

Long Term Preservation & Legal Issues

Introduction

This working group divided its debate on two main issues

- A. Priority actions in Report in Archives in the enlarged European Union (archival and related legislation database; establishing of a legislation "watchdog" function)
- B. Invigoration of Working Group actions on field of Long Term Preservation

A. Priority actions in Report (Legal Issues)

- Working Group C should wait with active support the actions described in the report until the report is approved.
- DLM and Working Group C will take after approval of the report an active part in the development of the Legal Database.
- For DLM society and archives it is important services generally have some kind of network to be able to spread information about incoming legislation on the super national level (watchdog function)
- I-depth study to be carried out as soon as possible.
- DLM and Working Group C will take an active part in EURBICA initiative. (Contact person Jože Škofljanec)
- The Working Group also discussed the possibility of giving this information to other bodies, such as the proposed EU expert group of archivists.

B. Invigoration of working group activities

Working group

Priority actions (Legal Issues)

The Working Group will due to the enhancing of effectiveness, carry out its own activity between meetings. For this purpose there will be a DLM web page for the established Working Group with an e-mail list.

Short-term activities

- Proposal to the scientific committee of the Budapest DLM Forum 2005 for topic of a presentation(s) (end of year 2004).
Preliminary topic is "Use of Electronic Documents in Reality of Everyday Life by the Courts, Public Institutions etc. in Various European Countries?" (Question of authenticity, digital signatures, admissibility...)
- Assistance to Slovenian archives with organisation of conference on topic "European best and worst experiences with transfer of electronic documents in archives". (6th – 8th of April 2005)
- To establish contact with EURBICA and taking an active part in EURBICA initiative for establishing archival and related legislation database.

Long-term activities

- Set up a working group to study measures for authenticity and long term preservation including transfer of document to National archives
- Develop procedures necessary for the authenticity of electronic documents and archives - electronic signature and other equivalent measures (MoReq)
- Alert national archives about ongoing work on directives (or equivalent acts) of relevance to the archival work in order to compare demands of/in legislation (technical development - registration/inventorying for example, document text and context).
- Study implementation of directives into national law and see if there are any different solutions.
- Alert National archives in order to change rules in archival-document management directives/data protection directives if needed.