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networks across Europe



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# **Michael Culture Association: a European network for innovation, the case of multilingualism**

**Michael Culture Association**

**Marie-Véronique Leroi**

Athena Final Conference:  
Rome, 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2011



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## OUTLINE

- **MICHAEL Background history**
- **The Michael Culture Association (MCA)**
- **Participation to ATHENA**
- **The Michael Culture Association activity**
- **What's next?**



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## **MICHAEL**

### **Background History**





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## MICHAEL : BACKGROUND HISTORY



<http://www.minervaeurope.org/>



<http://www.michael-culture.org/>

# Coordinating digitization in Europe and deploying new services

Rome, April 28th 2011



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## MICHAEL : BACKGROUND HISTORY

### The European Portal

- <http://www.michael-culture.org>
- Multilingual Inventory for Cultural Heritage in Europe
- One European portal, many national instances
- 2 phases of project :
  - **MICHAEL** : 2004-2007 (3 countries)
  - **MICHAEL+** : 2006-2008 (+ 15 countries)





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**Michael**  
Multilingual  
Inventory  
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in Europe

## THE PORTAL



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ENGLISH ČESKY DEUTSCH EESTI ESPAÑOL ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ FRANÇAIS ITALIANO LATVIEŠU

MACHTAR NEDERLANDS POLSKI SLOVENŠČINA SUOMI SVENSKA БЪЛГАРСКИ

RECHERCHE AVANCÉE

Recherche rapide



PARCOURIR

### Collections numériques

SUJET

ZONE GÉOGRAPHIQUE

PÉRIODE

### Institutions

TYPE D'INSTITUTION

LIEU

### Sites, CD/DVD...

TYPE DE PUBLIC

SUJET

ZONE GÉOGRAPHIQUE

PÉRIODE



MON PANIER



LE PROJET MICHAEL



VISITES GUIDÉES



ARTICLES RÉCENTS

ACCÈS GÉOGRAPHIQUE



AIDE

MES PRÉFÉRENCES

Accueil

Découvrez le patrimoine culturel numérique européen

Grâce au service multilingue MICHAEL vous avez la possibilité d'explorer les collections numériques des musées, services d'archives, bibliothèques et autres institutions culturelles de toute l'Europe. Que vous soyez amateur d'art, d'archéologie, de généalogie, ou bien intéressé par l'histoire romaine ou moderne ou encore par des projets de vacances, MICHAEL peut vous aider à trouver les ressources accessibles.



### VISITES GUIDÉES

► Lisez les expériences de certains utilisateurs du portail Michael

### DERNIER ARTICLE - LE DESIGN EN EUROPE

Le pionnier indiscutable du design industriel, selon le livre culte écrit en 1936 par l'historien d'art Nikolaus Pevsner, est William Morris, avec sa société Arts and Crafts destinée à concevoir et à produire des objets et tissus artistiques sans être pour autant des pièces uniques.

► En savoir plus...



Collection de la semaine

Galerie d'art virtuelle

Giovanni Francesco Barbieri (le Guerchin)

- Allégorie de la Peinture et de la Sculpture (1637) \ Web Gallery of Art



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**Michael Culture**  
Association

## **PRESENTATION**

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**Michael Culture Association (MCA)** is a not-for profit organisation, founded in April 2007 under Belgian law.

It gathers professionals working in the field of digital cultural heritage, has members from all over Europe, including public agencies, cultural institutions and private organisations.

Michael Culture is funded by the European Commission.

Michael Culture is a founding member of the Europeana Foundation

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**Michael Culture**  
Association

**PRESENTATION**

The purpose of the association is promoting and developing European Digital Cultural Heritage.

Its **activities** are:

- Networking
- Technology watch and dissemination of best practices
- Training and publications
- Management and development of the Michael portal and Internet services
- Participation in European and international projects





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Association

**NETWORK**

## **Michael Culture Association:**

15 MEMBERS

11 COUNTRIES

We are currently enlarging our network and are welcoming new members.

