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Letter of Intent in Support of the *NFDI Consortium Text+*

Deutscher Germanistenverband (Gesellschaft für Hochschulgermanistik und Fachverband Deutsch) /
German Association of Germanists (Association of Scholars in German Studies and Teachers of German)

Dear colleague, lieber Herr Hinrichs,

during the last decades all research fields of German Studies have changed due to the processes of digitalization. The same holds true for the professional practice of teaching German at school, both in Germany and abroad. The availability of digital data, software tools, new forms of communication and collaboration etc. has brought about inspiring new possibilities, some on the more practical side of research and teaching, some with far reaching epistemic consequences. But along with these inspiring changes, there are also new challenges and risks.

The *Deutscher Germanistenverband* (DGV) has two sections: the *Gesellschaft für Hochschulgermanistik*, i.e. the association of university teachers and researchers in the field of German Studies (Linguistics, Literary Studies, Medieval Studies, and Didactics of German language and literature), and the *Fachverband Deutsch*, i.e. the association of school teachers of German. Despite its name, the DGV has many international members – from Europe over China and Japan to Canada and the USA – and networks with many associations of Germanists in Europe. Since the study of all aspects of language, literature, and their relations to culture, politics, education, etc. are closely related to the availability of texts (in all their medial formats), we very much support the *NFDI consortium Text+* and its aims. With its three core components “Collections”, “Editions”, “Dictionaries/Lexical Resources” (together with a more technical informatics component), it will certainly contribute in a substantial way to improve and facilitate the work of both researchers and teachers in the field, be it in schools, in universities or in other professional sectors.

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Members of the DGV from both sections are prepared to contribute actively to the work of the *NFDI consortium Text+*, for example in the form of consulting, organizing theme-specific workshops, or working in *Text+*'s governance bodies. The members of the DGV's working group "Germanistik im digitalen Zeitalter" / "German Studies in the Digital Age" have already contributed significantly to the *Text+* initiative. The recently founded working group "Digitales in Forschung und Lehre" / "Digitality in Research and Teaching" will continue working on the topic of digitalization and aims to expand the cooperation between the DGV and the *Text+* initiative even further.

We sincerely hope that *Text+* will be up and working in 2021! We very much look forward to a fruitful collaboration!

Kind regards,



Elvira Topalović
(Gesellschaft für Hochschulgermanistik)



Christian Plien
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