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

Dear Professor Hinrichs,

We are writing you today to confirm that the Deutscher Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft (DVPW) endorses and supports Text+, a consortium that focuses on text- and language-based research data with a special emphasis on digital collections, lexical resources (incl. dictionaries), and editions. These are three key data domains with a long tradition in Humanities research. We wish to emphasise that these types of data domains have been of growing significance for a rising number of sub-disciplines of Political Science research as well. We therefore are delighted to recommend Text+ as a key NFDI-initiative.

The DVPW was created in February 1951. Over the past almost seventy years, DVPW has developed into one of the largest professional organizations for the study of Political Science in Europe. Starting with 40 members in the early 1950s, it now serves more than 1,800 members. These are active in teaching or research in the field of Political Science or support the activities of the DVPW as members.

The three data domains of Text+ have given rise to mature methodological paradigms that require distinctive, yet crosscutting practices of research data creation, curation and management. The DVPW acknowledges that Text+ (co-) applicants and participant institutions jointly represent most, if not all relevant stakeholders that contribute research data in the Humanities: research libraries, universities, Digital Humanities data centres, members of the Union of German Academies of Arts and Sciences, and members of non-university research organisations, including Leibniz Institutes and Max-Planck Institutes. The Text+ initiative includes major computing centres that will ensure strong and persistent infrastructure services for a distributed research data infrastructure.

Berlin, 15. September 2020

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The governance model of Text+ fosters joint responsibility and consensus building among infrastructure providers and infrastructure users as well as collaboration across disciplinary boundaries. Members of the DVPW are potential users of the infrastructure, both by providing textual research data but also by utilizing tools and data provided via the infrastructure. The governance model includes three Scientific Coordination Committees and one Operations Coordination Committee. The DVPW expresses its willingness to nominate and support scholars from its discipline and community who want to become part of these governance structures. By this possible representation, the DVPW becomes part of the community evaluating the Text+ portfolio of data, tools, and services, extending the foundation of Text+ with the representation of the research objective that are part of the DPVW’s research interests.

Against this background, the DVPW supports the application of Text+ as NFDI consortium fully and without reservation.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Dr. Armin Schäfer