

CENL “AI in Libraries” Network Group

Jean-Philippe Moreux

Head of AI mission, BnF

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Libraries and AI:

- Since the group's creation, the pace of change in AI has been frenetic (LLMs, multimodal models...)
- Many libraries have experimented or even started to implement AI applications
- But we still need to collaborate, as even large institutions can't experiment in all areas.

Take advantage of the momentum! But needs for collaboration and sharing.

Objectives


The group's original objectives are still valid:

- To leverage the use of AI through **better understanding and use**.
- To promote **sharing, collaboration and standardisation** on AI between institutions.
- To identify areas of AI with **particular significance for libraries**, as LLM/text datasets or fine tuning of models on heritage collections.

The members

How are we going to achieve this?

14 institutions, ≈20 people


Jean-Philippe Moreux, Gallica Scientific Advisor
Bibliothèque nationale de France / National Library of France


Svein Arne Brygfeldt, Head of Ai-lab
Nasjonalbiblioteket / National Library of Norway


Max Kaiser, Head of Research and Development
Österreichische Nationalbibliothek / National Library of Austria


Zdenko Vozár, Lead of AI Research and Development
Národní knihovna České republiky / National Library of the Czech Republic



Neil Fitzgerald, Head of Digital Research
British Library



Greete Veessalu
Eesti Rahvusraamatukogu / National Library of Estonia


Love Börjeson, Director of KBLab
Kungliga Biblioteket / National Library of Sweden


Yves Maurer, Lead on Webarchiving program
Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg / National Library of Luxembourg



Ralph Marschall, Digitalisation Project Manager
Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg / National Library of Luxembourg


Oliver Sievi, Innovation und Informations management
Swiss National Library


Tan Lu, lead of the KBR Data Science Lab
Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België / Royal Library of Belgium


Bjarne Andersen, Head of Data Department
Det Kongelige Bibliotek / National Library of Denmark


Zahra Mousavi
Det Kongelige Bibliotek / National Library of Denmark


Elisabeth Mödden
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek / German National Library


Claus Jensen
Det Kongelige Bibliotek / National Library of Denmark


Gloria Expósito Álvarez
Biblioteca Nacional de España / National Library of Spain

+1


Elena Sánchez Nogales
Biblioteca Nacional de España / National Library of Spain

+1


Ditte Laursen
Koninklijke Bibliotheek / Royal Library of the Netherlands

+1

The actions

- The group decided to update the [AI survey](#), published in 2022. A new survey is about to be sent out through CENL's communication channels. A link with the KB.nl initiative on **Generative AI** in Europe has been established (Elsbeth Kwant). The updated survey will include a specific section on generative AI.
- Organisation of two series of webinars (Spring 2023, Fall-Winter 2023-2024). Each webinar attracted an average of 25 participants, mainly from Europe. 2024 webinars (Fall) will emphasise on **LLMs** and **AI strategy** (AI statements, AI policies, AI roadmaps in libraries). Both subjects are at the core of how AI private sector and public institutions holding materials can agree/collaborate on reusing massive datasets for training models.

The actions

- A joint project has been initiated, involving the submission of a proposal to an Horizon Europe call for projects (*A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage – Innovative tools for digitisation and analysis of dynamic processes, objects and complex combined data*), concerning the **creation of a multimodal text-image model (CLIP family) trained on European iconographic corpora** (European library and museum collections).

EC call for project: September 2024

Potential partners are KB.be, KB.nl, BL, NLN, BNF, ONB, NLS, Oxford university, Europeana, Staatsbibliothek Berlin...

The actions

- Organisation of a **workshop hosted by the National Library of Spain** in November 2024. The last workshop took place in 2022 at the BnF.
- This public workshop will include short presentations and lightning talks from the **group members + actors from the Spain AI ecosystem** (heritage institutions, academic labs), and a prospective reflection on the future of our network group.



Thanks!

jean-philippe.moreux@bnf.fr

svein.arne.brygfjeld@nb.no

<https://github.com/CENL-Network-Group-AI>

<https://www.cenl.org/networkgroups/ai-in-libraries-network-group/>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'CENL - AI in Libraries Network Group'. The repository is described as 'AI in Libraries is a network group of The Conference of European National Librarians'. It features a search bar, a 'New' button, and several sections: 'Strategy' (with a link to 'AI strategy digital-libraries cenl'), 'Survey' (with a link to 'AI Cookbook for Libraries'), and 'Recipes' (with a link to 'AI digital-libraries cenl'). The page also displays 'Most used topics' (ai, cenl, digital-libraries) and a 'People' section with 10 members.

The screenshot shows the CENL website page for 'AI in Libraries Network Group'. The page features a navigation bar with links to 'Home', 'About CENL', 'Member Libraries', 'News & Events', 'Looking back and ahead', '#StandWithUkraine', and 'Sign in / Register'. The main content area includes a header for 'CENL Network Group' and 'AI in Libraries Network Group', followed by a section titled 'About this group'. The text describes the group's objective and lists three points: 1. To leverage the use of AI through better understanding and use. 2. To promote sharing, collaboration and standardisation on AI between institutions. 3. To identify areas on AI of particular significance for libraries. The page also includes social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Email.