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# ***ESFRI contribution about digital repositories***

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# Context

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- Publication by the European Commission of a communication [COM(2007)56]: « On scientific information in the digital age: access, dissemination and preservation » inviting ESFRI to shaping the discussion on that matter.
- Creation by ESFRI (March 2007) of a dedicated short termed working group to prepare a position paper for ESFRI



# WG operandi

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## WG composition:

- Reinhard Altenhoener (Germany)
- Sanzio Bassini (Italy)
- Juan Bicarregui (UK)
- Manuel Delfino (Spain)
- Ole Henrik Ellestad (Norway)
- Daniel Gomes (Portugal)
- Keith Jeffery (UK)
- Leif Laaksonen (eIRG, Finland)
- Carlos Morais-Pires (European Commission)
- Jean Moulin (Belgium)
- Louise Perbal (Netherlands)
- Lorenza Saracco (European Commission)
- Magnus Stenbeck (Sweden)
- Edda Lilja Sveinsdottir (Iceland)
- Francoise Thibault (France)
- Dany Vandromme (Chair, France)



# WG operandi

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## **Extensive use of electronic tools**

- E-mails, web browsing
- WG mailing list
- WIKI workspace and document storage

## **One f2f meeting in Brussels, on August 30th, 2007**

- Extensive discussion and restructuring of the draft document
- Elaboration of possible recommendations to be endorsed by ESFRI

**Final Draft document was complete by Sept 6th, and transmitted to ESFRI secretariat**



# Content and problem analysis

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## 1) Scope given to the WG

- Clarify all issues present in the EC communication
- Restrict the WG to matters which are specific to research infrastructure issues
- Avoid generic and global problems like scientific publications or IPR

## 2) Content

- 5 key aspects are presented: They are complementary to each other and ordered:
  - Availability
  - Permanency
  - Quality
  - Right of Use
  - Interoperability
- Each point is presented with a synthetic description, and 2 recommendations (about policy and implementation)



# Content and problem analysis

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## 1) Availability

- Data are existing and stored somewhere. As a consequence, they are accessible (on-line or off-line, on-site or remotely):

## 2) Permanency

- Data remains available (accessible from their creation to the time any user may need them)

## 3) Quality

- Data available from research infrastructures must be quality-proved, either from proper documentation of lab methodology, or peer-review or any other way to guarantee this.



# Content and problem analysis

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## 4) Rights of Use

- Publically funded research produces data for public access and use.
- Restriction may apply (temporarily) for due time to prepare publications or prior contractual arrangement with private stakeholders
- Distinction between raw data and full data (including metadata needed for description and handling)

## 5) Interoperability

- All digital repositories must be interoperable to each other, I.e. using open standards (and cross-referencements).
- Application of universal naming/referencing system should be considered for data, as it will be for objects?



# Conclusions

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- 1) Research infrastructures should bear the responsibility of making possible, access to the data they produce!
- 2) Enforcement may turn to be difficult. European coordination for defining the related policy and its implementation, is highly recommended

**THESE IDEAS ARE DESCRIBED IN THE PROPOSED PAPER, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS**





# Questions ?

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