

### PAST EVENTS SINCE FEBRUARY 2012

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#### 1. ICARUS-LECTURES

March  
28th

- Vienna (AT): Within the general assembly of the Vienna Historical Society (Verein für Geschichte der Stadt Wien), Karl Heinz and Adelheid Krahl gave a presentation on “Monasterium – An innovative contribution to researching the history of the city of Vienna”. After the general introduction of Monasterium.net by Karl Heinz, Adelheid Krahl specified the relevant research findings for the city’s history enabled by Monasterium.net.

May  
10th

- Florence (IT): Within the EVA Conference in Florence “Electronic Imaging - The Visual Arts / The Foremost European Electronic Imaging Events in the Visual Arts” from 9.-11. May 2012 Stella Montari (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa) and Thomas Aigner (ICARUS) presented the European Network on Archival Cooperation (ENArC).

May  
22nd

- Prague (CZ): Lecture by Alena Pazderová, Jitka Křečková on “Monasterium –European Network on Archival Cooperation” within the conference “EU Programme Culture (2007-2013) – Czech-Austrian cooperation projects” at Austrian Culture Forum, Prague
- Trnava (SK): Presentation on ICARUS at the XVI Archival Days of the Slovak Republic by Thomas Aigner

#### 2. ICARUS-MEETINGS

June  
25th-  
27th

- Einsiedeln (CH): ICARUS-Meeting #9: Abbey of Einsiedeln – You can find the report [here](#) and the newspaper article [here](#).

#### 3. ICARUS@WORK

March  
30th

- Radenci (SLO), ICARUS@work #9: Technical and field related problems of classical and electronical archiving

May  
22nd

- Budapest (HU), ICARUS@work #10: A virtuális levéltár: “Régi” iratok találkozása “új” technológiával

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#### 4. PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

May  
18th

- Rome (IT): Book presentation on MOM-CA by Prof. A. Ambrosio - *Sit liber gratus, quem servulus est operatus. Studi in onore di Alessandro Pratesi per il suo 90° compleanno, a cura di Paolo Cherubini – Giovanna Nicolaj, Città del Vaticano 2012 (Littera Antiqua, 19), tomi I-II – [book summary](#)*

May  
25th

- Marburg (DE): “Technische Details: Wie sehen erschwingliche Lösungen aus?” / „Technical details – Introducing cost efficient digitization methods“ by Daniel Jeller at the workshop organized as a cooperation between the Regesta Imperii and the DFG-Project „Virtuelles deutsches Urkundennetzwerk“ / Virtual German Charter Network (lead: Manfred Thaller, Cologne), the Hessian State Archive (Dir. Andreas Hedwig) and the Department of Historic Studies and Historic Media Studies of the Ludwig Maximilian University Munich (Irmgard Fees)

#### 5. ICARUS4EDUCATION

May  
28th -  
June

- Pisa (IT): ICARUS4education at the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa - The Network of the European Historic Archives from Ecclesiastic Archives to European Archival Platforms
  - Karl Heinz: “Development of the network, its philosophy, main targets and activities. Introduction of the virtual charters’ archive Monasterium.net”
  - Daniel Jeller: “The technological questions of online publishing and accessibility of historical sources”
  - Kerstin Muff: “The APEX project - Archives Portal Europe network of Excellence. Building up the house of common European historical heritage”

## 6. OTHER ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE ICARUS/ENARC-FRAMEWORKS

### I. SPRING SCHOOL 2012: VIENNA (AT)

Feb.  
6th –  
10th

ICARUS organized in cooperation with the „Institut für Dokumentologie und Editorik“ in Cologne (DE), the „Zentrum für Informationsmodellierung in den Geisteswissenschaften“ at the Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz (AT) and the Institute for Austrian Historical Research (AT) in the course of the ICARUS - Spring School a workshop 10 themed „Digitale Edition von Archivalien und Handschriften“. This course introduced the technical basics of digital editing, the existing standards and techniques specialised for critical editing and the theory of the digital scholarly edition and aimed to enable historians, philologists and philosophers to create high-grade editions for digital media and to arrange them according to contemporary methodical and technical standards. Archivists should also be aware of the kind of work environment the digitally arranged documents will be processed.

### II. DIGITAL DIPLOMATICS COURSE@UNINA: NAPLES (IT)

March  
5th –  
May 28th

The Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II in cooperation with ENArC organized a Diplomatics course in March/May 2012. Prof. A. Ambrosio introduced the digital technologies behind Monasterium.Net: the EditMom tool.

