DARIAH will hold its kick-off meeting in The Hague (NL) October 27th and 28th, 2008. The kick-off meeting brings together representatives of all fourteen DARIAH partners for two days of discussion, development and planning.

All fourteen partners share in the excitement of launching this ambitious and much-needed project to develop a research infrastructure for the arts and humanities. The kick-off marks the beginning of fruitful, multi-year collaboration between partners towards a common goal.

Peter Doorn, Director of DANS and head of DARIAH, describes the project this way:

DARIAH aims to serve a great variety of disciplines by bringing together, for the benefit of scholars, heterogeneous data resources from all European countries, and providing the tools for easily accessing and working with them. Our ambition will be to keep it as straightforward and transparent as possible for the researcher.

Attending the kick-off meeting on behalf of the European Commission will be Hervé Pero, Head of Unit (Research Infrastructures) in the <u>EC Directorate-General for Research</u>. Mr. Pero will speak about the development of research infrastructures at the European level, actions during the preparatory phase of DARIAH, and his views regarding the importance of the project.

DARIAH partner discussions will focus on details of the various work packages, with parallel sessions running on the subjects of dissemination, governance, logistical work, and technical infrastructure.