

Europeana

Towards The European Digital Library



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Outline:

- **Europeana**
 - **What is it**
 - **How it is being built**
 - **System view**
- **CNR ISTI in Europeana**
 - **Past Experiences**
 - **Role in EDLnet**
 - **Role in Europeana**
- **Contacts & Links**



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What is Europeana: Short History

- In October 2004 **Google Book Search** a tool from [Google](#) that searches the full text of books The service was formerly known as **Google Print** when it was introduced at the [Frankfurt Book Fair](#)
- In 2005, Jacques *Chirac* initiated the European *Digital Library* project in order to affirm the ‘cultural identity’ of Europe and to spread its heritage.
- In 2006, The European Commission takes on board the duty of creating the European Information space (i2010) and in particular elaborates a plan to bring on-line the European Culture (**i2010 – Digital Libraries Building Europe's Digital Library**)



What is Europeana: Short History

Horst Forster at ECDL 2006:

- Within the i2010 strategy, the European Commission has designated the “European Digital Library” as a flagship project, delivering integrated access to millions of digital objects from cultural collections, distributed across a wide range of museums, archives and libraries in Europe.
- Plan: the Commission and CENL — the Conference of European National Libraries — announced last March that the European Digital Library for cultural content will be built onwards from the **TEL-project's** organisational infrastructure. TEL already provides a strong European cooperation between national libraries, which makes it a good organisational nucleus for the initial development of the European Digital Library. It will gradually integrate resources held by archives, museums and other libraries at local and regional level



What is Europeana: Short History

- on 24 August 2006, the European Commission presented its vision about the European Digital Library:
- *A common multilingual access point would make it possible to search Europe's distributed – that is to say, held in different places by different organisations – digital cultural heritage online. Such an access point would increase its visibility and underline common features.*
- *The access point should build on existing initiatives such as **The European Library (TEL)**, in which Europe's libraries already cooperate. It should where possible closely associate private holders of rights in cultural material and all interested stakeholders. A strong commitment by the Member states and cultural institutions to arrive at such an access point should be encouraged.*



What is Europeana

- Two main threads: the **stakeholders** (libraries, archives, museums, other organizations devoted to the production and dissemination of culture) and the **scientific/technological**
- From the stake-holders thread:
 - TEL
 - EDLproject an [eContentplus Programme](#) coordinated by the [German National Library](#).
 - The project, started in September 2006 and completed in February 2008, worked towards the integration of the bibliographic catalogues and digital collections of the National Libraries of [Belgium](#), [Greece](#), [Iceland](#), [Ireland](#), [Liechtenstein](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Norway](#), [Spain](#) and [Sweden](#), into [The European Library](#).
 - EDLnet
 - ... (many many more)



What is Europeana

- **Scientific/technology thread:**
 - **DELOS**
 - **BRICKS**
 - **EPOCH**
 - **Multimatch**
 - **(and many many more)**



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EDLnet (past)

- The EDLnet Thematic Network is an **eContentPlus** programme to prepare the ground for the European Digital Library. The project addresses particularly the area of improving cross-domain accessibility to cultural content- a pillar of the European Commission's i2010 Digital Libraries initiative.
- EDLnet Thematic Network aims to tackle the fragmented cultural heritage map of Europe by bringing on board the key European stakeholders to build consensus on creating the European Digital Library.



EDLnet (past)

EDLnet project aims to deliver the following results:

- A larger and more visible community of archivists, librarians and museum people committed to making content available in an interoperable way.
- Clear and usable summary reports and recommendations on each of the main areas of interoperability addressed in the EDLnet.
- A roadmap showing how the component parts interlink and what needs to be achieved when to realise the aim of the European Digital Library.
- One or more prototype(s) demonstrating the proposed solutions.
- A fully working prototype, with interoperable multilingual access to at least 10 collections from each of the four cultural sectors, covering over 2 million digital items.
- A proposal for funding to create a fully operational European Digital Library service.



