



RDA and Humanities

Insights from the RDA Europe domain Ambassadors

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rd-alliance.org/rda-disciplines/rda-and-digital-humanities

RDA and the Digital Humanities

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RDA EU Ambassador for Humanities

www.rd-alliance.org/rda-disciplines/rda-europe-ambassadors

Data Archiving and Networked Services

DANS







How can the RDA and the humanities be of value for each other?

- RDA -> building infrastructure for data sharing on a global scale
- Humanities -> academic disciplines that study aspects of human society and culture
 - No central discipline
 - (OECD classification: (1) History and Archeology (2) Language and literature Philosophy (3) ethics religion (4) Arts (5) Other)
 - Primarily critical or speculative methods (with significant historical element)
 - Close relation humanities and social sciences (e.g. fields such as law and politics)





From humanities computing to digital humanities



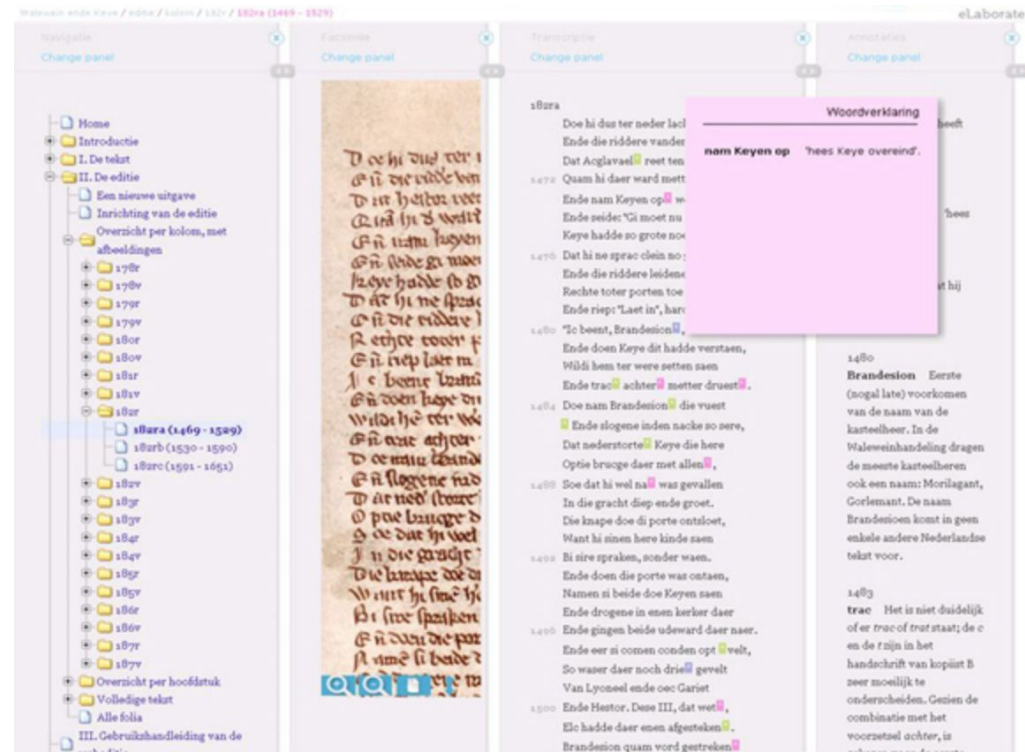
Using computers to digitize historical sources – humanities computing (ca. 1995)





Digital Humanities example

- Digital Edition of scholarly source



<http://www.dh2012.uni-hamburg.de/conference/programme/abstracts/digital-editions-with-elaborate-from-practice-to-theory.1.html>





Digital Humanities

- Emerged around 2004
- Examples of computer use in humanities research:
 - Machine translation
 - Text analysis
 - Text markup
 - Creation of concordances and glossaries
 - Image processing
 - Geospatial analysis
- Humanities data
 - Rich and complex
 - Non-standardized in format
 - Without common or consistent metadata and ontologies
 - Subject to complex right issues





Digital research infrastructures in arts and humanities

- Concerning data sharing there is no single common practice across the entire domain
- Obstacles for data sharing have to do with governance, funding and sustainability (thus not technical)
- In Europe the ESFRI roadmap is an important factor in the improvement of the situation. Two prominent RIs in the field of DH are:

- DARIAH (arts and humanities)
- CLARIN (language and linguistics)



Other initiatives:

- E-RIHS (Heritage Science)
- ARIADNE (Archeology)
- IPERION CH (Restoration and conservation of cultural heritage)





