



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2025–2027

STRATEGISCHER KOMPASS 2035

NUTZENDE
IM ZENTRUM

AUTOMATISIERUNG &
DIGITALISIERUNG
ALS ANTRIEB

STARKE
VERNETZUNG
NACH AUSSEN

SINNVOLLES
SCHAFFEN
IM INNEREN

The vision, mission and values of the German National Library (DNB) and the guidelines that will guide the DNB's work until 2035 are set out in the Strategic Compass 2035. This is where the broad strategic lines are drawn and the basic course of the National Library is set. It is aimed at a wide audience: the staff of the DNB, its committees and partner institutions, publishers, authors, users, the library and information community, cultural, educational and scientific institutions and the interested public.

As Germany's central archive library, we have defined four guidelines for our actions until 2035 and, based on these, we have set thirteen strategic priorities for 2025 to 2027.

Users at the centre

We see ourselves as a reliable source, working to ensure that our collections are used as freely as possible while preserving them, and providing participatory and inspiring access to promote freedom of information and expression.

Automation and digitalisation as the driving forces

We are pioneers in the contemporary, user-orientated development of cultural heritage and the networking of digital data and processes.

Strong external networking

Together with our national and international partners, we strengthen collaborative networks for an innovative and resource-efficient knowledge community and play a leading role in this.

Meaningful work inside

Meaning and values guide our management and working culture, putting people at the centre of everything we do – both as users and as employees.

#1 For democracy, the rule of law and freedom of expression, against racism and anti-Semitism

#2 Modern development of the Law regarding the German National Library

#3 Systematic expansion of the collection

#4 Improving the quality of stay at both locations

#5 Development of the German Music Archive into an archive with a cultural mediation function

#6 Establishing automated processes for all types of materials and integrating them with intellectual processes

#7 Automation of the logistics process for the processing of incoming media and the storage of analogue media

#8 Renewing our technical infrastructure and automating processes

#9 Expanding services and access to our data and collections

#10 Develop our expertise in artificial intelligence, and consolidate the use of AI-based processes

#11 Driving innovation in advanced technologies, methodologies and standards and translating them into practice

#12 Provide barrier-free digital (administrative) services to all employees

#13 Promoting long-term, sustainable solutions and strengthening the resilience and agility of the organisation

#1

For democracy, the rule of law and freedom of expression, against racism and anti-Semitism

To position DNB as a place that stands up for democracy, the rule of law and freedom of expression, and against racism and anti-Semitism, we are raising our profile and strengthening our commitment to preventing anti-Semitism.

We position ourselves as an organisation actively committed to democracy, the rule of law and freedom of expression, while taking a firm stand against racism and anti-Semitism. We therefore recognise the fundamental importance of these values for an open and fair society and are determined to do our part to promote and strengthen them.

To achieve this goal, we are working specifically to increase the visibility of the DNB as a place of democracy. Through targeted public relations

and events, we are establishing the DNB as a permanent place that stands for open exchange of ideas and the promotion of democratic values.

Furthermore, we are strengthening our commitment to the prevention of antisemitism. To this end, we are raising awareness among our own staff and participating in the development of programs and initiatives to combat anti-Semitism in society.

Our goal is to establish the DNB as a place of tolerance, respect, and diversity, and to strengthen its role as an active player in fighting against discrimination and prejudice. By clearly affirming our values and taking concrete actions, we will contribute to promoting an inclusive and fair society in which every individual is respected and heard.



#2

Modern development of the Law regarding the German National Library

We are committed to modernizing the foundation of our work as an active cultural memory, the Law regarding the German National Library (DNBG). In doing so, we emphasise our contribution to society and to the promotion of democratic understanding.

We see ourselves as an important part of society, tasked with collecting and preserving Germany's written and musical heritage of the 20th and 21st centuries for future generations. Through our comprehensive and unbiased collection efforts, we make a valuable contribution to safeguarding the Free democratic basic order.

To ensure that we can continue to fulfill our mission in a contemporary way and remain an active cultural memory alongside other national

and international institutions, an adjustment to our legal basis is necessary.



