Presentation for the second NFDI Conference, 8/9 July 2020
The 4Memory Consortium

**Community:** The historically oriented humanities

**Co-applicants:** Research – memory institutions – infrastructure

**Research**
- Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz (Applicant)
- German Historical Association (VHD)
- Humboldt University of Berlin
- Trier University
- Historical Data Centre Saxony-Anhalt, Halle
- University of Applied Sciences, Darmstadt

**Memory institutions**
- Baden-Württemberg State Archives
- Bavarian State Library
- Deutsches Museum

**Information infrastructure**
- FIZ Karlsruhe – Leibniz Institute for Information Infrastructure
- Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe
(Digital) historical source criticism

Historical data are not only heterogeneous with regard to *where*, *how* and *in what format* they were produced but also in terms of *when* and *by whom* they were produced. The meanings of words, the names of places and even the underlying categories of knowledge production have changed – often substantially – across time.

Taking account of *space, time and historical actors in all of the stages of the data life-cycle* is essential to the historical disciplines.

Historical research data

Research data include all media formats and their digital and analogue forms of representation (publications, sources, metadata, controlled vocabularies, statistical or simulation data, etc.). They include digital representations of texts, images, objects, audio recordings and films; spatio-temporal data; and historical statistics.

The historical context in which data were first created and the technical conditions of their production and preservation must be kept transparent and re-traceable.
4Memory’s Objectives: LINKAGE

- Linking research, memory institutions and infrastructures
- Integrating historical source criticism into data management
- Network of historically oriented research communities
- Knowledge order for the digital future of the past
- Advancing the analog / digital interface of historical source material and data
- Generating standards for historical research data and sustainability
- Education and citizen participation
4Memory’s Task Areas

1. **Data Quality**  
   Deutsches Museum | Herder Institute for Historical Research on East-Central Europe

2. **Data Connectivity**  
   Bavarian State Library | Historical Data Centre Saxony-Anhalt, Halle

3. **Data Services**  
   Baden-Württemberg State Archive | FIZ Karlsruhe

4. **Data Literacy**  
   University of Applied Sciences, Darmstadt | University of Trier

5. **Data Culture**  
   German Historical Association | Humboldt University of Berlin

6. **Participation and Steering**  
   Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz
Community Engagement (highlights)

- Nov. 2017: VHD position paper
- Sep. 2018: VHD Workshop: History in the NFDI Process
- Feb. 2019: Request for use cases
- Aug. 2019: Survey of needs and contributions
- Mar. 2020: 1st and 2nd online community workshops: »Question Time«
- Apr. 2020: Publication of Q&A, Open letter to the community
- May 2020: 3rd online community workshop and call for »Problem Stories«

4Memory in discussion with our community at »Question Time«
International Cooperation

History beyond the nation state

International German Research Centres

• Area Studies (Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut, Centre for Asian and Transcultural Studies, et al.)
• FID/SIS (Afrikastudien, Ost-, Ostmittel- und Südosteuropa, et al.)
• Max Weber Foundation (Istanbul, Beirut, Tokyo, Washington, et al.)
• Merian Centers (Ghana, Mexico, Brazil, India)

International Scholarly Networks

• hypotheses.org
• Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies (RelReS)
• European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science
• Europeana and Europeana Pro
• Research Data Alliance
• Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA)
• European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
4Memory’s contribution to NFDI networks

Within the humanities

- 4Culture
- 4Objects
- Text+

Beyond the humanities

- KonsortSWD
- BERD@NFDI
- 2LinkNFDI
- NFDI-Web
- NFDI4RSE
- CompeNDI
- MaRDI
Cross-cutting topics particularly relevant to our community:

- Terminologies, terminology management and services
- Data literacy
- Data ethics and legal issues
- Data publication workflows
- Linking research data and publications
- Technical infrastructure

Cross-cutting topics to which 4Memory can contribute:

- Data criticism as a methodological perspective
- Provenance and contextualization of research data
- Community-driven / participatory authority files
- Data literacy concepts, materials, workflows
- Placing European RDM-strategies in a global context
4Memory Outreach Channels

- **Website:** [https://4memory.de](https://4memory.de)
- **Blog:** [https://4memory.de/blog](https://4memory.de/blog)
- **Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/NFDI4memory](https://twitter.com/NFDI4memory)
- **4Memory Newsletter:** [https://lists.uni-mainz.de/sympa/subscribe/4memory-mailingliste](https://lists.uni-mainz.de/sympa/subscribe/4memory-mailingliste)