

A blurred, 3D rendering of the letters 'DFG' in a light blue color, set against a background of soft, out-of-focus light rays and geometric shapes.

# Shaping the Advisory Stakeholder Forum

Some thoughts from the perspective of a funding agency

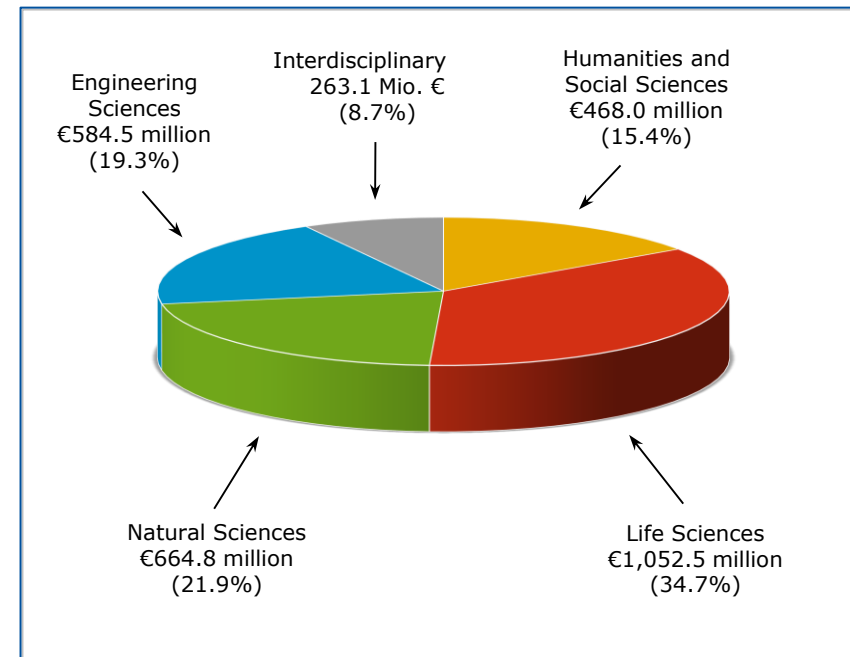
Dr. Johannes Fournier (DFG)

# What is the DFG's mission?

## The DFG

- ▶ Is the **major funding body** in Germany for **basic research**
- ▶ serves **all branches of science and the humanities**
- ▶ fosters **scientific excellence** through competition
- ▶ supports **international cooperation in research**
- ▶ supports the **transfer of knowledge** between science and industry

## Funding in 2016, by scientific discipline



# Where is the DFG active with regard to research data?

## ▶ DFG-Guidelines on handling of research data (2015)

- Appeals on fundees to describe how they ensure that data are made re-usable;
- Mentions the support DFG provides for this objective;
- Appeals on scholarly societies to design discipline-specific rules for data management.

## ▶ **Information Infrastructure for Research Data**

- Funding programme that supports e.g. the establishment of standards, of data-related services (e.g. [re3data](#), [RDMO](#)), or of data repositories

## ▶ **National and International Cooperation**

- Alliance of German Science Organisations
- Knowledge Exchange (e.g. Report on Federated Data Infrastructures), Science Europe

# What is the DFG's view on EOSC?

## ▶ **EOSC is a federation of data infrastructures**

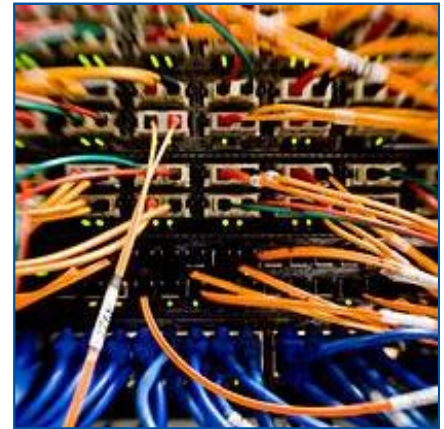
- Added value is generated by integration on the European scale

## ▶ **EOSC integrates already existing infrastructures**

- Requires solutions for aggregating (meta)data
- Requires solutions for performant data exchange
- Requires solutions for secure data exchange
- Requires involvement of scientific communities

## ▶ **EOSC is a support service to enable digital science**

- Shall provide discipline-specific views on and services for the federation



# What is the DFG's role in EOSC?

## ► Stress the researcher-driven perspective

- Support curiosity-driven research by EOSC
- Pay attention to EOSC when providing funding opportunities that address supra-regional data infrastructures and services.

## ► Take part in coordinating the funding agencies

- Address data culture and especially data re-use (e.g. discussion on „Domain Data Protocols“)
- Ensure that openness is defined in a manner that is adequate for individual research communities



# What are key responsibilities of the Advisory Stakeholder Body?

## ► Orientation towards a science-driven EOSC mission

- Quality Assurance (of data, of data repositories, of services) as a prerequisite of EOSC's acceptance by researchers
- Definition of criteria for quality (e.g. [data seal of approval](#), criteria for inclusion of repositories in [re3data](#))

## ► Advice in discussions on sustainable funding

- Discussion on the feasibility of suggested mechanisms: how to overcome funding merely on a project basis?
- Comparison of EOSC to an ESFRI helpful?

## ► Counterbalance to the political design of EOSC

- Represent the interests of specific disciplines and research communities



# How should the membership be constituted?

- ▶ **Think governance from already existing structures**
- ▶ **Define stakeholder views that are essential**
  - Scientific disciplines (in four to five broad areas)
  - Infrastructure community and service providers
  - Funding agencies and representatives of member states
  - Research institutions, especially universities (also important for teaching data-related skills)
- ▶ **Reflect on „umbrella organisations“ for these views**
  - Funders -> Science Europe
  - Universities -> European University Association
  - Scientific disciplines -> via ESFRI communities or ERICs?





# Thank you for your attention!

## More information

- ▶ on the DFG: <http://www.dfg.de>
- ▶ on the DFG's funding atlas: <http://www.dfg.de/foerderatlas>
- ▶ on all DFG-funded projects: <http://www.dfg.de/gepris>
- ▶ on all German research institutes: <http://research-explorer.de>