
Digital libraries as part of the digital humanities infrastructure: services, tools and programmes

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Abstract

This paper will present the results of the analysis of services, tools and programmes that are offered by national libraries digital collections in order to support digital humanities research. Digital libraries are an important subject of interest for researchers in the digital humanities field, and their ability to be incorporated into digital humanities infrastructure is greatly influenced by professional, economic, legal, organizational and other factors. In doing so, digital libraries need to respond to the growing expectations and demands of researchers who are increasingly becoming participants in the development of the digital library systems. Collections of libraries are increasingly being viewed as collections as data and big data, indicating a shift from traditional libraries and the overall heritage sector to new forms and levels of work with the content of collections. National libraries are a particularly important part of digital humanities infrastructure because of their valuable collections, legally defined tasks and professional capabilities. The development of national digital libraries infrastructure involves the construction of a system for collecting digital legal deposit, harvesting web content, digitising resources, data aggregation, persistent identifiers, long-term preservation and various services. From the perspective of digital humanities researchers, the availability of digital resources with search and browse functions is only a minimum level of service, which should be followed by a range of functionalities tailored to each type of material, as well as the publication of datasets, the creation of data reuse tools (APIs), etc. The national libraries offer several forms of services and programmes for digital humanities researchers through data/digital laboratories, development of new tools through fellowship programmes and other methods of collaboration. The results of the analysis of the activities of national libraries in digital humanities research infrastructure will be compared to the activities of the National and University Library in Zagreb and further development of its services, tools and programmes will be presented.

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