## **Minerva Network:**

Over 150 institutions from  
22 countries from EU and beyond





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## Participation to ATHENA





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# Participation to ATHENA

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## WP4 Context

- WP dedicated to the terminology concern
- Main objectives:
  - Guidelines addressed to European museums
  - About terminology management through Athena
  - For enabling a successful harvesting of collection by Europeana
- Three-steps structure
  - Resources identification (D4.1)
  - SKOSification guidelines (D4.2)
  - Final recommendations to the museums (D4.3)



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# Athena Wiki

- URL
  - <http://www.athenaeurope.org/athenawiki/>
- Features
  - The Wiki is dedicated mainly to people from museums who are managing their terminology
  - General and technical information on terminology
  - General information on the objectives of the WP4
  - But also technical information and documents relevant for the deliverables expected for this WP
  - Results of the WP



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**ATHENA**

Change view | Log in / create account

Search this wiki

Go

Search



Recommendations ▾

About Terminology ▾

About SKOS ▾

Athena Thesaurus ▾

About ATHENA-WP4 ▾

► Description of work > SKOS > Guidelines > Terminology management > Main Page

Page

Discussion

History



More ▾

welcome to  
**THE ATHENA WP4 WIKI**

## YOU ARE

a European Museum  
with a collection of digital resources

## YOU WANT

to make your collection of digital  
resources available on  
EUROPEANA



*FOLLOW HERE*

our **recommendations**  
step by step



*CHECK HERE*

what we call  
**Terminology Management**



*DISCOVER HERE*

all we have got  
about **SKOS**



*GET HERE*

the **Athena Thesaurus**  
and enrich it



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# Terminology resources Identification

- ✓ **Specific survey (Athena partners)**

- ✓ administrative information
- ✓ Use
- ✓ Audience
- ✓ Multilinguality

- ✓ **European Projects**

- ✓ **Main results :**

- ✓ 40% thesaurus
- ✓ 30% multilingual
- ✓ 24 countries
- ✓ 105 terminologies



# Inventory of resources

Thanks to a specific survey, we have identified a large set of terminologies used by European museums. Here are listed most of these terminologies. We have kept only those we have rights to make public. In the following table, each name offers a link for download or online consultation / use of the correspondent terminology. Then these terminologies are classified according four criteria:

- if the terminology is a thesaurus
- if the domain is specialized
- if the terminology is multilingual
- if it is SKOSified

Country	Name	Thesaurus	Specialised	Multilingual	SKOSified
Belgium	<a href="#">Subject entry (Flemish Art Collection)</a>		X	X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH EGYPTTE - Datation</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH EGYPTTE - Categorie</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH PROCHE ORIENT - Dénomination</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH EGYPTTE - NormesDivins</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH EGYPTTE - MatièreTechnique</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH PROCHE ORIENT - Référence Géographique</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMAH EGYPTTE - Provenance</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">Own terminology (Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage)</a>	X	X	X	
Belgium	<a href="#">RMCA_ThematicKeywords</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">Not applicable (KMSKA)</a>	X		X	
Belgium	<a href="#">N/A (MuHKA)</a>	X	X		
Belgium	<a href="#">Trefwoorden bibliotheek</a>		X		
Belgium	<a href="#">Keyword (Antwerp City Archives)</a>		X		
Belgium	<a href="#">Geography (Antwerp City Archives)</a>		X		
Belgium	<a href="#">Internal made list (S.M.A.K.)</a>		X		



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# Terminology details (1)

These information are just a summary of what we can provide. For more information, please [contact](#) us.

## General Information

<b>Name of the terminology</b>	<b>AFO Ontology - The Agriculture and Forest Ontology</b>
Countries using the terminology	Finland
Version of the terminology	Pilot
Date of publication	2008-01-06
Organisation name <i>(Please give the name of organisation(s) who owns or has responsibility for the terminology)</i>	Viikki Science Library, University of Helsinki
Contact name <i>(Please give the name of a person who we can contact for further information)</i>	Päivi Lipsanen





## Terminology details (2)

### Main Features

IS THE TERMINOLOGY A THESAURUS?	NO
Type of terminology resource <i>(Please select among the list: <a href="#">Simple list of terms</a>; <a href="#">Glossary</a>; <a href="#">Classification/Taxonomy</a>; <a href="#">Thesaurus</a>; <a href="#">Ontology</a>)</i>	Ontology
IS THE TERMINOLOGY SPECIALISED?	NO
Domain of description <i>(by description domain we mean the subject area covered by the terms of the terminology; by application domain we mean the scope of the terminology. For example if you use mineralogy terms for describing archaeology collections: the description domain would be mineralogy and the application domain would be archaeology)</i>	Agriculture; Forestry; Veterinary Science; Food science; Environmental Science; Biology
IS THE TERMINOLOGY MULTILINGUAL?	YES
Languages <i>(Please provide the reference language first, then indicate a percentage to assess the rate of equivalence; e.g. "Italian 100% and English 50%" means that Italian is the reference language, and that only 50% of the Italian terms have a correspondance in English)</i>	Finnish 50%; English 30%; Latin 20%
IS THE TERMINOLOGY ALREADY SKOSIFIED?	NO
Status <i>(Please select among the list: <a href="#">Not planned</a>; <a href="#">Only planned</a>; <a href="#">In-progress</a>; <a href="#">SKOSified</a>)</i>	



