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**European Network of Centres of Excellence for
Research and Education in Digital Culture**

Work Package 2 – Deliverable 2 part 2

Expansion to NAS and beyond

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<i>Abstract</i>	The report gives a comprehensive overview of the institutional structure of Russian digital culture and heritage activities, including research and education. Concrete recommendations are given of which measures should be taken to integrate these activities in E-CultureNet and in European digital culture activities in general. A list of candidate institutions for joining E-CultureNet is included.
<i>Keyword list</i>	Russia, digital culture, digital libraries, cultural heritage networks, technological issues, cultural policy, cooperation,

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Administrative Issues¹

Administrative Structure

There are 17 federal libraries in Russian. According to statistics in 2000 there was 51 224 public libraries with 1 026,6 mln books in Russia.


The most valuable part of the Russian Federation Archive collection (over 39 mln items) is concentrated in 14 federal archives. More then 123 mln items are kept in 201 regional archives and more then 30 mln items are collected in 2 500 local archives. There are about 2,5 mln archive items in the Russian Academy of Sciences Archives and more then 7 mln items in museums and libraries. Every year the volume of documents in archives subordinate to the Federal Archive Services is 1,6 mln units larger.

There are more then 2000 museums in Russia, 57 of them are federal.

Table 1. Administrative Subordination of Cultural, Educational, Research Institutions

Federal level	The Ministry of Culture	Federal Archives Service (Rosarchive)	The Ministry of Education	The Ministry of production, Science and Technologies Russian Academy of Science (RAS)
	Federal museums, libraries, theatres etc. Universities, academies (cultural area)	Federal archives	Federal Universities, and other Educational Institutions; University libraries, archives, museums Research Institutes Research institution libraries and archives --- RAS libraries, archives, museums
Regional Level (89 subjects of	Regional Departments	Regional Archives	Regional Education	Regional Science

¹ This part contains revised and updated results of the survey held by Centre PIC under EVAN project which were partially presented at EVA conferences in Berlin 2001 and London 2002

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federation)	(or Ministries) of Culture	Department	Departments	Departments
	Regional museums, libraries, theatres etc Regional departments of non-movable heritage preservation	Regional archives	Regional Universities, and other Educational Institutions --- Libraries, archives, museums	... Research Institutes --- Libraries, archives, museums
Local level	Local Museums, libraries,	Local Archives	Colleges, Schools --- School libraries, museums	


Russian Government Policy and the Internet

Federal bodies started to pay a serious attention to the Internet and to the information society after President Putin signed the Global Information Society Okinawa Hartia adopted by G8 in July 2000.

Russian State information society policy is becoming more and more specific.

The first year of the new millennium, the year 2001, was relatively successful for the Russian Internet (dot ru, or Runet). The official support of Runet was the most significant: there was a series of the Russian Government decisions on Internet connections in post-offices all over Russia, on computerisation of country schools; the State Programme “Electronic Russia 2002 – 2010” was designed, the law on electronic signature was adopted by the Russian Parliament.

On January 10, 2002 President Putin signed a federal law on electronic signatures, the main idea of which is that an electronic signature is legally equivalent to a graphic signature and a document signed electronically has all traditional functions. A law on electronic business was discussed and adopted in the State Duma.

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A Federal Programme “Electronic Russia 2002 – 2010” has been adopted. It states that development of information and communication technologies (ICT) is a global trend in world development. Modern information and communication technologies play a decisive role for economic competitiveness and integration into the world economic system and improve effectiveness on all levels in state and private sectors. ICT gives a technological basis for the development of civil society as they give open and prompt access to information through the global Internet. The Programme will enable maximum use of intellectual potential, provide a way to enter the world post-industrial economy on a basis of co-operation and open information, overcome the “digital divide” and protect human rights including the right of free access to information and the right to protect private information (<http://www.netoscope.ru/docs/2766.html>). It is a pity that the Ministry of Culture is not an official partner of the Programme but cultural heritage projects may be supported on a project basis.

The Federal Programme “Electronic Government” is very successful: official Internet sites of the President, of the Security Council, the Russian Government, (<http://www.gov.ru/>, <http://www.government.ru/>), of the State Duma, of all Ministers, of regional administrations (<http://www.egovernment.ru/>) have been opened. The Internet site of the Ministry of Taxes was the winner in the contest for the “National Internet Prize”.

After the adoption of the Federal programme “Electronic Russia” several regional administrations started their regional programmes of the same sort. For example, the Programme “Electronic Moscow” with a strong cultural heritage section is starting at the end of 2002. Before some regions (Yaroslavl, for example) had regional programmes for computerisation and informatisation. Some of them had special sections on new technologies for cultural heritage.

In 2001 the Ministry of Education of Russia in co-operation with regional authorities completed a programme computerisation of country schools and supplied hardware and software schools and training of teachers in 97% of schools. (<http://ccs.mto.ru/results.html>). The Ministry of Education is the only federal Ministry, which is going to support content production, that is electronic on-line and off-line textbooks for schools; several tenders were organised and will be organised in future.

Several projects involving training courses for school teachers are managed by the Federation of Internet Education (www.fio.ru). One of the projects (“Generation.ru”) is supported by an oil company, YUKOS. The goal of “Generation.ru” is to overcome a serious lag between Russia and other countries in ICT skills and equipment in educational institutions. The project will run for 5 years and organise Education Internet Centres in 50 regions where more then 250,000 school teachers will learn how to use the Internet for education. These teachers will be able to teach more than 10 million pupils. From March 21, 2000 to October 27, 2002 **36271** school teachers were trained at 27

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regional centres under the project. One of the projects of the Federation of Internet Education is rating of educational electronic resources for schools.

The Ministry of Culture Informatisation Policy

Now the Ministry of Culture activities is held under the programme Culture-2000. Culture-2000 includes some IST projects but it is not done systematically. There is no clear and well formulated informatisation policy of the Ministry of Culture. Different departments of the Ministry has or has no their own policy in this area. As a result there is no national programme of digitisation, there are no specific and harmonised efforts in developing national or adopting international standards and meta-data.


The Main Computing Centre of the Ministry of Culture (a separate state institution subordinate of the Ministry) leads a number of Ministry projects of informatisation and computerisation of the area. In Soviet times it was the only institution for this kind of activities. Now cultural institutions (and the Ministry departments) may use services of other software and technology developers.

The Library Department of the Ministry of Culture is the only one, which leads long-term projects of informatisation. Informatisation of Russian libraries was supported by the LIBNET programme launched by the Ministry of Culture in 1998 and is supported now by the LIBNET-2 programme started in 2000. One of the main efforts was the development of RUSMARK library standard officially adopted in 2002. The Library Department supports projects on corporate cataloguing and electronic document delivery.

Aggregate electronic resources of regional libraries are 40 times higher for the last 5 years and now are estimated as more then 7 million records. Federal libraries converted 8 million records into electronic form. The main aim now is to open these resources in the Internet *ad maximum*. The most advanced are the Central Scientific Agricultural Library and the Library of the Moscow State University which opened their resources to the Internet. The absolute leader is the State Public Science and Technical Library: all electronic resources of this library are on its WWW-server, the best library server of Russia. On this server a user can find Consolidated Catalogue of scientific and technical books of 400 libraries containing more then 480 thousand items.

