Digital Research Infrastructures for the Arts and Humanities (Rise and Fall)

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CIVIC Epistimologies

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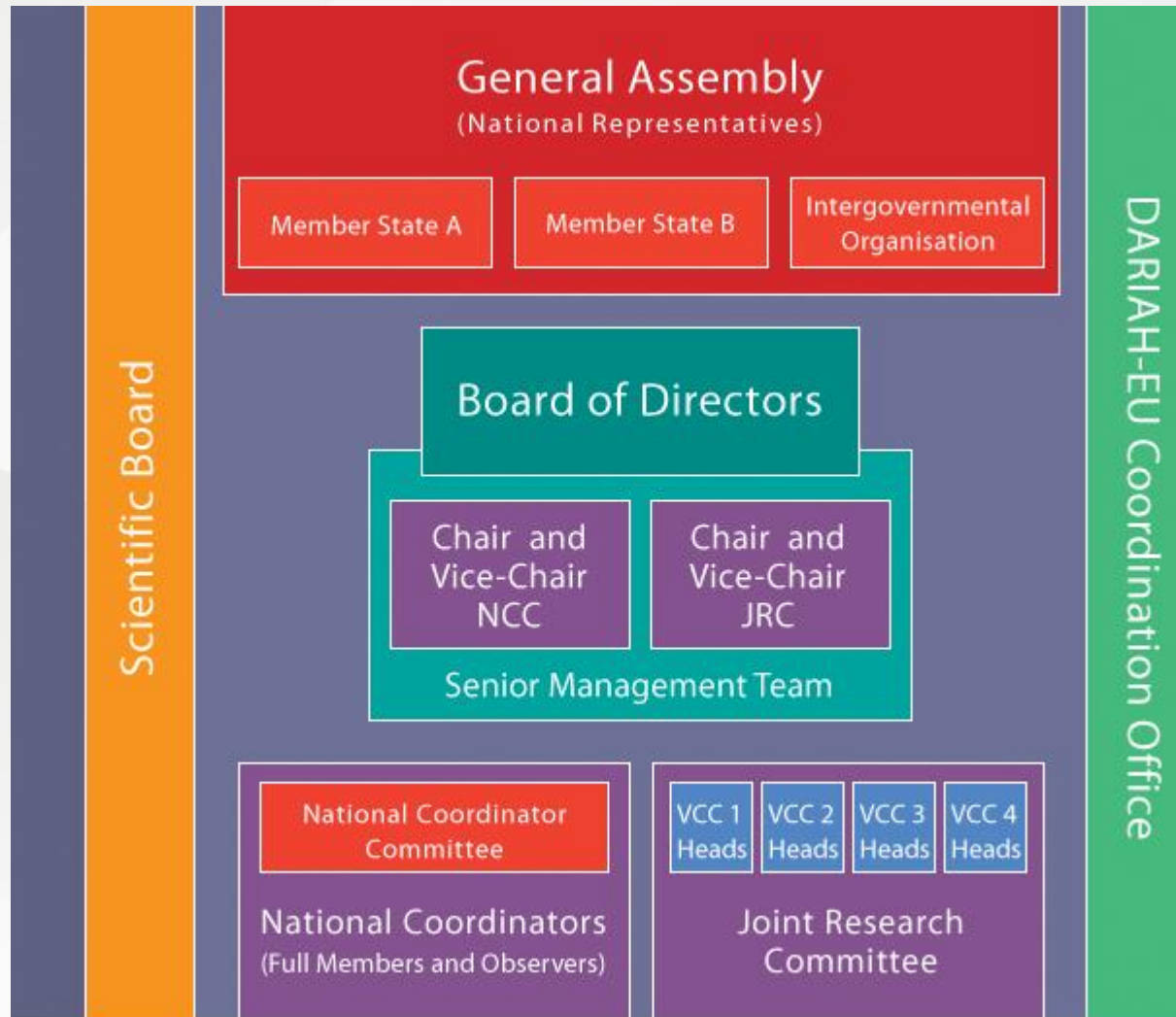
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A RI for DCCH : Dariah?

- **Research infrastructures (RI)** are facilities, resources (eg. collections, archives or scientific data) and services that are used by the research communities to conduct research and foster innovation in their fields.

- Cross **European** research infrastructure

- Enhance and support **digitally-enabled research** and teaching across the humanities and arts.

- Develop, maintain and operate an **e-infrastructure** in support of ICT-based research practices

- **Bring together** individual state-of-the-art digital Arts and Humanities activities across Europe.

- **Preserve, provide access to and disseminate** collaborative humanities research and ensure that **best practices, methodological and technical standards** are followed.

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Dariah-EU ERIC

- **2006** : Roadmap European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) - financial support from Europe by project contributions

- **2014** : Founding of the DARIAH European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) – financial support by Member countries

- **Founding members** : Austria, **Belgium**, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, France (**host country**), Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Serbia and Slovenia.

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Dariah EU : bodies / structure

Organisation Dariah-EU
Virtual Competence Centers (VCC)

- VCC 1 **: E-infrastructure**

  Create VREs : Computing facilities, repositories, tools, development, connectivity.

