.
3 september 1958. by Örebro Kuriren - Örebro County Museum, Sweden - Public Domain.

strengthen the community's capacity to drive scalable, sustainable change.

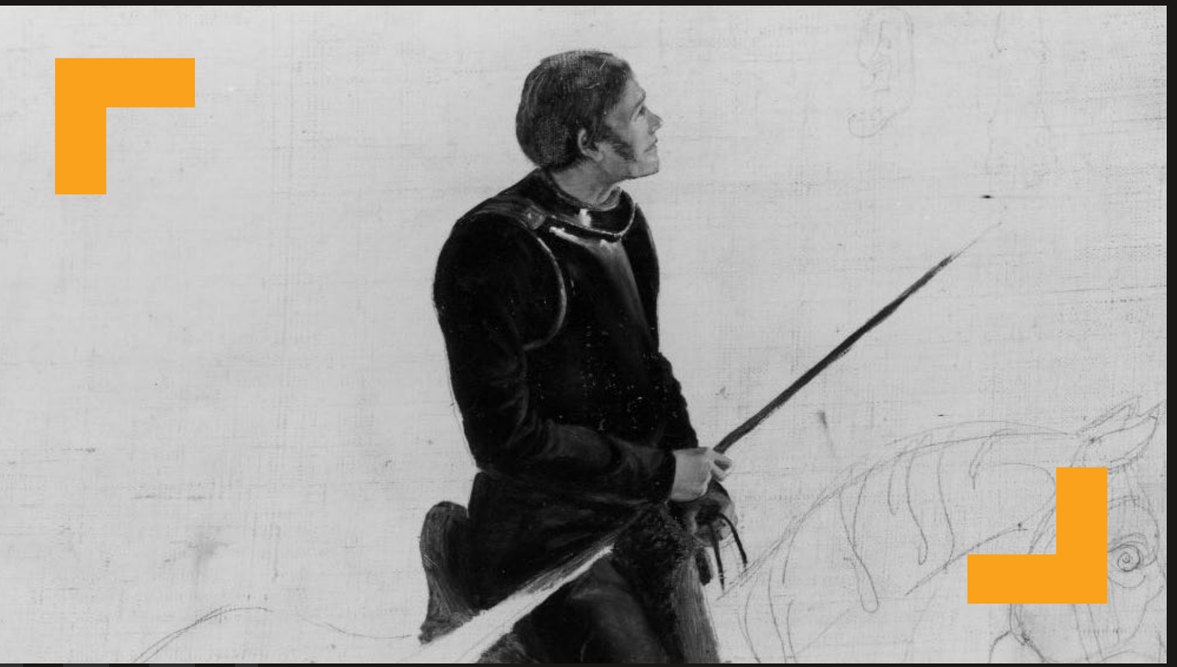
The rollout of pan-European campaigns around the topics and objectives of the 2021 Recommendation will continue in close collaboration with the Member States and the rotating Presidencies of the Council of the EU and will continue to drive further impact.

Objective 3.E: Explore long-term investment, institutional support mechanisms, and sustainable operation models

This includes developing permanent governance structures to oversee cultural heritage digitisation and preservation at national and EU levels and securing stable support from EU Member States for the data space for cultural heritage.

It also includes exploring operation and/or business models that will contribute to the data space sustainability over time, such as through use cases that create and deliver value to data space participants, and mechanisms to capture that value.

Idmon und Mopsus von Apollo geleitet (Parigi, Cantagallina, Argonautenschiffe, 1608) by Giulio Parigi
Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology and University Library, Germany - Public Domain.



Studio per armato a cavallo (incompiuto) by D'AZEGLIO Massimo Turin Gallery for Modern and Contemporary Art, Italy - CC BY.

CONCLUSION

This strategy sets out the **vision** and **priorities** for the data space **towards 2030:** increasing the amount and diversity of data and sharing mechanisms, enabling cultural heritage institutions to have more control of how they share their data, boosting reuse across current and new audiences and markets, as well as across different data spaces and other cultural heritage initiatives, empowering professionals and institutions to both contribute to and benefit from the data space, and strengthening the community's capacity to drive scalable, sustainable change. Importantly, the vision and priorities of the strategy continue to support the digital transformation of the European cultural heritage sector and reach the digitisation targets set out by the European Commission 2021 Recommendation.

By developing the data space on top of existing strategic infrastructure, we capitalise on the work of the past two decades, adding new capabilities and functionalities while ensuring the continued value of earlier investments, and aligning with core European data space principles and the sector's needs.

Common European data space for cultural heritage: Strategy 2025-2030

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