DARIAH-GR / ΔΥΑΣ : The Greek National Digital Research Infrastructure for the Humanities

Panos Constantopoulos\textsuperscript{1} and Helen Katsiadakis\textsuperscript{2}

\textsuperscript{1}Athens University of Economics and Business & Athena Research Centre
\textsuperscript{2}Academy of Athens

RDA SEE workshop, Athens, 25/6/2015
Scholarly and information lifecycles

Source: UC Curation Center / California Digital Library, Merritt: An Emergent Micro-services Approach to Digital Curation Infrastructure, Rev. 0.6 – 2010-03-25
Digital information in the arts and humanities: levels of understanding

• Object level
  – Dealing with tangible and intangible cultural objects
  – *How are such objects constituted from an information viewpoint?*

• Process level
  – Dealing with information use
  – *How are arts and humanities information objects created, accessed, used, modified?*

• Discourse level
  – Dealing with knowledge and practices
  – *How does the information system function, at the level of pragmatics?*
Some current issues

• Vast amounts of disaggregated, digitised and born-digital information

• Digital cultural assets not just about ‘primary’ cultural objects (texts, artefacts, art works, etc.),
  
  *but increasingly about object histories, interpretations, narratives*

• Loss of context and interpretation in the course of moving from paper-bound to digital information practices

• Multiple interpretive communities, with different frames of reference, goals and information affordances
A virtually unified digital space

- Unified access to autonomous digital collections
- Value multiplier
- Pre-condition: syntactic and **semantic** interoperability
Digital resources

Kinds of digital resources:

• **Data**, primary and secondary

• **Models**
  – Guides for interpreting and associating data

• **Terminology**

For all digital resources one should ensure:

- **Quality**
- **Preservation**
- **Usability**
Scholarly activity

WHO? Actors

WHY? Goals

WHAT? Information resources

HOW? Procedures, Methods

Activity

Agency

Process

Resources

Concepts

Tools

Services
The Greek Digital Infrastructure for the Humanities
DARIAH-GR / ΔΥΑΣ

• Supports the Greek Humanities research community and contributes to the development of ICT-enabled research.

• Broadens the scope and opportunities for research through the interconnection of various distributed digital resources.

• Promotes the access, use, creation and long-term preservation of research data, both primary and secondary, in digital form.

• Supports the exchange of knowledge, methods and working practices amongst scholarly communities.
Major challenges

• Building a community of practice and expertise
• Information policies in the Humanities
• Knowledge sharing in the Humanities
• Multiple evolving interpretations, context
  – Interpretive communities: by language, cultural identity, scientific tradition, ...
  – Alternative interpretations
  – Research induces re-interpretation
• Interoperability
• Long-term access and preservation
DARIAH-GR services


Resource management and sharing services
- Registries
- Thesauri
- Repositories
- Migration tools

Value chain services
- Curation
- Preservation
- Quality assurance
- Certification
- Creativity

Access management
Interoperability framework
Humanities data cloud
Computational cloud services

Resource development services & guidelines
Human resources and community development
Digital Humanities Observatory
Other DARIAH services
Resource sharing services

• Data sources and collections registry

• Metadata registry

• Ontologies and vocabularies registry

• Software services registry
Resource development services and guidelines

• Data collections, metadata and vocabularies development

• Metadata quality assurance

• Standards and best practices

• Rights management

• Human resources development

• Guidelines for content management, repository development, and long-term preservation

• Software systems

• Certification process development
Human resources and community development

Training and collaboration

• Summer schools
• Seminars
• Workshops

Special interest groups

• Research methods group
• Domain representation and terminology group
• Business forum
Digital Humanities Observatory

- Study of the use of digital methods in the Humanities
- Monitoring the developments in the field of Digital Humanities
- Working groups and think tanks
- Awareness actions and knowledge dissemination
- Online provision of knowledge resources
DYAS organization scheme

DYAS is designed as a distributed infrastructure with members at distinct levels of involvement and procedures for admitting new members.

- **Third Parties**
  - Can use selected services and resources

- **Associated Partners**
  - Provide selected resources

- **Curators**
  - Curate specific collections and repositories

- **Management nodes**
  - Manage infrastructure services
Networking

Infrastructures

- DARIAH - EU
- CENDARI
- Bamboo/DiRT
- NeDiMAH
- CLARIN- GR

Best practice networks

- CARARE
- 3D-ICONS
- Europeana Cloud
- LoCloud
The development of the DYAS infrastructure is funded by the National Strategic Development Framework (ΕΣΠΑ) 2007-2013 through the projects DARIAH-ATTIKH and DARIAH-ΕΠΑΕ.

Partners

• Academy of Athens, co-ordinator
• Athena Research Centre
• National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
• Athens School of Fine Arts
• Institute for Communication and Computer Systems, National Technical University of Athens
• Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas