

## DINI Certificate 2013 for Open Access Repositories and Publication Services

In 2013 the DINI working group for Electronic Publishing [1] released the fourth edition of the DINI Certificate 2013 for Open Access Repositories and Publication Services and by this adapted the well-established criteria catalogue for scholarly repository services to current developments. Now the English version of the DINI Certificate 2013 has been made available to the public.

The global scientific communication system is subject to a fundamental transition process. Due to new opportunities arising from the internet and other information and communication technologies and also to the changing requirements of scholars and scientists, new means and channels for scientific communication develop. A leading development is the global Open Access movement committed to the idea of freely available scientific and scholarly publications.

To support the numerous developments in Germany and to set common standards for publication infrastructures DINI's Electronic Publishing working group embraced this topic early on and in 2002 published its first recommendations for "Electronic Publishing in Higher Education". Based on these documents, the working group formulated criteria and formalized them in the DINI Certificate "Open Access Repositories and Publication Services". Following the 2004, 2007 and 2010 editions, 2013 is the fourth version of the document. The certificate describes technical, organisational and legal aspects that should be considered in the process of setting up and operating a scholarly repository service and puts considerable interest in Open Access. The aim of DINI is to move forward towards a standardised and interoperable repository landscape to improve the visibility and linkages of scientific publications. During the years the DINI certificate has gained reputation as standard-setting authority for repositories. To promote the DINI certificate amongst hosted Open Access repositories and publication services a new method for pre-evaluating hosting providers was introduced, called "DINI ready". In case of "DINI ready" labelled hosting providers the effort for gaining the DINI Certificate for services hosted by those providers is reduced for both, the applicants and the reviewers.

### About DINI

The German Initiative for Network Information (DINI, Deutsche Initiative für Netzwerkinformation)[2] is the most relevant organisation in Germany for supporting a national repository infrastructure. DINI is organised in working groups for thematic fields like CRIS, Metadata standards and Electronic Publishing. DINI regularly organises workshops and conferences for promoting the use and the quality of digital repositories. It has initiated several projects to support the technical development of a network of digital repositories and actively encourages the process of DINI certification. The DINI certificate was developed and is regularly updated by the Electronic Publishing working group. The certification process evaluates and improves the quality of publication services by referring to international standards and quality criteria. In consequence, the process improves data quality and conformity to enable services and the networking of repositories. Currently 49 services have received the DINI certificate.

[1] <http://dini.de/ag/e-pub/>

[2] <http://dini.de>

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