

# RESILIENCE

## Religious Studies Infrastructure: Tools, Experts, Connections and Centers

**RESILIENCE** addresses the need of a larger and infrastructured involvement of excellent scholars, producing fertile competencies, new knowledge, fresh approach and visible impact in terms of innovation within the scientific domain of religious studies.

**RESILIENCE** is a long-term response oriented to catalyse research excellence and to produce achievable tools, which are rarely reached without a long-term perspective RI. It acts as a flagship for RIs, centres and users working in the field of religious studies, and exerts a leading capacity in relation to other stakeholders in politics, business, media and society.

**RESILIENCE** creates, selects and tests processes and functions capable of bringing back knowledge, to facilitate further exchanges between the various super-specialized and overarching approaches to religion, to assemble results and pave the way for more and more effective research (investing money to produce knowledge) and more innovation (investing knowledge to produce money); in general: to prepare an European research infrastructure, which makes new frontier research results in religious studies possible.

**RESILIENCE** creates, selects and tests digital and physical infrastructures capable of generating, preserving and transmitting knowledge between academics, members of religious communities, and the many groups on whom religious studies have a consequential impact.

**RESILIENCE** offers a recognized framework where the best scholars can do the best scholarship, the best decision makers can take the best decisions, social actors support active citizenship and many others can elaborate research programmes which could not even be imagined without an RI of such dimensions on a European scale.

### Consortium members

Our consortium is led by **Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII** (FSCIRE, Italy) and consists of other 11 members: Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (WWU Münster, Germany); École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE, France); Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven, Belgium); Leibniz Institut für Europäische Geschichte (IEG, Germany); Uniwersytet Warszawski (UNIWARSAW, Poland); Institut für Angewandte Informatik (INFAI, Germany); Theologische Universiteit Apeldoorn (TUA, The Netherlands); Sofijski Universitet Sveti Kliment Ohridski (UNISOFIA, Bulgaria); Volos Academy for Theological Studies (VOLOS ACADEMY, Greece); Univerzitet u Sarajevu (UNSA, Bosnia and Herzegovina); Albanian University – Universitas Fabrefacta Optime (UFO, Albania). RESILIENCE evaluates the inclusion of new consortium members.

**RESILIENCE** consortium is unique because the partners have demonstrated in decades their leading capacity both in cultivating specialisms and aggregating disciplines through the tools available in the past centuries, such as journals, book collections, cooperative international programmes, archives, libraries, indexes. Its actual uniqueness is also based on its offer and its attractive inclusiveness both inside and outside the EU through the integration of access to research tools (books, rare archival materials, maps, atlases, journals, databases, and machines for digitisation), facilities (libraries, archives, reading rooms, laboratories, and guesthouses), and human resources (competences, skills, and expertise) in a digital and physical “synchrotron”.

## Our USPs

1. RESILIENCE brings *religious studies* first time ever systematically in the European RI roadmap expressing the inclusion of many small and pan-European distributed data and databases for easier and proper research access.
2. Epistemologically, RESILIENCE addresses the demand of knowledge about religions, but also of technological tools which enable users to go beyond present methodologies. Religious studies can be the key to find a proper combination between *knowledge, DH and serving the society*.
3. RESILIENCE *puts users first*. Within 2YSEP partners start first to gather information about the user's needs. The objective is not only to collect a “wish list” of data to be integrated but also considering the digital transformation of workflows in religious studies.
4. RESILIENCE considers and explores *different target audiences* than academia. The consortium is already aware of links to the consultation of governments regarding religious conflicts but also the engagement of the interested public.
5. The RESILIENCE consortium acknowledges that research in religious studies has to be still considered *both as analog and digital research* over the next decades. However, RESILIENCE aims to establish a new identifier system that enables researchers to bridge between both worlds.
6. The consortium considers *sustainability as a design pattern* for the research infrastructure. For this reason, the partners work on business and sustainability plans from the beginning that will also have a strong influence in the design of RESILIENCE.
7. RESILIENCE considers integrating *all data independent from the data policy*. While open access data are easy to retrieval, publishing houses often provide the more relevant but private data to the researchers. For this reason, the consortium investigates access strategies known as *Authentication and Authorisation Infrastructure* (AAI) to derive an Access Policy for open and private data.
8. RESILIENCE considers both that data must be *sent to the tools but also vice versa*. Esp. browser-based RI lack the ability that tools can “travel” to the data. This is necessary if the amount of data is by orders of magnitude larger than the size of the tool but also when data are not allowed to leave the own institution.
9. Religion is permeated all over Europe. Therefore, religious texts are available in all languages in the European Research Area. For this reason, RESILIENCE considers *multi-lingual retrieval of data* including language adaptations but also, given a timeline of several centuries, diachronic changes in the language.



