# citizen Heritage



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# History in pictures from Bulgaria Scope of the workshop

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Ekaterina Karavelova with her eldest daughter Viola. Image in PD, NALIS Foundation. Ekaterina Karavelova (1860-1947) is the founder of the Bulgarian Women's Union, chainwoman of the Bulgarian section of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom, founder of the Committee for the Protection of Jews, wife of Petko Karavelov.

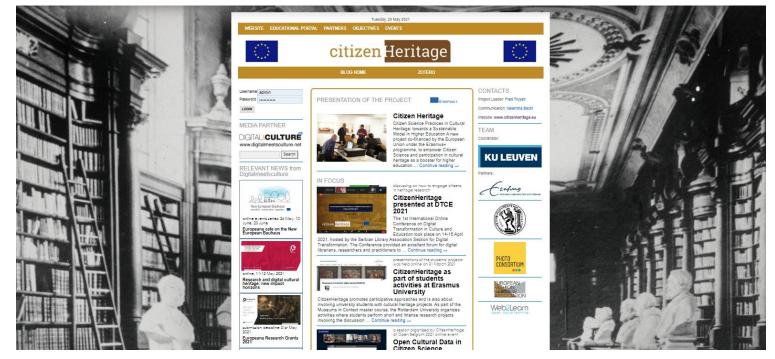




### Citizen Heritage

- A multidisciplinary consortium of academic partners, associations and SMEs
- A comprehensive methodology for adopting citizen science in high education

The blog of Citizen Heritage hosted by digitalmeetsculture.net



• A rich programme of co-creation **events** 





### Events in 2021-2023

- Participatory experiences across Europe
  - ✓ To experiment citizen engagement in cultural heritage
  - ✓ To validate methodology
  - ✓ To enable better collaboration between Civic Society, Higher
    Education and the Cultural Heritage sector
- The events include both dissemination and actual co-creation activities







# Participatory workshops across Europe

Two events are already planned:

- Sofia 26-27 May
- Budapest 15 October

More events will come next in:

- Antwerp
- Leuven
- Rotterdam
- Athens

**History in pictures from Bulgaria** is the title of the workshop of today, which is organized in collaboration with the University of Sofia and NALIS Foundation.



## «History in pictures from Bulgaria»:

• Educational institution



Sofia

ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI Est. 1888

• Content collections



FOUNDATION NATIONAL ACADEMIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM





## The educational partner

SOFIA University



'Digital Humanities' is a new branch of study for MA courses, posing interesting challenges about how digital technologies and online tools are changing the way we look at cultural heritage studies.

In agreement with the Digital Humanities MA course of prof. Milena Milanova (University of Sofia), in this event students will work on improving metadata of digital collections of heritage photographs available online.

The selection of pictures is sourced from the beautiful collection of Bulgarian heritage photographs provided by NALIS Foundation in Europeana.





## The collections



Collecting records from various Bulgarian Cultural Heritage Institutions, NALIS Foundation made available to Europeana ca. 15,000 beautiful images depicting life in Bulgaria since the early days of photography to the Second World War (1839-1939).

This happened in 2015, and the images are accompanied by basic metadata in Bulgarian language.

A first step of improvement was done by providing a selection of records with title and descriptions translated in English.

At workshop today we will improve metadata via crowdsourcing annotations.

The selection of pictures is sourced from the collection provided by NALIS Foundation in **Europeana**.





## What is Europeana?

Europeana is a flagship initiative of the European Union, to showcase the richness of European cultural heritage via the online platform at: <u>www.europeana.eu</u> 🖉 europeana

You're viewing the new Europeana experience. <u>Go to the original Europeana.</u>



In Europeana you find MILLIONS of cultural records (photographs, artworks, books, handwritten texts, newspapers, videos, sounds, museum collections....) sourced from THOUSANDS of European Cultural Heritage Institutions.

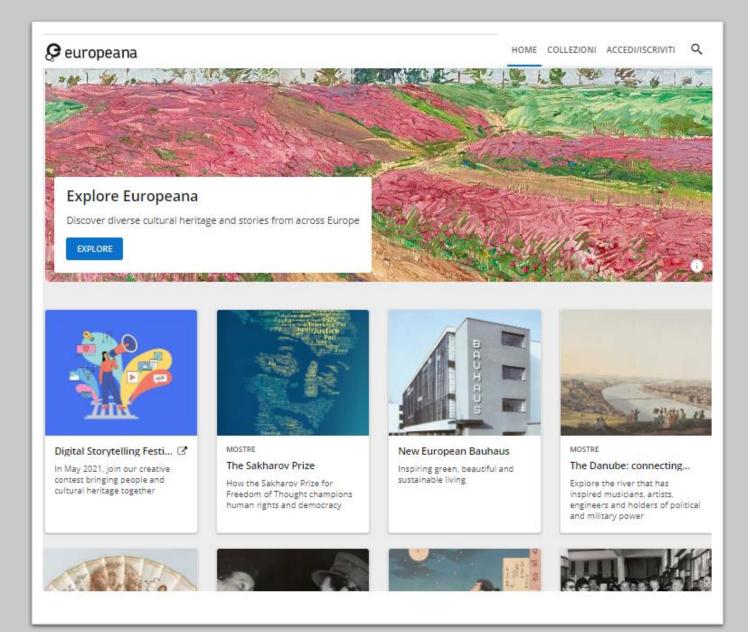




# Finding content

You can use Europeana to find any content you're interested in, for study, research, enjoyment, creative purposes.

Trustable information about the source of the content and the associated reuse conditions are clearly indicated.





#### 🖉 europeana



### Metadata!!!

# But how do you find what you're looking for among millions of records?

#### It is all about METADATA.

Metadata are the information associated to a (digitized) cultural heritage object, such as title, description, creator, date, place etc.





... If you need to describe these images to someone else, which keywords would you use?







# Good quality metadata

Metadata are necessary for search, retrieval and reuse of digital collections of cultural heritage relevance.

Good metadata make the collections more discoverable, multilingual, and meaningful: ≽adopt standards

- ➤use rich keyword lists
- provide links to authority files and official thesauri
- Generate good metadata, when creating a digital cultural object (either from digitization or born digital)
- Improve and enrich existing digital resources





### Metadata improvement

Metadata improving activity can be done in various ways, also with support of Artificial Intelligence.

With photographic heritage collections the <u>human factor</u> is of the utmost importance to unveil the knowledge that historical images embed.

Involving citizens and students in the loop is the best strategy for letting photography speak for themselves.

Today, we will work on metadata improvement, by annotating and enriching the beautiful digitized collection of early Bulgarian photography published by NALIS Foundation in Europeana.





### Many thanks for your attention!

### **Citizen Heritage**

Citizen Science Practices in Cultural Heritage: towards a Sustainable Model in Higher Education

### www.citizenheritage.eu

Contact us: info@photoconsortium.net



