



# DARIAH WORKSHOP

## Securing Knowledge: Cyber Humanities and the Future of Critical Research Infrastructures

September 9, 2025 | 9:00 – 11:20



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## Chairs

**Alessia Spadi**, DARIAH.it

**Edward J. Gray**, DARIAH EU – IR\* Huma-Num (CNRS)

**Emiliano Degl’Innocenti**, DARIAH.it

## Speakers

**Emiliano Degl’Innocenti**, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR),  
DARIAH-IT National Coordinator

**Nicolas Larrousse**, IR\* Huma-Num (CNRS)

**Edward Gray**, DARIAH-EU & IR\* Huma-Num (CNRS)

**Ivan Subotic**, DaSCH / University of Basel

**Martin Lhoták**, Library of the Czech Academy of Sciences -  
LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ

**Antonella Negri**, Ministero della Cultura - Istituto Centrale per la  
Digitalizzazione del Patrimonio Culturale - DIGITAL LIBRARY

**Antonella Guidazzoli**, Head of Visit Lab HPC Dept. CINECA

## Technical Program Committee

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**Federica Spinelli** , CNR-DARIAH.it

**Koraljka Kuzman Šlogar**, Institute of Ethnology and  
Folklore Research – DARIAH HR

**Nanette Rißler-Pipka**, Max Weber Foundation (DE) –  
DARIAH DE

**Rita Gautschy**, Swiss National Data and Service Center for  
the Humanities DaSCH



## Program

### *Session 11 (9:00-10:00)*

**Nicolas Larrousse, Edward Gray** - From Technical Infrastructure to Knowledge Infrastructure: Perspectives from France to Europe

**Ivan Subotic** - Code, Consensus, and Cultural Data: Blockchain for Resilient Research Infrastructures

**Antonella Negri** - Ecomic: digital ecosystem for culture

**Antonella Guidazzoli** - AI and Cultural Heritage: Cineca Experience for ICDP Ministry of Culture and Future Perspectives in AI Factory

### *Coffee Break (10:00-10:20)*

### *Session 14 (10:20-11:20)*

**Emiliano Degl'Innocenti** - Towards the Implementation of DARIAH as a Critical Infrastructure in Italy

**Nicolas Larrousse (on behalf of Olivier Rouchon)** - Core Trust Seal: Improving Quality and Trust in Data Repositories through Certification

**Martin Lhoták** - Building National Repository Platform for Research Data - implementation of EOSC in the Czech Republic

# From *Technical* Infrastructure to *Knowledge* Infrastructure: Perspectives from France to Europe

**Nicolas Larrousse**

IR\* Huma-Num CNRS / DARIAH-FR

**Edward Gray**

DARIAH-EU / IR\* Huma-Num CNRS / DARIAH-FR

Research infrastructure is not a new concept even though it is relatively recent in SSH, but it is still one that is evolving, as research practices, methodologies and tools are undergoing constant and rapid changes. Moving towards data-intensive and AI empowered research, Research Infrastructures see a further shift of their role from simple technical infrastructures to what could be called “knowledge infrastructures” focused on needs of key stakeholders from the community of researchers. The talk will detail how this has been experienced on a French level, with the IR\* Huma-Num, and at a European level, with DARIAH-EU.

# Code, Consensus, and Cultural Data: Blockchain for Resilient Research Infrastructures

**Ivan Subotic**

DaSCH / University of Basel

Research data forms the foundation of digital scholarship, yet our infrastructures face unprecedented threats from tampering, censorship, and institutional fragility. This presentation explores how blockchain technology—beyond cryptocurrency hype—can strengthen critical research infrastructures in the digital humanities.

We examine blockchain's core properties of immutability, decentralization, and transparency, demonstrating how these technical features translate into practical benefits: provenance tracking, censorship resistance, and resilience through redundancy. The presentation's central thesis, "Less Trust, More Truth," captures blockchain's fundamental promise: shifting from blind faith in institutions to cryptographic proofs that anyone can verify.