EDLnet (present)

EDLnet project results:

- Europeana functional specifications: D2.5
- Working prototype: <http://www.europeana.eu>

The screenshot displays the Europeana website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'My Europeana', 'Communities', 'Partners', 'Timeline', 'Thought lab', and a 'Choose a language' dropdown menu. On the left side, there is a large, stylized 'e' logo with a 'beta' badge and the text 'europeana pensez culture'. The main content area features a search bar with the text 'wolfgang mozart' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there is a 'Timeline navigator' section with a horizontal scroll of historical documents and a portrait of Wolfgang Mozart. At the bottom, there are four interactive sections: 'Share your ideas' with links for 'Tagging', 'Send us feedback', and 'People are currently thinking about' with links for 'mozart sonate', 'south-korea history', and 'mozart'. The 'New content' section includes a link to 'From our partner museums, archives, libraries and audio-visual collections'.

EDLnet (present)

- EDLnet has created the ground and also defined a number of projects which will cooperate to make Europeana.
- **Project cluster (Running):**
 - **EPA** (APENET) The aim is to build a network of European archives.
 - **EFG**: European Film Gateway: It will provide direct access to about 790.000 digital objects including films, photos, posters, drawings, sound material and text documents.
 - **EUROPEANA Local**: is a Best Practice Network. The project aims to improve the interoperability of the digital content held by local institutions and to make it accessible through Europeana.
 - **PrestoPrime** will research and develop practical solutions for the long-term preservation of digital media objects.
 - **Athena** is a Network of Best Practice. will bring together relevant stakeholders and content owners from museums and other cultural institutions.
 - **STERNA**: Semantic web based Thematic Reference Network Application.



EDLnet (present)

- **Project cluster (Negotiation):**
 - **Europeana v1.0** is the successor of EDLnet (EuropeanaNet). It will develop an operational service and solve key operational issues related to the implementation and functioning of the European Digital Library [Europeana].
 - **Europeana connect:** It will deliver core components which are essential for the realisation of the European Digital Library (Europeana).
 - **BHL Europe:** The aim is to improve the interoperability among projects dealing with biodiversity material in numerous institutions across the EU.
 - **EUScreen:** Best Practice Network aims at achieving a highly interoperable digitised collection of television material.
 - **Europeana Travel** The theme is Travel and Tourism in Europe
 - **MIMO:** It will deal with museums of Musical Instruments.
 - **Judeica** The aim is to establish a comprehensive map of European Jewish Cultural Heritage.



