



CENTRUM
CYFROWE

Centrum Cyfrowe Foundation 2019 annual report

Key data

Address:

Fundacja Centrum Cyfrowe

ul. Chmielna 24/2 00-020
Warszawa, Poland

e-mail: kontakt [at] centrumcyfrowe.pl
phone: +48 533 951 925

Legal & tax identification:

KRS: 0000581817 (date of entry: 22.10.2015)

NIP: 525 263 30 78

REGON: 36280113

Management:

President of the Management Board: Aleksander Tarkowski, Ph.D., residing in Warsaw (02-536), ul. Ludwika Narbutta 17 m.5

Member of the Management Board: Aleksandra Janus, residing in Warsaw (00-681) ul. Hoża 39 m.110

Member of the Management Board: Magdalena Biernat, registered office in Warsaw (02-598) ul. Jarosława Dąbrowskiego 116 m.20

Resolutions of the Management Board

In 2019, the Board of Directors adopted two resolutions, copies of which are annexed to this report: no. 1/2019 dated 18.02.2019 and no. 2/2019 dated 27.03.2019.

The Foundation was established to support:

- a) the development of the digital society,
- b) projects to promote and protect human rights, freedoms and civil liberties and to support the development of democracy,
- c) activities promoting European integration as well as developing contacts and cooperation between societies,
- d) activities supporting economic development, including the development of entrepreneurship,
- e) activities supporting the development of local communities,
- f) science, education and upbringing,

g) culture, art, protection of cultural goods and national heritage.

Object of the Foundation's business activities:

- a) Activities related to software (PKD 62.01.Z);
- b) Activities related to management of IT devices (PKD 62.03.Z);
- c) Other information technology and computer service activities (PKD 62.09.Z);
- d) Data processing; hosting and related activities (PKD 63.11.Z);
- e) The activities of internet portals (PKD 63.12.Z);
- f) Other information service activities not elsewhere classified (PKD 63.99.Z);
- g) Other technical testing and analysis (PKD 71.20.B);
- h) Scientific research and development work in the field of other natural and technical sciences (PKD 72.19.Z);
- i) Research and development work in the field of social sciences and humanities (PKD 72.20.Z);
- j) Other business and management consultancy activities (PKD 70.22.Z);
- k) Market and public opinion research (PKD 73.20.Z);
- l) Activities related to the organisation of fairs, exhibitions and congresses (PKD 82.30.Z);
- m) Activities of cultural facilities (PKD 90.04.Z);
- n) Activities of other non-school forms of education not elsewhere classified (PKD 85.59.B);
- o) Activities of professional organisations (PKD 94.12.Z);
- p) Activities of other membership organisations not elsewhere classified (PKD 94.99.Z);
- q) Activities supporting education (PKD 85.60.Z).

Mission of Centrum Cyfrowe Foundation

We are changing the world to be more inclusive, collaborative and open by changing how people learn, participate in culture, use the internet and their rights as web users.

Strategic objectives of Centrum Cyfrowe Foundation

Competent users. We support the development of competences related to openness and interaction.

Open institutions. We make institutions more open in pursuit of their social mission.

Good regulation. We work to adapt regulations and use legal tools to support user needs and rights related to open content circulation on the internet.

Social dimension of technology. We diagnose social and cultural changes occurring in society under the influence of digital technologies. We introduce a civic perspective as well as concern for openness and the common good to the discourse on technology.

Activities of Centrum Cyfrowe Foundation

In 2019, we ran activities in four thematic areas - Open Education, Open Culture, Social Tech and Advocacy.

1. Open Education - key activities in 2019



Social Education Lesson

Social Education activities are focused on supporting open education in Polish schools and libraries. We want to restore the spirit of cooperation among teachers, educators and library staff.

We want the participants in our projects to rediscover the value and pleasure of creating and learning together through experience. We focus on the exchange of knowledge and mutual support. Teaching should be an adventure in which you meet people with different world views and experiences, face the reality and think creatively. This gives educators the space to produce creative and high quality open educational resources.

Why was Social Education created?

- to allow teachers and librarians to learn how to work and develop open education
- to develop exemplary open educational resources
- to bring together people who think in a similar way about education, who care about collaboration, accessibility and openness in education

In 2019, teachers took part in three-month Social Education workshops on creating materials for educational lessons. Among them were those who teach in small rural schools and in big cities, in high schools, technical schools or primary schools. They teach foreign languages, the Polish language, and primary education. They also included a headmistress and a teacher just starting out in her profession.

