Wandering lonely as a Cloud: the humanities, clouds, crowds and seamless infrastructures

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This paper will report and reflect on work undertaken over the last two years for the EU funded project DARIAH (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities). DARIAH was a preparatory phase project funded under the Research Framework Programme (FP7) Capacities specific programme under Research Infrastructures. The primary goal of the DARIAH preparatory phase was to establish the nature, shape and form of a research infrastructure that would support research across the arts and humanities. Research was conducted into current research practices, and the trends and challenges facing humanities and arts researchers as they seek to engage with the opportunities offered by digital content, methods and technologies. The paper will present the results of this work and reflect upon the form of the emerging DARIAH research infrastructure that will support those practices and trends, and that help to meet the challenges.