GESETZ ÜBER DIE
DEUTSCHE
NATIONALBIBLIOTHEK



#3

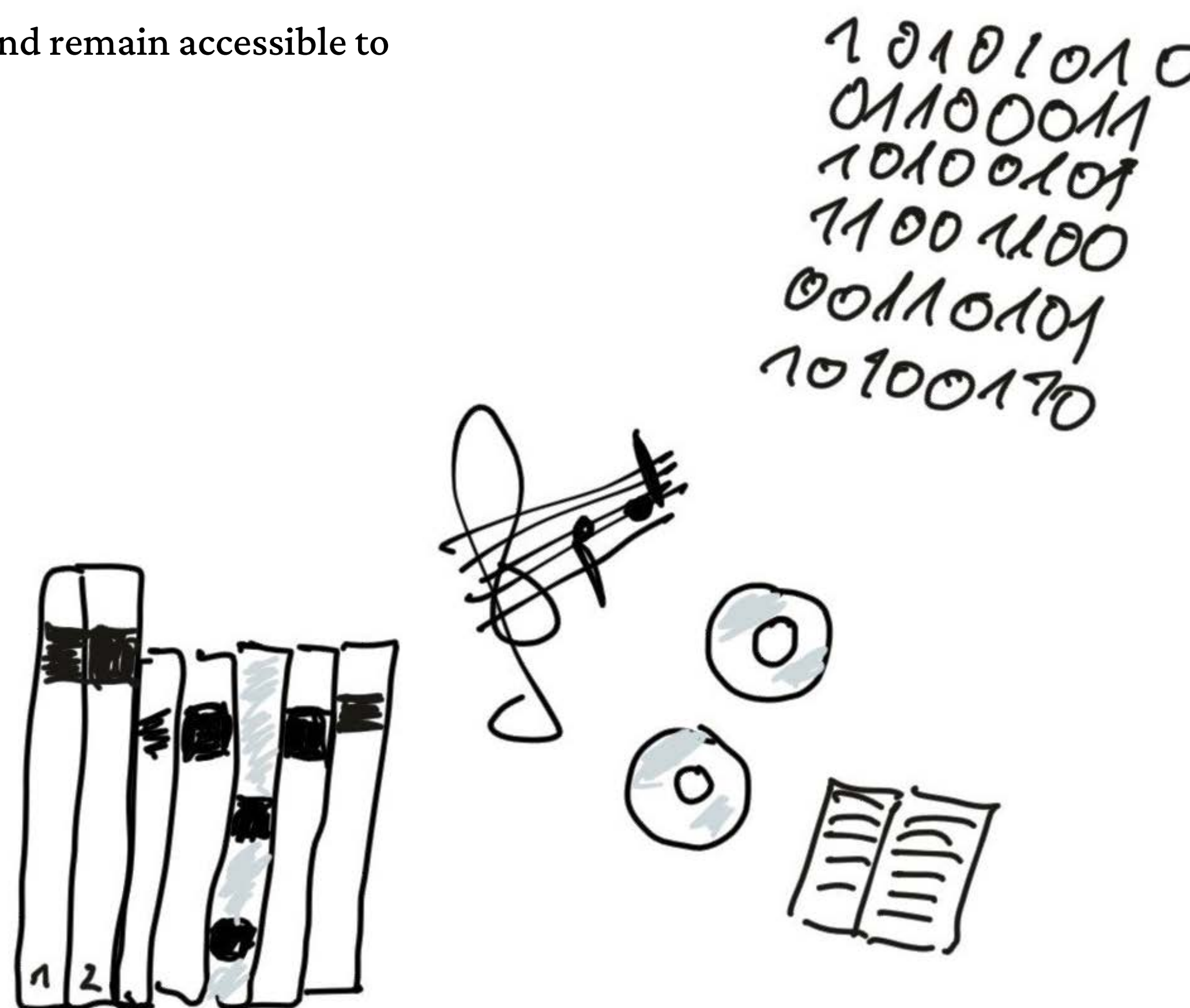
Systematic expansion of the collection

To offer our users an attractive and wide-ranging collection for their research, we are systematically expanding our holdings.

To provide a broad and appealing range of resources for everyone using our collections – whether individuals or institutions – we are continuously and systematically expanding our holdings. Our focus is on filling gaps in our collection of online publications and exploring new areas, such as the collection of music online publications.

We are also expanding our services for cooperative collection efforts, enabling effective collaboration with other institutions and facilitating access to a wide spectrum of resources. Additionally, we are initiating the creation of a new web archive to ensure that these important digital contents

are preserved long-term and remain accessible to future generations.



#4

Improving the quality of stay at both locations

We are improving the quality of stay at our locations, enhancing their appeal for users with diverse needs.

We continuously work on improving the quality of stay at our locations to increase their attractiveness for users with varying requirements, while also creating an inclusive space that is accessible to all. The importance of DNB's physical spaces was underscored not only by the pandemic. Since our analogue and most of our digital collections can only be accessed on-site in Leipzig and Frankfurt am Main, we are developing a spatial concept based on participatory usage scenarios.

By collaborating with associations and organizations advocating for marginalized groups, we tailor our services to meet their specific needs. This establishes us as a place of diversity and

respectful interaction, open to everyone, providing space for education, connection, inspiration, creativity, and exchange.



#5

Development of the German Music Archive into an archive with a cultural mediation function

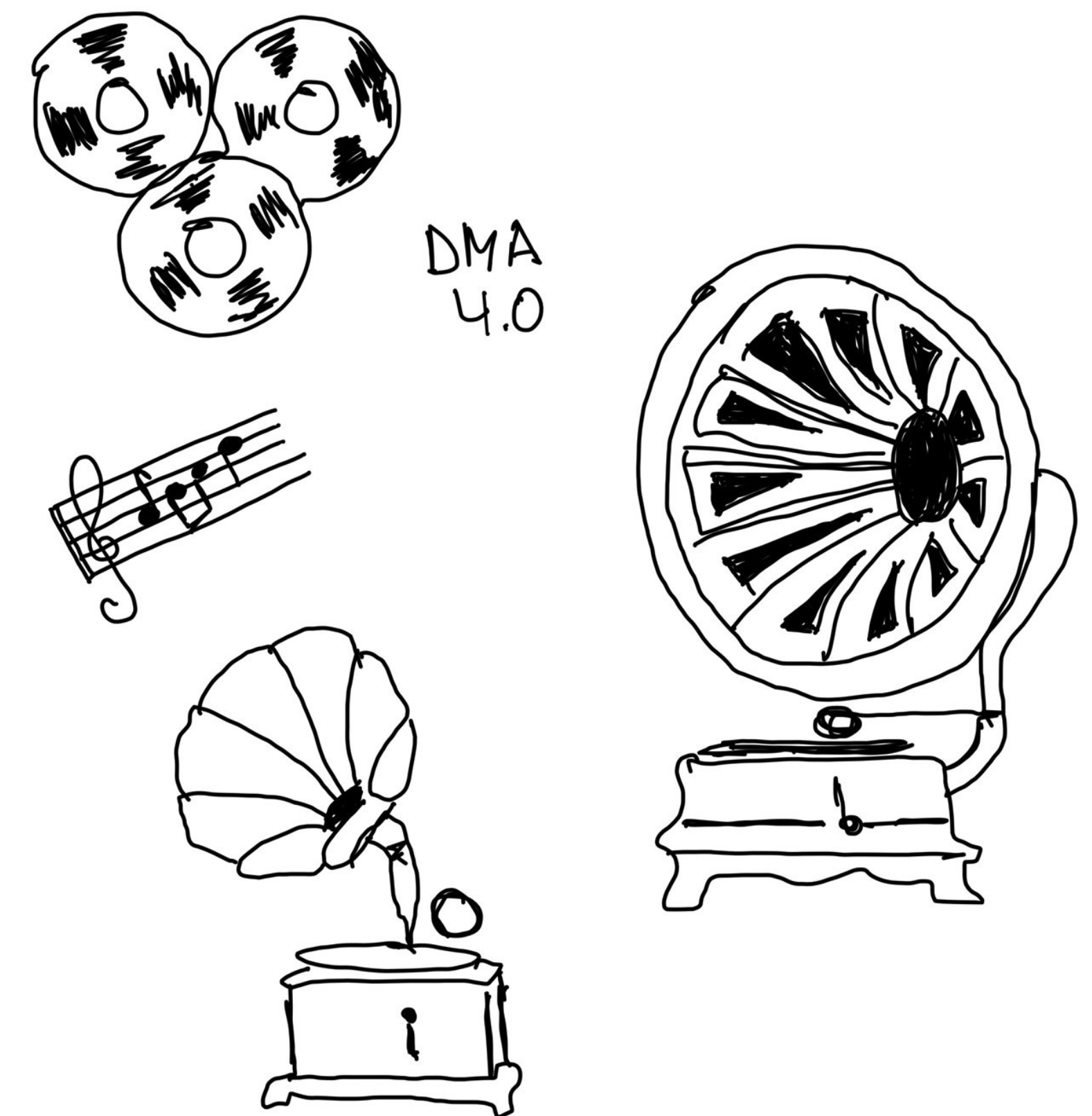
We develop the Deutsches Musikarchiv (DMA) into an archive with a cultural mediation function.