## Terminology details (3)

### Other Features

How many terms (lexical units) does this terminology have? <i>(Please select among the list:</i> <i>"11-100", "101-500", "501-1000", "1001-5000", "5001-10000", "more than 10000")</i>	5001-10000
Which thesaurus features are supported? <i>(Choose all that apply among :</i> <i>Narrower term / Broader term</i> <i>Related term (or 'See also')</i> <i>Preferred Term</i> <i>Non-Preferred Term</i> <i>Use/Used for (or 'See')</i> <i>Use OR</i> <i>Use AND</i> <i>Top term</i> <i>Temporary Term</i> <i>Other relations</i> <i>Scope Note</i> <i>Other (special) notes: use notes, date of entry</i>	Narrower term / Broader term Related term (or 'See also') Preferred Term Non-Preferred Term Use/Used for (or 'See')
URL of the terminology <i>(if it is available online)</i>	



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# SKOS

- 
- **Context:**
    - Semantic Web
    - Linked Data
    - Different formats
  - **Introduction to SKOS**
    - Tutorial
    - Description of concepts and mapping
  - **Guidelines**
    - SKOSification
    - SKOS mappings
-



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# Guidelines

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- For SKOSification :
  - Evaluation of needs for SKOSification
  - Identification of concepts
  - Precision in the design of the terminology
  - Avoid the duplication of information
  - Multilingualism
  - Documentation
  
- For mapping :
  - Identification of concepts
  - Precision in the design of the terminology
  - Avoid the duplication of information
  - Multilingualism
  - Documentation



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## Benchmark





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# Athena Benchmark



- Definition of process and issues
- Benchmark of existing tools
  - IT software companies demo and interviews
  - Test and presentation of tools
  - Case studies and input from external experts
- Definition of technical functionalities for a terminology management platform.



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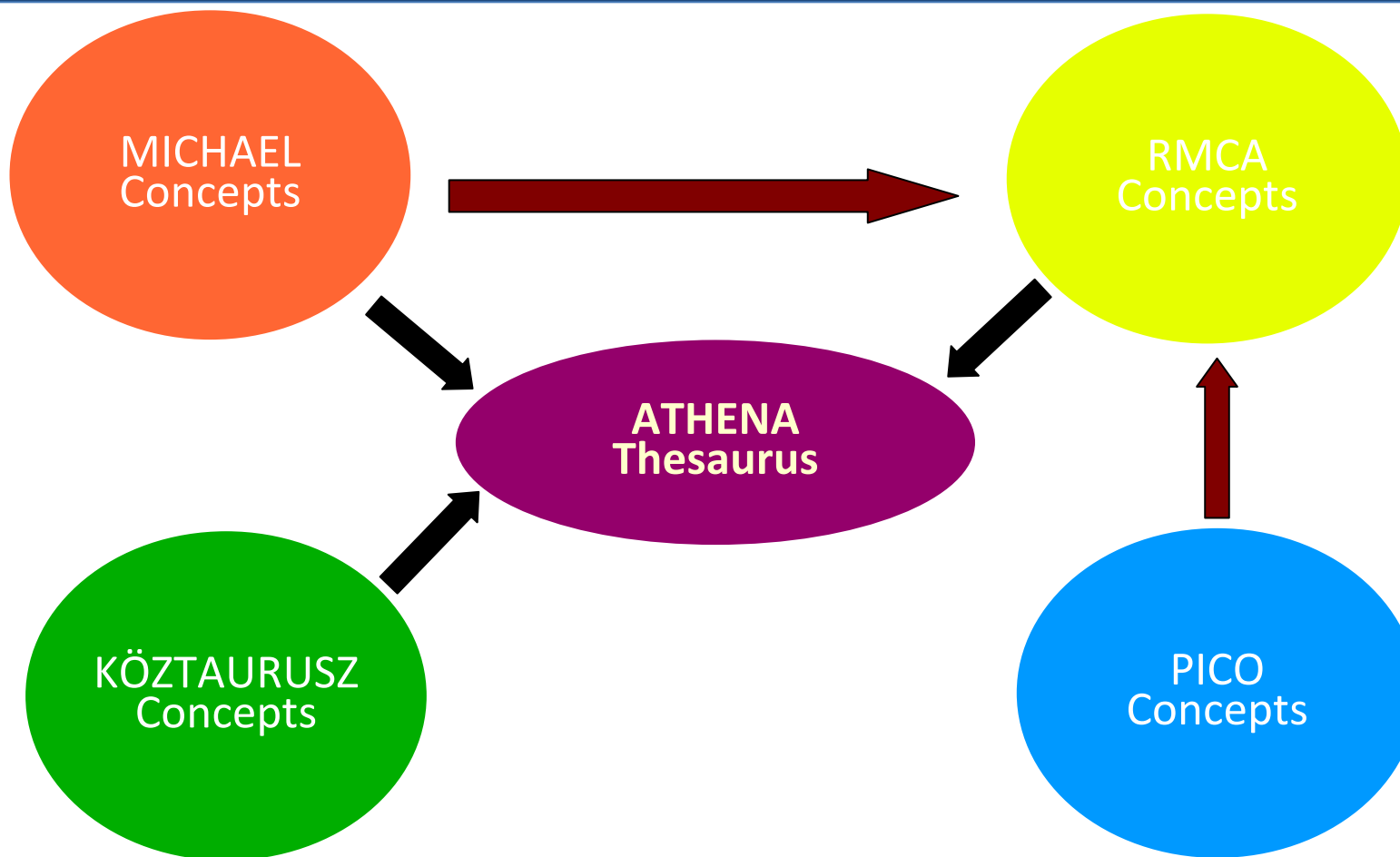
# Athena Thesaurus

