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Shaping interdisciplinary practices in Europe

DARIAH: Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities

Introduction

DARIAH provides tools and services for transdisciplinary research in Art & Humanities, taking advantage of ICT technologies. Through its network of member countries and cooperating partners DARIAH stimulates transnational access to its services, serving as an umbrella for various scholarly initiatives.

Keywords

Infrastructure, research, support, sustainability, training, Arts, Humanities

Summary

DARIAH is an ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium), constituted by smaller national consortia operating in its member countries. Its mission is to "empower research communities with digital methods to create, connect and share knowledge about culture and society". DARIAH is structured around Virtual Competency Centres (VCCs) which are dedicated to the RI's key areas of interest: (1) e-infrastructure, (2) research and education liaison, (3) scholarly content management, (4) advocacy, impact, and outreach.

DARIAH caters for various A&H disciplines, facilitating transdisciplinary and trans-sectoral cooperation between a range of stakeholders, including researchers, ICT professionals, librarians, and archivists. They can participate in over 20 transdisciplinary, self-organised Working Groups, focused on specific issues such as different types of data (biographical, bibliographical, lexical geospatial), ethics, visual media, digital methods, etc.

DARIAH is targeting not only researchers acquainted with new technologies who consider themselves digital humanists, but also scholars following more traditional, disciplinary approaches, who wish to broaden their approach by taking up new methods and tools. Such services may be useful on various stages of research – from discovering and collecting assets, structuring, annotating and analysing them, to publishing and disseminating. Unlike CLARIN, which works towards federating its resources and services, DARIAH is more of a distributed infrastructure, focused on enabling access to and uptake of a variety of tools developed by its partners.

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The infrastructure has a strong teaching component, offering access to various resources through DARIAH Campus and Parthenos training modules. It also maintains the Digital Humanities Course Registry, monitoring the relevant learning opportunities available all over the world. Researchers who wish to integrate digital methods into their disciplinary research workflows can approach DARIAH through various avenues: by participating in DARIAH events, joining Working Groups, contacting national members or creators of DARIAH-affiliated tools.

Further Resources

- DARIAH | Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities

- Dallas, Costis, et al. 2017. 'European Survey on Scholarly Practices and Digital Needs in the Arts and Humanities - Highlights Report'. Zenodo.

- DARIAH can help researchers to use digital methods at every stage of their research | DARIAH Campus

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