Open scholarly communication in Europe

OPERAS – distributed Research Infrastructure

Main goal: to coordinate and pool university-led scholarly communication activities in Europe, particularly in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), in view of enabling Open Science as the standard practice.

Outcome: more efficient, fair, inclusive and sustainable scholarly communication ecosystem for European researchers.
OPERAS coordinates services, practices and technology across main actors in the SSH scholarly communication in Europe

• to provide joint services;
• to mutualize activities of strategic scholarly communication actors and stakeholders (research institutions, libraries, platforms, publishers, funders) in their transition to Open Science;
• to develop common good practice standards for digital open access publishing, infrastructures, services, editorial qualities, business models and funding streams;
• to explore alternative measurements of impact in the SSH;
• and to offer sustained training along common standards to researchers and other stakeholders on all of the above.

OPERAS final aim is

• to clarify the landscape of Open Access books for libraries and funders through a single certification service based on DOAB;
• to improve the accessibility and dissemination of research output in the SSH through a single discovery service based on Isidore;
• and to increase the impact of multidisciplinary research on societal challenges through a single research for society service based on Hypotheses.

OPERAS Services will be deployed at 3 levels following the principle of subsidiarity:

1. Upgrade existing publishing services through
   a. Communication and advocacy for Open Science
   b. Training for publishers and researchers
   c. Research & Development to provide innovative tools
   d. Development of sustainable and fair business models for open access

2. Integrate to the European Open Science Cloud through
   a. Standardization of technologies and information systems
   b. Adoption of scientific and editorial best practices
   c. Interoperability with other infrastructures at different levels

3. Offer unified services in the European Research Area
   a. OPERAS Certification Service (DOAB)
   b. OPERAS Discovery Service (Isidore)
   c. OPERAS Research for Society Service (Hypotheses)
OPERAS gathers 34 organizations from 11 European countries and is coordinated by a 9 members Core Group. OPERAS is led from France by OpenEdition.
OPERAS-D supports the 9 main partners (“core group”) of the OPERAS network in the development of a European e-infrastructure for open access publications in the SSH.

The project addresses long-term requirements for the development of the e-infrastructure and community building, as well as seeks to expand other interested parties within and beyond Europe, and in diverse fields of the SSH.

As a key objective, the OPERAS-D project has prepared a design study that defines governance models, scientific and technical concepts for future services that the infrastructure will provide, and has established a roadmap to achieve these goals according to the requirements for long term sustainability.

OPERAS-D engages the current and future partners in the OPERAS network to strengthen the community and develop the network of partners participating in OPERAS across Europe, specifically in central European countries.

**Partners:** CNRS/CLEO, KU Research, Max Weber Stiftung (MWS), National Documentation Centre (EKT), OAPEN

**Duration:** 18 months from January 2017

www.operas-eu.org/operas-d

HIRMEOS (High Integration of Research Monographs in the European Open Science infrastructure) focuses on the monograph as a significant mode of scholarly communication in the SSH and tackles the main obstacles of the full integration of publishing platforms supporting open access monographs.

The project improves 5 Open Access books publishing platforms (OpenEdition Books, OAPEN Library, EKT Open Book Press, Ubiquity Press, Göttingen University Press) enhancing their technical capacities and services, rendering technologies and content interoperable and embedding them fully into the European Open Science Cloud.

HIRMEOS prototypes innovative services by providing additional data, links and interactions to the documents, paving the way to new potential tools for research assessment, which is still a major challenge in the SSH. The platforms participating are enriched with tools that enable identification, authentication and interoperability, and tools that enrich information and entity extraction, the ability to annotate monographs, and gather usage and alternative metric data.

HIRMEOS also enriches the technical capacities of the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB), a most significant indexing service for open access monographs globally, to receive automated information for ingestion, while it also develops a structured certification system to document monograph peer-review.


**Duration:** 30 months from January 2017

www.hirmeos.eu

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No731031