AR克斯 in the Open Project

In 2018 the California Digital Library (CDL) and DuraSpace (now L YRASIS) announced a collaboration aimed at building an open, international community around Archival Resource Keys (AR克斯) and their use as persistent identifiers in the open scholarly ecosystem.

Over 590 institutions (research, not-for-profit, private, government) across the world have registered to use AR克斯. They’ve created an estimated 3.2 billion AR克斯 with publicly resolvable links to objects (digital, physical, people, places, etc).

Since 2001, CDL has served as the incubator for AR克斯 infrastructure, consisting primarily of the specification, a registry of organizations using AR克斯, and a global resolver service. Now, to achieve long-term sustainability, the AR克斯 infrastructure must emerge from CDL and mature in partnership with multiple organizations and community participants to guide its future.

To jumpstart the process, CDL sought a collaboration with DuraSpace, an independent not-for-profit organization providing leadership for open technologies and communities such as Fedora, DSpace, and VIVO. With DuraSpace/LYRASIS’s help, the AR克斯 outreach efforts have included:

- Assembling and consulting with an AR克斯 advisory group,
- Developing procedures for shared maintenance of the organizational registry,
- Consulting with the wider AR克斯 community on requirements, priorities and models for shared community and infrastructure management,
- Guiding the AR克斯 specification through the IETF Informational RFC process, as well as,
- Participating in an initiative to gauge the scope of AR克斯 usage world-wide.

These activities are just a start, and we continue to grow. To become involved, please fill out our Expression of Interest form and our Initial Interest Survey. If you’d like to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in this project, please see the Project Communications page on this wiki.

To get started assigning AR克斯, check out the AR克斯 FAQ and request a NAAN.