We are developing the Deutsches Musikarchiv into a living archive with a strong focus on cultural mediation. In this way, we are strengthening the DMA's role as a central institution for the collection and dissemination of the musical heritage and cultural expressions of the 20th and 21st centuries in Germany.

We see the DMA not only as an archive, but also as a dynamic platform that reflects the diversity of the popular music landscape of the 20th and 21st centuries and actively contributes to cultural education.

Our aim is to make the DMA a place of encounter, exchange and inspiration that is accessible to

both professionals and the general public. By positioning the DMA as a vibrant cultural centre, we will help to celebrate the importance of music as part of our cultural heritage while inspiring and supporting new generations.



#6

Establishing automated processes for all types of materials and integrating them with intellectual processes

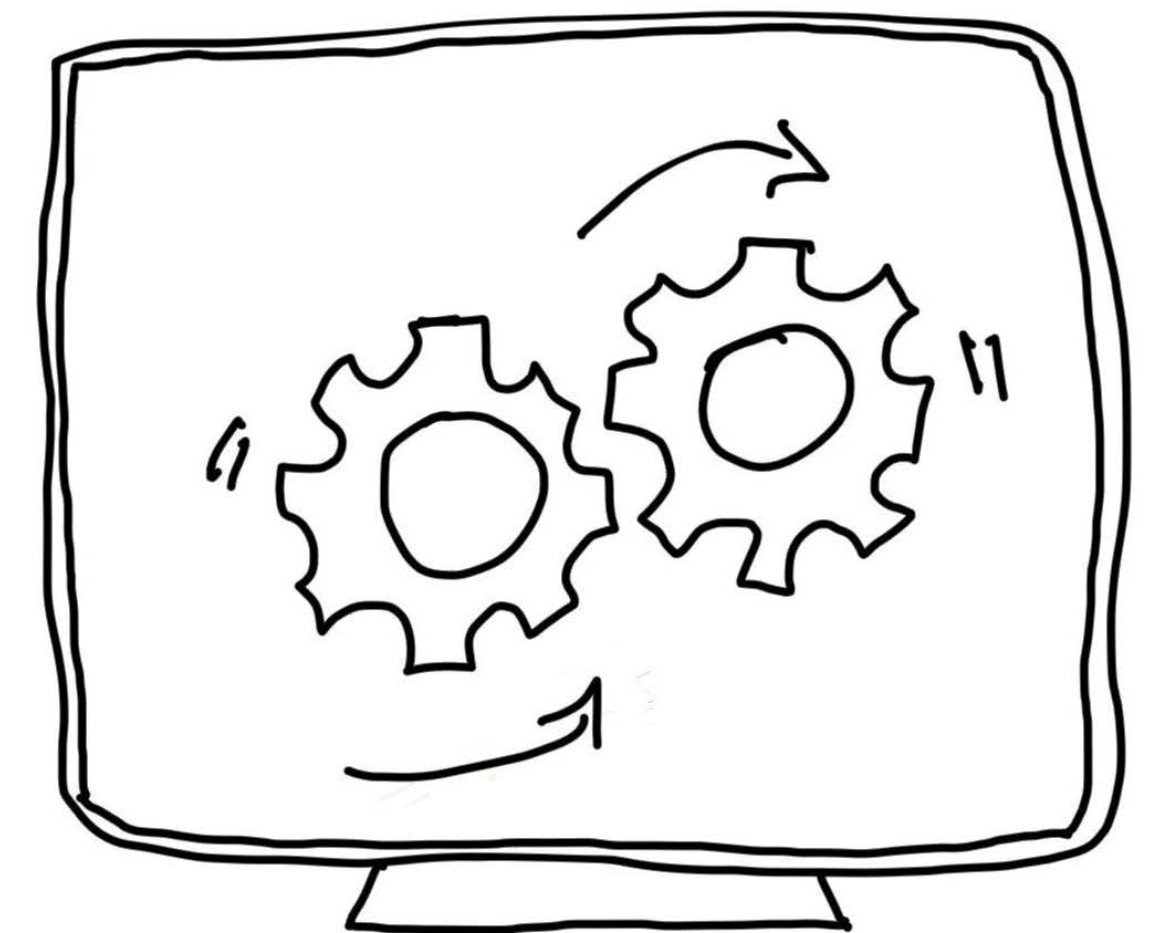
In order to continue to ensure the modern acquisition, cataloguing and management of cultural heritage on the basis of transparently defined quality standards, we are establishing further automated processes for all types of material and interlinking these with the intellectual processes.

