THE EAGLE NETWORK

EAGLE (Europeana network of Ancient Greek and Latin Epigraphy) is a best practice network co-funded by the European Commission under its ICT-PSP Support programme (period: April 2013-April 2016) (http://www. eagle-network.eu/; Orlandi, Giberti, Santucci 2014). The consortium is comprised by 19 partners from 12 different European countries. The Project Coordinator is Sapienza University of Rome and the Technical Coordinator is Promoter S.r.l. EAGLE aims to aggregate, make searchable through a single portal, and share via Europeana the digital content related to ancient inscriptions provided and curated by some of the leading European research institutions in the field. The expertise of the project partners ensures that the data will be of the highest quality. The major collections represented in EAGLE are:

– Epigraphic Database Bari features texts and images of Christian inscriptions from Rome. This collection includes an important contribution with the Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology.
– Epigraphic Database Heidelberg, focused on the Latin and bilingual inscriptions of the European provinces of the Roman Empire, is hosted by the Heidelberg University and Academy of Sciences in partnership with the Universities of Budapest and Cluj Napoca.
– Epigraphic Database Roma includes Greek and Latin inscriptions from Rome (except for the Christian ones), ancient Italy, and the Roman provinces of Sicily and Sardinia. It is hosted by Sapienza University of Rome, in partnership with the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and the University of Pula.
– Hispania Epigraphica Online, hosted by the University of Alcalà.
– The Last Statues of Antiquity project of the University of Oxford.
– The British School at Rome comprises many digital collections, including images of inscriptions from Tripolitania and Southern Etruria.
– Arachne, alias the digital archive of the German Archaeological Institute.
– Petrae, with the online version of the Inscriptions of Roman Aquitania, sponsored and curated by the University of Bordeaux and the French National Center for the Scientific Research.
– Archaia Kypriaki Grammateia, a project on the ancient Cypriotic inscriptions created by the Cyprus Institute.

The technology necessary to harmonize all content and make it searchable for both scholars and laypeople is provided by the CNR-ISTI and by Promoter S.r.l. Fundamental to harmonisation efforts is the support of the Catholic University of Leuven, which, thanks to the Trismegistos project, has much experience in the "disambiguation" of content coming from different

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Fig. 1 – Presentation of the EAGLE project during the Workshop (Photo: R. Hedlund).

databases but related to the same objects. The Consortium's other key collaboration is the one established with Wikimedia Italia.

In this framework, the Epigraphic Database Roma is focusing on the Greek and Latin documents from ancient Italy, but not excluding other ancient languages. Given the particular and multilingual nature of the epigraphic documents in many Italic regions, EDR had to confront and solve the problem of bilingual inscriptions: for example, many Latin/Etruscan texts known from *Perusia* (http://www.edr-edr.it/edr_programmi/res_complex_comune.php?do=book&id_nr=EDR143330), or some Latin/Palmyrene dedications from Rome (http://www.edr-edr.it/edr_programmi/res_complex_comune.php?do=book&id_nr=EDR116526).

Moreover, in order to include in a single repository all the inscribed monuments belonging to an ancient city, the EDR system of data ingestion has been successfully tested for the Etruscan inscriptions of *Veii* (http://www.edr-edr.it/edr_programmi/res_complex_comune.php?do=book&id_nr=EDR126134), whose content was curated by Daniele Maras, editor of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Etruscarum*, and the Volscan inscriptions of *Satricum* (http://www.edr-edr.it/edr_programmi/res_complex_comune.php?do=book&id_nr=EDR134638).

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Orlandi S., Giberti L., Santucci R. 2014, *EAGLE - Europeana network of Ancient Greek and Latin Epigraphy: Making the ancient inscriptions accessible*, «Lexicon Philosophicum», 2, 315-326.