On Russian library market there are 4 automated management and cataloguing systems. Giant libraries (like the Russian National Library) have got their own decision. For example, the Russian State Library uses ALEPH (Israel) system, which was installed under RSL TACIS project in 2000 and now is widened under Mellon foundation – RSL project.

Museum Department of the Ministry does not find IST technologies a priority. To use or not use collection management system, to make or not to make an electronic catalogue of a museum collection, to digitise or not digitise – all these are decisions of a specific

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museum. As an example: museum items registration books are reporting documents of a museum; according to the Ministry instruction it should be written manually.


Russian museums are behind libraries in informatisation, integration of resources and presenting information resources on the Internet because of several reasons:

- each museum item is unique as well as each museum collection is unique when books are printed in many copies and funds of different libraries are partly the same; this results in corporate cataloguing of library funds impossible for museums;
- developed co-operation of Russian libraries in pre-computer period (centralised library systems etc.); co-operation of museum concerned common exhibitions only;
- development of national and international library standards, meta-data and communicative formats; lack of national standards of museum descriptions
- primordial orientation of a library to give open access to full library catalogue; full museum catalogues as usual were published for specialists only by the largest museums and were never displayed for everyday visitors
- existence of branch and federal programmes of library informatisation, lack of such a programme in museum area

As a result electronic catalogues of Russian museums contain no more than 10,8% of Russian museum holdings and these catalogues are without images in the main. There are practically no museum catalogues on open access though there are some leaders.²

On Russian museum market there are 2 competing museum management and cataloguing systems: one is developed by the Main Computing Centre of the Ministry of Culture (Windows); the other one is developed by AltSoft company (Saint Petersburg) under ORACLE. Giant museums have their own decisions (like IBM system in the State Hermitage).

² For example, the State Hermitage Internet site (<http://www.hermitagemuseum.org>), designed with IBM support, is considered to be the best and was awarded the National Internet prize in 2001 and 2002. In 2001 the first museum on-line shop with all needed components of e-commerce opened at the State Hermitage site (<http://shop.hermitagemuseum.org/index.html>). The State Rybinsk architecture and art museum-reserve was the first museum in Russia to open its full collection catalogue on the Internet (<http://rmuseum.orbis.spb.ru>) with good search facilities. The catalogue is based on the specialised software for museum collection management IAMIS2000, designed by ALTSOFT (Saint Petersburg).

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Archives

State archives are subordinate to the Federal Archives Service (Rosarchive). More than that: all branch and institutional archives, all documentary collections of museums , libraries etc. should be registered according to Rusarchives regulations by law. In practice this is not systematically done yet.

Archives are the most “closed” part of the Russian cultural heritage though IST is bringing about considerable changes in this sector. The Federal Archive Service of Russia has got an Internet site (<http://www.rusarchives.ru>) with information on the archives sector, legislation, a catalogue of federal and regional archives, documents, a list of archiving institutions thematic data-bases, archive education information, a list of reference books and other publications, news and other useful information. At the same time the Federal Archives Service is against opening archives collection on the Internet.

The Federal Archive Service developed its own informatisation programme and has an ambition to make a joint archive collections catalogue (software under DOS with the argument that archives do not have modern equipment).


Some large archives use automated systems and open catalogues on the Internet.³

Financial Issues

Russian cultural institutions theoretically may have the following financial sources inside Russia for digital culture activities:

- Federal budget distributed through the Federal Ministries, RAS etc.
- Federal budget distributed through Russian Foundation for Basic Researches
- Federal budget distributed through Russian Foundation for Humanitarian Researches
- Federal budget distributed through Federal cross – ministry programmes like “Electronic Russia”
- Local budgets distributed through regional governments
- Charity funds (like George Soros Foundation, Ford foundation)

³ For example, “Personal Photodocuments Internet-catalogue of the Central State Archive of cinema and photo documents of Saint-Petersbourg” (www.photoarchive.spb.ru) with technology and software developed by ALTSOFT (Saint Petersburg) The project was supported by Ford Foundation..

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- Commercial firms

Digital culture projects Budget financing depends on the level of understanding of the officials (see the previous section) and is in any case very small as the whole budget for culture and science is less than minimal.

The Open Society Institute (Soros foundation –Russia) was very active with digital culture projects for the past 10 years supporting a lot of projects of specific institutions (libraries, museum, archives), regional policy and integration projects, standards and meta-data projects, training, workshops, conferences etc. It is not an exaggeration that the majority of the Russian digital culture projects were initiated and supported by the Open Society Institute.


Example. The Open Society Institute (Soros foundation-Russia) supported several projects of regional library nets (Moscow – 12 libraries, Novosibirsk – 7 libraries, Saint-Petersburg and North-West region – 6 libraries, Tomsk and region – 6 libraries). The aim of the projects was to create regional distributed corporate library systems to integrate library information resources and allow open access to them. The projects were grounded on Internet Technologies and open international and national standards including Z39.50 and RUSMARC. The Open Society Institute (Soros foundation – Russia) plays an important role in the process of museum informatisation, mostly in Russian regions.

There is an opinion that in future this activity will be much smaller.

Ford Foundation in Moscow supports mostly archives projects and the activities of National Association of Audiovisual Archives (www.naava.ru).

At the end of 1998 an 18-month project under **TACIS** (Creating an Information System for the Russian State Library) was started: the Russian State Library (RSL) Information Project. It aimed to support the modernisation of the Russian State Library from a traditional to a digital library, introducing new information technology to meet the growing information needs of the Russian market and bring to life the vast resources of the national library. The TACIS project was successfully finished in 2000 with the conference “Digital Future of the Libraries”. This was the only TACIS project in digital culture in Russia. On March 12, 2002 the Russian State Library announced a new international project "Development of digital services system for RSL users". The project runs for 18 months from January 2002 till June 2003 and is funded by the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**. The British Council represents Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in RSL. The project leader is Monika Segbert.

There are just a few examples of **commercial firms** support (see above YUKOS oil company support of Federation of Internet Education projects). Another example is the long-term connections of the State hermitage with IBM.


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Conclusions

In Russia practically all cultural heritage belongs to the State, almost all heritage institutions are state bodies. So the role of the Government and the level of understanding of policy makers is of the main importance.

The complexity of administrative subordination does not leave a lot of space for cultural heritage net or integration projects. These projects were initiated and supported by the Government only inside one branch (libraries, for example). Co-operation of cultural heritage institutions of different types with federal support is possible only through cross-sector programmes, which practically didn't happen till now. The only possible way (and it really happens) is connected with regional integration projects supported by regional authorities.

But: for the last 10 – 12 years there are a lot of activities of new non-governmental bodies like non-commercial partnership, non-for-profit institutions, associations etc. founded by cultural heritage institutions and technological firms to work in the field of IST and digital culture. These new entities do a lot of networking projects and really change the situation. They involve cultural heritage institutions to the digital culture activities and through them federal and local financing. These institutions are more flexible and independent and are possible partners for EU projects.

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Technological issues: Internet in Russia

Auditorium

In the middle of 2002 the method Nielsen/NetRating was used to estimate the number of Russian Internet users for the first time in Russia. As this method is used worldwide it allows comparing Russia with other countries.

