

DARIAH *Transition Bulletin*, 1

May 2011

Welcome to the first edition of the DARIAH *Transition Bulletin*. This monthly bulletin is designed to keep our partners informed about the latest developments during the transition phase of DARIAH.

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Important Dates

- [DARIAH-EU] Second Transitional Government face-to-face Meeting, Berlin, 10 June 2011
- [DARIAH-EU] Second French-German ministerial Meeting for ERIC preparation, Paris, 23 June 2011
- [DARIAH-DE] German Digital Humanities Ceremony, 12 July 2011
- [DARIAH-EU] ERIC application submission, September 2011
- [DARIAH-EU] Next edition of the DARIAH Newsletter, September 2011
- [DARIAH-EU] Start of the DARIAH Construction Phase, 1 January 2012

DARIAH Coordination Office (DCO)

The **DARIAH Coordination Office (DCO)**, jointly run by Germany and France, is starting to take shape. Christiane Fritze, Sally Chambers (Joint Secretary-General DARIAH-EU) and Ele Kraft (DARIAH-EU Communications Officer) have moved into their new offices. The German arm of the DCO is based in the new Göttingen Centre for the Digital Humanities (GCDH). We are looking forward to working with our French colleagues in the coming months. The role of the DCO is to support all DARIAH partners including the General Assembly, Scientific Board, Board of Directors and VCC heads, and coordinate activities across the DARIAH network. If you have any questions, we will be happy to help: dariah-dco@dariah.eu

The preparatory work for submitting the **ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium)** application to the European Commission is underway. In late 2010, a letter of invitation was sent to National Ministries asking for an expression of interest in

supporting DARIAH. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which enables countries to formally express interest in participating in DARIAH, has been signed by 9 countries. Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, The Netherlands and Slovenia have signed the MoU stating their wish to participate as members of DARIAH. Switzerland and Italy have signed as cooperating partners. Austria, Denmark, Lithuania and the UK are in the process of finalising discussions to confirm their participation in DARIAH.

Feedback on the draft DARIAH-ERIC Statutes has been requested from those countries that have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the basis as Member. Feedback has already been received from the European Commission as well as from France, Germany, Greece and The Netherlands. We are looking forward to further feedback shortly from the other countries. The deadline for providing feedback is the end of May 2011.

The legal seat of the DARIAH ERIC will be in France. Work is underway on finalising the legal framework to make this possible. A second ministerial meeting will take place in Paris on 23 June 2011 to further this process. The DARIAH ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium) application will be submitted to the European Commission in September 2011. The Construction phase will start on 1 January 2012.

A 'Transitional Government' to manage and coordinate the transition phase, has been established. Consisting of the representatives from the Board of Directors (BoD), the DARIAH Coordination Office (DCO) and the Virtual Competency Centres (VCC1, VCC4), the Transitional Government meets monthly by telephone conference, with face-to-face meetings as necessary. The next face-to-face meeting is scheduled for 10 June in Berlin.

The DARIAH Coordination Office will undertake a range of **communication activities** during the next phase of DARIAH to help keep partners informed. These will include: the **DARIAH Transition bulletin**, providing a monthly update on the latest DARIAH developments and the **DARIAH Newsletter**, which will include a range of longer articles, will be published every 6 months. Following the [Spring Edition](#), which was published in March, the next issue is scheduled for September 2011.

With the move into the transition phase, the migration of the **DARIAH-EU website** and **internal wiki** from the servers in The Netherlands and Denmark is underway. Our goal is to publish the wiki and the website shortly.

The **DARIAH-EU mailing lists** are being redefined for the next phases of DARIAH. The current mailing lists are as follows:

- dariah-all@dariah.eu: closed list for all staff members of the DARIAH-EU as well as national DARIAH-projects
- dariah-ga@dariah.eu: closed list General Assembly (GA) for the Ministry representatives (incl. BoD and DCO)
- dariah-bod@dariah.eu: closed list for the Board of Directors (BoD)
- dariah-mb@dariah.eu: closed list for BoD, DCO, VCC Heads and National representative of each member/observer
- dariah-vcc-heads@dariah.eu: closed list for the VCC Heads
- dariah-dco@dariah.eu: closed list for staff members of the DARIAH Coordination Office (DCO)
- dariah-vcc1@dariah.eu: closed list for staff members of VCC 1
- dariah-vcc2@dariah.eu: closed list for staff members of VCC 2

- dariah-vcc3@dariah.eu: closed list for staff members of VCC 3
- dariah-vcc4@dariah.eu: closed list for staff members of VCC 4
- dariah-public@dariah.eu: open list for all subscribers

Virtual Competency Centres (VCCs)

DARIAH will organise its operation around Virtual Competency Centres (VCCs). Each of the VCCs will address particular areas of expertise and undertake all related activities, especially regarding the provision of the relevant services. The preparations for the following VCCs are underway. In the *DARIAH Transition Bulletin*, we will update you on the activities of the VCCs as they develop.

