Letter of Support

Köln, 14.09.2020

This letter of support is to promote the Consortium text+ as Fachinformationsdienst Philosophie.

The Fachinformationsdienst Philosophie (FID philosophy) – jointly managed by the University and City Library of Cologne, the Cologne Center for eHumanities (CCeH) and the Institute of Philosophy – is part of the specialized information service program of the DFG. The FID philosophy primarily aims to provide location-independent and as fast as possible direct access possibilities to special research literature and research-relevant information for the scientific peak demand in the comprehensive field of philosophy. The FID philosophy naturally aims to cover the entire spectrum of philosophy in historical and systematic terms. In addition to a component for building up a stock of philosophical literature, the FID Philosophy particularly focuses on building up a specialist research platform with an integrated document delivery service and a collection of digital objects.

Through the combination of specialist, librarian and IT expertise at the Cologne location, the FID philosophy does justice to this core task by digitizing and making accessible specialist literature free of copyright or public domain rights, in particular philosophical editions, which are not yet available in electronic form; by offering central and structured access to the philosophical research resources freely available on the Internet; and for this purpose by setting up a portal based modern technology, which - as a research platform - brings together all the services and indexed or integrated data sources offered by the FID philosophy under one web interface and allows them to be searched, but at the same time also - as a specialist communication infrastructure - serves the visibility and networking of researchers and research projects.

Therefore, the FID philosophy warmly welcomes the text+ initiative within the scope of the NFDI, since language and text are the basis of human communication and, as such, they underlie all aspects of society. We especially support the focus on critical scholarly editions and digital editions, which play a major role in philosophy, and would like to contribute to the focus of text+ on problems of research data handling in the field of philosophical editions.
We strongly support the efforts of text+ to build and expand a comprehensive data and services portfolio and to establish a governance structure that intends to cooperate particularly with the specialized information services like the FID philosophy. We would like to actively participate in the work of text+ in joining for example the Scientific Coordination Committee (SCC), which focus on the domain of critical scholarly editions, but also contribute to the SCC in the field of collections. The FID can offer services as well as expertise in the field of philosophical editions and related collections. Moreover, we will support the dissemination of the mission of text+ among the users of the FID philosophy platform. We furthermore expect cooperation in the context of conferences, summer schools, research projects etc.

In view of what has been said, the Fachinformationsdienst Philosophie strongly supports the application of the Consortium text+ within the scope of the NFDI.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Andreas Weber
- Deputy Director -