

E-RIHS DIGILAB: starting a digital platform for the European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science

E-RIHS[1] is a research infrastructure project of the European strategic roadmap (ESFRI[2] Roadmap) since 2016. E-RIHS support research on heritage interpretation, preservation, documentation and management. Both cultural and natural heritage are addressed: collections, buildings, archaeological sites, digital and intangible heritage. E-RIHS is a distributed research infrastructure: it includes facilities from many Countries, organized in national networks and coordinated by National Hubs. The E-RIHS Headquarters will be seated in Florence, Italy. E-RIHS will provide state-of-the-art tools and services to cross-disciplinary research communities of users through its four access platforms:

- MOLAB: access to advanced mobile analytical instrumentation for diagnostics of heritage objects, archaeological sites and historical monuments.
- FIXLAB: access to large-scale and specific facilities with unique expertise in heritage science, for cutting-edge scientific investigation on samples or whole objects.
- ARCHLAB: physical access to archives and collections of prestigious European museums, galleries, research institutions and universities containing non-digital samples and specimens and organized scientific information.
- DIGILAB: virtual access to tools and data hubs for heritage research – including measurement results, analytical data and documentation – from large academic as well as research and heritage institutions.

The DIGILAB platform will provide remote services to the heritage science research community, reaching out beyond the European boundaries. DIGILAB will enable access to research information as well as to general documentation of analyses, conservation, restoration and any other kind of relevant information about heritage research and background references. DIGILAB will rely on a network of federated repositories where researchers, professionals, managers and other heritage-related professionals deposit the digital results of their work. DIGILAB will not keep those data internally: instead, it will provide access to the original repositories where the data are stored. DIGILAB is inspired by the FAIR data principles: it will enable Finding the data through an advanced search system operating on a registry containing metadata describing each individual dataset; it will support Accessing the data through a federated identity system, while 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 or use requirements.

E-RIHS will help the preservation of the World's Heritage by enabling cutting-edge research in heritage science, liaising with governments and heritage institutions to promote its constant development and, finally, raising the appreciation of the large public for cultural and natural heritage and the recognition of its historic, social and economic significance.

1 <http://www.e-rihs.eu/>

2 <http://www.esfri.eu/>

Summary

The European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science, E-RIHS [iris], is committed to launch its new platform in 2018. DIGILAB will be the new data and service infrastructure for the heritage science research community.

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Track Classification: Towards a Digital Approach to Cultural Heritage Conservation, Documentation and Communication From Cyberinfrastructures to Science Clouds