

Making EOSC a practical reality

EIROforum's contribution to the open consultation on
EOSC Rules of Participation and FAIR Data Action Plan

Prepared by EIROforum IT Working Group
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EIROforum supports open science and sees the EOSC as a means of accelerating its uptake. EIROforum is an active participant in the EOSC and this document highlights a number of practical points its members consider essential to ensure the EOSC *can effectively interlink People, Data, Services and Training, Publications, Projects and Organisations*.

EIROforum members continue to implement FAIR data principles as a means of enlarging access to research data and integrate them into their existing training programmes to equip scientists so they can embrace open science.

EIROforum members include Europe's biggest science data factories and providers of key services for a large variety of scientific fields. To facilitate the federation of these existing data resources and services, the EOSC *rules of participation* should explicitly acknowledge that conformant data repositories and services could continue to operate wherever they are hosted. It is important that EOSC monitors data access and re-use across such data repositories and services so the stakeholders can understand the impact of open science and EOSC. A small number of well-defined core services from EOSC could provide common means of data access, discovery and interoperability to simplify the federation of these existing data repositories and services. The required quality, scalability and performance of these core services should not be underestimated. EIROforum expects the EOSC funding model to support the operation of these core services.

Representation in the stakeholder forum and working groups of the governance model should take into account the EIROforum capacity and long-term operational experience as leading data and services providers as well as the contributions they make in order to federate their resources and become a cornerstone of the EOSC.

Additional costs are associated with making data and services accessible beyond their foreseen constituency (scientific community or geographical scope) that are not budgeted for by these data and service providers. The EOSC funding model should recognise this reality and identify funding to cover such additional costs.

EIROforum recognises that there are many technical areas that are science agnostic and there is the opportunity to use common solutions to access, manage and process big data. EOSC should interoperate with other European infrastructures, such as the existing Copernicus Data and Information Access Services (DIAS), as well as the planned European Data Infrastructure (EDI) and EuroHPC to encourage multidisciplinary, big data driven research. Connectivity beyond Europe, to similar structures in other regions, is essential to address the global challenges facing society today.

Engaging the private sector in the EOSC with clear *rules of participation* that protect the public interest should be an activity of the first phase (2018-2020) and encourage innovation through the close interaction of public and private stakeholders. The EOSC *Quality of Service* (QoS) standards should be the same for both public and private sector service providers.

To reinforce trust in the EOSC, the *rules of participation* and implementation of the core services should take into account recent or proposed European legislation. This includes the General Data Protection Regulation¹, the Portability Regulation², the proposal for a regulation on a framework for the free flow of non-personal data in the European Union³, as well as the proposal for a directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market⁴.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation)

² Regulation (EU) 2017/1128 on cross-border portability of online content services in the internal market

³ COM/2017/0495 final - 2017/0228 (COD)

⁴ COM/2016/0593 final - 2016/0280 (COD)