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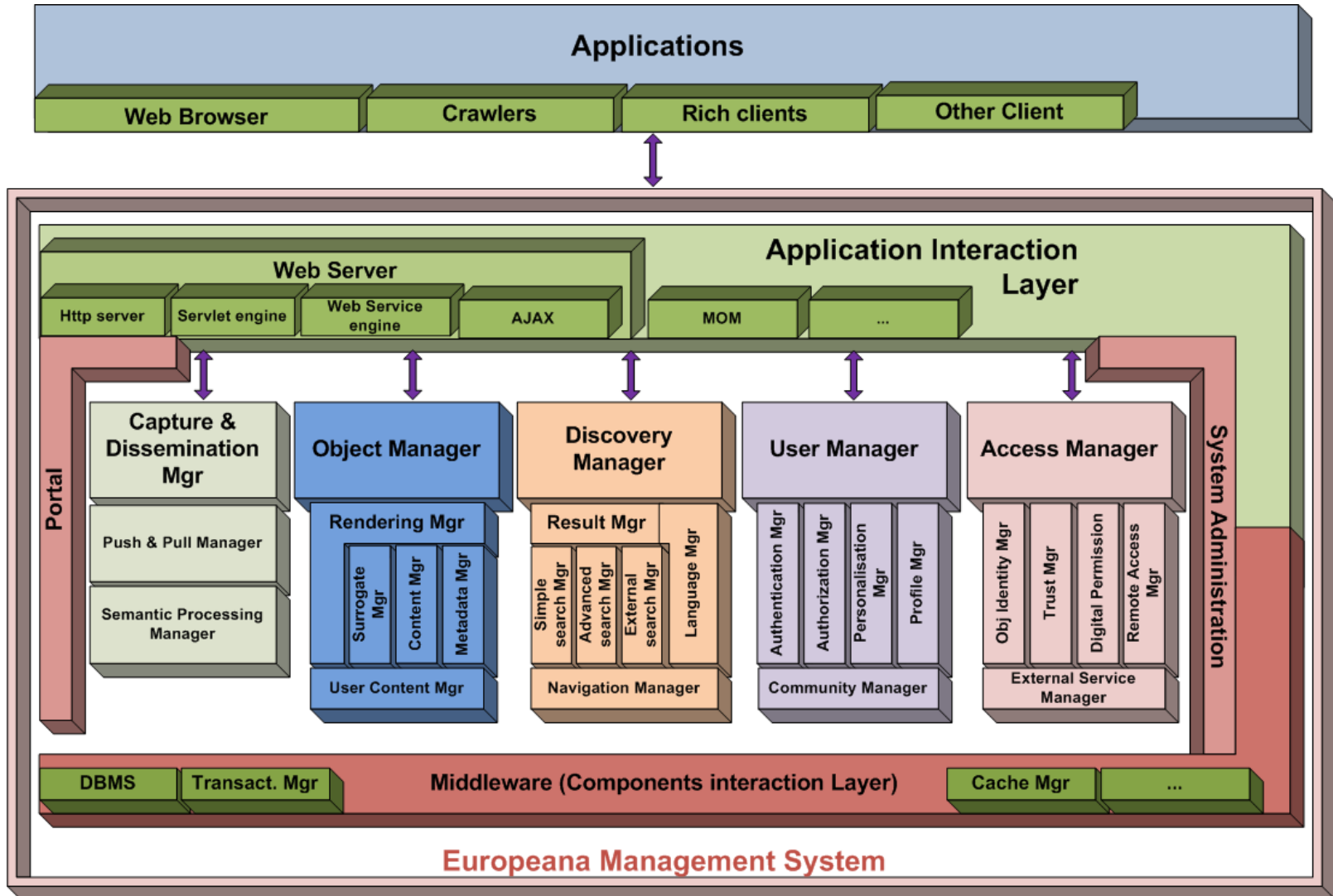


