

B E R L I N C O N C L U S I O N S
- FOLLOWING THE FLORENCE AGENDA & GLASGOW RESPONSE -
TRENDS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN ICT
FOR CULTURE AND SCIENCE

Friso Visser
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Expert for DG Information Society Cultural Heritage Applications, D2

Mail: EUFO 3291, Rue Alcide de Gasperi, L-2920 Luxembourg
E-mail: Friso.Visser@cec.eu.int
tel. +352 4301 38175, fax. +352 4301 33530

Towards a European research space for cultural and scientific heritage

At this moment the discussions concerning a future EU research programme (a 6th Framework Programme for Research and Development) are on-going. The Cultural Heritage Applications unit of the European Commission's DG Information Society wishes to animate the 'cultural part' of this discussion. Making use of the presence of many renown experts at the EVA events, we have collected answers and comments to some basic questions. The answers to these questions were brought together into a "Florence Agenda" (after EVA Florence, March 2001). Following this, a second, similar exercise has been carried out under the title "the Glasgow Response" (EVA Scotland, July 2001).

The follow up to the **Florence Agenda** and the **Glasgow Response** will come forward as what is called the **Berlin Conclusions**. This response will be built similarly around the EVA Berlin 2001 conference, based on feedback to the questions by the conference speakers, workshopleaders and session chairs.

The questions asked and some answers summarised:

What are the key challenges (and priorities) to be addressed concerning RTD for culture and science in Europe over the next 5 - 10 years?

Overall the lead theme is to promote cultural awareness thus contributing to the integration process Europe wide and to avoid (an increase of the) digital divide.

why be addressed by the European Union?
what would happen if not

For all is said that "...if not,... Europe would be at a loss..."? we can only be competitive together.

Which technologies will have most impact on our domain over the next 5 years? (and, over the next 10 years?)

... the overall lead is with the arrival of those technologies that will help understand heritage.

Who are the key stakeholders (institutional, national etc.) who should lead future activities and why?

The key stakeholders that can be referred to are what will be formed as co-operative Laboratories of Knowledge.

Friso Visser (1962) is Senior Consultant with the Management Consultants - Technology Advice group of PricewaterhouseCoopers Netherlands. Since April 1999 he has been working as an 'intra muros' external expert for the European Commission's Cultural Heritage Applications Unit of the Information Society Directorate General in Luxembourg. His assignment covers policies and strategic issues in relation to research and development (R&D) of information and communication technologies (ICT) for the cultural sector and the current and future programmes associated with this. From 1996 to 1999 he was employed at Museon in The Hague, as head of the Collections department. Before that, since 1989 he was scientific assistant and later a curator at the department of Geology with the same institute. He was involved in a series of European ICT projects and initiatives and is a member of several professional organisations.