According to the poll which was ordered by the Information Technologies Council of the Ministry for Communications and Information there are 8 800 000 Internet users in Russia (8% of the population over 18). These are people who live in Russia and used Internet at least once for the previous half year. It is approximately the same number of Internet users as in India, Spain or the Netherlands and more then in Argentine, Mexico or Sweden.

1700 000 of Internet users (19%) live in Moscow, 800 000 (9%) – in Saint-Petersburg. (reported by <http://www.internet.ru> September, 27, 2002 – in Russian)

According to the SPYLOG report on 2001 (www.spylog.ru – in Russian) 65% - 80% Russian Internet-users are younger then 35; 60% - with university education or students; 67% with average income and 12% with high income.

Geographically only 58% of Russian Internet auditorium live in Russia, 10% from New Independent States, 2% from Baltic countries.

Table 1. Russian Internet Auditorium and Traffic

Country	Daily auditorium
Russia	58,0%
USA	10,8%
Ukraine	6,0%
Germany	3%
United Kingdom	1,7%
Israel	1,7%
Byelorussia	1,5%
Canada	1,2%


Kazakhstan	1,1%
Australia	0,8%
Italy	0,8%
Latvia	0,8%
The Netherlands	0,7%
Lithuania	0,6%
France	0,6%
Estonia	0,6%
Sweden	0,5%
Spain	0,5%
Moldova	0,4%
Belgium	0,4%
Other countries	8,4%

In Russia the Internet users are still geographically concentrated. Moscow and region gives more than a half of the Russian users, Saint Petersburg and the region – 12% when the population of these two regions is no more than 20% of the whole population of Russia.

In the Internet penetration Moscow and Saint Petersburg are also the leaders. 13% of the Moscow and region population over 15 are regular Internet users, in Saint Petersburg and the region this figure is 10%. From the other regions of Russia Internet penetration is over 5% only in Novosibirsk and Tomsk regions.

A considerable digital divide continues to exist between Moscow and the regions of Russia.

The speed of The Russian Internet (=Runet) audience growth is somewhat lower than in previous years. Spylog company considers that the reasons of that tendency are connected with satiation of Moscow with the Internet, low quality of telephone connections in the regions and a low level of awareness of the capacities and attractions of the Internet. ROCIT considers that the audience for the Internet is not growing speedily

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because of the high cost of personal computers and the low availability of Internet connections using other cheaper terminals (specialised TV devices, for example). [Proceedings of the 6th Russian Internet Forum – 2002].

Access

The majority of Russian users have Internet access from office (58%). The number of home Internet users grows and is now 35%. Yet public Internet points are the most important till now, more and more of free internet halls are organized in cultural institutions (mostly libraries) and educational institutions.

Federal government understands the need to overcome the digital divide.


The government decree of 2001 on Internet connections in post-offices all over Russia aimed to provide Internet access to people lacking facilities and skills. The [KiberPost@Net](#) project now has 2200 Internet points at post-offices. In case the federal Government proceed the project financing, by the end of 2003 there will be up to 15000 points of 40 000 post-offices in Russia. In average hardware costs for such a point are 1500 – 1700 US\$.

In 2001 the Ministry of Education of Russia in co-operation with regional authorities completed a programme of country schools computerisation and supplied hardware and software for schools and training of teachers in 97% of schools. (<http://ccs.mto.ru/results.html>).

Resources

In the beginning of March 2002 the largest search engine in Runet, Yandex, estimated Russian Internet volume at 1 terabyte (2⁴⁰ bytes). In 2000 the Russian Internet became much “wider”, that is, a lot of new sites with just a few pages appeared. This was because in 2000 several large hosting portals (like narod.ru) were opened. They gave to anyone free space for sites, 3^d level domain addresses (like xxx.narod.ru) and easy tools to create web-pages without special training. By contrast, in 2001 there was a process of growing “in depth” and sites grew larger. The overall volume of Runet more than doubled whilst the number of new sites was less than in the previous year. The median volume of a site (server) became larger then in the “pre-hosting” period and is now 2,5 megabytes. (<http://www.yandex.ru/chisla.html>).

Cultural resources of Runet, according to Spylog analysis, are 17,6% of the sites visited.

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The absolute majority of the Runet resources are in Russian.

Equipment and Software


In Russia Microsoft and IBM PC compatibles are totally dominating.

Table 2. OS of the Russian Internet users

Windows	98,45%
98	64,08%
2000	14,93%
XP	9,04%
NT	5,29%
95	4,43%
MacOS	0,68%
Linux	0,35%
Others	0,52%

Table 3. Internet Browsers

Microsoft Internet Explorer	94,21%
Microsoft IE 5.xx	68,23%
Microsoft IE 6.xx	20,92%
Microsoft IE 4.xx	4,80%
Netscape Navigator	3,39%
Netscape Navigator 4.xx	2,84%

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Others	2,40%
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Table 4. Monitor resolutions

800x600	45,3%
1024x768	42,5%
1152x864	5,0%
1280x1024 and larger	4,8%
640x480	2,4%

Mobile Telephony, Wireless and Broadband Internet

Mobile telephony grows very speedily all over the world. In some European countries the mobile telephony penetration (i.e. the rate of the number of mobile users to the number of citizens) is about 100% and is higher than the stationary telephony penetration. In Russia the same process goes on so sooner or later (some experts forecast 2007) the number of mobile and stationary phones will be equal.

For the first quarter of 2002 the number of mobile phone users in Russia was higher 30%, in absolute numbers it grew from 8 015 300 users to 10 380 000 users.


For example, in Moscow and Moscow region there are 5,8 mln users of stationary phones and 5,4 mln users of mobile phones so very soon the numbers will be equal. In Saint Petersburg the situation is alike: 1,8 mln users of stationary phones and 1,6 mln users of mobiles.

It should be stated that the growth of mobile users is mostly due to the Russian regions (49%), when in Moscow the growth is 12%. Experts think that the Moscow market is satiated and is near to the limits of penetration.

The process of mobile telephony growth in Russian is connected not only with the world tendency but mostly with technological backwardness of stationary telephone nets.

By now the mobile telephony penetration is 7% and 21% for stationary phones. The cost of mobile connections is too high for the mass users.

The spread of **wireless Internet access systems** depends on national laws and procedures of frequency band usage. In Russia several institutions are responsible for frequency band singling out, namely the State Specialised Radio and TV project Institute, the State Commission on Radio Frequencies, the Main Department of State

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Communication Supervision etc. Besides all the radio electronic equipment should be certified by the State Communication Committee. The result is that not all means of wireless connections available abroad could be used in Russia.

Today users may have mobile 11 Mbit/sec. Internet connection under 802.11b standard. In the middle of September 2001 ComTek company organised wireless local net at the conference “Internet Development in Russia: Results and Perspectives”. The conference delegates were given PCMCIA cards to connect notebooks to WLAN.

The prices of the wireless equipment 802.11b go down. Now the cost of access points is 150 – 200 US\$, client equipment costs less then 100\$. New constructive decisions and miniaturisation of net interface boards allow integration into portable computers, wireless gates so the integrated decisions will be more and more popular in the local nets market.