- **eInfrastructure (VCC1)** will establish the technological basis for DARIAH to be a trusted intermediary, in which community-developed data and tools can be shared and integrated.
- **Research and Education Liaison (VCC2)** aims to promote and support the use of research data and ICT methods and technologies, including the DARIAH infrastructure.
- **Scholarly content management (VCC3)** will deal with the various stages of the scholarly content life cycle, from creation, curation and dissemination, through to the pooling of scholarly digital resources and results for reuse.
- **Advocacy, impact and outreach (VCC4)** will focus on high level advocacy, assessing the impact of DARIAH and measuring the 'added value' that it brings, outreach to wide groups of stakeholders and ensuring capacity and participation in DARIAH.

DARIAH Partner News

- **DARIAH-DE:** The kick-off meeting of DARIAH-DE took place at the Göttingen State and University Library (SUB) on 31 March. This well attended event marked the start of the next phase of DARIAH developments in Germany. The newly founded [Göttingen Centre for Digital Humanities \(GCDH\)](#) started its work on DARIAH in form of the German part of the DARIAH Coordination Office (DCO).
- **DARIAH-DK:** The [Danish Research Infrastructure Roadmap](#) was published in April 2011. A key strand in the roadmap is the creation of the Digitalt Humaniora Laboratorium (DigHumLab), a laboratory to support digital humanities research and development for Denmark. DARIAH will be an integral part of DigHumLab.
- **DARIAH-IE:** The Digital Humanities Observatory in Ireland held a symposium '[A Vision for Digital Humanities in Ireland: Where Do We Go From Here?](#)' on 31 March. This international symposium, which explored the current state of Digital Humanities in Ireland and abroad, was well represented by DARIAH including Peter Doorn and Laurent Romary.
- **DARIAH-NL:** The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) established an [eHumanities Group](#) on 1 January 2011. This new initiative will bring together expertise and research in the development and use of digital technologies in the humanities and social sciences. A brainstorming meeting entitled: [eHumanities: innovating scholarship](#), organised by The Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, was held on 31 March.

Current EU projects DARIAH is involved in

EHRI (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure) is an FP7-funded project launched in November 2010. EHRI's main objective is to support the European Holocaust research community by opening up a portal that will give online access to dispersed sources relating to the Holocaust all over Europe and Israel. EHRI will also encourage collaborative research through the development of tools. These tools will build on, and be interoperable with, the DARIAH infrastructure.

NeDiMah (Network for Digital Methods in the Arts and Humanities) is a network based on the assumption that we now have a critical mass of digital content in the arts and humanities, and that researchers need to collaborate on creating awareness and understanding of how ICT-based tools and methods can make that digital content valuable for transformative research. The Network will work in close collaboration with DARIAH to identify ways that researchers can use digital collections and content for research through the exploitation of digital research methods and tools.

New successful EU Applications by DARIAH-supported

CENDARI (Collaborative European Digital Archival Infrastructure) will provide and facilitate access to existing archives and resources in Europe for the study of medieval and modern European history through the development of an 'enquiry environment'. Following a successful evaluation from the European Commission, CENDARI is now in the negotiation phase. The CENDARI technical infrastructure will build on the work of DARIAH. CENDARI will commence work end 2011.

DASISH (Digital Services Infrastructure for the Social Sciences and Humanities) brings together the ESFRI Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) Research Infrastructures (CESSDA, CLARIN, DARIAH, ESS and SHARE) to strengthen the SSH ecosystem of infrastructures. Following a successful evaluation from the European Commission, DASISH has now entered the negotiation phase. DASISH will start end 2011.

Feedback?

Would you like to comment on, or contribute to the *DARIAH Transition Bulletin*? Then, please contact us at the **DARIAH-EU Coordination Office**: dariah-dco@dariah.eu.

The Bulletin is addressed to all staff of the national DARIAH projects. Only this first issue goes also to the dariah-public mailing list, where all participants of the DARIAH preparatory phase project are subscribed. In case you want to *unsubscribe* from this Bulletin and mailing list, please get in touch with dariah-dco@dariah.eu.