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RESILIENCE is promoted and coordinated by  
Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII



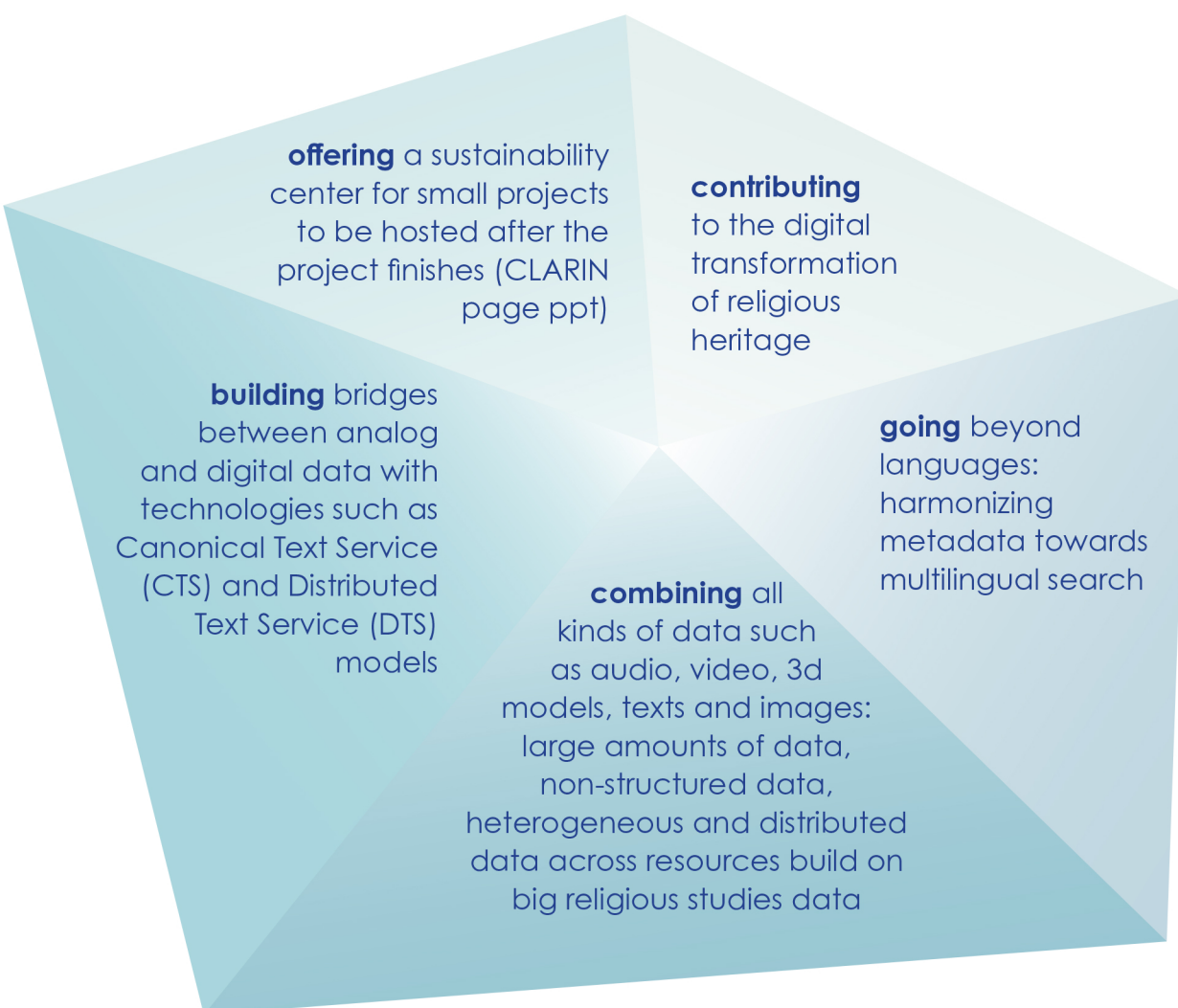


RESILIENCE addresses the need of a larger and infrastructured involvement of excellent scholars, producing fertile competencies, new knowledge, fresh approach and visible impact in terms of innovation within the scientific domain of religious studies. Such an involvement has been marked by several steps, such as:

- a)** RelReS, an emerging community funded by the programme INFRAIA-02-2017 – Integrating Activities for Starting Communities;
- b)** the H2020 call Religious diversity in Europe – past, present and future;
- c)** the vast platform of the European Academy of Religion; and
- d)** a first proposal submitted to the ESFRI Forum for a research infrastructure in religious studies, RESILIENCE/0.

All these activities created a critical and gravitational mass capable to give effectiveness to the scientific community of religious studies: such an effort was acknowledged in the ESFRI Roadmap 2018 with the definition of religious studies as a high potential strategic area. However, RESILIENCE demonstrates the excellence of a partnership which can prove to be effective; it describes how to achieve an implementation which is feasible and stable; it aims to express the capacity of the infrastructure to attract resources and competences. It will enrich the open science cloud with a series of challenges and opportunities which will preserve and improve the European leadership in the area of religious studies.

## RESILIENCE enables high quality research in religious studies by



## Our knowledge and competences

Religious studies; Philosophy and Cognitive Sciences; Sociology; Philology; Tools and Digital Editions; Data Management; Library Science; Communication; Training services; Publishing, editing and copyediting; Management and administration; Business modelling and business start-up

