Abstract for Serageldin Keynote at Dutch Archives Conference

**Archives for Tomorrow:**

By

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Abstract (200 words)

The 21st century is marked by an unbelievable technological revolution that is enormously more powerful than anything we have witnessed and that is even very difficult for most of us to imagine. As a result of this, the managers of archives will have both new challenges and new opportunities. Among the challenges are:

With the exponential expansion of the amount of information that is both being produced and that is available as records, the quality and usefulness of much of it are highly debatable.

The data and records are also subject to both physical and technical obsolescence and hence archival systems will need to address both these sets of issues.

The new technologies will give us new tools that enable us to address these challenges, but they will raise new types of issues of which the current concerns with privacy, security, and the role of giant corporations are but the first glimpses of much more to come.

But librarians and archivists are the ones who are at the front lines of defending the interests of society, a role they have played before and will do so again.

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