Through concrete examples including OECD data repositories and cultural heritage preservation projects, we illustrate blockchain's potential for protecting contested histories, minority narratives, and vulnerable archives. However, we also confront significant challenges: scalability limitations, energy consumption, technical complexity, and the tension between immutability and privacy rights.

The path forward lies not in pure blockchain solutions but in hybrid approaches that combine blockchain's strengths with traditional systems' flexibility. Success requires interdisciplinary collaboration between technologists who understand what's possible and humanists who understand what's at stake. Blockchain offers no perfect solution, but for critical research data—the foundations of our scholarship and cultural memory—it can be a valuable ally against falsification, censorship, and loss.

## **Ecomic: digital ecosystem for Culture.**

### **Antonella Negri**

Ministero della Cultura - Istituto Centrale per  
la Digitalizzazione del Patrimonio Culturale -  
DIGITAL LIBRARY

The Digital Ecosystem for Culture – Ecomic is a distributed collaborative environment promoted by the Digital Library to support the digital transformation of the Italian cultural sector. It is conceived as an interoperable ecosystem made up of a variety of systems, technologies, and skills that operate in a coordinated manner to generate cultural, social, and economic value. Within this framework, cultural heritage institutions, public bodies, professionals, research centers, cultural, technological, and creative enterprises, as well as stakeholders in the tourism sector, act in synergy.

# **AI and Cultural Heritage : Cineca Experience for ICDP Ministry of Culture and Future Perspectives in AI Factory**

**Antonella Guidazzoli**

Head of Visit Lab HPC Dept. CINECA

This presentation illustrates Cineca's actions in support of the ICDP Ministry of Culture (MiC) and its contribution to future AI perspectives within the IT4LIA AI Factory. The work highlights the role of advanced AI tools in Digital Humanities, with emphasis on open science interoperability, reusability, and human–AI collaboration environments.

# **Towards the Implementation of DARIAH as a Critical Infrastructure in Italy**

**Emiliano Degl'Innocenti**

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR),  
DARIAH-IT National Coordinator

This presentation explores the strategic transition of DARIAH-IT, the Italian national component of the Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH), towards recognition and operation as a critical infrastructure within the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) domain. SSH Research Infrastructures are increasingly vital for understanding complex societal phenomena, yet they face growing cyber threats. We detail a methodological framework for enhancing their resilience, drawing on principles of anticipation, withstand, recovery, and adaptation. Then we'll describe DARIAH-IT's core infrastructure, addressing the inherent challenges of SSH data—its sparsity, fragmentation, and heterogeneity—through robust data integration strategies and a commitment to quality.



# Core Trust Seal: Improving Quality and Trust in Data Repositories through Certification

**Nicolas Larrousse**

IR\* Huma-Num CNRS / DARIAH-FR

**Olivier Rouchon**

Chair of the CoreTrustSeal Board

The CoreTrustSeal certification begun in 2018 as an international, community-based, non-governmental, and non-profit organization promoting sustainable and trustworthy data infrastructures. By assessing if data infrastructures, and notably data repositories, adhere to a lightweight set of requirements based on standards and good practices for data management, CoreTrustSeal thereby helps to ensure that these critical infrastructures remain accessible, viable, reliable and usable over time.

# **Building National Repository Platform for Research Data - implementation of EOSC in the Czech Republic**

**Martin Lhoták**

DARIAH-CZ National Coordinator and Tereza Kolmačková, Data Steward (both from the Library of the Czech Academy of Sciences)

The presentation will introduce implementation of EOSC in the Czech Republic which creates complex and well organized environment for research data management, and meet the current requirements for responsible science. Main technical infrastructure is based in the National Repository Platform which enables to run repositories regarding needs of funders and researchers and following FAIR principles. Important part of the services is direct support of researchers, including DMP creation. Presenters will also focus on impact of this new infrastructure in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities.



## Contacts



<http://dariah.cnr.it/>



[dariah.it@ovi.cnr.it](mailto:dariah.it@ovi.cnr.it)



HQ @ CNR-OVI, Firenze