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Letter of Support for the NFDI-Initiative Text+: Language- and Text-based Research Data Infrastructure

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The Specialised Information Service (SIS) German Language and Literature Studies at the University Library Johann Christian Senckenberg Frankfurt am Main develops innovative services for researchers by relaunching the portal German Studies Online (Germanistik im Netz) and building a new infrastructure for essential activities of philological practice. The SIS German Language and Literature Studies welcomes the proposed consortium TEXT+ and intends to collaborate closely in the national infrastructure for language- and text-based research data.

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All three data domains, **Speech and text-based Collections, Editions** as well as **Lexical Resources** are of high interest for the text-based research practices in German Language and Literature Studies. Due to new research methods in the field and the increasing breadth of research interests, such as for example in computational linguistics, tools for spoken language and multimodal data are also of increasing importance.

The SIS will support the consortium TEXT+ as an **intermediary** for the German language and literature studies community. It will actively disseminate information that fosters the understanding, visibility of, and accessibility to research data within the various subfields, such as Linguistics, Medieval Studies and Modern German Literature Studies. The SIS German Language and Literature Studies has collaborated with CLARIAH-DE in the development of subject-specific online tutorials.¹ These tutorials promote openness through standards such as the FAIR principles.

The SIS German Language and Literature Studies will also collaborate as **participant** in the governance structure of the TEXT+ consortium and will thereby contribute directly to the establishment of its service portfolio.

¹ <https://lernbar.uni-frankfurt.de/GiN/Daten>

Additionally, the SIS German Language and Literature Studies will advise TEXT+ as **experts** on metadata and interoperability. Specifically, it can contribute by describing domain-specific use cases for research data and implementing the FAIR principles for the creation of sustainable research data infrastructures.

The three priorities of this collaboration will be:

1. A close **collaboration in information aggregation** and interaction with the research communities, especially regarding the development of skills in handling digital research data and the use of digital research infrastructures. The SIS German Language and Literature Studies' subject-specific portal German Studies Online (Germanistik im Netz) as well as the websites of CLARIN, CLARIAH-DE and DARIAH provide an excellent basis and will be interlinked and harmonized for more effective communication.
In addition, joint training courses and a close collaboration in the development of a digitization strategy for the field of German Language and Literature Studies will be prepared together by the Working Group on Digitization in the Society for German Studies in Higher Education (Gesellschaft für Hochschulgermanistik im Deutschen Germanistenverband), the SIS German Language and Literature Studies and the above-mentioned research data infrastructures. These will be presented at the 27th German Studies Day (Germanistentag) in September 2022 at the University of Paderborn to further promote the use of digital research data services.
2. The above-mentioned partner institutions will also assist in the **development of a digitization strategy** and knowledge exchange focusing on solutions for searching and modelling that enhance findability across potentially heterogenous metadata and other data sources for the field of German Language and Literature Studies. The outcome will also be presented at the 27th German Studies Day Conference at the University of Paderborn.
3. In the long term, the focus will lie on the **interlinking of bibliographic authority data with research data** by means of Linked Open Data (LOD) and other procedures for the provision of standardized metadata. Such an enrichment of language resources with content-related metadata would greatly increase the usability of research data in the German language and literature studies community.

Yours sincerely



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Dr. Volker Michel

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