- VCC 2 : **Research and Education**

  Encourage researchers to use the e-infrastructures and VREs for humanities research and dissemination.
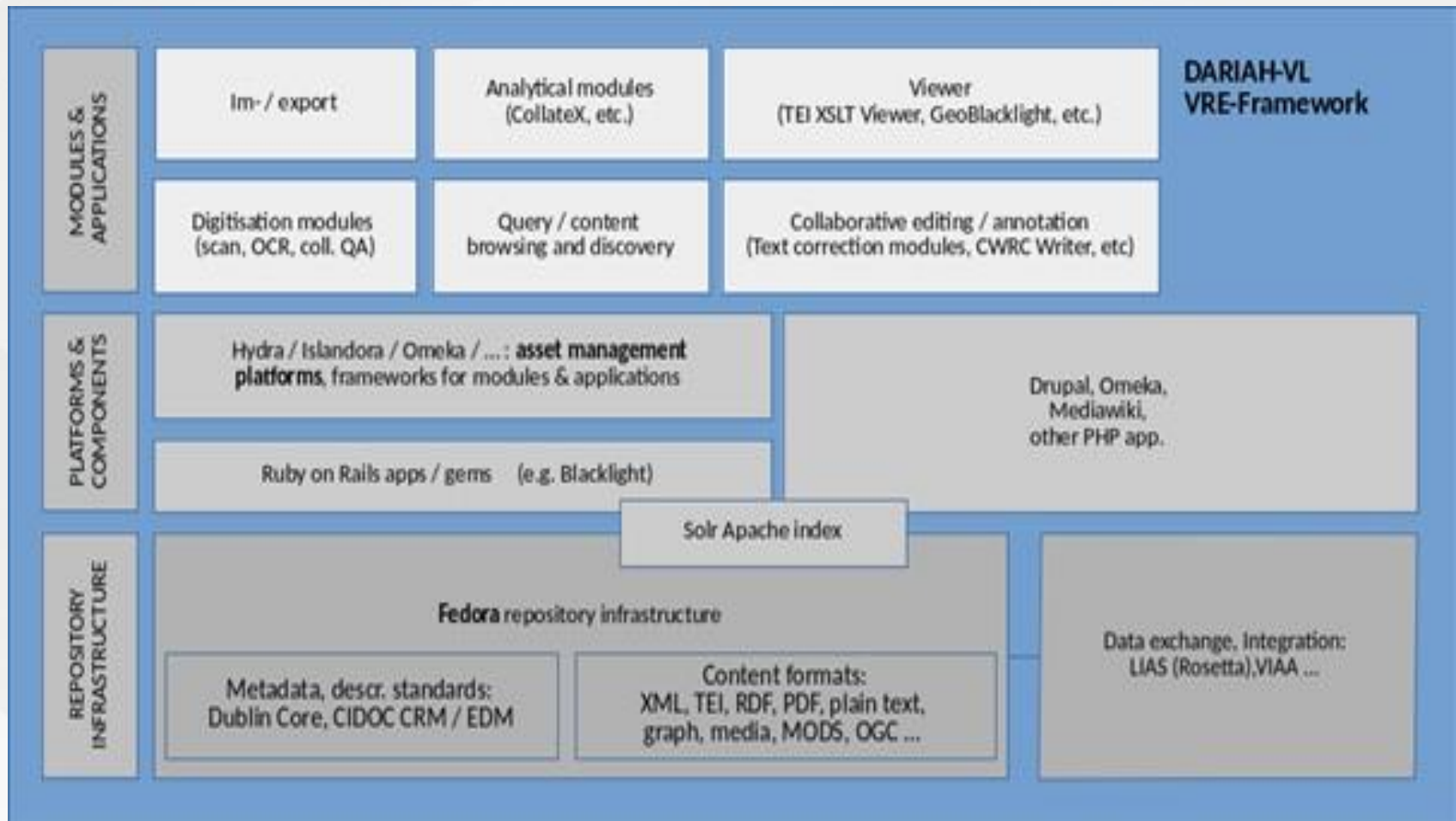
- VCC 3 : **Scholarly Content Management**

  Defining standards and best practice guidelines.

- VCC 4 : **Advocacy**

  Link with other projects and infrastructures.

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Dariah VRE Example (Dariah-VL)

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A RI for DCCH : Bamboo ?

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- Cross **American** research infrastructure project

- Enhance and support **digitally-enabled research** and teaching across the humanities and arts.

- Develop, maintain and operate an **e-infrastructure** in support of ICT-based research practices

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Bamboo - history

- 2007 : Bamboo proposal

- 2008 – 2009 : Bamboo Planning Project

- 2010 - 2012 : Bamboo Implementation Phase

- 2013 : new founding proposal rejected – the end

- Financial support : Mellon Foundation + in kind contributions members

- **Founding members** : University of Chicago, UC Berkeley and other institutions (USA, UK, Australia)

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Some lessons learned

- "Scholars" don't speak the same language as IT Staf and librarians (eg. "Services oriented", wiki discussions, mistrust). Failed to connect to each other. Hypothetical scholarly use case

- Lack of strong governance, change of management

- Sustainability – only when there is a value proposition

- Demonstrator projects needed (too much investment in IAM)

- Clear vision. Bamboo stands for …

- Distributed VREs not compatible with Bamboo standards

- Some strong services and tools services still supported (IAM, collaborative tools, APIs for data sharing)

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And what about Citizen Science?

- Speak the same language as the "Citizen"
- Strong governance, use existing Research Infrastructure to embed supported services
- Sustainability – only when there is a value proposition
- Demonstrator projects needed (Genealogy?)
- Reuse existing tools (IAM – Google, facebook accounts?, collaborative tools, APIs for data sharing)

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