## Our disciplinary synergies

Applied sciences; Art/visual culture studies; Bio-ethics; Cognitive sciences + Neurosciences; Computer sciences; Digital Humanities; Economics; Environmental sciences; Health sciences; History; Labour studies/business ethics; Law; Music; Pedagogy/education; Sociology; Political Studies; Philosophy; Ethnology; Modern Language

## Projects linked to RESILIENCE

ReIReS; Refo500; RefoRC; EuARe European Academy of Religion; RETOPEA Religious Toleration and Peace; CATSOC financed by Academische Stichting Leuven; CLAVIS CLAVIUM; CLARIN; DARIAH; Cluster of excellence “Religion and Politics” – Project group: normativity; New Testament Textual Research; Scripta-PSL (internal university cluster project); Sofer Mahir and Tikkoun Sofrim; Religiöse Friedenswahrungund Friedensstiftung in Europa; EGO (European History Online); DARIAH-DE; UNESCO Chairs Unitwin Network; National Operative Programme – PON; Biblissima; National Research Programme “Cultural Heritage, National Memory and Society Development” (2018-2021); “Mediating Islam in the Digital Age” (MIDA) – 813547/MIDA; TrAiN (Tracing Authorship in Noise); eTRAP; CopOCR; LLC (Leipzig Linguistic Webservices)

## Our ambition

Establish RESILIENCE as the **central European resource** for excellently curated material for the teaching of religious theories and the history of religion

Establish RESILIENCE as an infrastructure that not only offers information but stimulates **engagement/further research**

From multidisciplinary to **interdisciplinarity**

Contributing to the take up of IT tools in Religious studies by designing **user friendly interfaces** that facilitate collaboration, integration and sharing of religious sources

**Challenge** national and international academic approaches to the role of religious studies in research and management

Providing access to resources to **digitally impaired audiences**

**Unified catalogue** of libraries, holdings, repositories, with multiple filters and tags

**Exploration** of future potentials