



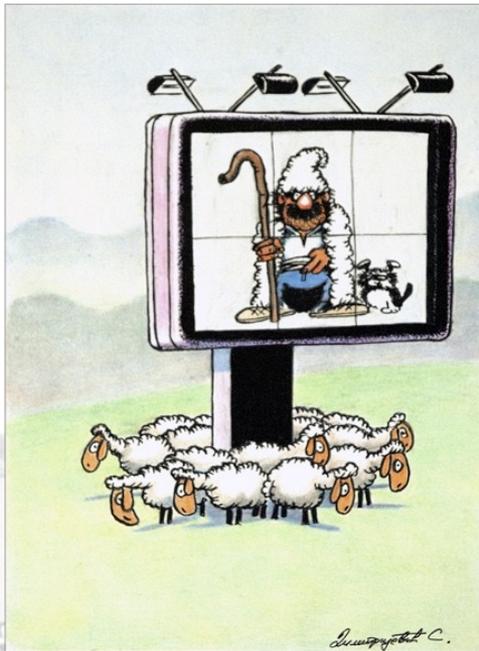
South-Eastern European Digitization Initiative – SEEDI

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South-Eastern European Digitization Initiative – SEEDI

Milena Dobрева • Zoran Ognjanović • Nikola Ikonomov

Awareness
The greater picture
One for all, all for one
Mobilization of human resources
Synergy



Zoran Ognjanović (Serbia)



Žarko Mijajlović (Serbia)



Micheál Mac an Airchinnigh (Ireland)



Adolf Knoll (Czech Republic)



Giuliana de Francesco (Italy)



Matthew Driscoll (Denmark)



MILESTONES

What is it: informal professional network

- **Idea:** Belgrade, May 2003
- **Declaration:** Borovets, September 2003
- **Name:** Viminacium, June 2004
- **Board elected in 2006:**
 - Dženana Aladuz (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
 - Umit Atabek (Turkey)
 - Boris Badurina (Croatia)
 - Nikola Ikonomov (Bulgaria, **chair**)
 - Smile Markovski (Macedonia)
 - Žarko Mijajlović (Serbia)
 - Anca Rapeanu (Romania)

THE REGIONAL FLAVOUR

- **Bottom-up approach**
in countries where digitization, accessibility online and long-term preservation are still not coherent to EC vision
- **SEEDing vs Balkanization**
(Merriam-Webster dictionary: **balkanize** – 1: TO BREAK UP (as a region or group) into smaller and often hostile units 2: DIVIDE)
- **Why it is important NOW?**
 - Live heritage in the time of braindrain
 - Ne varietatem timeamus
 - preservation of the multiple voices

<http://www.ncd.matf.bg.ac.yu/seedi/>

Milestones

- ☞ What is it: informal professional network in the field of digitisation of cultural and scientific heritage
- ☞ Belgrade, May 2003 – just an idea
- ☞ Borovets, September 2003 – declaration
- ☞ Named in Viminacium, June 2004
- ☞ SEEDI Board elected in 2006 - Dženana Aladžuz (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Umit Atabek (Turkey), Boris Badurina (Croatia), Nikola Ikonov (Bulgaria, chair), Smile Markovski (Macedonia), Žarko Mijajlović (Serbia), Anca Rapeanu (Romania).

Main Goals

- ☞ To build awareness of the need for digitization of cultural and scientific heritage in the region of SEE,
- ☞ To mobilize the human and material resources existing in the region,
- ☞ To prepare guidelines for national strategies in the field of digitization of cultural and scientific heritage, as a recommendation for the SEE-countries
- ☞ To improve the communication between centres and people having an interest in digitization of cultural and scientific heritage and to disseminate scientific and practical information in the field,
- ☞ To create core groups of specialists, which would be able to consult, assist, monitor and develop innovative technologies and digitization projects collaborating with the local cultural and scientific heritage institutions,
- ☞ To facilitate the formation of projects in the field of digitization of cultural and scientific heritage that would include partners from the South-Eastern Europe
- ☞ To foster collaboration between the EU and South-Eastern Europe countries.

Activities

- ☞ Conferences, workshops and other types of meetings
 - In September 2007, Cetinje, Montenegro
 - Regional Meeting of the SEEDI South-East European Digitization Initiative: Methodology and Applications 11-13 June 2006, Sofia, Bulgaria,
 - The First SEEDI Conference DIGITAL (re-)DISCOVERY of CULTURE (PHYSICALITY OF SOUL), September, 2005, Ohrid, Macedonia,
 - The Third International Conference "New Technologies and Standards: Digitization of National Heritage 2004" June, 3-5, 2004, Belgrade, Serbia.
- ☞ Attempts to participate in projects
- ☞ The journal "Review of the National Centre for Digitization", with nine issues published so far
- ☞ Web-site and mailing list

What is essential?

- Bottom-up initiative in countries which are not even close to the spirit of EC recommendations on Digital Libraries
- Regional coverage achieved in 3 years of existence
- We see it as a specific 'human infrastructure' in digitisation in our region



Thank you for your
attention!