The RDA and the Humanities

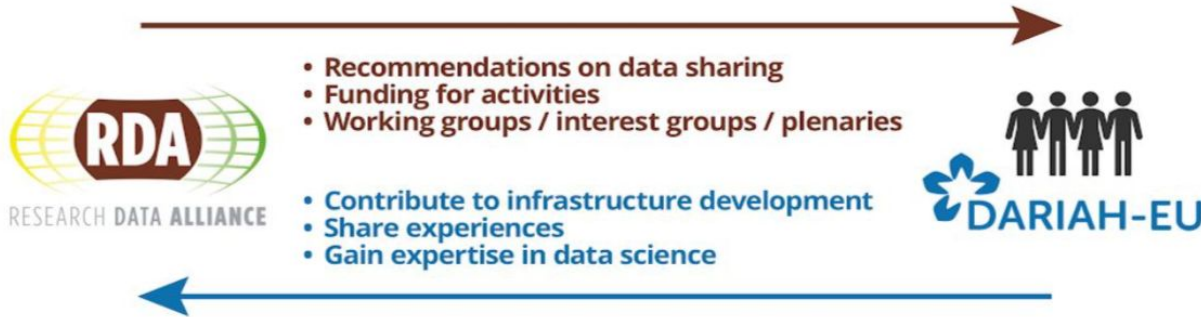
- RDA does not have a “domain science” WG/IG active in the humanities (yet?)
- Assessment of RDA output (IGs / WGs / Recommendations) relevant for humanities
 - 6 Interest Groups / 2 Working Groups seem to be relevant
 - (mainly related to Research Data Management and Data Repositories)
 - Recommendations and outputs, relevant topics are:
 - Data citation / Certification of Repositories / PIDs / Metadata management / Interoperability / Identity management
 - They are discipline agnostic





How can the RDA and the humanities be of value for each other?

RDA and DARIAH RI



3 examples of RDA output

23 Things For Research Data Management

The Challenge:
Build capacity within the library community around research data management, ensure libraries are aligned with other research data management service providers, and share practices as new library services evolve and mature.

What is the solution?
23 Things Libraries for Research Data provides an overview of practical, free, online resources and tools that libraries can begin using today to incorporate research data management into the daily practice of librarianship. Available in 11 languages, the resource group 23 Things, online resources to help librarians address issues on data management such as Metadata, Digital Preservation, Data Repositories, Data Licensing and Privacy or Data Citation.

Produced by: Libraries for Research Data Interest Group
<https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/libraries-research-data.html>

Research Data Management

Metadata Standards Directory

The Challenge:
Enabling discovery of metadata standards for documenting research data, regardless of academic discipline, and addresses issues related to coverage, ease of maintenance and sustainability.

What is the solution?
The Metadata Standards Directory Working Group adopted, enriched, & expanded the Disciplinary Metadata Standards Catalogue set up by the UK Digital Curation Centre (DCC), and developed a functional prototype directory based around the G4Hub infrastructure, that places the information from the DCC directory into an environment where it can be maintained transparently with full version control.

Produced by: Metadata Standards Directory (MSD) WG
<https://rd-alliance.org/groups/metadata-standards-directory-working-group.html>

Metadata Standards

Repository Audit and Certification Catalogues

The Challenge:
Creating harmonized Common Procedures for certification of repositories.

What is the solution?
Drawing from the procedures already put in place by the Data Seal of Approval (DSA) and the IC5U World Data System (IC5U-WDS), the RDA Repository Audit and Certification (RDA-REAC) Partnership Working Group has produced a convergent DSA-WDS certification standard aiming to eliminate duplication of effort, increase certification procedure coherence and compatibility thus benefiting researchers, data managers, librarians and scientific communities.

Produced by: The Repository Audit and Certification (RDA-REAC) Partnership WG
<https://rd-alliance.org/groups/rdawds-certification-digital-repositories.html>

Certification of Repositories

Section of poster for DARIAH annual event, Warsaw, 15-17 May 2019





How can the RDA and the humanities be of value for each other?

RDA and CLARIN RI

- CLARIN representatives are active in several WGs and IGs and prominent in some published recommendations.
- The CLARIN RI implements RDA output



Making SSH Language Dataset accessible for humans and machines: CLARIN ERIC RDA adoption story

https://youtu.be/lk4_znNAV1Q





Wrap up

- Several RDA activities are relevant for digital humanities (and services to support digital humanities research), e.g.
 - Metadata management
 - Interoperability
 - Persistent Identifiers
 - Certification of repositories
 - Identity management
- Humanities RIs increasingly get involved in RDA activities.

