

Results of the Survey – Copyright protected newspapers’ digitization in Europe

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In February 2015, a survey among European libraries was conducted to identify the extent of copyright protected newspaper digitization. The survey has two purposes: (1) to present a status report of the topic and (2) to discuss best practises on this field by the way of examples of Denmark, Finland, France, Norway and Sweden on Liber conference 2015 in London.

National Libraries in thirty European countries in addition to regional libraries in Germany and Switzerland were invited to participate to the survey. A total of 20 institutions, 11 national libraries and 9 regional libraries from Germany and Switzerland replied.

	National Library	University Library	Regional Library
France	1		
Norway	1		
Denmark	1		
Iceland	1		
Switzerland		1	2
Finland	1		
Slovenia	1		
Germany	1		5
Poland	1		
Slovakia	1		
Kroatia	1		
Luxembourg	1		
Sweden	1		

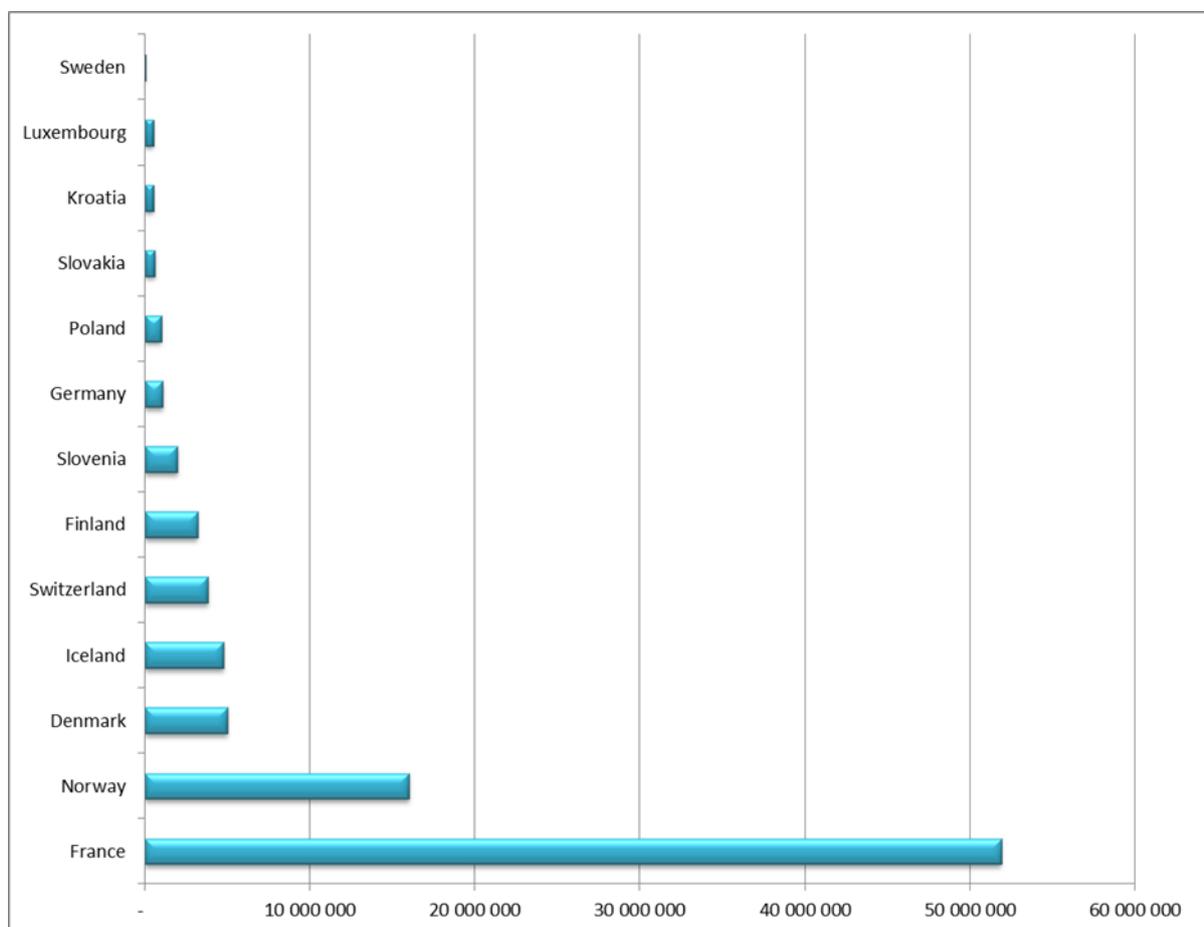
Eleven of the newspaper collections of these institutions were national, seven regional and two institutions had historical single collections. Eighteen of the institutions had been digitizing newspapers, here among all the national libraries. Two of the regional institutions did not digitize.

The digitized collections were mainly older collections from the nineteenth century, while two of the institutions digitized collections into the 21st century. The scope of the digitization process also varied from smaller thematic collections relating to historical periods or themes to large comprehensive programs with the aim to digitize the complete national newspaper legacy.

	Libraries
17th century and older	3
18th	6
19th century	7
1900-1920	6
1920-1940	7

1940-1960	5
1960-1980	3
1980-2000	3
21th century	3

In volume, France with around 52 million digitized newspaper pages had the largest digitized newspaper collection, followed by Norway with 22 million pages and Denmark and Iceland, with around 5 million pages each. However, large countries such as Britain, Italy and Spain did not respond to the survey.



The digitization processes took place both in-house and outsourced, and few institutions made use of both methods:

- 4 only in-house
- 9 only out-sourced
- 5 both in-house and out-sourced
- 9 from paper only
- 7 from microfilm and paper
- 1 from microfilm only

The digitization of newspapers was mainly supported by public funds. This was done partly by funds of the library budgets and partly by third party funds or special public funding. Five projects have been co-funded by the newspapers publisher, one project was funded by private sponsors:

- 3 third party funds
- 1 private funding (Swiss Regional Lib)
- 5 library budget, newspaper publisher and third party funds
- 7 special public funding (64.000-3.000.000 Euros)

The most of the digitized newspapers are available as public domain in the internet. These materials (1) can be accessed by the internet without any copyright restrictions. The scale of access and availability of the copyright protected newspapers (2) are agreed with the newspaper publishers or contracted by collective licensing. In a few cases the copyright protected materials can be accessed via internet. The most of these newspapers are available just in libraries: Mostly in deposit libraries, some in libraries countrywide.

(1) Access to non-copyright protected newspapers:

- 15 access via internet
- 2 in legal deposit libraries only
- 1 in all libraries
- 16 text search and time line 2 by time line only

(2) Access to copyright protected newspapers:

- 8 by agreements with newspaper publishers or collective licencing)
- 2 by the legal deposit act in legal deposit libraries
- 7 no answer