Public wireless access world tendencies could be rather optimistic though for Russia it is not completely the same.

First, Russia uses 802.11b standard for city of regional connections. Two years ago Russian Internet operators survived migration to new equipment and now they are before the same problem, this time connected with new equipment for WLAN. A reasonable way out which may help to decide a lot of problems is to move to higher frequency bands (5,7 Gherz).

Second, the problem lies not only in high cost of wireless adapters but also in the need to buy frequency license independently of the place of wireless connection use (at home, or in the office, or outside, or “the last mile”).

Third, in spite of the fact that Russian was but the first country to develop wireless nets operators and now has more then a hundred working nets, the wireless connections market is still not large. For the previous year the situation on the fixed wireless broadband access market is estimated as stagnation. The main reason is that 2,4 GHerz frequency band is actually exhausted. The situation will improve if new frequency bands will be allowed for commercial use. For the previous year the wireless nets growth was due to 3,5 Gherz use. They are all based on Breeze Access System of BreezeCom. 5,7 GHerz was partially not accessible for commercial use because of military bodies resistance. Though it was just the same with the frequency band 2,4Gherz and the situation changed to the best at some point.

To conclude, there is an optimistic example. Ericsson company has a contract with Russian operator “Combellga” to supply equipment for


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Wireless Broadband Access net which is going to be the first system of this level in Russia. The project envisages multisector microwave base stations to cover the Moscow territory.

Conclusions

Though Russian Internet penetration is still lower than in Europe it grows very speedily. There is a good perspective for wireless broadband Internet. Russian Internet users are mostly young and educated and they need quality cultural and educational resources. Though language skills (mostly English) are much higher now than in Soviet epoch not so many Russian (even educated) can read foreign languages. Multilingual access to the world cultural, educational, scientific heritage is needed and the world resources will find huge auditorium in Russia.

Russian Internet resources even being mostly in Russian has large auditorium worldwide. Russian language resources are needed for the large Russian Diaspora, for Russian speaking population of the former Soviet countries, for educated people (mostly over 40) from Baltic countries and East Europe. Russian resources will find new auditorium of people not knowing Russian worldwide if a good multilingual access will be available.

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Cultural Heritage Nets


Library Nets and networking institutions.

Libraries are ahead of other cultural sectors in IST. In many libraries of Moscow and Saint-Petersbourg (for example, library system Kievskaya www.libnet.ru) and in all large state regional libraries there are mediathekas or Internet-halls with free Internet access. Many libraries provide their catalogues on the Internet. The list of available library catalogues can be found at the site of the **Russian Library Association** (www.rba.ru) which plays an important role in the process of library informatisation and develops the RUSMARC format. The Library Department of the Ministry of Culture organises and actively supports IST processes in libraries. Since 1997 the Department leads a specialised programme LIBNET (Library Net) (www.ruslibnet.ru) “Development of All-Russia Information Library Computer Net”. A new project of the LIBNET programme is a **National Information Library Centre** (www.nilc.ru).

The first stage of the project (2001 – 2003) is to create a specialised net for the united electronic catalogue of Russian libraries. The catalogue will play a very important role and will make it possible to obtain information on the stocks of all the largest libraries of Russia, to organise intelligent document delivery to users all over Russia, to co-ordinate the development of library stocks and to organise shared cataloguing for the majority of Russian libraries. Currently the National Information Library Centre keeps catalogues of new books of the Russian State Library (Moscow) and the Russian National Library (Saint Petersburg) and a mechanism for downloading catalogue descriptions which can be used by any subscribing library. National Information Library Centre is organised and works on OCLC scheme.

Programmes of integration of library information resources include:

- Development of communicative data formats, authority files, subject headings etc.
- Corporate cataloguing
- Distant access to library catalogues through global information nets
- Electronic delivery of documents
- Retro-conversion

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Association of Regional Library Consortia was founded as an organisation in May 2002. It was launched as a result of 3-years all-Russian project developing a series of regional library consortia in different regions of Russia, based on the Internet technologies and open standards (<http://www.ruslan.ru:8001>). Thus the libraries got a chance to move from isolated management to closer co-operation. Now it has a working system, joining 200 libraries from 43 regions, providing access via the common entry point (virtual union catalogue) for search, retrieval, ordering and delivery of about 20 million documents. Nowadays the emphasis it put in the area of filling the virtual library of Russian resources with quality content.

Each consortium has a team of highly qualified researches. Basically the teams are located in universities in big Russian cities. Each of the teams has its own list of research projects.


Museum Nets and networking institutions

Russian Cultural Heritage Network (RCHN) was founded in 1996 by the Russian Ministry of Culture subdivision in cooperation with other cultural organizations. RCHN is an informational network which brings separate information sources together and creates a central resource base that provides easy access to the information and promotes Russian culture using internet technologies. RCHN leads several important projects, museum.ru by now is the main.

The Russian Museums web portal (www.Museum.ru)

It is the main Russian museums resource center, which is also used as information and communication center for public and museum professional area.


- The web portal, launched in May 1996, has more than 50.000 visitors per month. It was rewarded more than 40 times and was put in the 100 Top List of Russian websites.
- The comprehensive on-line database contains 3500 museums with their detailed description and images served by the search engine, which is powerful and easy in use.
- The information stored in the database was obtained through our first Russian museum survey.
- It has about 700 records of an exhaustive guide for any cultural website and a large CD collection with the reviews.
- Most of materials contained here are bilingual (it means Russian and English, but English version is just planned).

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- Cultural News division contains information from all regions of Russia, which is daily updated.
- It has also electronic web-magazines, which are produced weekly. The ones in Russian are “MR-List” and “MR-Prof”, and “Russian Culture News” in English. They have about 6500 subscribers.
- The web portal information is disseminated through the number of partners’ websites.
- Information related to the conferences, lectures, reports and laws is updated weekly.
- It constitutes the links to Russian and international museums and other organisations and presents the list of over than 4500 museum professionals.
- Museums of Russia supports (settles) 80 Russian museums’ websites.
- It contains some electronic conferences (web boards).

RCHN designed and developed a large number of museum web-sites and plans to cover the library space too. The new web-site of the Russian State Library (www.rsl.ru) is developed by RCHN specialists, the portal “Russian Libraries” is planned.

The (museum) **Association on Documentation and Information Technologies ADIT** (www.adit.ru) plays a large role in museum IST activities. Since 1997 ADIT organises annual conferences “Museums and Information Space: informatisation and cultural heritage” in different cities. The 6th ADIT conference was in Nizhny Novgorod May 27 – 31, 2002. ADIT is a partner in the EU “Open Heritage” project, aiming to present the Karelia region in the open European net. Another project (RUSSIAN DIMENSION) was born as a consequence of ADIT participation in OPEN HERITAGE. The project develops models for applying new technologies to Russian regional memory institutions. The aim of the project is twofold. On one hand it provides services for a museum, ranging from network and facility management to promotion. On the other hand it presents a museum as a part of the cultural heritage of a region, thus strengthening the profile of the region and enhancing its attractiveness towards the cultural tourist. Since 2001 ADIT is an independent not-for-profit organisation committed to enabling free and efficient access to the cultural heritage data on the basis of modern information technologies. ADIT unites skilled in the area “Information Technologies for Cultural Heritage” Institutions (more than 40) and specialists (about 200) all over Russia. ADIT has about 10 Regional Representatives in Central Russia and Siberia (Yaroslavl, Kemerovo, Nizhny Novgorod

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and others). Among Institutions - federal and regional Museums, Libraries; Archives; Special Technology and Hardware Companies; Educational organizations; among personal members - specialists in Humanitarian and Technical Science (Museology, Culturology, Sociology, Linguistics, Art History, Restore, Computer Science and others).

