

International Newspaper Archiving and Digitization Summit
To be held in conjunction with the IFLA News Media Conference
Stockholm, Sweden
April 14, 2015

In cooperation with the IFLA News Media Section (formerly the IFLA Newspapers Section), the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) will convene a meeting of major actors in the newspaper digitization community to consider a strategic, cooperative approach to future digitization of the world's legacy news collections. The meeting will bring together representatives of national and academic libraries, commercial producers and aggregators of news content, and major cultural and funding organizations to consider the current state of newspaper digitization and major accomplishments to date, based on analysis of data collected by CRL. The goal of the meeting will be to create consensus on priorities for future digitization, and agreement on the sharing of holdings and metadata to make future efforts more transparent.

Through the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) program, supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, CRL makes substantial data available to inform newspaper preservation and digitization. In advance of the meeting CRL will publish the findings of two current studies, as background for discussion:

1. A preliminary analysis of current coverage of world newspapers by the major library and commercial newspaper digitization efforts;
2. A proposed accreditation scheme for assessing the sustainability and integrity of content in digital historic newspaper repositories.

Attendees will weigh the preliminary analysis and critique the CRL tools and protocols for evaluating and sharing information about digitization programs, repositories and platforms. Anticipated outcomes of the workshop include:

- A shared understanding of the gaps, redundancies, costs, and benefits of the major newspaper digitization programs to date;
- Agreement on broad terms for a viable "division of labor" between libraries and commercial publishers in the further mass digitization of world newspapers
- A commitment by participants to maintain and contribute issue-level metadata on available digitized newspapers, and other protocols for information sharing about digitization projects.

Documentation on the project, CRL's preliminary content analysis and proposed accreditation scheme will be shared with participants and the broader community for review prior to the summit. Further information on the goals and agenda for the summit are available from: Maria Smith, msmith@crl.edu.