System view

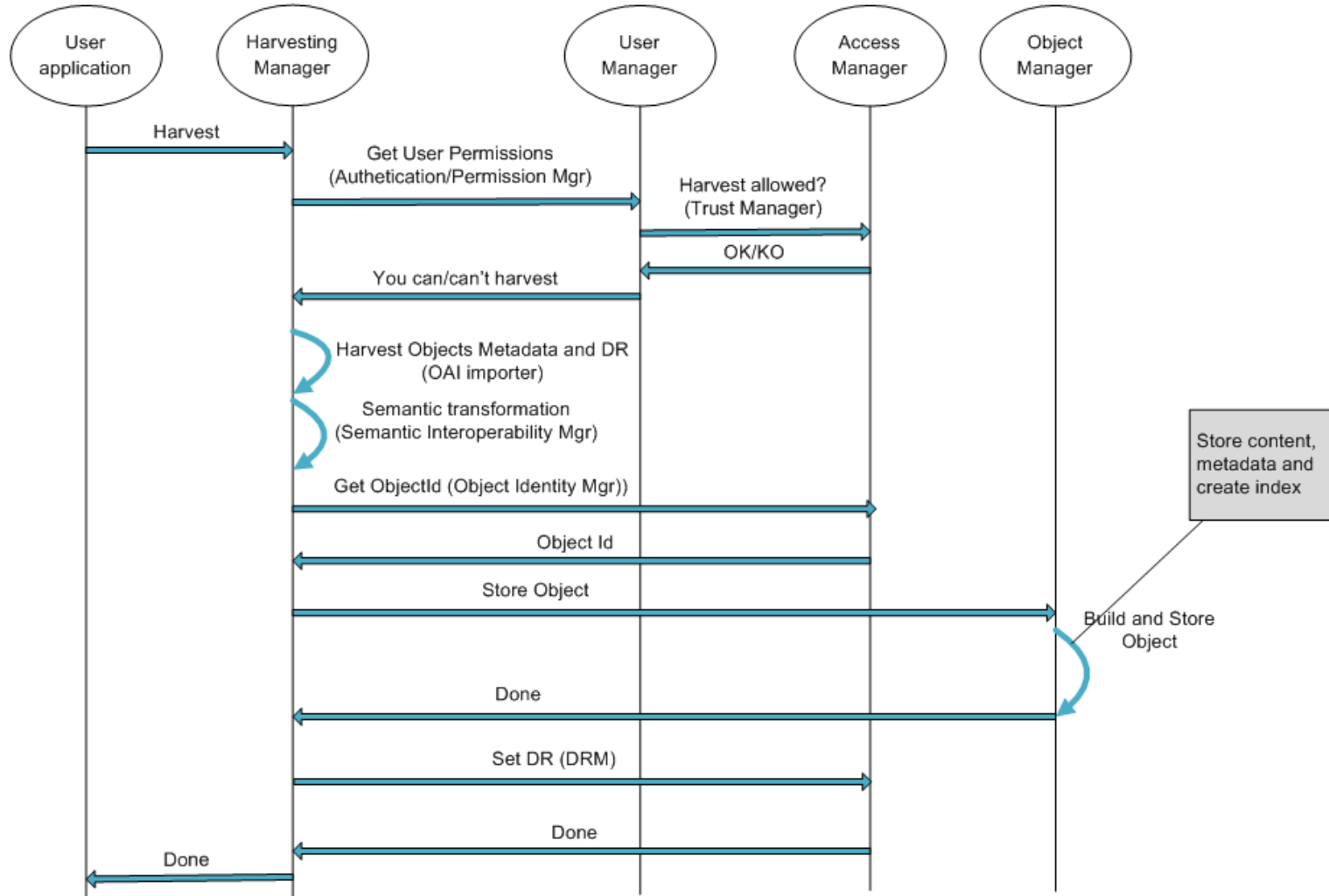
- An integration system
 - Periphery: highly heterogeneous schemas and data
 - Europeana: integration in a global schema (surrogate model).
 - Free search on the whole metadata values.
 - Advanced Search on a pivot schema (ESE).



