

What is DARIAH?

DARIAH (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities) is a project to support the digitisation of arts and humanities data across Europe.

DARIAH brings together researchers, information managers and information providers. It gives them a technical framework that enables enhanced data-sharing among research communities.

What are some key dates in the DARIAH timeline?

The DARIAH preparatory phase project ran from September 2008 – February 2011. From 1 March 2011, DARIAH has moved into the *transition phase*. During the *transition phase*, DARIAH will submit an application to the European Commission to establish a [European Research Infrastructure Consortium \(ERIC\)](#).

This legal framework will facilitate the long-term sustainability of DARIAH. Following the successful ERIC application, the DARIAH construction phase can begin from January 2012.

Who is taking part in DARIAH?

Following the successful completion of the DARIAH preparatory phase project in February 2011, DARIAH has moved into the *transition phase*. During the *transition phase*, DARIAH will submit an application to the European Commission to establish a [European Research Infrastructure Consortium \(ERIC\)](#).

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To prepare for submitting the ERIC application, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which enables countries to formally express interest in participating in DARIAH, has been signed by Austria, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Slovenia and Switzerland.

What will DARIAH do?

DARIAH will provide a coordinated technical infrastructure for supporting the preservation of cultural heritage in Europe, and will enable dramatically improved access to research material for the humanities.

How will DARIAH do this?

Through key processes such as:

- Bringing together the best efforts at national, organisational and individual level in order to launch enhanced Europe-wide actions, initiatives and services.
- Developing national services and digitisation programs, particularly in countries where these are non-existent at present.
- Bringing together research, education, cultural heritage and “memory” institutions and organisations in the commercial sector.
- Enhancing digital scholarship in the humanities and arts across Europe.

What are some of the benefits of DARIAH?

- Promotion of the preservation, exchange and reuse of research data.
- Facilitation of collaboration between researchers on a pan-European level.
- Ensuring a consistently high level of source data quality.
- Bringing within reach new and novel approaches to research.
- Providing an environment for the development and exchange of new research tools and methods.