ADIT is constantly moving from a museum association to a real cultural heritage network uniting different types of cultural heritage institutions, Universities, technological firms etc.

ADIT may serve as a gateway to the institutions – members and to their collections.

New non-profit organization "Culture heritage in digital technologies. "ADIT-PREMIUM" is going to be one more networking body.


Multimedia Center and Department of Art Museums of Russia (www.rusmuseum.ru) of the State Russian Museum (Saint Petersburg) has strong connections with art museums of Russia and leads a number of joint projects. In a sense the activities of the Department could be considered museum networking. For example, the project “Russian Museum in the Russian towns” – Virtual Russian museum in small towns of Russia, the development of informational and educational centers of the Russian museums in the Russian towns and “ Virtual Exhibition from 32 Art Museums of Russia” (part of the large program of the Russian museum on collaboration with Art museums of Russia - named “Russia”).

Research and technology firm **AltSoft** (<http://www.altsoft.spb.ru>). One of the two museum management and cataloguing systems KASMIS is designed and developed by AltSoft. It is adopted and installed in 85 museums around Russia. In the situation when Russia has no adopted standard of museum description and commonly used museum meta-data AltSoft developments serve as standards for KAMIS users. KAMIS developed technologies for several integration projects like RUMIR (Russian Centre of Museum Images registration) or Karelia republic museum catalogue. Pyramidal JPEG is integrated into KAMIS.

In 2000 the first museum of Russia gave Internet access to the full museum collection catalogue – this is the ‘Rybinsk State Historical and Art Museum-Preserve’ (<http://rmuseum.orbis.spb.ru>). The catalogue contains descriptions of 50 000 museum items with good search possibilities and more then 3000 images, the image collection grows speedily. This became possible with development and installation of a new version of Integrated Automated Museum Information System (KAMIS-2000) designed by AltSoft, St-Petersburg. This is a modern client-server system under Oracle. Automatically designed Internet catalogue is a remarkable feature of KAMIS.

Soft and information complex of architecture, history and archaeology (KAISA), developed by "AltSoft" provides creation and conducting databases of descriptions of

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non-movable cultural heritage objects. In 2002 for the first time AltSoft combined KAMIS and KAISA into integrated system for Solovky monastery museum and buildings. AltSoft works with archives too (The catalogue of the Central State Archive of Film-documentary Photographs and Phonic Documents in Saint Petersburg). So AltSoft is a net for their users from cultural heritage institutions of different types.

Prosoft-M JSC (Moscow) plays alike role leading scan and retro-conversion projects in Russian libraries, archives and museums (Russian State Library, Russian National Library, State Archive of Russian Federation, the State Russian Museum). Concerning retro-conversion projects Russian museums appeared to be the most conservative. They preferred to convert their catalogues themselves, not using professional services. The State Russian Museum is the first one to use Prosoft-M services for the full catalogue conversion. As the museum uses KAMIS museum management system for many years KAMIS, AltSoft and Prosoft-M make work together in developing technology of inserting the converted catalogue into KAMIS system.

NGO 'Technological Innovations for Modern Education' (TIME) and computer studio Mart (Saint Petersburg) develops multimedia and Internet projects for museums (the State hermitage, the State Russian Museum, the State Anna Akhmatova museum, the Museum for the History of St. Petersburg and others) and is planning educational internet projects based on museum information. TIME also may be considered as a prototype of a cultural heritage net.


Contemporary Art

ARTINFO Multimedia Publishers was established in 1991 as one of the first Russian multimedia publishers. Ever since, its has been intensively: create multimedia data banks, publish CD-ROMs, provide Internet content.

One of the key projects being implemented by ARTINFO is the development of modern information infrastructure in the sphere of arts on the basis of the latest technologies. The main objective of the project is to conserve and make available to users worldwide Russia's cultural wealth and provide effective information support to Russian artists, art students, critics, chroniclers and art lovers too.

The basic component of new infrastructure is the Modern Art Computer Data Bank, which contains information in Russian and English about more than 1300 prominent modern Russian artists and over 7,000 digital pictures of their art works.

Since November 1996, the Data Bank has been accessible on the Internet. WWW-server "From Russia with Art" www.artinfo.ru is the largest Visual Art Databank in Russian Internet. From 1999 ARTINFO is publishing daily art news (world wide) www.artinfo.ru/ru/news (in Russian only). News has over 3000 subscribers.

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Non-movable heritage

The portal ‘Architecture of Russia’ (www.archi.ru) has been on the net since July 1999 and deals with the history of Russian architecture, modern design and construction projects. It is addressed to architects, art-critics and those, who are interested in Russian culture. It covers the history of the architecture of Russia, non-movable heritage of history and culture and includes news, publications, contests, problems of restoration, educational institutions, bibliography and links, a catalogue of monuments (now 370 monuments, 940 photos) and catalogue of new buildings (in development). (English, Russian). The portal is developed by a team concentrated around the Museum of Architecture (Moscow) and is not ready yet to join E-culture Net.

Research department of **BUKA Entertainment** is developing software for virtual reality and 3D presentations of historical facades. It is ready to co-operate with E-cultureNet.

University and Research Institutes Digital Culture Activities

Ethnography


The **Interdisciplinary Center for Advanced Professional Education (ICAPE)** is an educational and scientific subdivision of Saint Petersburg State University. The most interesting project of the Centre is Ethnography of Russia developed in co-operation with the Russian Ethnography Museum (Saint Petersburg). This project plans integration with Ethnography of Volga Region developed by Nizhny Novgorod museum centre. The Centre leads technological, educational and networking projects.

1.1.1.1.1 Folklore, language technologies

*The Philological Faculty of the **State Saint Petersburg University** leads a lot of projects on Russian Folklore (Propp Centre) and language technologies and collected large audio archives which are already opened or may be opened on the Internet.*

Networked communities

The learning communication laboratory of the **Program Systems Institute of the Russian Academy of Science** initiated the foundation of a number of network communities. Some of them were directly connected to educational and arts centers such as the International Children's Computer Center, the University of Pereslavl, Gallery of modern Russian media-art, the Virtual Theatre Workshop, and "RepWeb - a modern

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environment for the conduction of network research". The most important are the ways of foundation and support of learning network communities.

Scientific heritage

During last decade the **Institute for Information Transmission Problems of the Russian Academy of Sciences** carries out intensive research aimed to development of databases representing various collections with essential pictorial component such as archival drawings, photographs, watermarks, medieval manuscripts, incunabula, and other historical documents those are an integral part of global cultural heritage. The development is mainly focused on archive funds rather badly known to the world community, as compared to library, museum, and art gallery collections. The Institute specialises on Distributed multilingual databases of E-culture objects with essential pictorial component.

