

Memorandum of Understanding

between

LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche) and CLARIN ERIC

The aim of the LIBER Foundation is to represent the interest of research libraries of Europe, their universities and researchers. The Foundation promotes in particular:

- efficient information services,
- access to research information,
- innovation in end-user services supporting teaching, learning and research,
- preservation of cultural heritage, and
- efficient and effective management in research libraries.

CLARIN stands for "Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure". CLARIN is a research infrastructure that was initiated from the vision that all digital language resources and tools from all over Europe and beyond are accessible through a single sign-on online environment for the support of researchers in the humanities and social sciences.

In 2012 CLARIN ERIC was established and took up the mission to create and maintain an infrastructure to support the sharing, use and sustainability of language data and tools for research in the humanities and social sciences. Currently CLARIN provides easy and sustainable access to digital language data (in written, spoken, or multimodal form) for scholars in the social sciences and humanities, and beyond. CLARIN also offers advanced tools to discover, explore, exploit, annotate, analyse or combine such data sets, wherever they are located. This is enabled through a networked federation of centres: language data repositories, service centres and knowledge centres, with single sign-on access for all members of the academic community in all participating countries. Tools and data from different centres are interoperable, so that data collections can be combined and tools from different sources can be chained to perform complex operations to support researchers in their work.

LIBER and CLARIN ERIC share objectives in promoting the use of digital collections and digital techniques in particular in language related research in the social sciences and humanities. They recognize that there is a need to enhance competencies, knowledge exchange and skills for the use and management of language research data, ICT methods and technologies, including scientific information infrastructures such as CLARIN. LIBER and CLARIN ERIC encourage and support libraries in building up new service roles as well in engaging in research processes to take forward digital scholarship in the social sciences and humanities.

Governance

Annual reports on joint activities will be submitted to the governing body of LIBER and the Board of Directors of CLARIN ERIC.

Objectives

- Engage in and share information about policy and advocacy activities of mutual interest, e.g. copyright regulations
- Identification of opportunities for joint capacity building/training
- Cooperation on user involvement in the design of services

Communication

- LIBER and CLARIN ERIC agree to exchange information about their work, and to acknowledge the partnership in promotional materials of both organizations, including the website, annual reports and news, where appropriate.
- LIBER and CLARIN ERIC agree to share information and best practice on advocacy tools and activities.

This Memorandum of Understanding has been approved by LIBER and CLARIN ERIC.

Signed on behalf of LIBER

Signed on behalf of CLARIN ERIC

Date:

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