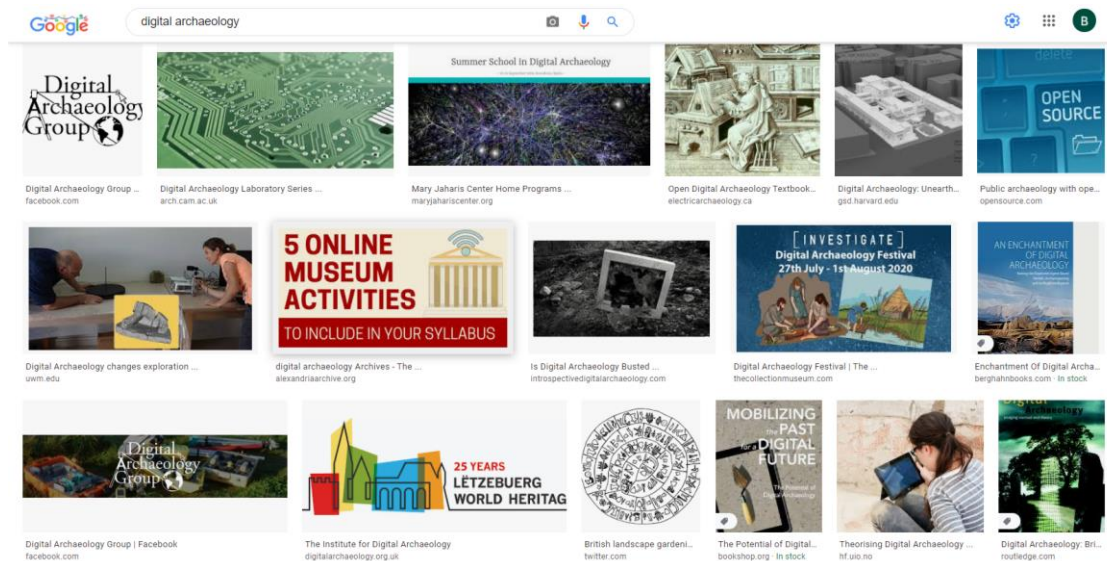




Priorities for Digital Technologies in Archaeology

Contribution of EAC to CDCPP 8th December 2021

Barney Sloane, President EAC

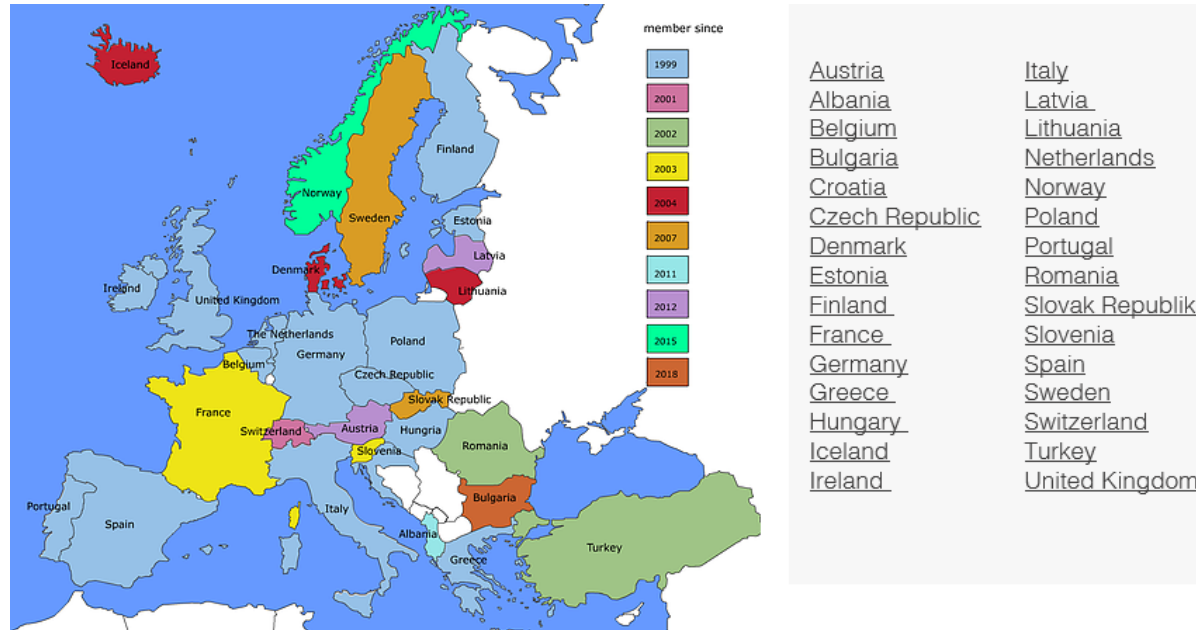




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- EAC: CoE-facing European states' archaeological heritage managers' organisation.
- As of March 2022, there will be 35 member states, with about 80 organisations
- Exists to act as forum for information exchange, guidance development



Working groups:

- Rural land use (joint with EAA)
- Remote sensing
- Archaeological archives
- Making choices

Guidelines:

- Standard and Guide to Best Practice in **Archaeological Archiving** in Europe
- Guidelines for the use of **geophysics in archaeology**



Publications:



EAC Occasional Paper 13

Dare to Choose Making Choices in Archaeological Heritage Management

Edited by Ann Degraeve
Budapest, 2018



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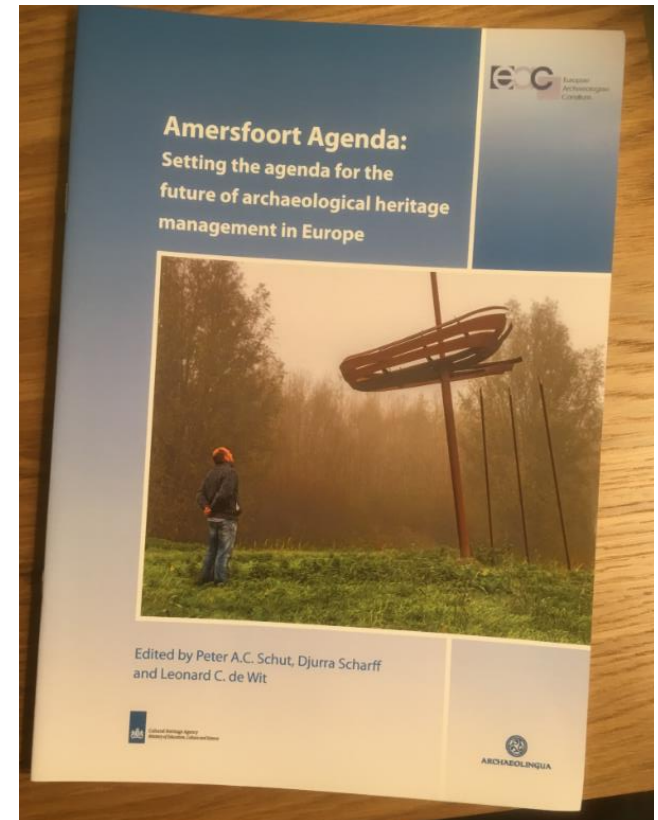
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Strategic document: Amersfoort Agenda

Setting the agenda for the future of archaeological heritage management in Europe.

1. The spirit of Faro: embedding Archaeology in society
2. Dare to Choose
3. Managing the Sources of European History





Amersfoort Agenda and Strategy 21



Direct links between EAC objectives and ST21 objectives as presented by Leonard de Wit to CDCPP





EAC Priorities for digital heritage

Technological, cultural and policy development is needed to enhance:

- A. UNDERSTANDING
- B. SHARING
- C. IMPROVING
- D. PRESERVING
- E. COMMUNICATING

The screenshot shows the EAC website interface. At the top, the EAC logo and name are displayed in both English and French. A navigation bar contains links for HOME, ANNUAL MEETINGS, PUBLICATIONS, WORKING GROUPS, ABOUT EAC, NEWS, and More. The main content area features a book cover for 'EAC Occasional Paper No. 12: Digital Archaeological Heritage' on the left. To the right, the title 'EAC Occasional Paper 12' and subtitle 'Digital Archaeological Heritage' are shown, followed by the editor's name 'Keith May' and the year '2017'. Below this, there are two blue links: 'Published by Archaeolingua' and 'The book in Pdf format'. A paragraph of text follows, discussing the Amersfoort Agenda and the challenges of digital technologies in archaeology.

