



# Europeana Photography

## Vocabulary and Multilinguality

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# A short introduction

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- **EuropeanaPhotography** (EUROPEAN Ancient PHOTographic vintaGe repositoRies of digitAized Pictures of Historic quality, 2012-2015) digitizes and makes available **500.000 of the most prestigious photographic images from archives, public libraries, and photographic museums covering 100 years of photography, from 1839 with the first example of images from Fox Talbot and Daguerre to the beginning of the Second World War (1939).**
- The consortium includes **19 representatives from 13 Member States**. They are leading private and public photographic agencies as well as public institutions and museums.
- EuropeanaPhotography will document historical moments of the European life, landscapes and people, home and clothes, social and economic changes.
- EuropeanaPhotography will improve the profile of Europeana under both the content and multilingual points of view. Photographic images, the early ones in particular, are underrepresented. Furthermore, the metadata will be made available for Europeana in all the **12 languages** spoken by the partners.
- Finally, the project tackles also the very important issue of the **public-private partnership**, which has not yet to date been fully explored in Europeana. The private partners participating in the project will demonstrate how they can derive commercial value from participation in Europeana while the public partners will show how to derive benefits from their cooperation with the private sector.

# Need for a vocabulary

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- Large difference in partner's
  - vocabularies and/or captions
  - goals and uses: public vs private
  - methods and depth of description
- Need for multilinguality
- Need for (limited) uniformisation and thematic organisation
- Homogenous type of object, with heterogenous subjects



- Enrichment of local cataloguing metadata
  - Vocabulary in 3 main branches
  - So far, just over 500 concepts
  - Enrichment also by collaboration and incorporation of existing standards
- Support multilingualism
  - Vocabulary in 12 languages

# Vocabulary workflow

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- Survey of language features
  - Who uses (controlled) vocabularies
  - Keywords and fields in use
  - Metadata structure and exportation details
- Content seminar presentation
  - Results survey
  - Mandatory fields consortium
  - Definition of the three main branches of the vocabulary, as well as overall content themes

## Vocabulary workflow (2)

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- Europeana Photography Vocabulary
  - English as pivotal language
  - Use of spreadsheet for ease of use, no extra costs, universally available and used
  - SKOSified by technical partner NTUA and published on KULeuven (coördinator) website
  - Included in MINT mapping tool for value mapping
  - Can be adapted by uploading a new version



# Vocabulary structure

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- +500 concepts
- 3 main facets: techniques, photographic practice (why?), keywords
- Total of 12 languages: English, Italian, German, French, Danish, Catalan, Spanish, Bulgarian, Polish, Slovakian, Dutch and Lithuanian
- Based on international standards and in-house vocabularies (AAT, IPTC, Sepiades, ...)
- Hierarchical, includes synonyms

- Work together with Linked Heritage project
  - How can the Thesaurus Management Platform be used by other projects?
- AAT
  - Delivery translations of techniques
  - Would like to work together more
- Work together with EuroPhoto
  - Project ended, but consortium still holds
- ...

# TMP 'wishlist'

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- Our wishlist for a thesaurus management platform looks something like this:
  - Central place of publication of SKOSified vocabularies  
→ sustainability and upkeep
  - Easy way to SKOSify vocabularies from predetermined format, including csv
  - Easy adaptation of published vocabularies (new versions, ...)
  - Tool, but not end point: export possibilities
  - Vocabularies to include scope notes, remarks, synonyms and related terms
  - Possibility for automated mapping with verification

- Project website: <http://www.europeana-photography.eu/>
- Vocabulary online at KULeuven website
- Digital meets culture:  
<http://www.digitalmeetsculture.net/>
- Uncommon Culture journal on the history of photography
- 1st Europeana delivery foreseen for May