

A safe haven for born digital collections: the particular case of digital preservation at the International Institute of Social History

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IISH is a private archive with a special “safe haven” function

Two main consequences for born digital archives

- We are not in the position to put strict demands on our archival donors on how archives are transferred
- Trust of our archival donors has a very high priority

Indirect consequences

We receive collections:

- on all kinds of information carriers or by different digital means (file transfer services, cloud services, ftp)
- ...that are totally disordered, to highly ordered
- ...with or without descriptive metadata
- ...consist of a broad variety of file formats

For the born digital collections we need to earn the trust of our archival donors all over again

Consequences for IISH preservation

- Need for a (very) flexible infrastructure for the transfer of archives
- No list of preferred file formats, we have to handle a broad set of materials and file formats
- Need for a coordinated file format policy and normalisation strategy
- Pre-ingest seen as very important phase
- In some cases appraisal & selection essential
- Gain Trusted Digital Repository (TDR) status in form of DSA in 2017/2018
- Strict access regime
- Make sure information security is in order (ISO 27000)

archivematica