Four databases of the kind were created:


- Digital version of traditional Card File of Old Russian Dictionary (original card file has been included in UNESCO register of cultural treasures);
- Relational Database of Watermark Images of Historical Documents;
- Biography and Portrait Database of all Russian Academy of Sciences Members Since 1724;

Digital Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences (currently covers Collection of medals and signs in the name of prominent scientists; Musin-Pushkin's collection of portraits of famous people; several Personal photographic funds of well-known scientists; etc.)

Digital Culture Education, Distant Learning

Moscow State University of Culture and Arts is a leading University in training specialists in the sphere of culture. The University offers education opportunities in 26 specialities and over 100 specializations: library science and bibliography, folk creative activities, vocal arts, drama arts, music education, public relations, applied information science (information analysis and consulting, multimedia technologies and Web-design, information marketing), economics and management of an enterprise, management of organisation and others.

After Graduate Program students can study under post-postgraduate or doctoral programs. There are more than 10 000 students from 50 regions of Russia and 26 countries from the world.

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The University is the initiator of the Association of Russian Universities of Culture.

The **Moscow school of social and economic sciences**, MSSSES (Russian-British postgraduate university), the faculty of cultural management expresses interest and readiness to take part in the European program eCultureNet, which initiate by McLuhan Institute in the structure of VI-th frame programs of European Commission (2002-2006 years).

The faculty of cultural management is created in 1998 and has prepared more than 100 experts from Russia and countries of Commonwealth of Independent States in the field of humanitarian administrative technologies, cultural policy and cultural development.

The faculty works in the market of modern humanitarian trades and experts capable to be guided freely in modern social-culture processes at various levels of management: from separate organizations up to complex regional systems and organs of local self-management.


The faculty organised Association of the faculty graduates.

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Conferences on Digital Culture in Russia 2002 – 2003

The List of Conferences in Russia

- 15 January – 15 March 2002** **International Internet-conference "[New infocommunication technologies in humanities and in education: modern situation, problems, perspectives of development](#)".**
- 5 – 9 February 2002** **Seminar “Modern Information Technologies in Museums”.** Saratov. Organised by the Partnership of Museum Researchers of Volga region and the Regional Center of New Information Technologies of the Saratov State University.
- 15 - 18 March 2002** **International Scientific Symposium “[Scientific Heritage of N.D. Kondratieff in the Context of Development of the Russian and the World Socio-Economic Thought](#)”**
 Devoted to 110th Birth Anniversary of N. Kondratieff
 “Scientific Heritage of N.D. Kondratieff in the Context of Development of the Russian and the World Socio-Economic Thought”.
bondarenko@inst-econ.org.ru
 Contact: 32, Nakhimovsky prospect, Moscow 117218, Russia
 Phone: (095) 129-04-88, 332-40-76
 Fax: (095) 129-04-88
- 22 – 26 April 2002** **The First International Conference “Electronic Century of Culture”**
 Sochi, Krasnaya Poliana
www.rsl.ru
- 12 – 18 May 2002** **The 7th yearly [Conference of the Russian Library Association](#)**
 Yaroslavl
 Conference theme: “Information for All”
- 27 – 31 May 2002** **The 6th Annual Conference [ADIT-2002](#)**
 Nizhny Novgorod. Russia
 ADIT is Russian non-commercial partnership “Automation Directions in Museums and Information Technologies”
- 8 - 16 June 2002** **Ninth International Conference “[Crimea 2002](#)”**
 “Libraries and Associations in Changing World: New Technologies and New Forms of Co-operation”
 Sudak, Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine,
 The Conference "Crimea 2002" will be held under the aegis of IFLA
- The year 2002 topic: Electronic Resources and the Social Role of Libraries in the Future

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- 25 – 29 June 2002** **The 2nd International Conference “Information Technologies and Security”**
 Crimea, Ukraine
 More information at [e-mail:dssd@cki.ipri.kiev.ua](mailto:dssd@cki.ipri.kiev.ua)
- 7 – 12 July 2002** Federation of Internet Education (Russia) and the Library of Congress USA will organize the International Conference **“Educational Internet-resources of Russia and USA and their Use for History Education of Russian and USA pupils”**.
- 8 - 16 September 2002** St. Petersburg (Russia)
CIMCIM - MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
CIMCIM Meeting
 Theme: Musical instruments: do they have to sound?
 Contacts: Anna Shoulgat or Vladimir Koshelev, State Museum of Theatre and Music, Pl. Ostrovskogo 6, 191104 St. Petersburg, Russia.
 Fax: +7 812 314 7746.
 Email: theatre@museums.org.ru
 For more info see: www.icom.org/cimcim
- 16 - 21 September 2002** **The 12-th International Conference on Computer Graphics GraphiCon 2002 is**
 scheduled to be held on September 16 - September 21, 2002 in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia.
- 1 – 4 October 2002** The 2nd All-Russia Conference **ECHOLOT 2002 on audioarchiving, audioculturology and new technologies**
 Moscow, Cinema Museum
 Organised by Centre PIC of the Ministry of Culture of Russia
www.echo-net.ru
- 11 - 15 November 2002** **Sixth International Conference and Exhibition**
 "Information Technologies, Computer Systems and Publications for Libraries"
- 25 – 28 November 2002** The Fifth All-Russia Joint Conference **“Information Society Technologies – Internet and Modern Society 2002”** (IST/IMS-2002) will be organised 2002 in Saint-Petersburg University
- 2 – 7 December 2002** The 5th Annual International Conference **EVA 2002 Moscow** in the State Tretyakov Gallery.
 Organised by Centre PIC of the Ministry of Culture of Russia
 Conference theme: **Information for all: Culture and Information Society**
 Conference, Exhibition, Workshops, Round Table discussions
www.evarussia.ru
- 3 – 5 December 2002** The State Educational Institution of the Continuing and Post-Graduate Education
 “Institute of Innovative Programs for the Professional Development of Cultural Workers INTERSTUDIO” organises conference **“Cultural Policy of Post-Soviet Countries”**

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Saint-Petersburg

- 13 - 14 February 2003** Russian Library Association, St.Petersburg International Center for Preservation, Russian National Library and St.Petersburg Central City Public Library will hold an International Conference [“International Library Projects: Present and Future”](#).
- 7 - 9 April 2003** International Conference **“CULTURE: from INFORMATION to KNOWLEDGE. The role of culture in the knowledge based society”**
Moscow
The conference marks the 175th anniversary of the Russian State Library and is organised in conjunction with the RSL-Mellon Foundation project, and the EU funded CULTIVATE Russia project. It will take place in the Russian State Library. The conference is under the patronage of the Russian Ministry of Culture.
Internet-registration at www.conf.cultivate.ru
- 23 - 25 April 2003** International Conference [ICONIKA-2003](#)
Image perception, creation, transformation and processing
Saint-Petersburg
- April 2003** The First International Conference **“Electronic Century of Culture”**
Sochi, Krasnaya Poliana
www.rsl.ru
- May 2003** **The 7th Annual Conference [ADIT-2002](#)**
Pskov. Russia
ADIT is Russian non-commercial partnership “Automation Directions in Museums and Information Technologies”
- 07 - 15 June 2003** [Tenth International Conference "Crimea 2003"](#)
"Libraries and Associations in the Transient World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation"
Conference is held under the auspices of IFLA
Main venue - *SUDAK* ; Guest Sessions - *Alushta, Bakhchisarai, Belogorsk, Kerch, Koktebel, Stary Krym, Feodosia*
Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine
The year 2003 Topic: *Library and Information Availability in the Modern World : Digital Resources of Science, Culture and Education*
- September 2003** **CIDOC + ADIT** conference in Saint Petersburg in the State Russian Museum

EVA Moscow & Its Strategic Role

Since 1998 the annual international conference EVA Moscow has played an important role in the Russian “Culture X Technology” sector. Centre PIC is the main


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EVA Moscow organiser in co-operation with the State Tretyakov Gallery and VASARI Enterprises UK.