### III. PROJECT MEETING SOFIA (BG)

April  
20th

Meeting of interested partners aimed at setting up a project proposal on digitisation of archival fonds on World War I to be submitted under the Culture Programme 2007-2013 in autumn 2012. (preparation and application process currently under way)

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2012

### 1. ICARUS-MEETING

Nov.  
19th –  
21st

- ICARUS-Meeting #10: Slovenský Národný Archív

### 2. ICARUS@WORK

Sept.  
5th –  
7th

- Wrocławski (PL): ICARUS@work #11 – “Meeting the digital challenge together – The ICARUS-Experience”

### 3. ICARUS-LECTURE

Sept.  
14th

- Zagreb (HR): ICARUS-Lecture #4 - Building up a common archival landscape: Cooperation, networking and standardization

### 4. PRESENTATIONS

Sept.  
5th

- September 05, 2012; Wrocławski (PL): “Complementarity and Synergy – Basic principles of archival work in the Digital Era” (Thomas Aigner) at the 6<sup>th</sup> Polish Archives Day

## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS / ICARUS NEWS

### 1. NEW MEMBERS (SINCE FEBRUARY 2012)

- Kansallisarkisto – The Nationals Archives of Finland
- ächsisches Staatsarchiv
- Istorijski arhiv Beograda (Historical Archives of Belgrade)
- El Archivo de la Catedral de Cuenca
- Statens Arkiver
- Archivio di Stato di Potenza
- Biblioteca Cathariniana del Seminario Arcivescovile
- Nadškofijski arhiv Maribor (Archdiocesan Archives Maribor)
- Stadtarchiv Nordhausen

### 2. NEW HOMEPAGE

As the old version of the ICARUS website became quite dated technically we started developing a new homepage. Soon it became obvious that it would be greatly beneficial if all websites for the various projects of ICARUS would be hosted under the same technical environment it got necessary to also develop not only a single website but a complete website network for ICARUS that would not only be pretty and easy to use, but able to handle a lot of traffic simultaneously, be easy to backup, easily updatable and adaptable to the different needs of the various projects. To this end a custom modification of the very popular open source blogging system Wordpress with a wide array of themes and plug-ins was chosen. The reasons are that the system is very adaptable, proven to be able to handle a huge number of system-users and sub-sites, easy to backup because the data for all websites in the Wordpress multi-site system is stored in a single MySQL Database and the code is very easily modifiable by its good documented plug-in and theme system which enabled us to tailor the functions of the website very closely to our needs. So, to sum up the changes made to the website system:

ICARUS now is able to host any number of Websites using a Wordpress Multisite System installed on the hosted 1&1 Web-server and expanded by additional plug-ins / themes (both coded by ICARUS directly and provided by the

Wordpress community). The system is currently able to use the following functions for each of the various sites:

- Blog based but CMS-like website creation and management
- Group-based user access management
- “Locked” members only areas
- Document storage facilities with revision and access control
- Podcast publishing
- Newsletter publishing
- Any number of user forums
- Multi-language sites
- Online Forms with database-connections
- Analytics of site traffic (in combination with Google analytics)
- Web based, fully functional events calendar with ical (both import and export) and Google maps integration

Further functions can be added at any time.

Currently the system is used for the following websites:

- <http://www.icar-us.eu> - The main ICARUS website
- <http://enarc.icar-us.eu> - The website for the ENArC Project
- <http://crossborderarchives.eu> - The website for the CrArc Project (WiP)
- <http://menandbooks.icar-us.eu> - The website for the Men and Books Project (WiP)
- <http://home.icar-us.eu/internal-blog> - The internal weblog for the ICARUS staff
- <http://documents.icar-us.eu> - A shared remote document repository.

The following remains to be done:

- Migration of the website for the Monasterium and Matricula projects
- Further graphical enhancements of the ICARUS website (mainly the inclusion of an advanced starting page for the website with the ability to add both different images to the main display location and the ability to link the images to various news sections)

### 3. MOM-CA 2.0

Within 2011/2012 the new version of the Monasterium Collaborative Archive, MOM-CA 2.0 had been developed and reached the status of a beta test version. It offers a variety of new functions and improvements. The official launch will be approximately in autumn 2012.

### 4. MONASTERIUM – NEW STOCKS ONLINE!

In June 2012 more than 250.000 charters are available online via Monasterium.net. In the observed period the following fonds had been added to the database:

#### AT

Marktarchiv Gresten (1546-1875)	26 charters - 122 images
Marktarchiv Ybbsitz (1445-1872)	123 charters - 240 images
Marktarchiv Weyer (1375-1629)	34 charters - 89 images
Stadtarchiv Scheibbs (1352-1859)	44 charters - 122 images

#### CZ

Archiv města Kladruby	25 charters - 305 images
Archiv Pražského hradu	803 charters - 1688 images
Archiv města Karlovy Vary	265 charters