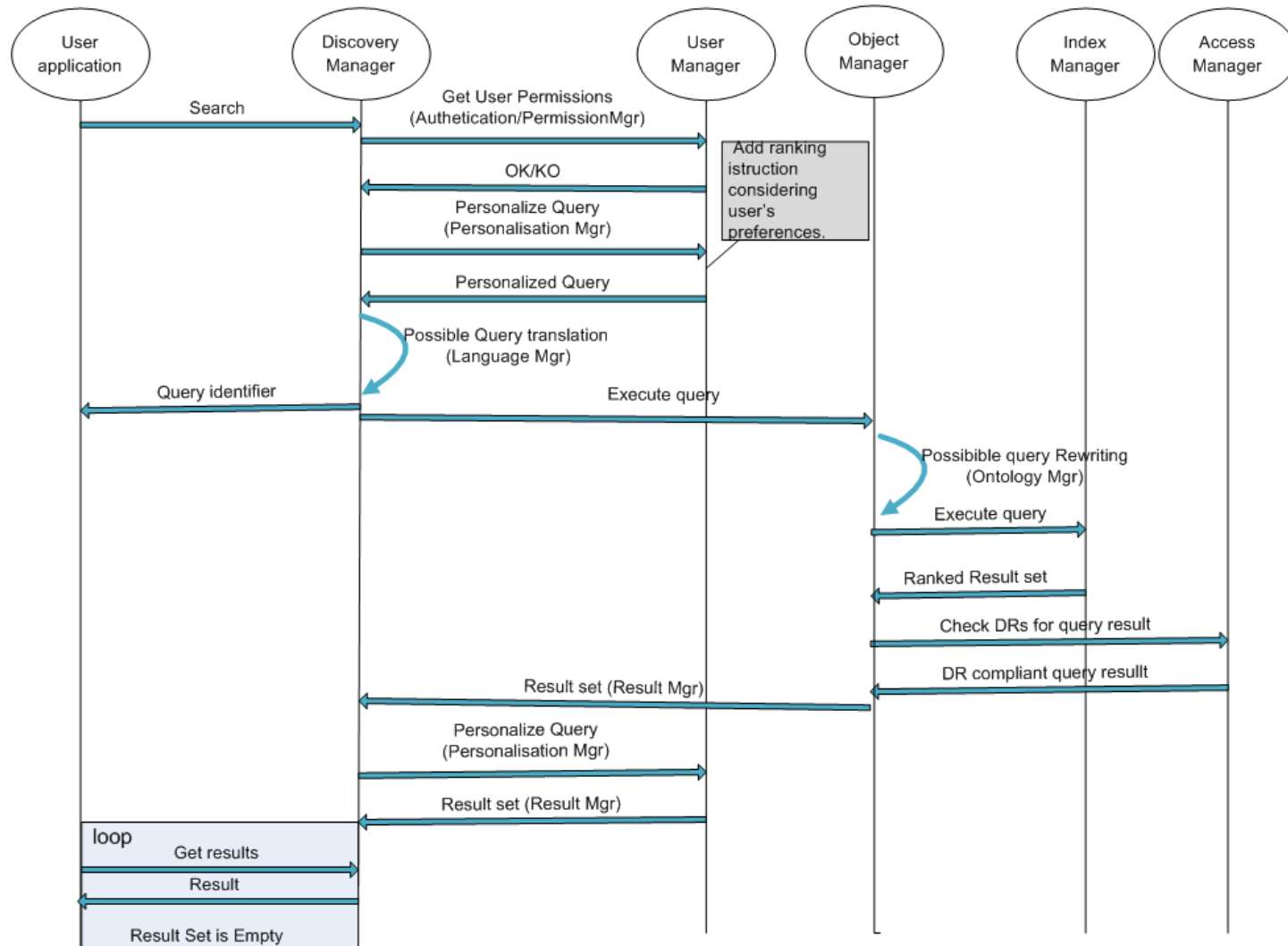
Functional architecture



