

Forschungszentrum Deutscher Sprachatlas - 35032 Marburg

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

Forschungszentrum
Deutscher Sprachatlas 

Der Direktor

Prof. Dr. Alfred Lameli

Tel.: +49 6421 28 22634
Fax: +49 6421 28 28936
E-Mail: lameli@uni-marburg.de
Sek.: Bettina Kehrein
Tel.: +49 6421 28 22483
E-Mail: dsa@uni-marburg.de
Anschrift: Pilgrimstein 16
35032 Marburg
Web: www.deutscher-sprachatlas.de

Marburg, den 8. September 2022

Letter of Intent to support the NFDI consortium Text+

Dear Prof. Hinrichs,

The Research Center Deutscher Sprachatlas (DSA) would like to express its support for the NFDI's research data infrastructure project and specifically Text+.

As a research institution with the goal of recording and describing the regional varieties of German and, in particular, archiving it for future generations, the DSA welcomes the national efforts in the area of research data infrastructure and is happy to support them to the best of its ability.

The DSA hosts a multitude of regiolectal data in Europe and abroad. Our institute is specialized in the development of web mapping services and geo-linguistic information systems, especially the integration of language atlases, sound recordings, bibliographies, questionnaires and further research documents. It is for this reason that the DSA has put much consideration into how it manages this data and has done so recently even more as questions around long-term archiving.

With a variety of culturally relevant objects, digitised or already curated in a digitised format, the DSA hosts multiple datasets focussing on the regional German varieties and the sources used to describe them. With its data service REDE (regionalsprache.de) as well as its soon to be established repository LinguRep, the DSA acts in foresight of long-term archiving of language data, some of which would otherwise be in danger of getting lost.

The experience and expertise of its employees make the DSA an ideal anchor point in the curation of language datasets, focussing on dialectal language usage, regional variation of language, mapping of language variables and their variants spanning from phonetics and phonology to morphology and syntax. In a digitised society on the brink of its virtualisation, it is important to enable this expertise to actively exchange with the rest of the community.

Currently, the DSA is working on datasets mainly containing maps (i.e. picture), audio and text data, i.e. speech atlases, which are bringing forth research data of various kinds. In combination with the source material, they have to be handled with a focus on long-term archiving and reuse. The DSA has committed itself to follow the FAIR and CARE principles of the open science initiative.

In this light, the DSA is looking forward to working with Text+ in regard to the development of infrastructure concerning the focus areas collections, lexical resources, editions and the computational infrastructure. We are sure that we will have a strong partner in the Text+ consortium, which is why we wish to confirm our support and anticipate a highly fruitful partnership in establishing a long-lasting system in archiving cultural important datasets.


(Prof. Dr. Alfred Lameli)