#### DE

Kloster Asbach Urkunden (1270-1795)	597 charters - 1003 images
Kloster Pütrichhaus Urkunden (1356-1716)	339 charters - 751 images
Schlossarchiv Piesing (1330-1849)	581 charters - 1542 images
Stadtarchiv Speyer	2441 charters 3750 images
(18 <sup>th</sup> October 2011 official upload of the charters into Monasterium)	
StA Mainz (635-1371)	1165 charters - 2520 images
Stadtarchiv Lohr (1331-1816)	195 charters - 417 images (presentation of the digitised charters of the City Archives of Lohr in November 2011 by Georg Vogeler)

#### RO

Arhivele Naționale ale României	61 charters - 122 images
Zentralarchiv der Evangel. Kirche in Rumänien	74 charters - 121 images

#### SK

Slovenský národný archive	6090 charters
Štátny archív v Bratislave	300 charters - 738 images

## PROJECTS

### **1. CRARC – MEMORY WITHOUT BORDERS**

(Interreg IV A: Creating the future – Slovakia-Austria 2007-2013)

With 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2012 the project “Memory without borders (CrArc)” started as part of the European Union’s cross border cooperation programme “Creating the future” between the Slovak Republic and Austria. ICARUS acts as lead partner in the project coordinating all activities of the Austrian and Slovakian project partners – the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, the Austrian State Archives and the Network History of Lower Austria. The project runs until June 2014 and creates a cross border online portal to elaborate a wide ranging, free and easy access to historical sources of the Slovak-Austrian cross border region, overcoming the national barriers within archival work between the Slovakian Republic and Austria with the help of close cooperation. Until the end of the project approximately 1.200.000 written historical documents will be digitized. Boundless and unlimited availability of important cultural assets to the interested public will raise awareness of the shared Austrian and Slovakian historical and cultural roots. In this spirit historical documents can be used more effectively for tourism, in schools or adult education, as well as for experts and hobby researchers of both countries. Workshops about the project activities, courses about the working methods of archives and guided tours in the archives of both countries will give the interested public possibilities to dip into the world of digital archives and experience borderless living history. Finally, last but not least, the goal is to allow archives, common and borderless opportunities to work together on their way into the digital future.

*Project Partners:* ICARUS, Austrian State Archives/AT, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic – Department of Archives’ Administration/SK, Network History of Lower Austria/AT

*Duration:* 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014

*Website:* [Crossborderarchives](http://Crossborderarchives)

## **2. APEX – ARCHIVES PORTAL EUROPE NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE**

(ICT PSP)

As of March 1st, 2012 ICARUS is partner in the Archives Portal Europe network of excellence - APEX – project. It is a European-based Best Practice Network project aiming at expanding, enriching, enhancing and sustaining the Archives Portal Europe. APEX is the joint effort of the already participating European archives and those archival institutions yet to become partners that are expanding the Archives Portal Europe and gets the archival landscape in shape for the quickly advancing digital future of our society. APEX – the Archives Portal Europe network of excellence – is the framework for European archives to collaborate for wider and enhanced accessibility of their content on the web. It continues the work of the APEnet project (2009–2012) in which 19 European national archives and Europeana established and released the Archives Portal Europe. With the continued expansion and enhancement of the Archives Portal Europe – in terms of participating countries and institutions, plus available content and services – APEX will contribute to the development of a coherent digital infrastructure which opens up the portal to our common cultural heritage of archives, equally accessible for citizens, researchers, businesses and governments alike. Funded and supported by the European Commission within the framework of the Information and Technology Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP), APEX runs from March 2012 until February 2015. ICARUS is actively contributing to the Work Package 5 – Tools & Support, WP 6 – Usability & Web 2.0 and WP 7 – Dissemination & Training.

*Duration:* March 2012 – February 2015

*Website:* [APEX-project](#)

[Archives Portal Europe](#)

*Facebook:* [Archives Portal Europe](#)

*Twitter:* [APEX\\_project](#)

### **3. MEN AND BOOKS - FOR A RISK-FREE USE OF THE EUROPEAN WRITTEN CULTURAL HERITAGE**

(Culture Programme 2007-2013)

By May 1<sup>st</sup> the international, interdisciplinary cooperation project “Men and Books” commenced, starting off with a kick-off meeting of all project participants in Horn/AT. Aim of the project is the scientific research and evaluation of the archival content stored in the unique historic archive of the evangelical church and community of Świdnica (PL) – its Church of Peace of the Holy Trinity known worldwide as a UNESCO Heritage site. The archive houses about 12000 manuscripts, prints, bound books and loose archival material, being complete without any losses from 1652 until today and therefore promising highly interesting research results on Protestantism in Silesia and beyond as well as other art- and socio-historical questions.

The project wants to find a solution to exterminate health hazardous mould with a substance and method harmless for men and books. From the material point the various writing materials, leathers, parchment and paper in the archive in Świdnica are found in almost any historic collection in Europe, promising significant results useful for any other institution in Europe and around the world. This is beneficial for all European users of archival material!