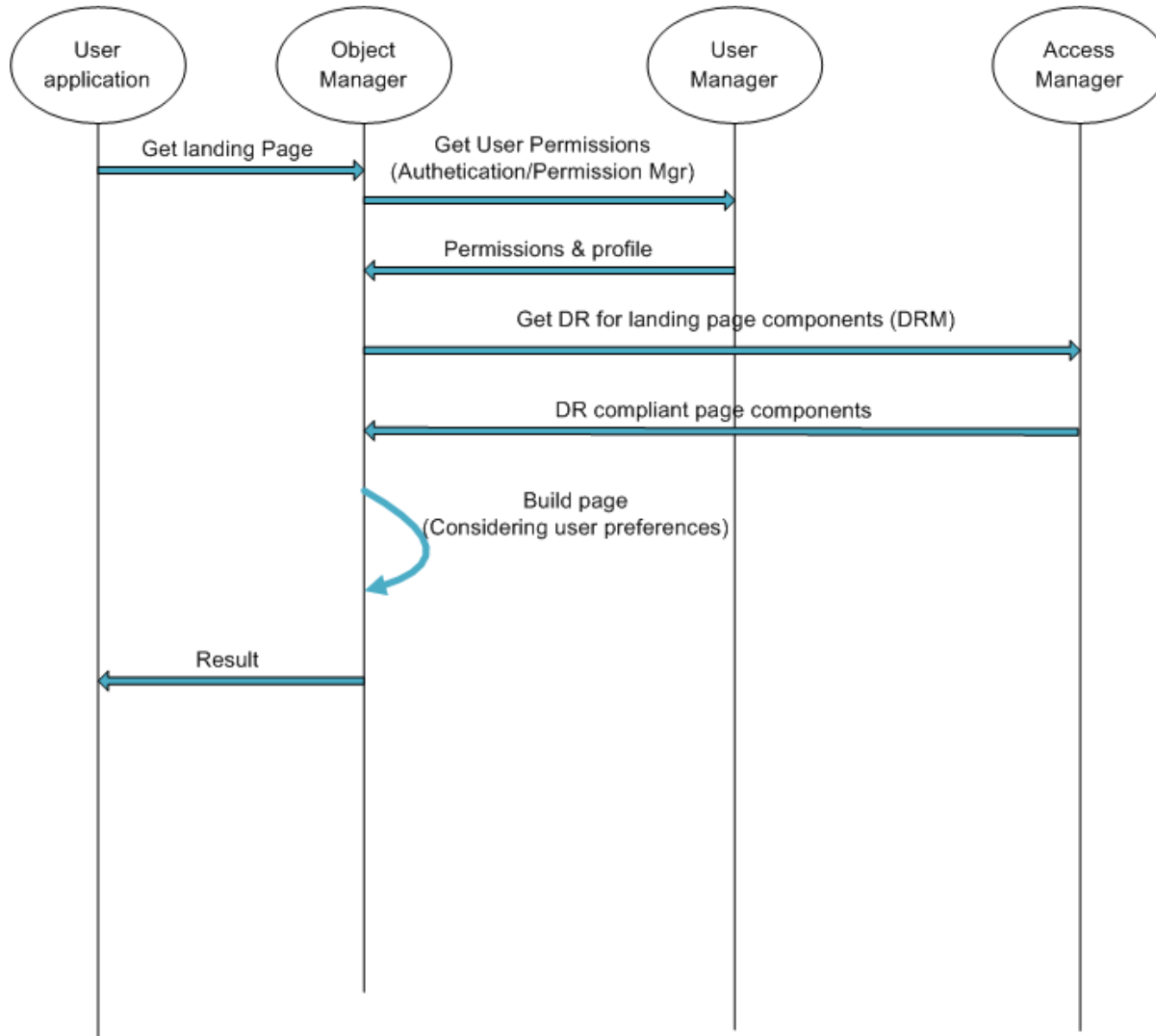
Functional architecture (harvesting)