- Use of the Michael Terminology lists available in 12 languages , PICO thesaurus (Italy) and RMCA thesaurus (Belgium) as a first core for the Architecture subject
- Mapping with the Hungarian monolingual thesaurus, Koztaurusz
- SKOSification of resources before mapping
- 5 languages : English, Italian, Dutch, Hungarian and French
- 4 top concepts (who,what, where, when)



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# Athena Thesaurus: datacloud







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# Final recommendations



- A : Create or adapt an existing terminology
- B : Technical implementation of the created or adapted terminology (in the perspective of the Semantic Web)
- C : Linking of the SKOSified terminology with other resources (in the perspective of Linked Open Data)



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## What's next?



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## What's next?

- **Booklet with the guidelines and final recommendations in preparation**
- **Update of the Wiki will be followed up for providing information on SKOS and terminology management**
- **Benchmark and work on the Athena thesaurus to be continued**



# From Athena to Linked Heritage



## **Linked Heritage WP3**

- Terminology resources identification
- Repository of resources
- Technical platform for terminology management

## **Reuse of the main achievements of Athena WP4:**

- Survey and inventory of resources
- Athena Thesaurus
- Guidelines for SKOS
- Final recommendations
- Benchmark



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Association

**PROFESSIONAL  
NETWORK**

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Michael Culture supports the continuation of the Minerva  
Network

**4 WORKING GROUPS:**

- 1. Multilingualism**
- 2. Innovative services for the public**
- 3. Interoperability - reuse and linked data**
- 4. New services for the research field**

And one horizontal working group : Michael Portal

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## **WHY JOIN THE MICHAEL CULTURE ASSOCIATION**

- **To participate in major European initiatives in Digital Cultural Heritage**  
Athena, Europeana, DC-Net, Indicate, Linked Heritage...
- **To promote cultural digitised collections to a European and worldwide audience**  
MICHAEL service is a multilingual catalogue bringing together national initiatives from across Europe.
- **To participate in the sustainability and development of MICHAEL European portal**  
The Michael Culture Association is in charge of the management of the MICHAEL European portal, giving technical support to its members and managing the future development of the open source software platform.

[info@michael-culture.eu](mailto:info@michael-culture.eu)

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## Agenda

- 15h00-15h10 Welcome by Christophe Dessaux, President of Michael Culture Association
  - 15h10-15h20 Introduction by The Centre for educational services of the museums and territory (IT)
  - 15h20-15h50 InnovaScuola (IT)
  - 15h50-16h20 Emilie Resink, Educational developer, Creative Learning Lab / Waag Society (NL)
  - 16h20-16h40 Coffee break
  - 16h40-17h10 Sara de Freitas, Director of Research for the Serious Games Institute (UK)
  - 17h10-17h30 Discussion and closure
- 



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**Thank you for your attention!**

**marie-veronique.leroi@culture.gouv.fr**  
**<http://www.athenaeurope.org/athenawiki>**

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