

E-RIHS' DIGILAB: A data and service infrastructure

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The European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science (E-RIHS) incorporating and taking advantage of the long-term tradition of the heritage science research, the ability to combine with innovation, and the integration promoted by EU-funded projects such as ARIADNE and PARTHENOS exploits the synergy of the cooperation among the academy, research centers, and cultural institutions. E-RIHS will provide state-of-the-art tools and services to support cross-disciplinary research communities of users through its four access platforms: MOLAB, FIXLAB, ARCHLAB, and DIGILAB.

The DIGILAB platform will rely on a network of federated repositories where researchers, professionals, managers and other heritage-related professionals deposit the digital results of their work. These data will not be kept internally. On the contrary, the platform will provide access to the original repositories where the data are stored. DIGILAB inspired by the FAIR principles (Findable-Accessible-Interoperable-Reusable) will provide online access and remote services to the heritage science research community. It will enable finding data through an advanced search system operating on a registry containing metadata describing each individual dataset. It will support access to the data through a federated identity system, while data access grants will be local to each repository. It will guarantee data interoperability by requiring the use of a standard data model. It will foster re-use by making services available to users, to process the data according to their own research questions and use requirements.

The platform includes and enables access to searchable registries of specialized digital resources (datasets, reference collections, thesauri, ontologies, etc.). Furthermore, DIGILAB will set up guidelines for dataset recovery and assist researchers and research institutions, while as cloud-based infrastructure will support data interoperability through the creation of shared knowledge organization systems and provides tools to process them according to researchers' needs and research questions.

Overall DIGILAB facilitates virtual access to tools and data hubs for heritage research and is designed to be the privileged gateway to European scientific knowledge in heritage.

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