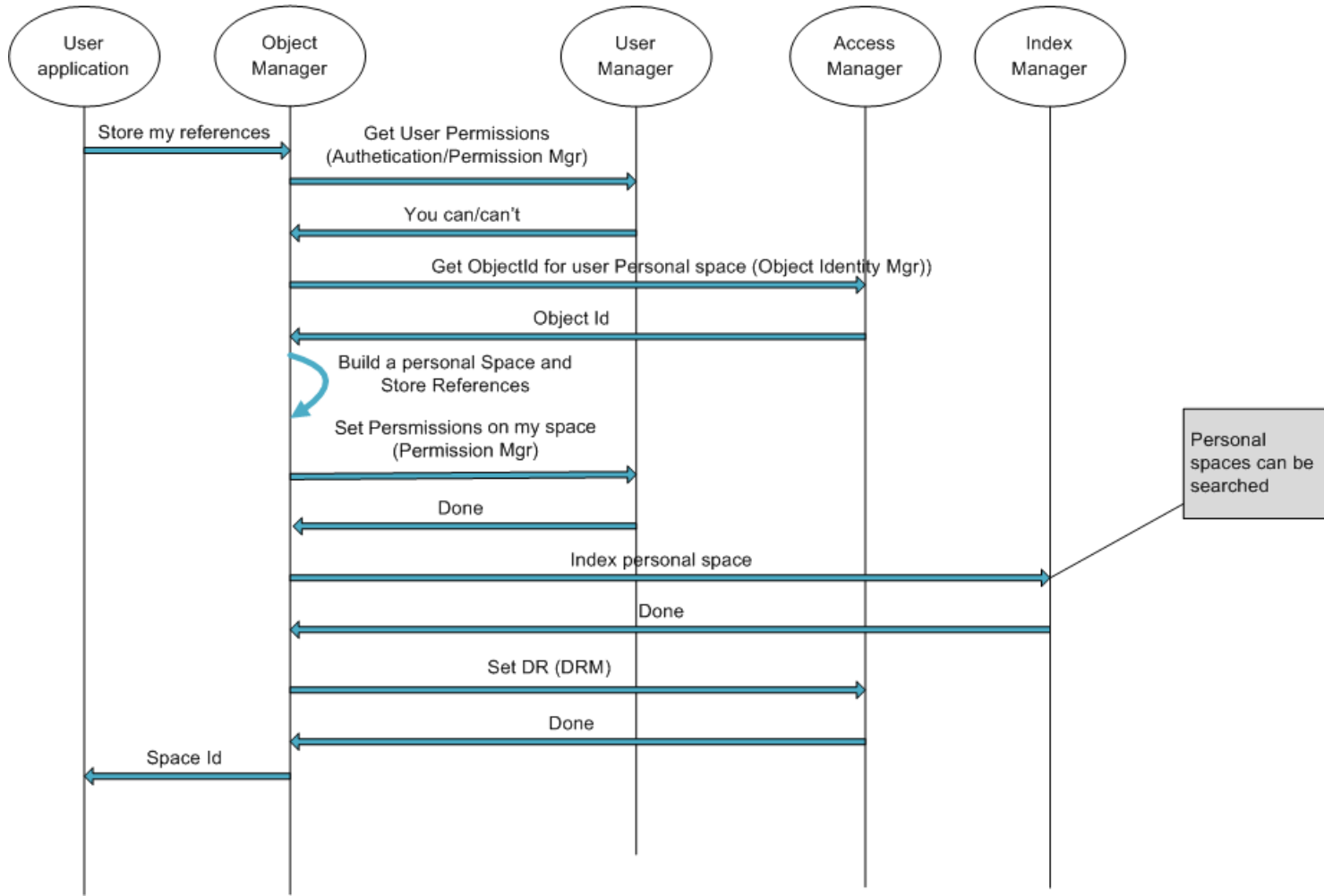
Functional architecture (search)



