Preferred repositories
for archiving and sharing data connected to the Research Data Journal

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There are many options available to scholars and scientists for archiving and sharing data, in both general and discipline-specific repositories, hosted by public organisations as well as by private companies. There are local/institutional, national and international repository services. The list below mentions a number of recommended repositories for use by social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines.

1 Quality: trustworthy and certified repositories

It is important that the repository of choice is trustworthy. Such repositories guarantee to safeguard your data and make sure that the data will remain findable, accessible and reusable for either an indefinite or a specific period. Important criteria for the trustworthiness of repositories are that the data can be found via a persistent identifier (such as a DOI, URN or Handle), meaning that the link to the data is maintained, also when something changes in the location of the data (i.e., if the web-address changes). The trusted repository also guarantees a standard way of describing the data (with metadata and additional documentation), and that there is a license specifying the access conditions for sharing and reuse.

There are several ways in which a repository may comply with quality criteria such as these, and certification or accreditation are formalized way for this. We consider repositories complying with the following certification standards as trustworthy:

- Core Trust Seal: https://www.coretrustseal.org/why-certification/certified-repositories/ (this list includes repositories certified by the Data Seal of Approval and accredited by the World Data System)
- Nestor seal (DIN-Norm 31644): http://www.dnb.de/Subsites/nestor/EN/Siegel/siegel.html
- ISO 16363 certified repositories will be listed here: http://www.iso16363.org/iso-certification/certified-clients/

2 General repositories

Repositories that accept data from many disciplines, including SSH:

- Open Science Framework, https://osf.io: developed and maintained by the Center for Open Science, https://cos.io (not-for-profit)
- Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research ICPSR, http://www.icpsr.umich.edu (not-for-profit membership organisation)
- Dryad, http://www.datadryad.org (not-for-profit membership organisation; mainly oriented at data belonging to research articles in the life sciences)
- Zenodo, https://zenodo.org (not-for-profit, hosted by CERN)
- Harvard Dataverse, https://dataverse.harvard.edu (not-for-profit, hosted by Institute for Quantitative Social Studies IQSS at Harvard University)
- Figshare, https://figshare.com (free service provided by private company)

- Mendeley Data: https://data.mendeley.com/ (free service provided by private company)

3 Domain repositories

There are a number of repositories that are discipline-specific, and that are usually maintained by discipline-specific organisations or consortia.

Linguistics

- CLARIN depositing services: https://www.clarin.eu/content/depositing-services
- Linguistics Linked Open Data: http://linguistic-lod.org

Social Sciences

- CESSDA data archives: https://www.cessda.eu/Consortium

Historical sciences

Repositories for historical sciences are mostly at the institutional or national level. A number of CESSDA archives also accept historical data sets.

Arts and humanities

- Several CESSDA archives also accept humanities data

Archaeology

There are only few repositories dedicated to archaeology. Most of these have a national focus, such as:

- Archaeological Data Service (UK): http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/
  e-Depot for Dutch Archaeology (part of DANS, The Netherlands): https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/

Demography

- ICPSR: http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/DSDR/
- CESSDA archives will normally accept demographic data sets

4 Institutional repositories

A growing number of universities and research institutes host a repository for use by their research staff. Most of these institutional repositories are originally set up for storing (open access) publications, but dedicated research data repositories also occur. In order for an institutional repository to be acceptable as a trusted archive, it is essential that the university/institute has a data policy guaranteeing the support for data storage and sharing.

5 Further information

More information on persistent identifiers can be found here:
http://www.dpconline.org/handbook/technical-solutions-and-tools/persistent-identifiers

For further information on the FAIR data principles, see:
https://www.nature.com/articles/sdata201618 or http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18

For an extensive overview of data repositories across all disciplines, see the Registry of Research Data Repositories of Re3Data and DataCite: http://www.re3data.org

For more information on trustworthy repositories and certification see:
https://www.coretrustseal.org/

At the European level EUDAT, https://eudat.eu/eudat-cdi, bundles a large number of general and discipline-specific data services.

DARIAH is a pan-european infrastructure for arts and humanities scholars working with computational methods. It supports digital research as well as the teaching of digital research methods, see: http://www.dariah.eu/

For an overview of data repositories in psychology, cf.,
https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/finding-a-home-for-your-science#.WIG2vcuVuhA