We continue to innovate and improve the quality of our processes for acquiring and cataloguing all types of material. We will continue to automate acquisition, collection development and cataloguing processes and link them to intellectual processes for all types of material and across material types.

At the same time, we are developing a quality approach to our cataloguing data, based on collaborative and automated cataloguing, to

ensure that our data remains reliable, transparent and trustworthy. These measures will ensure that our users always have access to reliable information, regardless of the type of material or cataloguing method used.

By developing automated acquisition and cataloguing processes and integrating them with intellectual processes, we are placing a clear focus on efficiency and excellence in our work.

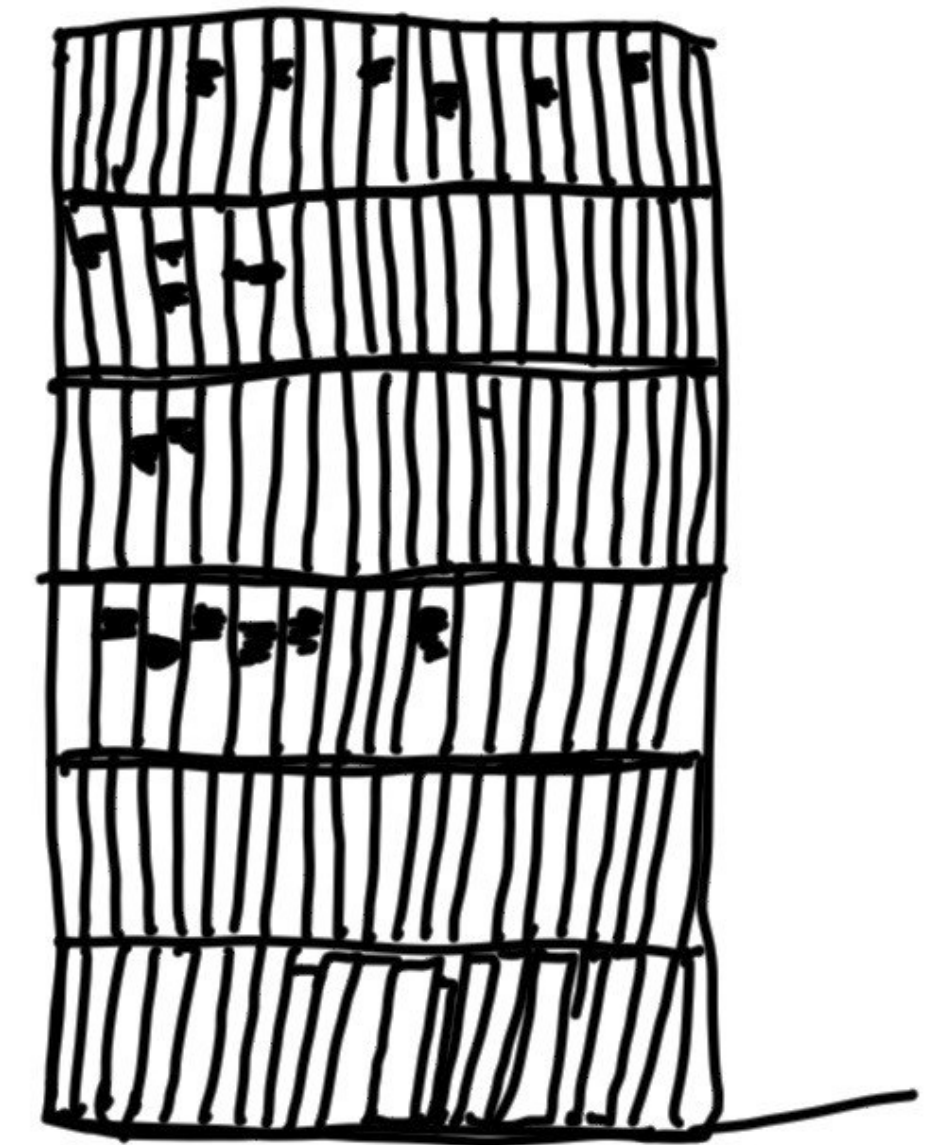
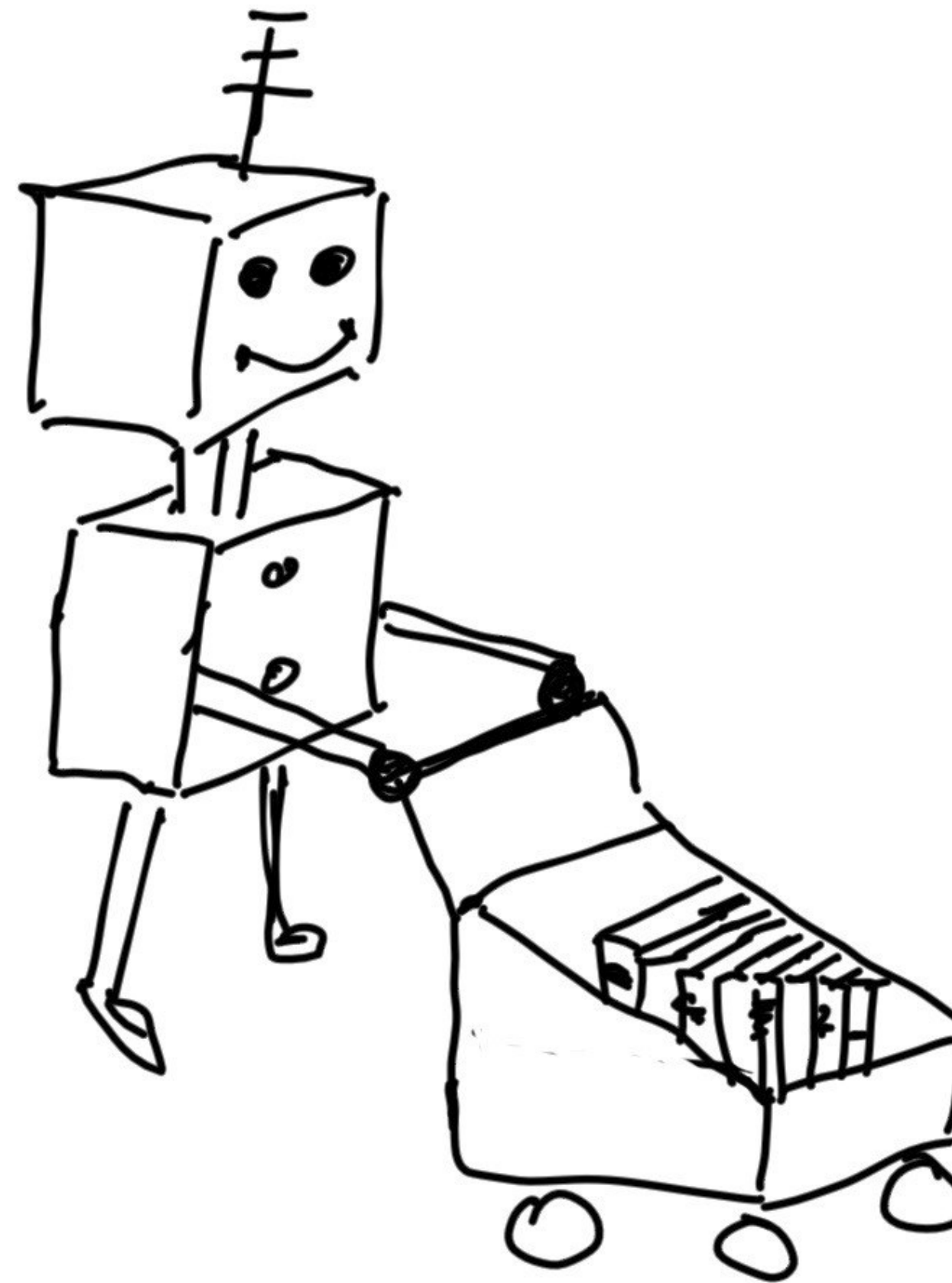


