



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE



ACCESS TO CULTURAL HERITAGE

COM (2008) 513

Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee Of the Regions: Europe's cultural heritage at the click of a mouse.

Progress on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation across the EU.

Europe's libraries, archives, museums and audiovisual archives have vast and rich collections that represent Europe's history and cultural diversity. When made accessible on the internet, these collections can be consulted and re-used by Europe's citizens for leisure, work or studies.

This Communication describes progress towards the creation of the European digital library as well as the actions deployed by Member States to address organisational, financial, technical and legal issues, essential for making cultural material available on the internet. It calls on Member States and stakeholders to step up their efforts to make our common heritage more accessible, and confirms the Commission's commitment to support this goal through its policy actions and funding programmes.

Should you wish to visit the site, still in testing phase, the address is available here:
<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>



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UNIVERSITIES

COM (2008) 680 - Report from the Commission to the Council on the Council Resolution of 23 November 2007 on Modernising Universities for Europe's competitiveness in a global knowledge economy.

The report lists initiatives and programmes which have been undertaken to assist Member States and universities to attain the necessary reforms. The Erasmus and Erasmus Mundus programmes are particularly mentioned. Possibilities for future action are also indicated.

The Commission is expected to launch a Communication on University-Business cooperation in early 2009.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS 2923rd Council meeting *Education, Youth and Culture*

Brussels, 16 February 2009

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/educ/106094.pdf

During a public debate, the Council exchanged views on a new strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training that is to cover the period until 2020. The exchange was based on a Presidency discussion paper and the Commission proposal for the new framework.