Europeana Foundation Governing Board Meeting

15 June 2017
16h30 – 18h00 CEST
Teleconference

Hosting of Europeana - Update to [Paper 8 of April 6 Board meeting](#)
Action proposed: For information

Hosting of systems and applications is separate to the hosting of content which has been in [Herzner](#) in Germany since moving from Vancis in the Netherlands in 2014.

Our German provider Anynines, who had won the public tender of 2014 crashed catastrophically last April. Initially they thought they could fix the problem but eventually decided to get out hosting all together. We reacted quickly to keep Europeana in the air, going for the, at the time, only Cloud Foundry provider we could at reasonable costs. This was Pivotal in the US. The was to be a temporary solution while Anynines got up and running, when they decided to quit we had to enter into the process of a public tender procedure. The outcome of this in late 2016 was two tenders

One from ATOS and one from SwissCom, the latter sent in after the deadline, which makes it an invalid tender. IBM informed Europeana that their partner had withdrawn so IBM was not able to submit a valid offer in time, but is willing to do so if given more time. So only the ATOS tender was open for valuation. It was at a price far exceeding the tender price and had some serious flaws. We therefore declared the tender invalid but had to follow due process.

We went back to IBM and initially the prices being quoted were 3-4 times the costs of hosting in the US.

At this point paper 8 of April 6 Board meeting was written for the Board, after having discussed the technical legality of hosting in the US with the Commission. The paper asked, whether, in principle, we could consider remaining hosted in the US particularly in view of the reduction in funding we are seeing (14% between DSI2 and 3 and potentially another 13.5% between DSI 3 and 4. This paper was public and therefore also sent to many of the Member States via the DCHE (new MSEG) lists. Two countries in particular protested that they would not be happy with a US hosting solution and Luxembourg trying very hard, albeit unsuccessfully, to help us find a European solution for which we are very grateful.

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Meanwhile we negotiated heavily with IBM and have got a price with IBM and their Dutch partner SLTN to host in the UK and Germany at half their original cost (still approximately 2x that of the US).

 With this input the Governing Board voted against a US solution for hosting.

We are now in the final stages of this negotiation and expect to complete to start migration by the beginning of July.

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Europeana Foundation Governing Board Members & Observers

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