#7

Automation of the logistics process for the processing of incoming media and the storage of analogue media

We automate the logistics process of processing incoming media and storing analogue media.

In order to use our storage capacity as efficiently and effectively as possible, we are automating the logistics process for analogue media works to a large extent. This requires automated processing of incoming media and storage of media using warehouse management software. By automating the logistics process for analogue media, we are creating the conditions for efficient and sustainable management of our analogue collections, which we will expand with automated storage systems from around 2030, for example as part of the fifth expansion of the Leipzig site.



#8

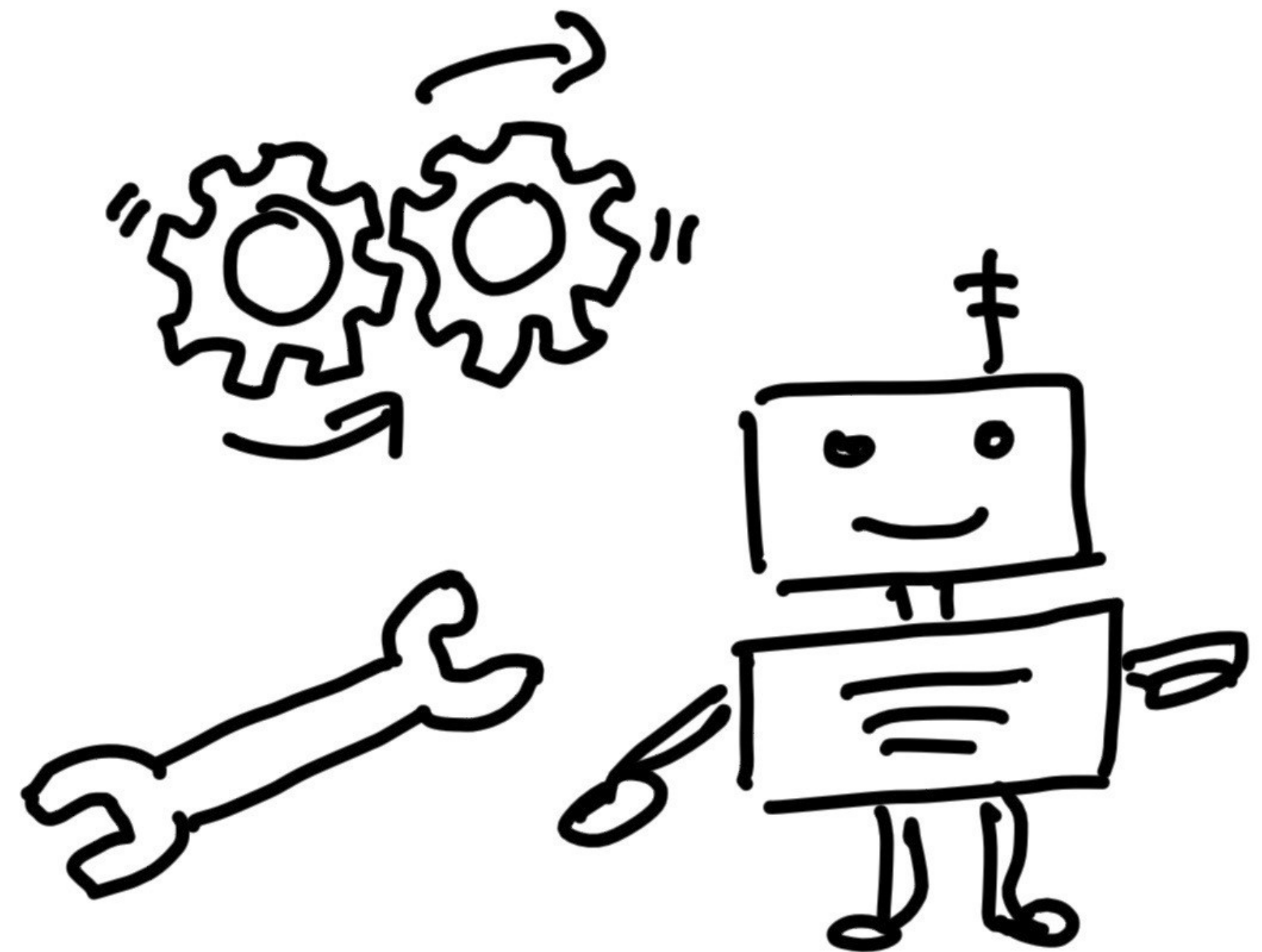
Renewing our technical infrastructure and automating processes

In order to create a modern, secure and ergonomic library system environment for all business processes for us and our partners, we are modernising our technical infrastructure and automating processes.

