

## Online Access to Cultural Heritage: Europeana Athena and related national and European activities

Currently in Europe there is a major initiative to widely enhance access to digital or digitized cultural heritage. Supported by the European Parliament and (co-)financed by the European Commission a single access point is being developed: [www.europeana.eu](http://www.europeana.eu). Libraries, archives, museums are important parts and targets of this initiative. This is a major undertaking in cultural policy in that it has an ambitious goal: to consider European cultural heritage as a common space, to be presented as a whole and to diverse and geographically separated audiences; and in that it invites and supports access to this whole from many different points, different languages, different fields of interest etc. Such an undertaking, then, poses real and demanding challenges for documentation, for agglomerating the data, for modern retrieval techniques, etc.

In order to fulfil such requirements and to ensure a wider coverage of regions and topics, several national and European activities and projects are underway. Museums need to apply and use standards to be more involved and become more visible.

The presentation will describe the current developments, some challenges, how they can be addressed and how CIDOC supports that.

**Prof. Monika Hagedorn-Saupe**

Deputy Director

Institute for Museum Research

In der Halde 1

D-14195 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 8301 460

FAX: +49 30 8301 504

e-mail: [m.hagedorn@smb.spk-berlin.de](mailto:m.hagedorn@smb.spk-berlin.de)

web: [www.smb.spk-berlin.de/ifm](http://www.smb.spk-berlin.de/ifm)