Open Education Cooperative in the library

In June 2019, we launched the Open Education Cooperative in the Library project. This is a project aimed at people working in libraries across Poland. Libraries, depending on their nature, are important centres of culture, education, and information. They also often perform important social functions. However, they still face difficult challenges related to digital transformation. Libraries, as institutions, must, in a way, prove their importance in the age of the internet. Therefore, it is crucial for library staff to have high digital competences.

The aim of the Social Education in the Library project is to develop digital competences enabling the use, creation and sharing of open educational resources and the use of modern technologies among people involved in the education of children and adults.

The lack of digital competences among employees of libraries and other educational institutions is an important factor limiting their development. The methodology of the Open Education Cooperative (Social Education) assumes that educators acquire various competences actively, in the process of creating their own educational resources. At the same time, the key assumption is the openness of these resources – promoting sharing, exchange of experience and creative use of already existing materials. This method for raising digital competences not only will affect the staff themselves, but also the users of libraries, by activating local educational leaders as well as supporting them in conducting training and meetings.

The Open Education Cooperative in the Library is a three-year project financed from the Digital Poland Operational Programme Priority Axis III. Therefore, the activities have been set out in the long term, which will allow us to use the opportunity to support librarians in the long run.

The total value of the project is: PLN 2,054,295.62. Project is co-financed from the EU funds European Union in the amount of: PLN 1,730,087.37

First Convention of the Ambassadors of the Open Education Cooperative

In 2019, we started building Open Education ambassadors. The idea was developed together with the participants of the Social Education project. Its aim is to create a network of teachers and educators focused on open education. This is the next step in our grassroots educational revolution.

For two days, we worked on ways to collaborate locally and remotely to support the idea of co-creation of open resources, sharing knowledge and skills as well as making the material produced available online.

The convention was attended by teachers who had already participated in the Social Education series of meetings in the previous two years. All of them have experience in co-creating their own innovative educational tools and all of them implement other projects in their schools as well.

OER Forum 2019

In October 2019, the Open Education Forum was held for the fourth time. Together with our partners, the Open Education Consortium and SPARC, we presented a new format for the event – one that focused on incubating policy projects.

Our aim, as in previous years, was to create a space where advocates and activists working on open education policies can meet, exchange knowledge, support and empower each other.

The Forum grows out of our experience of organising events, large and small, and our belief in the core principles that make our movement strong: collaboration, peer to peer support and developing strong relationships. This is an intentionally low-key and bespoke event, tailored to the needs of and co-created by advocates working on open education policy. We believe that in this way participants from around the world will be able to meet and share diverse experiences and knowledge in a meaningful way.

2. Open Culture - key activities in 2019



Public Domain Day 2019

We traditionally treat January as a public domain holiday. Every year, the first day of this month marks the release of property rights to works whose authors died 70 years earlier. This in practice means free access to thousands of photos, paintings, books, music, films. In 2019, works by architect Adolf Szyszko Bohusz, filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein or anthropologist Ruth Benedict will enter the public domain, among many other creators.

On this occasion, we organised the event Zero Waste Culture. Public Domain Day. It was an opportunity to take a closer look at what the public domain is, what it can do for us and why it is worth taking care of. We discussed with artists their own creative and processing practices and the importance of heritage, broadly defined, for their work.

The conversation featured Misia Furtak, Kobas Laksa and Krzysztof Goliński from the PanGenerator collective. The Public Domain Day celebration ended with a performance by the Comedy Club, which staged an improvised show with public domain material.

Culture Transformer

In 2019, we developed the Culture Transformer – a collection of good practices and tools from the areas of management, design and software engineering. It offers a process framework designed for digital projects and tailored to the reality of cultural institutions. Using these tools and practices can support institutions to achieve their missions more effectively.

The digital age poses a number of new challenges for cultural institutions. Institutions are going through a process of digital transformation using processes, techniques and tools that are not adapted to the new situation. We believe that the key to success is:

- Embedding projects firmly in the institution's strategy
- Data-driven development to support the creator's intuition
- Involving multidisciplinary teams
- User-oriented design

The lack of these elements does not allow cultural institutions to use the full potential of digital technologies in fulfilling their mission and social role. This is why we have developed an original digital transformation course for cultural institution staff.

