

# CO-OPERAS IN

## Manifesto

### General introduction

CO-OPERAS - open access in the European research area through scholarly communication - IN aims to build a bridge between SSH data and the EOSC, widening the concept of “research data” to include all of the types of digital research output linked to scholarly communication that are, in SSH, part of the research process. The goal is to contribute to a better integration of SSH research objects into the EOSC, as a major component of the IFDS.

One of the main challenges the social sciences and humanities need to address to achieve that goal is the fragmented nature of research fields, across many disciplines and subdisciplines, usually grounded in regional, national and linguistic specific communities: as a result, code multilingualism is a clear trait of these disciplines where English as a Lingua Franca is far from being the sole means to communicate research results. Multilingualism has to be properly addressed in order to ensure access and reuse of SSH data.

The fragmentation of SSH data across different types, formats, languages, disciplines or even institutions is a major impediment to their discovery from outside the specific and often small communities where they were produced. As a consequence, machine readable tools and materials are rarely available and often incomplete or non-interoperable, hence accessibility and reuse are far from optimal in these fields. These issues are perceived as strategically important priorities by the research community.

On the other hand, SSH disciplines have undergone major changes in their communication practices, driven by the development of digital technologies and the open science paradigm. For example the boundaries of the “scholarly record” are now blurring, and the research monograph, which was until recently, the primary form of research dissemination in the humanities, is being associated with or even challenged by technical innovations such as text and data mining, open annotations, data embedding, and collaborative writing.

In the social sciences and the humanities, “Big Data” approaches are not sufficient to address researchers’ needs in terms of data management and exploitation. SSH data often need to be very precisely qualified, described, curated and managed: they are smart and small data, which means they have to be managed to be integrated in the EOSC landscape according to contextually appropriate, specific protocols.

The concept of “continuous communication” underpinning the SSH research lifecycle holds an immense potential as an inspiring model of Open Science with direct societal impact.

This is where CO-OPERAS can make an impact: an Implementation Network based upon a solid international framework, built through strong collaboration, and years of consensus building between more than 36 partners from 13 countries, representing diverse stakeholders and service providers encompassing the entire cycle of scholarly communication in SSH.

The core strategy of CO-OPERAS IN is integration rather than fragmentation, and coordination rather than competition.

CO-OPERAS IN aims to bring the FAIR principles into the SSH research environment, leveraging existing scholarly communication services and platforms to connect them as components of an emerging EOSC, and more broadly to the global SSH communities .

CO-OPERAS IN building blocks are

- Discovery services, based on ISIDORE technology
- Certification services, based on the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)
- Research for Society collaboration service, based on Hypotheses blog platform.
- New services derived from HIRMEOS project deliverables (H2020 funded).

The building blocks rely on a network that includes strong representation of scholarly practices across Europe.

However, our aim is to be open and inclusive, working with global partners to build consensus around best practice in different communities for FAIR data implementation and the development and uptake of tools and services adapted to the evolving and often community specific demands.

### **Purpose of the IN**

The main purpose of the CO-OPERAS IN is the FAIRification of the research process and resources in the SSH, leveraging both on building services, sharing standards and on changing the communication culture in SSH. A second purpose is the contribution of CO-OPERAS network to the FAIR standards from the SSH data.

### **Overarching principles of Operation**

We commit to comply with the Rules of Engagement of Go FAIR Implementation Networks.

### **Targeted objectives for the IFDS**

To improve **Findability**, CO-OPERAS IN will implement

- **Identification services**, already tested in the HIRMEOS project
- **Metadata enrichment**, with data publications crosslinking. It will promote dialogue within specific sub disciplines around minimal meta data structures and content. Laying the groundwork towards interoperability.
- **A discovery tool**, scaling up Isidore, which addresses also the multilingualism issue matching the metadata against controlled vocabularies in different languages
- **A certification service**, to standardise peer review practices among university presses and other academic publishers

To ensure **Access**, CO-OPERAS IN will tackle

- Searching for consensus on minimal metadata content in different communities that could eventually lead to interoperability
- **Metadata integration into a single point of access/research**, even though outputs and data are preserved in different repositories/platforms

**Interoperability** can be assured through

- **Common adoption of standards** as piloted in the HIRMEOS project and the CO-OPERAS standards working group
- **Metadata enrichment** managing multilingualism
- **Common services** for the different dissemination platforms participating to CO-OPERAS
- An interoperable publishing toolbox (as planned in the Publishing Tool Working Group)

