Time Machine

Finland’s agenda in the massive European flagship project

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What is the Time Machine?

• Gigantic European project initiative aiming at next Horizon program (2021 →)
• International network aiming to be key European actor on digital cultural heritage

“We will create a **sharp increase** in the demand for digital and traditional humanists and social scientists at a time where these disciplines and corresponding university degrees do not guarantee jobs in these fields. Also, we will **promote and create jobs for the new profession of Digital Humanities expert.**”
Time Machine Project Initiative

Building the Big Data of the Past
Time Machine Initiative

- Competing for a maximum funding of one billion euros
- Funded by the European Commission and participating organisations
- The project is intended to begin in 2021 and last for about 10 years
- Time Machine CSA is preparing the final proposal
- Led by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) in Lausanne
Intended Outcomes of the Time Machine Initiative

• Development of completely new technology and workflow that enables digitizing large portion of European cultural heritage during our time
• Building the ”big data of the past” by utilizing OCR, HTR and pattern recognition
• Creating AI based technology that enables the utilization of the big data of the past in different fields of society
Time Machine Is ...

• An international **collaboration** to bring 5000 years of European history to life
• Digitising millions of **historical documents**, paintings and monuments
• The **largest** computer simulation ever developed
• An **open access**, interactive resource
A large-scale research initiative is needed to drive simultaneous progress on all fronts, creating synergies and multiplying the effects from different sources of funding.

Time Machine Will ...

• **Revolutionise** education, culture, media, tourism, policymaking and legislation
• Give historical data **new relevance**
• **Contextualise history** through advanced AI
• **Modernise the institutions** that archive Europe’s history
Time Machine Organisation (TMO)

Future Leading Network of Science, Technology and Cultural Heritage
Time Machine Organisation (TMO) is a network

• ...led by the International Centre for Archival Research ICARUS

• ...whose members are participating or supporting the upcoming TM Project

• ...which continues to function regardless of the fate of the Time Machine Project

“We will develop tools, forms of analysis and modelling procedures that combine Big Data from multiple sources to explain phenomena that extend over large periods of time, and/or affect extended regions of populations.”
Who Can Participate?

Participation is open to all members of the Time Machine ecosystem, who, thus, have the means to participate in:

- the governance of Time Machine
- the definition of research and innovation actions
- the implementation of these actions
- the development of new initiatives in relation to common interests

“With the Time Machine Organisation we provide the institutional framework ensuring economic independence as well as cross-sectoral communication and partnerships.”
Time Machine Members in Europe

- 300+ member organisations from 32 countries
- GLAM’s
- 100+ European universities and other research institutions
- Private businesses and third sector organisations
Time Machine Members in Finland

- Aalto University
- Citynomadi Oy
- Finnish Museums Association
- Music Archive Finland
- National Archives of Finland
- National Library of Finland
- National Museum of Finland
- Open Knowledge Finland
- Svenska Litteratursällskapet (SLS)
- University of Helsinki (HELDIG)

“We will develop novel scanning technologies to digitise massive amounts of fragile documents and artefacts, through new types of sensors, robots and automated processes. These will provide rapid scanning solutions in science, industrial archives, public administration, and potentially in services for consumers.”
Finland’s Agenda

• Finland’s agenda in Time Machine is to be creative, competent and reliable force in the project and in TMO network

• Our aim is to do our bit in making this project happen and be part of this outbreak of cultural heritage
TMO Membership Categories

- **Founding Members**
  - Entry fee 10 000 € + membership fee 2000 €/year
  - Guaranteed partnership in TM Project

- **Regular Members**
  - Membership fee 500 €/year
  - Possible partnership in TM Project

- **Associated Members**
  - No fees
  - Observer/supporter status

Learn more of membership categories and registration:
https://www.timemachine.eu/membership/
“We want to innovate access to cultural heritage by creating participatory platforms, allowing for a ‘polyvocal history’, that also includes citizens’ perspectives on the places and information that is relevant for them and their lives.”
Thank you for your attention!

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