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Assessing Research Infrastructure Needs in the Social Sciences and Humanities

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Myths

- SS&H research is of lesser importance
- SS&H research costs less

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Problems

- Inherent heterogeneity of SS&H
- SS&H stresses diversity rather than convergence
- Relative immaturity of cross-national team research
- SS&H infrastructures usually non-tangible

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EU Advisory Group on SS&H in the ERA

- SS&H are clearly lacking the conditions to develop the equivalent to a "laboratory" approach, enabling researchers to address the European diversity
 - Priority 1 - EROHS
 - Priority 2 - European electronic library

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Need to stress generic problems

- Improved resource discovery
- Improved access to resources
- New resources
- New methodologies
- Break down barriers between resources
- Greater interoperability

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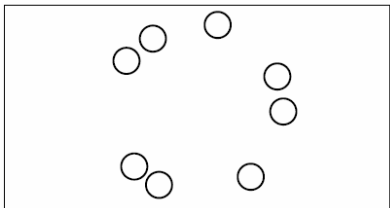
Four objectives of EROHS

- Facilitation of access to and sharing of already existing European and national data, thereby linking more effectively and efficiently data resources already available
- The development of improved standards and documentation relating to existing European and national data in order to enhance the scientific quality of data and their potential for interoperability
- Generation of new and genuinely European data, involving both the collection of new data and digitisation of existing data
- The provision of research training programmes for the next generation of researchers

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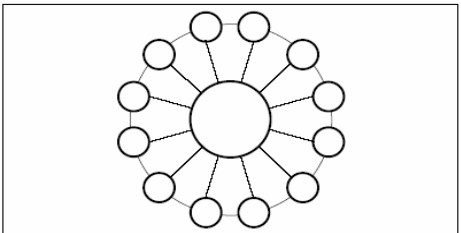
Current situation



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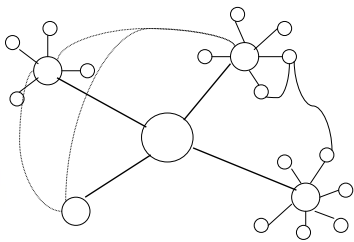
EROHS Goal



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EHROS Reality?



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Stated roles for EHROS hub

- Strategic role of co-ordination
- Co-operation and negotiation to gain access to data
- Support, monitoring of methodological quality
- Technical support for distributed access
- Administrative support for nodes, funding

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