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EAC Occasional Paper No. 12
Digital Archaeological Heritage

Edited by Keith May
Budapest, 2017

[Published by Archaeolingua](#)

[The book in Pdf format](#)

The Amersfoort Agenda (EAC Occasional Paper No. 10) identifies digital technologies and the expanding phenomenon of online and social media as fundamental aspects of the future of archaeological endeavour. The aim of the 17th EAC Symposium in Brighton in March 2016 was to consider many of the challenges that this agenda raises through an 'observatory' of current digital archaeological practice and emerging or future trends. The unprecedented speed with which digital technologies are developing opens up many new possibilities and challenges for the conduct and presentation of archaeological research and investigation. The digital realm is one which knows few borders and so the sharing of understanding about these new methods, techniques and possibilities across Europe is extremely valuable. The contributions in this volume cover a wide geographical range of European countries from Sweden to Greece and Ireland to Moldova.



Priority: UNDERSTANDING: Technologies to discover, characterise and monitor condition of archaeology

Valletta: Arts. 2-4

What? Combination of sensing and analysing technologies to identify and characterise new sites.

Why? Human and climatic changes threaten unknown sites; current approaches are slow and expensive.

Current barriers? Technological and methodological challenges, access to imaging, lack of guidance for consistency between states

Transformation? Review policies of data sharing; invest in further research; develop guidance

Benefits? Rapid identification of heritage assets and threats to them for management and protection

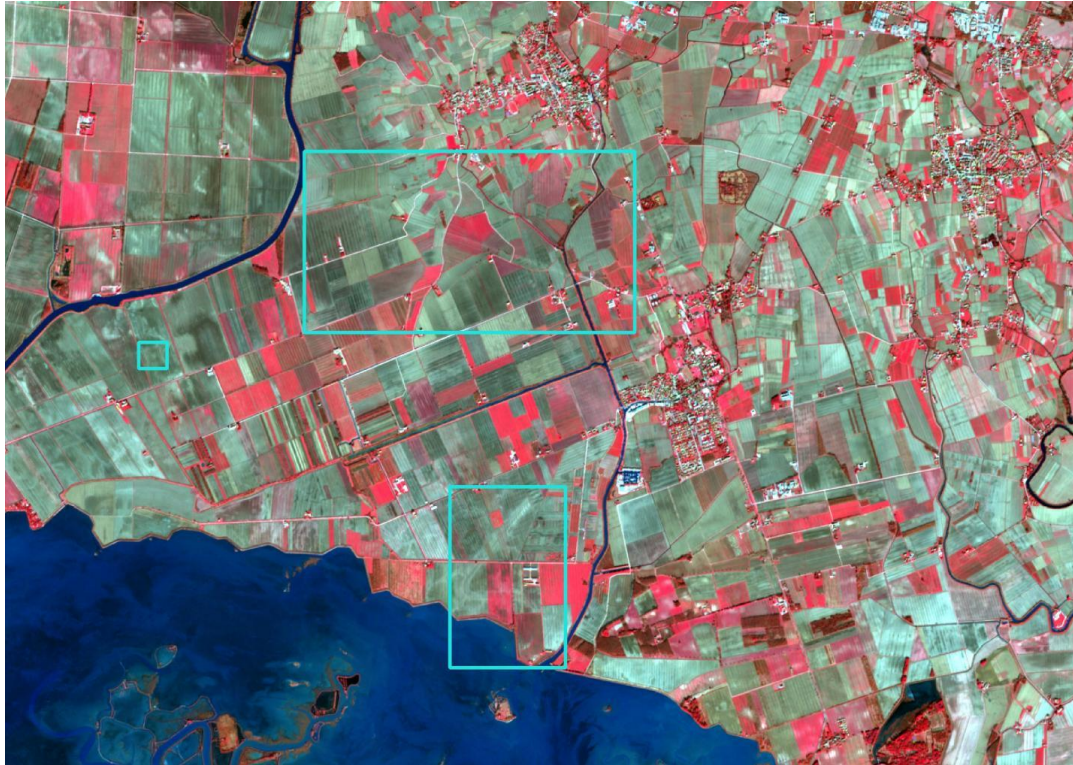
European Example: **ESA/IIT – Arianna's work!**



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The AI developed by IIT researchers will analyse satellite images in order to detect traces of hidden archaeological sites. CREDIT ESA/IIT



Priority: SHARING: Public Access to Archaeological Heritage

Valletta: Arts. 7-9

What? Web-based applications linking to national data – from any device, any time, free.