*Project Partners:* University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences- Coordinator (AT), Protestant Parish of the Holy Trinity in Świdnica (PL), European Research Center for Book & Paper Conservation- Restoration (AT), Charles-University Prague (CZ), ICARUS, Technical University Graz (AT)

*Associated partners (and subcontractors):* Austrian National Library (AT), Polish Academy of Sciences (PL-AT), Camberwell College (GB); (Umweltbundesamt (AT), Horner Werkstätten (AT), University of Wroclaw (PL), Ossolineum Wroclaw (PL), Central Institute for Conservation of Archival and Library Heritage (IT))

*Duration:* 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014

*Website:* [Men and Books](#)

#### **4. ENARC – EUROPEAN NETWORK ON ARCHIVAL COOPERATION**

(Culture Programme 2007-2013)

Within the multi-annual cooperation project “ENArC” (1<sup>st</sup> November 2010 -30<sup>th</sup> April 2015) the first Interim Report has been submitted to the EU by May 2012 resulting in a positive evaluation and the transfer of the second part of the project grant to the participants.

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#### **5. BAS-NET – ARCHIVISCHE KOOPERATION ÜBER GRENZEN (ARCHIVAL COOPERATION ACROSS BORDERS)**

(Interreg IV A: Bayern – Österreich / Bavaria – Austria 2007-2013)

Carrying on the work started in a similar cross-border project in 2008-2010, BAS-Net now continues the digitisation and research on archival content concerning the common historic background of the border region of Upper Austria, Salzburg and Bavaria. Additionally the set up of a digitally available database of important persons among other tools will support the historic research in the named area.

*Duration:* 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014

*Project partners:* Upper Austrian Regional Archives (AT), Archives of the Archdiocese Salzburg (AT), Archives of the Diocese Passau (DE)

### **UPCOMING PROJECTS**

#### **1. PROGRAMME INTERREG IV UPPER RHINE**

*Project start:* January 2013

Transnational network of digital historic sources: archives as memories of the historically grown landscape of the Upper Rhine.

The German and French archives in the Upper Rhine area hold unique and hand-written records going far back into the Middle Ages and documenting the economic, social and cultural developments of this area. These archival holdings mirror high-ranking political as well as private, familial relations of the residents of the Upper Rhine area. It is these cultural holdings that form the memory and the core of every type of touristic and cultural presentation and commercialization of

the Upper Rhine region, its secular or clerical monuments, historic sites and locations.

However, as yet these holdings have only been accessible to a very limited group of people: language, educational background, the writing used in the old documents and especially the scattered storage posed significant barriers. Therefore it is fair to say that the historic memory of this area as safeguarded in the archives is a “difficult” one. This centuries-long, geographical separation of the cultural possessions has had a particularly critical effect on Germany and France: said separation did also grow in the minds of historians, researchers and last but not least the people that live in the Upper Rhine region and appear to be merely non-existent in historic retrospect.

A shared, bilingual and equally content-related, transnational portal as well as an open, easily accessible network of archives supported by experts in the field of history and regional studies, institutions and associations will help overcome above mentioned barriers.

The participating archives and further project partners intend to virtually reunite the historic memory of the Upper Rhine region and thereby overcome established barriers at all levels. This project aims at offering the general public an access to their “memory” by providing up-to-date explanations, consistent bilingualism (German and French) and new media (digitization, online offerings and services, bilingual communication platforms).

The project partner will ensure the following measures to achieve this goal:

- Editing of constitutive historic sources
- Digitization of comprehensive historic sources to be presented via the portal
- Implementation of a transnational, bilingual database
- Permanent presentation of the database via the portal
- Mediation and editing of the cultural holdings as “historic memory” for the general public
- Realization of a concept and permanent coordination of a public discussion and communication platform
- Realization of conservatory measures

The project partners and co-financiers are:

- Archives Départementales du Haut-Rhin (Colmar)
- Archives départementales du Bas-Rhin (Strasbourg)
- Regional Archives of Baden-Wuerttemberg – General Regional Archive Karlsruhe
- City Archives Freiburg
- City Archives Speyer
- ICARUS together with ca. 20 further archives, universities and historic-regional associations from Rhineland-Palatinate, Alsace and Baden

## MISCELLANEOUS

Sept.  
6th

Have you thought about taking the chance to see the wonderful "**Lux in arcana**" exhibition in Vatican City but just been put off by all that jazz such a trip entails?

Well, we've got the perfect solution to your misery: Our colleague from the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa has arranged for a **visit on September 6th, 2012** at ca. **15:00** o'clock. And, oh bliss, a guided tour could be arranged as well!

Be quick on your feet - there is only room for 20-25 pax.

So, chop-chop, and reserve your spot!

For any detailed information on accommodation etc., contact our colleague in Italy [here](#).