The GAP as a scientific partner of the Fachinformationsdienst Philosophy (specialist information service for philosophy)

The new Fachinformationsdienst Philosophie (specialist information service for philosophy, FID), funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG), is managed by the University and City Library of Cologne in close cooperation with the Department of Philosophy and the Cologne Center for eHumanities (CCEH). It replaces the former Special Subject Collections (Sondersammelgebiet, SSG) for philosophy, which until 2013 was the responsibility of the University Library Erlangen-Nuremberg. In contrast to this, however, the FID for philosophy no longer follows the principle of complete collection, but shall primarily provide mobile and quick or direct access to specialist literature and research-relevant information for scientific top-level demand. The FID for philosophy thereby aspires to cover the whole spectrum of philosophy in a historical and systematic way.

The combination of technical, library, and information technological expertise at its location in Cologne allows the FID for philosophy to accomplish this core task by:

1.) acquiring fee-based primary and secondary literature from Germany and abroad and making it available on a national basis (in the interest of faster access and more extensive possibilities of use, the focus of the FID’s acquisition component is intended to be on e-media);

2.) retrospectively digitalising and making accessible non-proprietary or public domain literature, especially philosophical editions that are not yet available in electronic form;

3.) providing centralised and structured access to the philosophical research resources freely available on the Internet;

and thereby

4.) establishing a state-of-the-art portal that – as a discovery-index – unites and makes searchable all services and integrated data sources offered by the FID for philosophy in one web interface, while at the same time – as a technical communication infrastructure – serving researchers’ and research projects’ visibility and networking.

In the implementation of this work program and the development of further innovative services, the interests and needs of philosophical research in Germany will be reflected by the intensive involvement of the German Society for Philosophy (DGPhil) and the Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP) as scientific partners and “resonance rooms”.

For further information and queries, please feel free to contact the scientific coordinator of the FID for philosophy, Maxime Mauriège (mauriege@ub.uni-koeln.de).