

Service Infrastructure

DRIVER's approach to improving metadata and harvesting content from repositories involves a level of technology that allows harvesting content from multiple repositories and manage its transformation into a common and uniform information space.

The DRIVER infrastructure and shared information space is available for reuse by, and integration with, service providers. Advice on reuse and integration is available from the DRIVER technical team by email at helpdesk@driver-support.eu

The DRIVER Search Service

The DRIVER search service provides sophisticated searching, for example subject-based, or location-specific searches, a feature often raised as a key need of academics using open access materials.

DRIVER Search will provide searches of full-text only records, a feature not currently available from existing services such as OALster or Google Scholar.

The Future for DRIVER

The initial phase of DRIVER focused on the support of institutional repositories and textual content in repositories. DRIVER II follows on from this and is funded under the Seventh Framework Programme.

In DRIVER-II, subject communities will feature more prominently in the project and DRIVER technical developments will focus on the development and enhancement of services for specific communities. In DRIVER-II, the technical focus will expand from the management of textual content in repositories to also include the management of complex objects such as data and multimedia. DRIVER's original partnership of 10 European partners which will expand to 13 with a further 6 additional partners to join later.



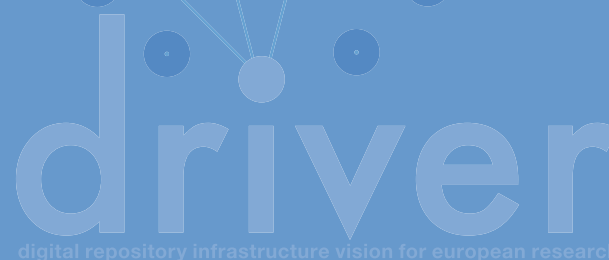
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- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- Bielefeld University, Germany
- Consiglio Nazionale Delle Ricerche, Italy
- STICHTING SURF, Netherlands
- SHERPA, University of Nottingham, UK
- Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique, France
- UKOLN, University of Bath, UK
- Uniwersytet Warszawski, Poland
- Universiteit Gent, Belgium
- Goettingen University, Germany



DRIVER Guidelines



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Introduction

In the rapidly evolving repository landscape a unified approach and implementation of repositories is needed to ensure high level interoperability and retrieval of content.

DRIVER

DRIVER is an EU-funded project which provides such a unified approach and is leading the way as the largest initiative of its kind in helping to enhance repository development worldwide.

Researchers and other users of digital information systems have high expectations for the provision of digital content. Retrieval should be fast, direct, and versatile. Ideally, retrieval of full text should be just one click away. The current state of institutional repositories does not fully support these expectations. While many valuable services have been established to search and retrieve bibliographic records (metadata), the resource itself is sometimes hidden behind several intermediate pages; obscured by authorization procedures; not fully presented; or not retrievable at all.

DRIVER approaches this challenge by harvesting and processing the aggregated data and by working with service providers and developers of leading repository software.

DRIVER Guidelines

DRIVER can assist repository managers to make their material more widely available and used. In order for this to happen, repository managers should ensure that they comply with the DRIVER Guidelines.

The DRIVER Guidelines are based on the DINI certification in Germany and DARE guidelines in the Netherlands. DRIVER partners involved in other repository networks, such as Archives-Ouvertes in France and SHERPA in the UK, provided additional input to ensure that the DRIVER Guidelines are suitable for implementation by the entire European repository community.

The DRIVER Guidelines, Annexes and advice on their implementation are available from the DRIVER website.

The DRIVER Guidelines helpdesk is available to assist you with any queries you may have:
helpdesk@driver-support.eu

What this means for you

Any repository or network of repositories can join the growing DRIVER community and, if compliant with the Guidelines, can be included in the DRIVER infrastructure and services.

Hence, by joining DRIVER, your repository will be part of an ambitious and important project for the global repository community while the DRIVER Guidelines and technical infrastructure themselves are expected to influence the development of repositories and associated services worldwide.

But, most importantly, by joining DRIVER the content of your repository will become more visible for the scientific community and your institution will get more exposure. DRIVER is a high quality service that will be developed further by a committed and growing European consortium.

To register your repository with the DRIVER community send an email with "yes" in the subject line to helpdesk@driver-support.eu and we will contact you. Soon, repository managers will be able to add their own repositories to the DRIVER community through access to the DRIVER portal.