The themes of EVA Moscow are actually wider than electronic imaging and the visual arts and cover all aspects of new technologies in cultural heritage. Though EVA Moscow is mostly oriented to the heritage institutions it includes a strong R&D aspect as well. Moscow EVA has a strong international aspect and is the only conference in Russia where specialists from different sectors of the cultural area (museums, galleries, libraries, archives, non-movable cultural heritage institutions) gather to discuss common problems of new information and communication technologies implementation in cultural heritage area. The government, research and technological sectors are also involved. As a rule EVA Moscow attracts about 600 delegates, speakers and exhibitors from Russia, former Soviet republics and the New Independent States in helping ‘Culture x Technology’ across Russian, Eastern Europe and building international relations as well as from EU countries and the USA. The Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation – Moscow) helps to bring delegates and speakers from the Russian regions. The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Industry, Science and Technologies of Russia support every EVA Moscow. As a special event the exhibition “Multimedia in Culture, Art and Education” is organised every year. CD-ROMs, Internet-sites, data-bases, software and hardware for cultural institutions, video-films on culture, art and education are presented at the exhibition. The traditional place of EVA Moscow is the State Tretyakov Gallery though some conference events are located at other places, including the State Darwin Museum. Working languages are Russian and English with simultaneous interpretation; Conference Proceedings (full texts) are published in English and Russian. All conference events, Proceedings etc. are free of charge for speakers and delegates and exhibition space and equipment is also free of charge for the exhibitors. An Announcement, Call for papers, Programme, a list of delegates and speakers etc. are published on the Internet (www.evarussia.ru); on-line registration is organised; full text papers, illustrated exhibition catalogue and photo-album are also on the Internet. All Internet publications are in Russian and English. The Internet hosting of EVA Moscow is supplied by ARTINFO. Cultural visits to Moscow museums and libraries during the conference week are free.


Traditional topics of EVA Moscow are strategic issues; international co-operation; regional aspects; IST for museums, libraries, archives, non-movable heritage; new technologies and contemporary art; technological issues; standards and meta-data. **EVA2001 Moscow** brought several new topics, which highlighted special interests and new trends. The most interesting sessions were " Digital Access to Cultural Heritage: Audio and video archives and collections" and “Access to Digital Cultural and Social Heritage: Cultural Diversity and Dialogue”. Contacts with educational institutions and pedagogic departments of museums enriched EVA Moscow with a section called "Information Technologies for Museum Pedagogy" and with a new form of conference

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activity: a game-contest for teenagers on Russian Art, which was based on creative computer approaches. The especially important regional aspect was underlined by a session "Presenting the Regions: Information Resources of Kuzbass" which brought to Moscow EVA a far-away coal region. EVA2001 Moscow Proceedings (www.evarussia.ru) were actively used to prepare this paper.

The jubilee Fifth EVA2002 Moscow will be held December 2 –7 in the State Tretyakov Gallery with the theme “Information for all: Culture and Information Society Technologies”. 2 plenary sessions, 13 parallel sections, 3 workshops, 3 round table discussions and one plenary discussion, a master class, game-contest for teenagers, an exhibition are planned. 160 papers will be presented.

EVA Moscow is the only cross-sector conference in Russia gathering cultural heritage institutions of all types, technology, educational institutions, policy makers and mass media. Every year it is becoming more and more popular. EVA Moscow is a good place for dissemination of EU IST policy and activities, IST projects and results, for finding Russian and NIS partners for future projects.

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Conclusions

1. There is an important experience and potential in Russian libraries, museums, archives, research and technological institutions, universities, professional associations etc. working in e-culture area, which allows to participate in large R&D international projects on e-culture for research and education.

2. There is a considerable volume of digital cultural heritage on Russian and world culture and science in Russian heritage institutions valuable and interesting not only for Russia but also world-wide.

3. In digital culture activities Russian specialists use modern information and communication technologies.

4. A considerable part of Russian digital cultural and scientific heritage is accessible through the Internet.


5. New information and communication technologies development and usage including the Internet, mobile telephony, wireless and broadband Internet grow rather speedily, become more accessible, which allows to use them for large scale projects in digital culture and science.

6. Libraries, museums, archives, non-movable heritage preservation institutions are (more or less) associated into formal and informal net communities, which helps to co-ordinate efforts on large and medium size projects on digital culture, though there is a lack of centralised co-ordination. Libraries are the most advances in this respect.

7. There are federal, regional, municipal programmes on information and communication technologies and digital culture.

8. The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation shows serious interest in co-operation with EC and is ready to supply international projects with possible administrative and financial support.

9. 25 Russian institutions (cultural heritage, science, education – see the Annex), having essential research, technological, administrative experience and potential, signed letters of intent to actively co-operate with European E-cultureNet and to participate in large scale projects of FP6. These institutions are ready to supply 260 – 300 researchers for E-cultureNet projects. They are ready to cover a large variety of research topics of knowledge life cycle, to give access to valuable cultural and science heritage resources through DEER, to test technologies developed in the FP6 projects, to use European open resources for learning.


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What seems to be important:


- to use high technological, research and cultural potential of Russian specialists for European researches and technological developments concerning knowledge production life-cycle;
- to integrate Russian cultural and scientific heritage with European information resources stimulating standards and meta-data activities and including Russian language into world classification systems and thesauri;
- to make user friendly access for education and research to Russian e-culture, e-science resources through multilingual multicultural interfaces;
- to make user friendly access for Russian education and research to European digital resources through multilingual multicultural interface;
- to prepare more Russian specialists in digital culture for participation in European projects through European Masters programme and other educational means.