Why? Real desire by people to engage with their heritage,

Current barriers? Control/limitations; digital readiness of information

Transformation? Cultural shift, safeguards; Guidance for inventorising; Technological infrastructure investment

Benefits? Public trust, engagement, local care and protection, education, community pride

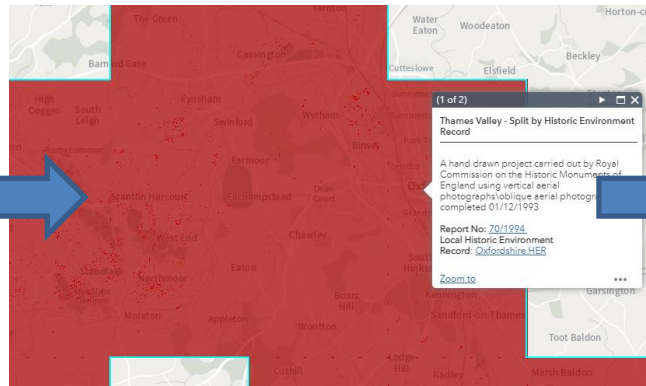
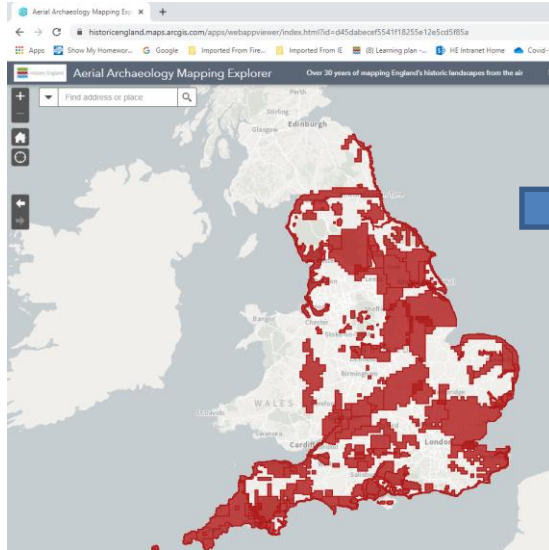
English Example: **Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer**



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THE THAMES VALLEY PROJECT

A REPORT FOR THE NATIONAL MAPPING PROGRAMME

Victoria E.P. Fenner
with assistance from Carolyn A. Dyer

AIR PHOTOGRAPHY UNIT
ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND
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Historic England's Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer: Evidence of appetite

- Only English aerial survey data (not complete national dataset)
- 38 media stories in national and local press on launch
- Over 90,000 visits to the app (6th Oct – 11th Nov)
- Maintained average of 1,000 visits a day (counted 20th to 27th October) a fortnight after initial release



Priority: IMPROVING: Developing excavation techniques

Valletta: Arts. 6-8

What? Emerging cradle-to-grave digital recording of archaeological sites

Why? Development-led archaeology in Europe worth €1Bn+ per annum, need to increase cost-effectiveness

Current barriers? No international standards; skills and training; enforcement

Transformation? Integration into state practice; standards and guidance

Benefits? Increased cost-effectiveness; enhanced data sharing and reuse

Swedish Example: **Intrasis**



Intrasis - Unbitted.ipf* - GIS View 1

File Edit Database Analysis Object Tools Help

Database view - UV2014:223 Anbud Kronomagasinet 1 m fl GIS View 1 X

Map

3D Scene

ChildRel 4 Context 2019-09-19 13:29 Boundary X

IntrasisId	Class	Subclass
60440	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
60550	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
60652	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
71577	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
1004492	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
1004493	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
1004506	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
1004507	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
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1004521	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion
1004525	Stratigrafiskt objekt	Sten- tegelkonstruktion

5 selected (of 2)

Coordinate System: SWEREF99_TM

Intrasis 3D: National Historical Museums Sweden



Priority: PRESERVING: Ensuring Digital Legacies

Valletta: Arts. 4, 8

What? Trusted Digital Repositories, linked to Aggregator platforms

Why? Increasing quantities of digital data are at risk of fragmentation, loss.

