

## The EROMM Partners

- Biblioteca Nacional, Lisbon
- Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire, Lausanne-Dorigny
- Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris
- Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique / Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, Brussels
- British Library, London
- ETH-Bibliothek, Zürich
- Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund - Verbundzentrale, Göttingen
- Kansalliskirjasto, Helsinki
- Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Copenhagen
- Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague
- Kungliga biblioteket, Stockholm
- Národní knihovna České republiky, Prague
- Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek, Göttingen
- Российская национальная библиотека, St. Petersburg

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EROMM Secretariat at SUB Göttingen

Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1  
D-37073 Göttingen  
Germany

Tel. +49 551 399525  
Fax +49 551 393468  
[info@eromm.org](mailto:info@eromm.org)

# EROMM

European Register of  
Microform and Digital Masters

## Preserving and accessing written heritage

Preserving the world's written heritage of all ages – literary, scientific or other – and keeping it accessible to research and use everywhere is one of the core missions of libraries.

They aim to realize this by creating surrogates of printed or handwritten books in digital form or in microform.

In order to preserve as many documents as possible, our limited resources should be spent on reformatting those items that have not been digitized or microfilmed already. Coordination of digitizing / filming activities and easy access to existing service copies of surrogate media help libraries to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort in this field.

EROMM, the European Register of Microform and Digital Masters, is bringing together all information on printed and handwritten books reformatted – digital or on microfilm – in libraries throughout Europe and worldwide.

## Finding surrogate media

The huge number of digital collections that are being created in local, national and international projects make access to the world's knowledge easier than ever before. At the same time, the potential user is left alone in a landscape in which he may find it difficult to navigate.

EROMM helps solving this problem by collecting data from distributed sources and by making them freely searchable through its website. No matter whether surrogates are described in detailed MARC, in simple Dublin Core, or just by a short entry on a webpage – EROMM Search is integrating different formats in a simple and user-friendly interface.

EROMM Search is using two databases. While EROMM Classic contains detailed bibliographic descriptions of surrogates, EROMM Web Search covers items that are described in less detail. Furthermore, EROMM Search can adjust to different ways of collecting data, anything between from FTP through OAI-PMH to “just” downloading pages from the web.

## EROMM Classic – special features

EROMM Classic can be integrated into your services via protocols such as Z39.50, SRU and OAI-PMH. For example, it is currently available from OCLC's WorldCat, KVK and the CERL Portal.

From EROMM Classic, users may contact the library that produced the surrogate master directly through the EROMM Request service. They may ask for information or order a service copy. The use of EROMM Request is free of charge; the supplying library, though, will charge its regular fee for such services.

## EROMM's organization

EROMM is a consortium of libraries and library networks. The founding agreement dates back to 1994. The first group of four libraries, which had cooperated since 1990 in the second only of European Union library projects, resolved to run the register of preservation surrogates as a permanent service. Since then, EROMM has evolved from a register recording microform masters into a database recording any printed or handwritten work available in surrogate form, be it on microfilm or digitally.

Presently there are 14 EROMM partners representing twelve countries in Europe. Our aim is to extend the membership to include libraries from all over Europe.

Funding is based on an annual fee per partner and country. All partners have a seat and voting rights in the Steering Committee. Ad hoc working groups are formed as needed. Day to day work is done by the EROMM Secretariat, which is based at the Göttingen State and University Library. The hosting and maintenance of databases and search tools is done by the EROMM Secretariat in close cooperation with another EROMM partner, the Computing Centre of the Common Library Network (GBV) in Göttingen.

## Supporting digitization activities

The EROMM consortium can support digitization projects by

- sharing information on technical standards in production and storage of digital media
- providing information on planned and completed digitization projects throughout Europe
- bringing together professionals in the field