Preface

During the first decade of its existence, the CLARIN research infrastructure for language resources and technology has made great strides in creating and maintaining an infrastructure to support the sharing, use and sustainability of language data and tools for research in the humanities and social sciences. It has grown into a network of 25 member and observer third-party countries with 70 CLARIN centres, over 900,000 records in its repositories and an immeasurable number of contributors, users, and trainers. As CLARIN transitions from the phase of conception and development to the phase of stable growth, CLARIN's explicit and implicit institutional memory is invaluable not only for all types of the current and future members of CLARIN's network but also for the educational institutions, funding bodies, policy makers, and fellow research infrastructures. While CLARIN's achievements have been individually documented in numerous workshop, conference and journal articles, they have never been collected and presented in a comprehensive, single volume, which was the main motivation behind the call for contributions for this book.

Our primary aim was to offer a volume that will be useful for researchers and lecturers in various fields of humanities and social science, such as linguistics, digital humanities, literary studies, history, media studies, communication studies, and political science. Moreover, as CLARIN is one of the first ERICs set up by the European Commission, we also wanted to make it relevant for everyone interested in EU Research and Development policy. In November 2020 we published a call for contributions documenting CLARIN's organization and its members, its goals and its functioning, the tools and resources hosted by the CLARIN infrastructure as well as prominent use cases and success stories. The response has far exceeded our expectations, with 31 submissions by 109 authors from all corners of the CLARIN network, which were then carefully reviewed by the editors. The process, which was completed in September 2022, resulted in an impressive volume of ca. 800 pages that is organized into 4 parts: Introduction to CLARIN, CLARIN Technical infrastructure, CLARIN Knowledge infrastructure and Research driven by CLARIN. We are especially proud that we are able to present a rich body of work that not only describes how CLARIN is built and what it offers but also hear directly from the researchers with highly diverse profiles and research interests whose work has benefitted from the infrastructure.

The editors would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of this volume, which, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, required extra flexibility and dedication: the authors of the chapters for their inspiring contributions, the technical editors for copyediting and CLARIN ERIC for their support

with making the book openly accessible. In particular, the editors would like to thank Paweł Kamocki for his support throughout the editing process, and Jennifer Ecker, whose role in handling the communication with the authors and with the publisher cannot be overestimated. The editors accept full responsibility for all mistakes and shortcomings in this volume.

<div align="right">Darja Fišer & Andreas Witt</div>