Current barriers? No international standards; skills and training

Transformation? Integration of demonstrators into state practice; standards and guidance; technological infrastructure investment

Benefits? Pooling of shared knowledge, rapid access, re-use for research and conservation

UK/European Example: **ADS, ARIADNE+**



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ads ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE

HOME SEARCH DEPOSIT RESEARCH ADVICE ABOUT GALLERY HELP

FEATURED COLLECTION
Archaeology at Glastonbury Abbey on-line: The Lady Chapel

The Archaeology Data Service is the only accredited digital repository in the UK for heritage data, with over 25 years of experience supporting research, learning and teaching with free, high quality and dependable digital resources.

NEWS
Introducing Unpath'd Waters – a new innovative project that aims to reshape the future of UK marine heritage.

SEARCH
The ADS disseminates a broad range of digital heritage data that are free to access and re-use. This includes data rich archives, unpublished reports, journals and metadata records.

NEWS
Digital Archiving in Archaeology: The State of the Art.
A special issue of Internet Archaeology sponsored by COST Action, SEADDA and the EAC.

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Integrate and effectively serve a research community that studies the past to better understand the present with the tools and the methodology of the future, in the service of culture and society

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Community
Activities and resources
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Archaeology Data Service, University of York: Trusted Digital Repository



Priority: COMMUNICATING: Growing the conversation

Valletta: Art. 9

What? Familiarising and embracing the way young people use digital.

Why? Digital is increasingly a layer of reality for young people. Avoiding engagement will lead to loss of contact, relevance and impact.

Current barriers? Mainly cultural? Some skills required.

Transformation? Support, enthusiasm, engagement

Benefits? Opens doorways to deeper engagement, educates, excites and inspires

World-Wide Example: **TikTok Archaeology creators**



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#disabilityawareness

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TKN - ROSALÍA & Travis Sc...

Party Girl - StaySolidRocky

Stunni' (feat. Harm Frankli...

Thanks for support

#bradybrade live

#fashionawards

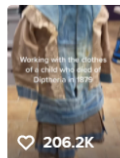
#skill

About Newsroom Contact Careers
ByteDance
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Archaeology

458.3M views

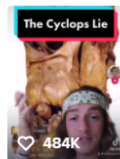
Discover short videos related to Archaeology on TikTok. Watch popular content from the following creators: Miniminuteman(@miniminuteman), Meg(@bigdumbhorsebaby), stephthearchaeologist(@archthot), stephthearchaeologist(@archthot), Thorn P...(@shr00mraider) . Explore the latest videos from hashtags:...



bigdumbhorsebaby Meg

1.5M views

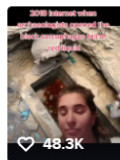
206.2K Likes, 1.2K Comments. TikTok video from Meg (@bigdumbhorseb...
I feel really lucky to be able to do this work. #archaeology #history #spirituality #artifacts



miniminuteman Miniminuteman

2.5M views

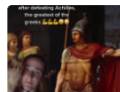
484K Likes, 6.7K Comments. TikTok video from Miniminuteman (@@minim...
Cyclopes and giants are lies. #archaeology #anthropology #history #science #evolution #human #conspiracy #conspiracytheories #foryoupage #fyp> #foryo



archthot stephthearchaeologist

501.8K views

48.3K Likes, 148 Comments. TikTok video from stephthearchaeologist (...
#archaeologist #archaeologytiktok #anthropology #anthropologist #archaeology #goodsoup #edutiktok #fieldwork #ancientegypt #mummy #pyramid



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Screengrab, December 2021 of TikTok's Archaeology 'page'.

Note number of worldwide views: 458.3 million...



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- Transformations include cultural, skills, infrastructure and research: it is about influence as much as money
- EAC does not cover all of Council of Europe
- EAC can act as direct conduit to states archaeological heritage managers and promote CoE Recommendations regarding digital technologies and their development.
- CoE can help non-EAC members benefit from EAC guidance and toolkits
- Closer relationship and information exchange would be welcome to achieve this cooperation