RICHES for achieving impact through SSH



Unit B6 ?Reflective Societies?] of **DG Research & Innovation** of the **European Commission** (EC) is currently working with the project **IMPACT-EV** (Evaluating the Impacts and Outcomes of EU SSH research) on a report entitled **"The ex-post evaluation of SSH projects funded under the FP7 Cooperation Programme (2007-2013)"**. Aim of the report is to monitor and evaluate the social, political and scientific impacts of Social Science and Humanities (SSH) research from a SSH perspective, in order to illustrate the **relevance and importance of SSH research in our societies**.

RICHES, ongoing project about «the decentring of culture and cultural heritage away from institutional structures towards the individual and about the questions which the advent of digital technologies is posing in relation to how we understand, collect and make available Europe's cultural heritage», recently gave its contribution to the survey by delivering to the EC and the IMPACT-EV consortium a review of its **scientific and research activities**:

six publications, among which a book, on the topic ?cultural heritage in a changing world?, being released at the end of the project, and three policy briefs (1_Digital Copyright Framework. The move from analogue to digital and new forms of IPR ? describing how European policy-makers and European cultural heritage institutions should develop European copyright policies and strategies for the cultural heritage sector using the rights to culture and cultural rights as guiding principles; 2_RICHES Taxonomy of cultural heritage definitions ? presenting evidence and recommendations arising from the research undertaken to develop the RICHES Taxonomy of terms, concepts and definitions, referred to the new emerging meanings of the digital era; 3_Co-creation strategies: from incidental to transformative ? giving a short overview of the potential benefits of co-creative methods in the cultural heritage sector and a number of suggestions to further stimulate co-creation in cultural heritage on a strategic level) soon available on the project's website;

participation in many conferences around Europe and outside (by invitation or submission), to present the project, disseminate its key messages and its underway activities and to establish new collaborations and synergies with SSH-sector experts and professionals;

organisation of two workshops (1_Building the project's foundation ? brainstorming and crowdsourcing session devoted to the development of the RICHES Taxonomy; 2_The context of change and the move from analogue to digital ? exploring how the ways cultural heritage is made, held, collected, curated, exhibited or simply exists have completely changed in the 21st century), **three co-creation sessions**, **one international conference** (Cultural Heritage: Recalibrating Relationships ? attended by over 150 people from all over the world and aimed at presenting the initial project results), **one seminar** on ?The Romani Community in Coventry: Digital Practices, Cultural Identity and Cultural Change? and **one international meeting** on ?Food and Cultural Heritage in the Digital Urban Age. A workshop to explore the role of local food-based social movements in constructing European cultural heritage and identity?;

underway international collaborations with 4 other projects (Civic Epistemologies, E-Space, MeMoLa and EMEE) and with 22 research/culture organisations;
launch of a national e-learning project, for a networked school in digital cultural heritage arts and humanities, arisen from the RICHES collaborations;
employment of 37 researchers (out of them 16 junior researchers) within the project.

Such so far the main outcomes of RICHES, which next year is concluding its lifetime with the objective to trigger a process of political developments and social improvements...Stay tuned!

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