

nestor - Network of Expertise in Long-Term Storage and Long-Term availability of Digital Resources in Germany

The starting point

Online publications are continually gaining importance. Be they electronic journals, reference databases, abstract services or independent publications (online dissertations, eBooks) - formerly printed works are increasingly being published in the Internet alongside their printed versions. In some sections online documents are already starting to take the upper hand. Results generated in the field of science and research are based on digital primary data and are then themselves published via digital platforms. Considerable amounts are also being invested in the subsequent digitization of printed publications and this is generating huge quantities of digital information. Archives are faced with electronic files which need to be transferred to digital records and stored long-term. Museums are accepting digital artefacts in their collections and, in line with their function as information mediators, are playing an important role in creating and preserving digital objects. The long-term accessibility of all digital resources of lasting value must be preserved - this despite the changing conditions arising from rapid technological development. The aim of saving them as part of our cultural heritage is to facilitate an accurate account of our social, historical, technical and artistic development. Scientific work is always based on existing findings. The long-term accessibility of digital resources is therefore essential to ensure that our educational, scientific and economic systems remain competitive.

Our goals

The expertise required for the range of tasks involved in the "long-term archiving of digital resources" is devolved upon a broad range of people in a large number of institutions, organisations and companies. nestor aims to create an information and communication platform to bring together existing activities related to the long-term archiving of digital resources, and to propose further measures. nestor wants to create a durable cooperative infrastructure which bundles a wide variety of complementary skills which can be developed and exploited. nestor also aims to produce a cross-institutional division-of-labour plan which makes proposals for the effective collaboration of all institutions and organisations involved in long-term archiving.

The tasks of nestor

- to make expertise and information available
- to make co-operation possible
- to present models of procedures and best practises
- to establish standards
- to build awareness
- to transmit the aims of long-term preservation
- to prepare a durable future organization

Internet: <http://www.langzeitarchivierung.de>