



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

To: Prof. Dr. Erhard Hinrichs
Spokesperson Text+
Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache
R-5, 6-13
68161 Mannheim

Letter of Support: LIBER for Text+

Dear Prof. Dr. Erhard Hinrichs,

The Association of European Research Libraries (LIBER) welcomes and supports the overall NFDI initiative with its impressive coverage of the full range of academic fields. LIBER's endorsement here particularly concerns Text+ focusing on language and text oriented research in the humanities.

LIBER is Europe's principle association of research libraries, consisting of nearly 450 national, university and other libraries from more than forty countries. It was founded as an association in 1971 under the auspices of the Council of Europe and became a Foundation under Dutch law in 2009. LIBER's aims to help European research libraries to support a functional network across national boundaries in order to ensure the preservation of European cultural heritage, to improve access to collections in European research libraries, and to provide more efficient information services. Enabling Open Science is a major priority for LIBER, as is promoting innovative scholarly communication, fostering digital skills and services, and engaging with world-class e-infrastructures. The LIBER 2018-2022 strategy "Powering Sustainable Knowledge in the Digital Age" addresses these areas with commitments to working groups, international project partnerships, policy development and coordination, lobbying and advocacy at the EC level, and supporting leadership and digital skills. The Strategy is executed thanks to the dedication of the hundreds of volunteers who serve on our Executive Board, Steering Committees and Working Groups, as well as through our participation in international projects. LIBER has three Steering Committees on a) Scholarly Communication, b) Digital Skills & Services and c) Research Infrastructure.

Text+ initiative is developed along the lines of FAIR data and aims to provide crucial infrastructure - a federation of distributed data centres and competence centres - in order to enable research-driven data services for language and text-based research data. Within the European network of libraries we support Text + to foster the accessibility of unstructured text (such as the output of large digitisation projects).

We are looking forward to engaging in further, continuous and in depth discussions and exchange about the important goals Text+ intends to pursue and the outcomes which are of utmost interest for all research libraries in Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Astrid Verheusen
Executive Director LIBER

28 September 2020