We are making measurable progress in renewing our technical infrastructure (IT and library systems and tools) and in automating all processes from acquisition, cataloguing and management to delivery and archiving of our metadata and digital objects.

By renewing our technical infrastructure and implementing modern library systems, we are creating a modern, secure and ergonomic environment that will enable us and our partners to work more efficiently and provide high quality

services. This includes all business processes from acquisition to cataloguing and delivery.



#9

Expanding services and access to our data and collections

We are strengthening our role as a partner to the scientific community and reaching new audiences through expanded services and access to our data and collections, particularly for computational analysis.

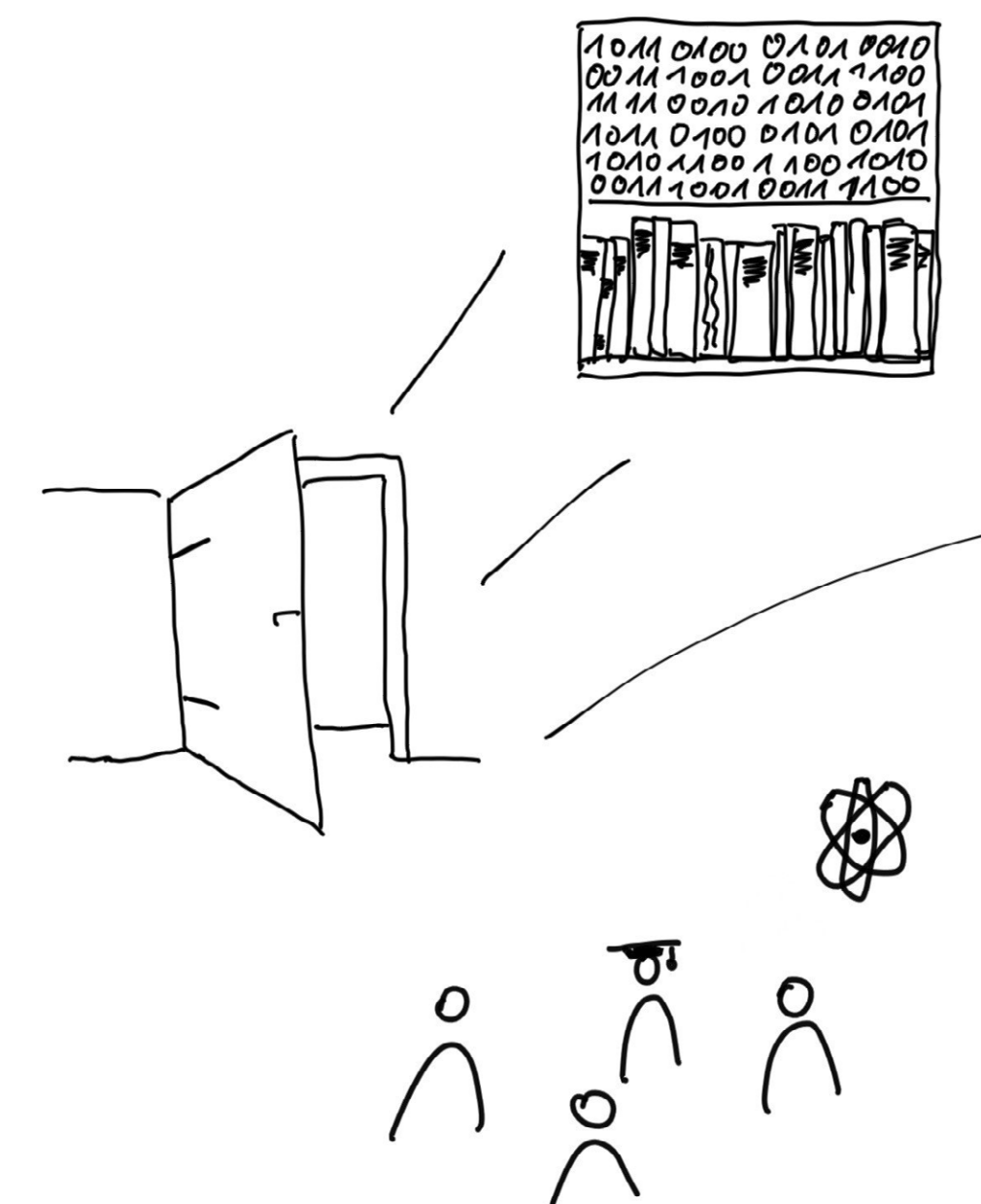
In our role as a research library, we are a partner to the scientific community. We provide access to our data and collections. We do this by offering specific services to defined communities and by developing new services that meet the interests of existing user groups. With the involvement of key stakeholders, we are developing a concept for a portfolio of services related to data- and object-based research projects for the scientific community. On this basis, we will establish two new services by 2027.

We are continuously improving our data offerings and services to attract new groups of users and provide broader access to our rich data and collections.

We also offer our data for machine analysis to reach new audiences. We enable users to compile their own collections in DNBLab or on our portal, and have successfully implemented the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) for this purpose. We offer access to ten free digital object collections through an IIIF viewer. We have also upgraded DNBLab and implemented a prototype data portal to give our users faster and more varied access to their digital needs.

To this end, we are integrating AI-based processes. In our catalogue, we are offering barrier-free, modern and low-threshold access to our holdings.