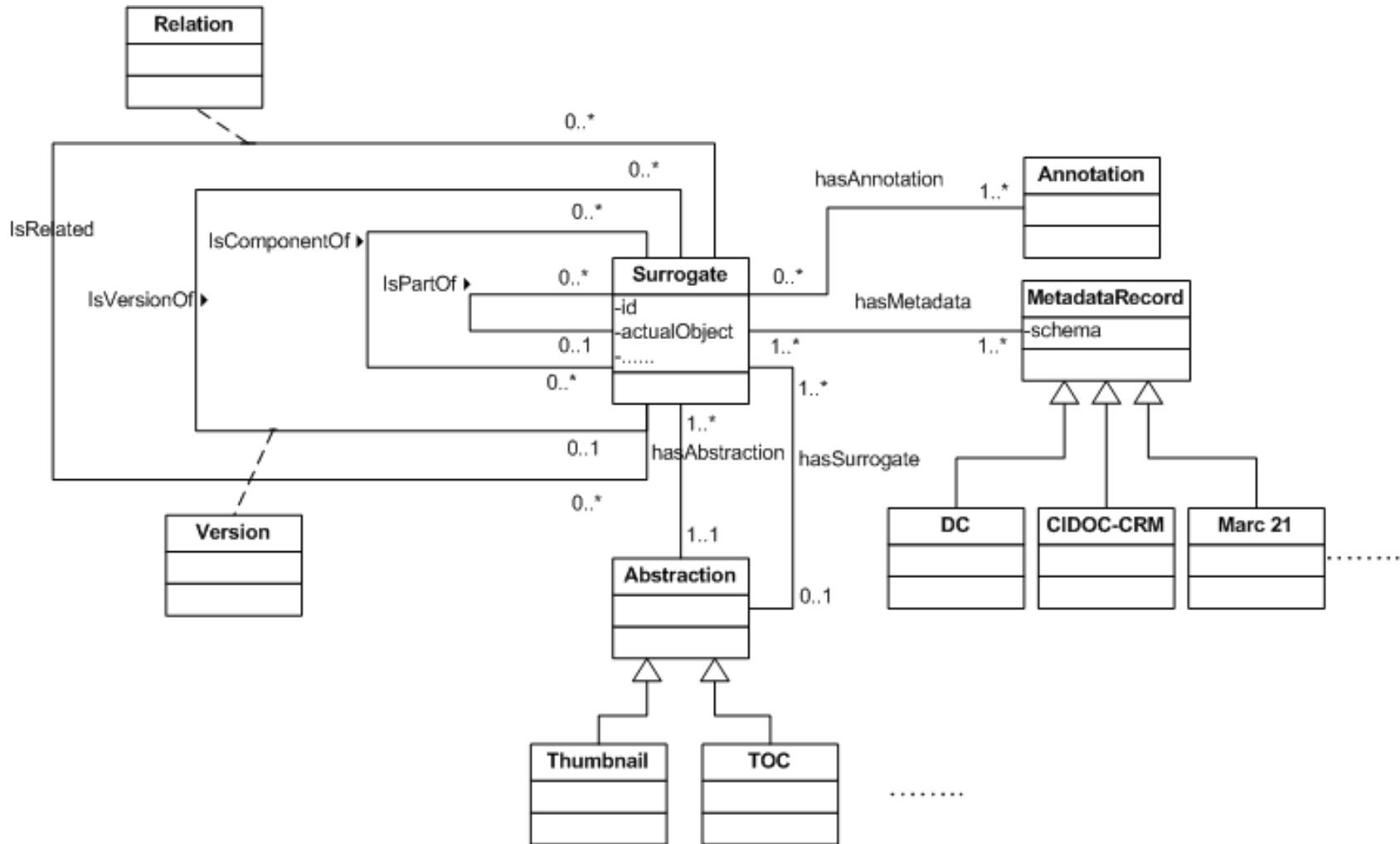
Functional architecture (landing Page)



Functional architecture (my Europeana)



Surrogate Model (beta)



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CNR ISTI past and present experiences

- **DELOS1, DELOS2**
- **FP5 projects**
- **FP6: BRICKS, CASPAR, Multimatch**
- **FP7: DRIVER, SAPIR, EFG, DL-org**

- **More at**
<http://www.isti.cnr.it/ResearchUnits/Labs/nmis-lab/research-pro.html>



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Role in EDLnet

- Carlo Meghini has been invited as Director of the EDLnet Working Group on the Technical Architecture in July 2007.
- Since then, CNR ISTI has been strictly cooperating with EDLnet. In particular:
 - Modelling
 - Functional Architecture design in the func. Specs (D2.5)
 - Prototype realization



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Role in Europeana

- We will work in Europeana1.0
- We do:
 - Data model
 - Search functionality
 - Ingestion
 - Technical support to the development infrastructure



Contacts & Links

- Europeana: <http://www.europeana.eu>
- CNR ISTI: Cesare Concordia, Carlo Meghini, Nicola Aloia
(nome.cognome@isti.cnr.it)



To be continued...



européana
pensez culture



européana
think culture



européana
pensar la cultura

Thank you