What could be done:

- to proceed Russian cultural heritage networking and policy monitoring with the aim to have at least one Russian institution/researcher for each topic of the research matrix of the knowledge production life-cycle;
- to have a Russian partner for researches and developments of multilingual multicultural interfaces, standards and meta-data activities;
- to stimulate more Russian digital resources to be linked to DEER for European access;
- to stimulate participation of Russian Universities in European Masters Programme;
- to find ways for Russian post-graduates to study on European Masters Programme;
- to administer Russian language gate to DEER;
- to assist Russian institutions/researchers having no experience in EU projects with management;
- to disseminate information on E-cultureNet activities through specialised Russian language web-site, publications, at conferences in Russia;


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to organise yearly international conference in Russia on E-cultureNet researches and developments (EVA Moscow – daughter as a candidate)


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Annex. E-culture Net. Russian candidates


	Name	Type	Address	Contact person, e-mail	Number of researchers	State of the Arts
1.	Russian Cultural Heritage Network	Network (mostly museums)	117296, # 57 Vavilov St., Moscow, Russia http://www.rchn.org.ru/defengl.htm www.museum.ru	Kirill Nasedkin kn@museum.ru Anna Mikhailovskaya anmi@RCHN.org.ru	12	Signed letter of intent Activity description
2.	Association for Documentation and Information Technology (ADIT)	Museum Association	123007, #5, the 5 th Magistralnaia ul., Moscow, Russia http://www.adit.ru/eng/default.asp	Alexander Dremailov dream@kremlin.museum.ru	10 – 15	Signed letter of intent Activity description
3.	The State Russian Museum. Multimedia Center Department of Art Museums of Russia	Museum	Mikhailovsky Palace Inzhenernaya str., 2 Saint-Petersburg, Russia http://www.rusmuseum.ru/eng	Olga Kissel okissel@rusmuseum.ru	7	Signed letter of intent Activity description
3a	Alexander Driker DSc (Theory of Culture), PhD (Philosophy)	Researcher	State Russian Museum Inzhenernaya str, 4 Saint-Petersburg, 19 Russia	Alexander Driker driker@rusmuseum.ru	1	Signed letter of intent Activity description
4.	The State Tretyakov Gallery	Museum	#12, Lavroushinsky per., Moscow, Russia	Nadezhda Brakker Lku@artinfo.ru		Under discussion

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			www.tretyakov.ru (in Russian)			
5.	Museum of the history of Saint-Petersburg	Museum	http://www.museum.ru/museum/gmispb/Engl/GMI_SPB_En.htm	Malkova Nadezhda mail@ppk.spb.su		Under discussion
6.	ARTINFO	Contemporary Art Network	www.artinfo.ru	Yuri Plastinin Plastinin@artinfo.ru	6-8	Signed letter of intent Activity description
7.	Non-profit organization "Culture heritage in digital technologies. "ADIT-PREMIUM"	Media Art, Design, Research	http://art-education.ioso.ru/chdt (in Russian)	Nikolay Selivanov s_n_l@mail.ru	2 - 5	Signed letter of intent Activity description
8.	National Information Library Center	Library Network	http://www.nilc.ru (in Russian)	Nadezhda Brakker Lku@artinfo.ru	10	Signed letter of intent Activity description
9.	Russian State Library	Library	#2, Vozdvizhenka ul., Moscow Russia http://www.rsl.ru/eng/defengl.asp	Nadezhda Brakker Lku@artinfo.ru		Under discussion
10.	The National Library of Russia	Library	191069, #18, Sadovaya ul., Saint-Petersburg, Russia http://www.nlr.ru:8101/eng	Olga Kulish, Deputy Director, e-mail: o.kulish@nlr.ru	3	Signed letter of intent Activity
11.	St. Petersburg State University	University	Universitetskaja En Room 197 199034 St.Petersburg	Svetlana Adonieva spbfolk@mail.ru	10	Signed letter of intent

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	The Propp's Centre		Russia, Russian folklore in Modern records. The Propp's centre http://www.folk.ru/english/index.htm			Activity description
12.	St. Petersburg State University Philological Faculty Department of Phonetics	University	Universitetskaya nab., 11, 199034, St. Petersburg, Russia http://www.speech.nw.ru/region/	Tatyana Sherstinova tanya@ts4306.spb.edu	5	Signed letter of intent Activity description
12a	St. Petersburg State University Philological Faculty Department of Computational Linguistics	University	Universitetskaya nab., 11, 199034, St. Petersburg, Russia	Dr. Prof. Grigory Martynenko Gymart@ts4306.spb.edu	5	Signed letter of intent Activity description
13.	St. Petersburg State University Interdisciplinary Center for Advanced Professional Education	University	V.O. 14 linia, 29 199178 St.Petersburg Russia http://www.icape.nw.ru	Victor Kapustin vak@icape.nw.ru	20 - 25	Signed letter of intent Activity description
14.	Moscow State University of Culture and Arts	University	141406 Moscow region, Khimki-6, ulitsa Bibliotechnaya, 7 www.msuc.edu.ru	Shlykova Olga olgashlykova@yandex.ru	7	Signed letter of intent Activity description
15.	Moscow school of social and economic sciences. Faculty of cultural management	Post-graduate education	Russia, Moscow, Vernadsky prospect, 82/2 http://www.msses.ru/english/index.html	Sergey Zuev S.Zuev@msses.ru	3 - 4	Signed letter of intent Activity description

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16.	Institute for Information Transmission Problems of the Russian Academy Sciences (IITP RAS),	Research and Technology	http://www.iitp.ru/index.html	Nicolay Merzlyakov nick@iitp.ru	9	Signed letter of intent Activity description
17.	Program Systems Institute of RAS	Research and Technology	Pereslavl-Zalessky, 152020, Russia	Evgeny Patarakin pat@uchcom.botik.ru	7	Signed letter of intent Activity description
18.	ZAO ProSoft-M JSC	Research and Technology	Leningradsky prospekt 57, Entrance 5A Moscow 125057 Russian Federation http://www.prosoft-m.ru/abouteng.shtml	Galina Vasilenko GVasilenko@elar.ru	50	Signed letter of intent Activity description
19.	AltSoft	Research and Technology	#9, ul. Alexandr nevcckogo, office 340, Saint-Petersburg, Russia http://www.altsoft.spb.ru (in Russian)	Nadezhda Brakker Lku@artinfo.ru	10	Signed letter of intent Activity description
20.	BUKA	Games, 3D Research and Technology	1 bld. 2 Kashirskoe 115230, Moscow, RUSSIA http://www.buka.com/eindex.htm	Oleg Beloborodov boleg@buka.ru	20	Signed letter of intent Activity description
21.	UNESCO Information for All Programme. Russian Committee	Policy?	107066, Moscow, 1 st Basmanny per., http://www.ifap.ru/ (in Russian)	Eugeny Kuzmin kuzmin@ifap.ru Nadezhda Brakker Lku@artinfo.ru	3 - 5	Signed letter of intent
22.	Association of	Library	St. Petersburg State	Alexander	25	Signed

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	Regional Library Consortia		Technical University 195251 Polytehnicheskaya St. Petersburg, Russia http://www.ruslan.ru	Plemnek, Executive Director, plm@unilib.neva.ru		letter of intent Activity description
23.	Siberian State University Telecommunications Information Sciences (SibSUTI) Telecommunication Networks Departments	University	Kirov Str. 86 Novosibirsk 630100 Russia	Prof. Alexander Markhasin, almar@online.nsk.su	20	Signed letter of intent Activity description
24.	Siberian Center of Mobile Information Society Technologies	Research and Technology	Post Box 236 Novosibirsk 630090 Russia	Prof. Alexander Markhasin, almar@online.nsk.su	15	Signed letter of intent Activity description
25.	NGO TIME 'Technological Innovation for Modern Education	Research and Technology	#2, Druskeniksky pr. 191028, St. Petersburg, http://www.mart.spb.ru	Dr Dmitry D. Roubaev, Director, dmitry@mart.spb.ru	8	Signed letter of intent Activity description