



# UNESCO

Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO

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## UNESCO Open Session

### looking closer at the UNESCO PERSIST Project

WLIC, Ohio, 15 August 2016

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## UNESCO 38th General Conference (November 2015)

### Adoption of a new standard setting instrument for documentary heritage

Annexe V

#### ANNEX V RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF, AND ACCESS TO, DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE INCLUDING IN DIGITAL FORM

##### PREAMBLE

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, meeting in Paris from 3 to 18 November 2015, at its 38th session,

*Considering* that documents produced and preserved over time, in all their analogue and digital forms through time and space, constitute the primary means of knowledge creation and expression, having an impact on all areas of humanity's civilization and its further progress,

*Also considering* that documentary heritage records the unfolding of human thought and events, the evolution of languages, cultures, peoples and their understanding of the world

## Three paragraphs - I

§ 2.2. Preservation is an ongoing process requiring the management of both analogue and digital objects and can be enhanced by scholarship, technology and science. [...] In the case of digital documents, action and intervention are desirable from before the point of creation and acquisition, in order to optimize further management, minimize costs and to properly manage the risks involved. Cooperation should be further encouraged among governments, memory institutions and the private sector.

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## Three paragraphs - II

§ 4.7. Where preserving and accessing documentary heritage requires the use of software or other proprietary technology not covered by copyright exceptions, Member States are invited to facilitate access to proprietary codes, keys and unlocked versions of technology on a non-profit basis.

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## Three paragraphs - III

§ 4.8 In order to facilitate optimal exchange of data, Member States should encourage the development and use of internationally recognized open source software and standardized interfaces for managing digital documentary heritage, and seek the cooperation of software and hardware developers in extracting data and content from proprietary technologies.

[...]

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## Persist

- Born in Vancouver *Memory of the World* Conference, 2012
  - Strong cooperation between IFLA, ICA \* UNESCO
  - ‘reinventing *Memory of the World*’
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## Goal of PERSIST

to enhance the sustainability of the information society by

- establishing a global policy dialogue between governments, heritage institutions and the ICT-industry;
  - creating practical solutions in the area of sustainable digital preservation.
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## Why UNESCO?

- Strong convening power / Strong brand
  - Global outreach
  - Ethical mandate based on Human Rights
  - Easy connection to governments
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**Thank you for your attention!**

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## Questions

- How can UNESCO/PERSIST support you in raising awareness on digital amnesia amongst policy makers in your country?
  - Can we get your implementational feedback on the Guidelines for the 2017a review process?
  - What services would your institution find most helpful for the PERSIST Foundation to provide?
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