Enjoy it

Our research over the years has shown that despite the growing number of materials available online, for many people it is unclear where to find interesting resources or how to use them legally. We decided to change that, at first on a local scale, and show the richness of the collections of Warsaw's cultural institutions which can be used at will. We invited Warsaw residents to play with the digital collections of local museums, archives and libraries.

The campaign Enjoy It! Collections of Warsaw's Cultural Institutions on the Web was conducted in partnership with the National Museum in Warsaw, the National Digital Archive, the Museum of Warsaw, the Jewish Historical Institute, the History Meeting House, the Mazovian Digital Library, and the Wikimedia Polska Association. During the event, animated collages made of works from the digital collections of the partner institutions appeared online and on the screens of Warsaw trams. Various places in Warsaw also featured washable tattoos with these images.

Digital transformation in cultural institutions

As part of the workshop series Digital Transformation in Cultural Institutions, we supported staff at GLAM institutions (galleries, libraries, archives, museums) in effectively using the opportunities offered by technology to engage diverse audiences with digital heritage resources.

The conducted workshops discussed:

- managing IT projects in an agile way and working in a 'prototype, test, improve' mode;
- user-oriented design;
- building interdisciplinary teams and ensuring the quality of communication;

- transparency of the implementation process;
- taking care of the ecology of institutional practices.

3. Social Tech - key activities in 2019



Concern for the social dimension of digital technologies is one of our strategic objectives. As part of the Social Tech project, in 2019 we started creating an analytical team to diagnose the social impact of technology development. We also started building a network of experts and a space to talk about technology, the future and Poland.

Our goal was to make the discussion about the development of digital technologies more a discussion about society and its needs. Through our analytical work and cooperation with a network of experts, we wanted to draw attention to phenomena neglected in the debate about technology, and to better understand the opportunities and risks associated with its development in Poland.

As part of the Social Tech project, we have launched the following activities in 2019:

- we are working with four experts on the social dimension of technology who have been awarded research fellowships;
- we are building an interdisciplinary network of experts interested in the social dimension of technology and collaborating with similar initiatives;

- we organise monthly Social Tech seminars;
- we are creating the Social Tech report, presenting a vision of technology serving society and the key challenges for technology development and their solutions.

Our goal is to create a space to talk about technology, the future and Poland. We invite individuals and organisations seeking to understand how technological change affects society.

Advocacy - key activities in 2019



Copyright reform

In early 2019, as part of our participation in the Communia Association, we focused our activities on the EU Copyright Directive – this was the time when the negotiated text of the Directive went to the European Parliament for final approval or rejection. We pointed out that the Directive, as proposed, was unacceptable, primarily due to the controversial Article 13 and the introduction of an obligation to filter content posted by users on online platforms, with only apparent protection of user rights.

Implementation of the Copyright Directive

After two and a half years of discussion, the European Union adopted the Copyright Directive in April 2019. Member States must implement the new rules into their respective national laws until 7 June 2021.

As part of our activities in the Communia Association, we assessed the threats and opportunities for user rights and the public domain created by the new legal framework. As a result, we argued that local communities in as many countries as possible need to

participate in the national legislative process and contribute to shaping national legislation to ensure user rights and access to knowledge.

In order to build capacity, we organised Transportation Bootcamp – an opportunity to meet activists, share experiences, learn about the challenges of transposition, rethink arguments and tactics. On that occasion, 35 people from different communities (Wikimedia, Creative Commons, digital rights activists and GLAM experts) gathered in Warsaw October 11-13 to share information and learn together.

At the Bootcamp, we presented a package of documents with implementation guidelines prepared by a group of legal experts. We also invited experts and decision-makers who have actively participated in this reform in recent years to present their point of view to activists. We also started to plan nationwide activities on the implementation of the Directive with local communities.

Report by Algo Polska

For Poland to make the technological leap associated with the development of artificial intelligence, we need a real debate about algorithms, a model for their regulation, audits and explainability of systems, new solutions for data management as well as universal education.

In a report prepared together with the Jagiellonian Club, we showed how automated decision-making systems are being implemented in various spheres of life and society. We also presented a balance of benefits and losses associated with the automation of decision-making. We also presented recommendations and directions for further analytical and regulatory work in five areas: intersectoral cooperation, data management, regulation, audit and education.