In order to guarantee **Reuse**, CO-OPERAS IN will

- Help spreading best **licensing practices** through CO-OPERAS Best Practices working group
- Improve the use of Open **Annotation tools piloted by HIRMEOS project**

- Boost the use of **Text and Data Mining**, to facilitate the transformation of texts into machine readable data
- **“activate research”** through the Research for Society service
- Provide **Metrics and the corresponding APIs** to give funders and publishers feedback (e.g HIRMEOS)

### Primary Tasks

- 1) **Plan and Roadmap** – to be developed within 3 months
- 2) **Communication tools and practices:** as CO-OPERAS network, we are already connected via a Core Group of international partners, providing governance and coordination
  - Working groups, involving the wide community of stakeholders already part of the network: publishers, research performing organizations, universities, libraries. In particular the Advocacy Working Group is contributing to that work.
  - Slack working space, with a general channel and specific topic-oriented ones
- 3) **Business Plan**
  - European Calls (InfraDev, InfraEOSC, SWAFS)
  - Grants from private foundations (e.g. Compagnia di San Paolo in Italy)

### Deliverables

#### Deliverables related to technical developments:

- 1) Peer-Review Certification standards
- 2) **Discovery: Scaling-up the already existing platform**
- 3) **Suggest identification and eventual mapping of infrastructure components in specific contexts and fields, or for particular parts of the research life cycle.**
- 4) Interoperability services and tools
- 5) Metrics tools

#### Deliverables related to cultural change:

- 6) Guidelines on Small, Smart and Human Data for researchers and services providers
- 7) Analysis and dissemination of legal and ethical issues in SSH and specific sub disciplines along with engagement in trying to promote best practice
- 8) Workshop involving the research community and the other stakeholders
- 9) Survey on users' needs

### Membership list

We consider this Manifesto to be one way by which the undersigned stakeholders can speak with one voice on a number of critical issues that are of generic importance to the objectives of FAIR, and on which we feel we have reached consensus. The CO-OPERAS IN aims to expand beyond its current international framework and will reach out to partners and communities globally.

Marina Angelaki - National Hellenic Research Foundation/National Documentation Centre - Greece

Lorenzo Armando - Lexis Compagnia Editoriale in Torino - Italy

Jean-Pierre Caminade, former European Affairs Officer for Research Infrastructures at French Ministry of High Education and Research.

Nicola Cavalli - Ledizioni - Milano - Italy

Ron Dekker - CESSDA ERIC - Norway

Francesca Di Donato - Net7 srl - Italy

Suzanne Dumouchel - CNRS (Huma-Num) - France

Jennifer Edmond, DARIAH-EU - France

Eelco Ferwerda - OAPEN - Netherlands

Elena Giglia - University of Turin - Italy

Michael Kaiser - Max Weber Stiftung - Germany

Peter Kraker - Open Knowledge Maps - Austria

Nicolas Larrousse - CNRS (Huma-Num) - France

Delfim Leão - University of Coimbra (UC Digitalis) - Portugal

Maciej Maryl - Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (Digital Humanities Centre) - Poland

Pierre Mounier - EHESS (OpenEdition) - France

Tanja Niemann - Érudit.org - Montréal, Canada

Abel Packer - SciELO - São Paulo - Brasil

Paulin Ribbe - Université Aix-Marseille - France

Gino Roncaglia - Università della Tuscia - Viterbo - Italy

Federico Ruberti - Net7 srl - Italy

Matevž Rudolf – Ljubljana University Press, Faculty of Arts - Slovenia

Lara Speicher - UCL Press, UK

Irakleitos Souyioultzoglou - National Hellenic Research Foundation/National Documentation Centre - Greece

Jadranka Stojanovski - University of Zadar / Ruđer Bošković Institute - Zadar / Zagreb - Croatia

Antónia Pedroso de Lima - CRIA / ISCTE-IUL Lisboa - Portugal

Angela Fedi - University of Torino - Italia

Aleš Pogačnik - Znanstvenoraziskovalni center Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti / Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) - Slovenia

Demmy Verbeke - KU Leuven - Belgium

Enrico Pasini, Centro interdipartimentale per la digitalizzazione MeDiHum (presidente), Università di Torino, Italia

Ermanno Malaspina, Centro interdipartimentale per la digitalizzazione MeDiHum (direttore), Università di Torino, Italia

**Timeline**

24 months

**Date :** December 2018