We are establishing modern, software-assisted workflows for digitising our holdings, which will help us to respond more quickly and in a more diverse way to users' requests for digital media.



#10

Develop our expertise in artificial intelligence, and consolidate the use of AI-based processes

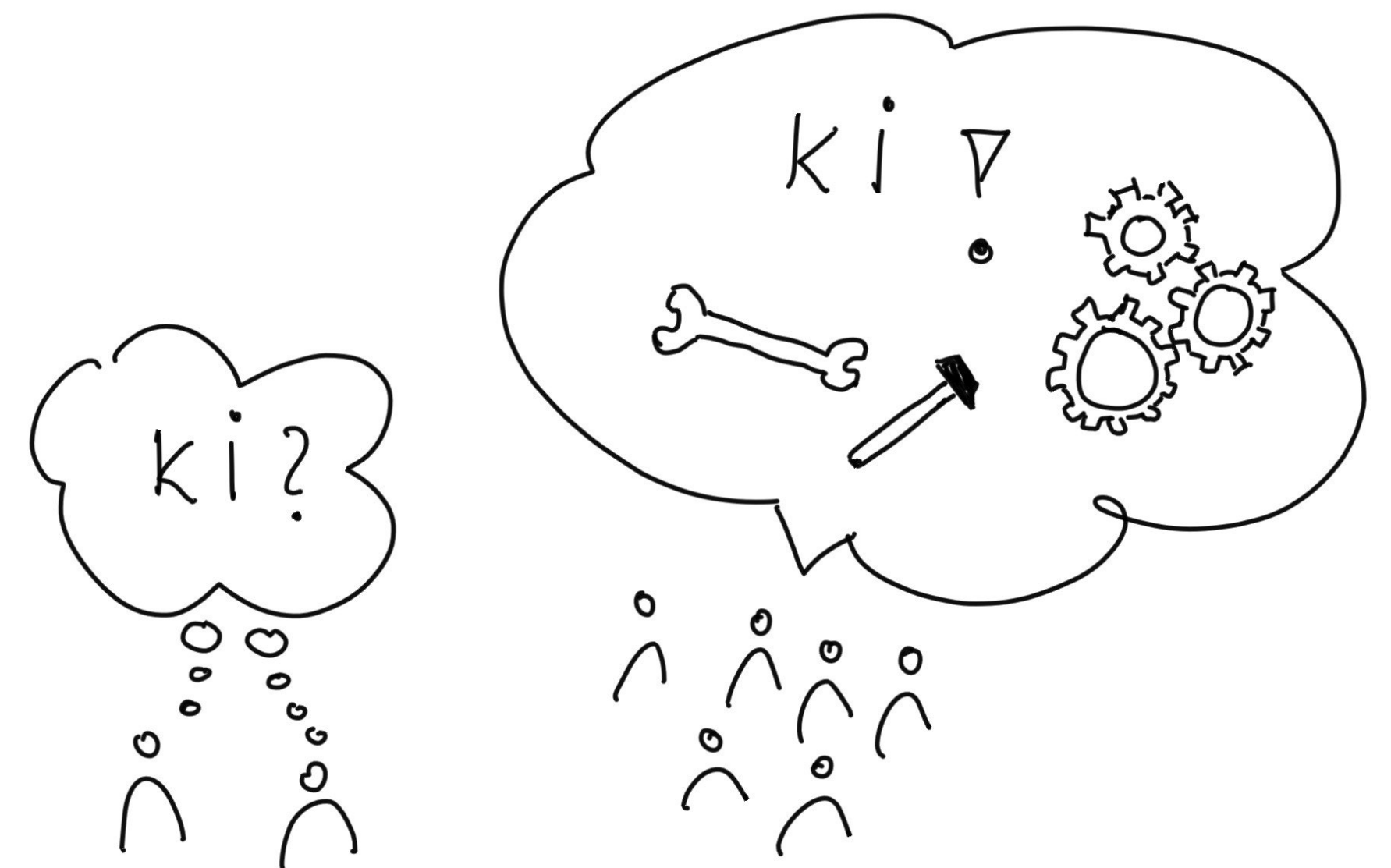
We continue to develop our expertise in artificial intelligence and consolidate the use of AI-based processes in our services and applications.

We are continuously developing our expertise in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and using AI-based processes for our services and applications to unlock the potential of AI in fulfilling our legal mandate. We are successfully establishing ourselves as a centre of expertise for AI-based processes, services and applications in the library sector, while ensuring their responsible use.

We are strengthening our expertise in AI through targeted investment in research, development and specialists. This enables us to develop and implement innovative AI-based solutions that make our services more efficient, accessible and user-friendly. At the same time, we are addressing

the ethical and legal issues related to the use and application of AI processes in the library sector.

We offer a range of AI-based processes, services and applications that not only optimise our own workflows, but also add value for our users.



#11

Driving innovation in advanced technologies, methodologies and standards and translating them into practice

As a strong player and important node in (knowledge) networks and developer communities, we are a driver of innovation for modern technologies, methods and standards and their transfer into practice.

As a key player and central hub in knowledge networks and developer communities, we strive to play a leading role. We see ourselves as a driver of innovation, actively promoting modern technologies, methodologies and standards and driving their practical implementation. Our ambition goes hand in hand with a respectful and open attitude towards our partners and stakeholders. We believe that our collaborative and inclusive approach will benefit the development and implementation of innovative

technologies and standards for the entire knowledge community.

We focus on actively shaping communities around the application of artificial intelligence and the development of knowledge graphs in culture and science. In doing so, we take an inclusive approach that aims to bring together diverse perspectives and expertise.

Cooperative data networks such as the GND network can be explored through visualisations and interfaces. The organisational and infrastructural foundations for low-threshold collaborative data creation have been created. By increasing the proportion of collaboratively collected data and intensifying our cataloguing partnerships, we have significantly increased our reach and impact. We believe that collaborative

action is the key to realising the full potential of our cultural heritage.



#12

Provide barrier-free digital (administrative) services to all employees

We operate digitally in a meaningful and networked way. We provide barrier-free, digital (administrative) services to all employees in a time-saving, seamless and user-friendly way.

We consistently focus on a digital and connected way of working to create an efficient and user-friendly working environment for all employees. We provide barrier-free, digital services that are time-saving, seamless and user-friendly for all employees.

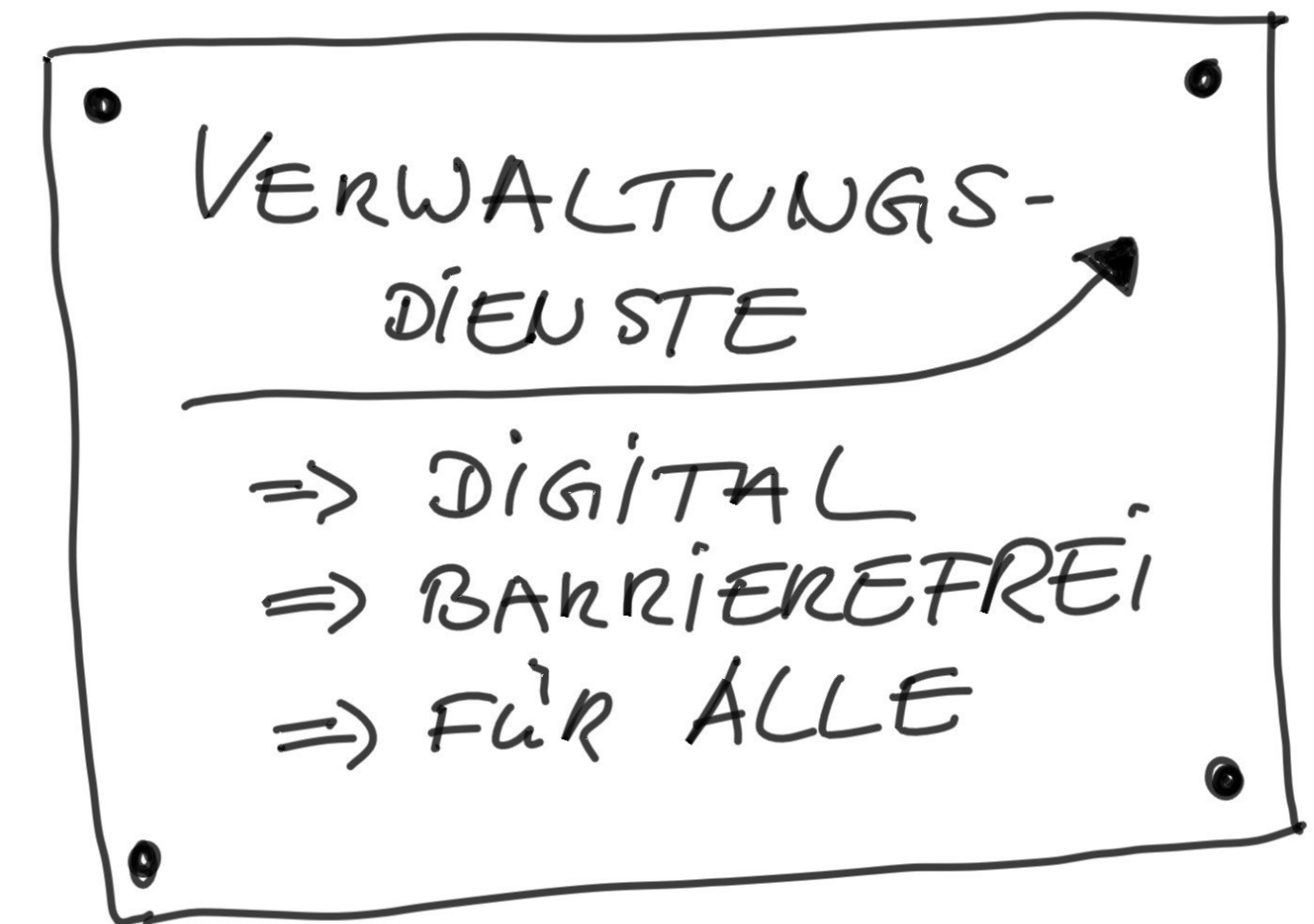
An important step in this direction is the introduction of a digital contract management process. This not only optimises our workflows, but also increases efficiency and transparency.

We are also expanding the use of the electronic file system “e-Akte” to create a paperless environment

and facilitate access to important documents. We are introducing Employee Self-Services to give our staff more autonomy and flexibility in all their administrative tasks.

We are also implementing a room booking system to ensure efficient and smooth use of our premises. We continue to develop our access system to ensure secure and convenient access to our local sites.

These steps are part of our ongoing efforts to increase the efficiency of our administrative processes, optimise workflows and provide a modern and user-friendly working environment for our employees.



#13

Promoting long-term, sustainable solutions and strengthening the resilience and agility of the organisation

Our actions shape the system: we enable diversity of action to develop adaptive and flexible organisational structures. Long-term, sustainable solutions are promoted and the resilience and agility of the organisation are strengthened. Our staff live an open, discursive approach to transformation.

We continuously develop our organisational structure and processes to meet the requirements of the tasks defined in our strategic priorities. Through targeted measures and adjustments, we ensure that our structures and processes are optimally aligned with the challenges and goals of our institution.

We see this development as a necessary and important step to enable us to respond flexibly and effectively to the ever-changing environment.

By strengthening our organisation and processes, we will be better equipped to implement our strategic priorities and ensure our long-term success.

We are also reviewing our management principles and aligning them with our strategic challenges. We empower our managers to effectively lead and motivate our teams to achieve our goals together. Managers support employees in actively shaping change.

Through these measures, we are strengthening DNB's resilience and agility and creating the conditions for a sustainable and successful future. Our aim is to promote a culture of change and continuous improvement, with innovation and adaptability as the driving forces.



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