



Diamond ERA: Fostering Openness in the European Research Area

Panel Discussion

How to support Diamond OA in ERA – discussion with the community



Programme



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Polish Science
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in Brussels



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Digital Humanities Centre at the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences



open scholarly communication in the european research area
for social sciences and humanities | Polish National Node

From where do I speak?

3 aligned perspectives to secure the EDCH and Diamond OA model

1. OPERAS RI: An ESFRI strongly committed to support the Diamond Journals, deeply involved in the EDCH, and willing to promote as much as possible this model. Having the EDCH as a specific program of OPERAS RI contributes to its sustainability (technical, financial, in terms of governance and involvement of the communities).

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2. EOSC Federation: OPERAS is acting to build an Open Schol. Communication Node that will include the EDCH.

 **eosc** | Federation

3. EDCH Funding TF: Aspects mentioned above and others are considered by our group (that includes univ, RFOs, RPOs, etc.) to propose concrete solutions related to the long-term sustainability of the EDCH.



DIAMOND ERA, Brussels 4.12.2025

SeDOA: supporting Diamond OA in Germany and serving the ERA as National Capacity Centre

Dr. Michael Kaiser
Max Weber Stiftung



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Introducing SeDOA

Service Centre for Diamond Open Access

- >decentralised network of 15 institutions all over Germany with different focus (SSH, STEM ...), (disciplinary specialised) libraries and research institutes.
- >single point of access: addressing all (German) institutional publishing services and scholarly editors to our network.
- >also serving as the German National Capacity Center for Diamond Open Access in the EDCH.
- >funded by DFG (German Research Foundation) for 3 years (having started in May 2025), with possible extension to 6 years.
- >governance: strong connection to the communities of practice; added feedback mechanisms via stakeholder advisory board and international advisory board.

Basics

1. Diamond definition: aligned with existing international definitions, compact and succinct, with an attached glossary to define single terms.
2. Surveys on the national level: what is already established, where are gaps and needs? > basis for training material and further developments and adjustments.
3. Registry: for Journals, coordinated and aligned with DOAJ and DDH.
4. Task Force Funding & Business models: joining the current German debate on financing Diamond OA and develop a sustainable finance model.

Takeaways, adaptations and collaborations

1. Living Handbook: a CRAFT-OA output which will support SeDOA's endeavours. So SeDOA is keen to continue, reuse, adapte, enrich, enhance and extend it.
2. Distribution Hub: brokering services to German Diamond OA publishers as a key task of the SeDOA consortium. Good chance to be aligned with OPERAS Service Pathfinder.
3. SeDOA innovation lab: taking up on new ideas and developments in the German communities, but joining forces with respective initiatives in the ERA, e.g. OPERAS innovation lab – Ideathon as a concrete collaboration scheduled for 1/26.
4. Workshops and training sessions: for the communities according to their needs

DIAMOND ERA, Brussels 4.12.2025

Thank you for your attention

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INSPIRING ERA Exchange: Overcoming Barriers in Open Access Publishing - Towards a More Inclusive and Sustainable European Research Area

28 October 2025, Warsaw, Poland

Organizing Partners:

- National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
- Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IBL PAN)
- Polish Science Contact Agency (PoISCA)
- European Commission (DG RTD)

Keynote Speakers and Expert Contributors:

- Ministry of Science and Higher Education (Poland)
- European Commission (DG RTD)
- OPERAS Research Infrastructure
- OAPEN Foundation / DOAB
- Research Council of Lithuania
- OpenAIRE / University of Warsaw

Participants:

- research funders
- national ministries
- scholarly publishers
- librarians
- research managers
- researchers
- policymakers

NCBR

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Key Takeaways and Conclusions

- **Open Access is not optional but should be foundational** to the ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027 and ERA Act - essential to achieving research integrity, quality, and societal impact.
- **Fragmented, short-term funding keeps inequalities.** To make Diamond OA and community-run infrastructures sustainable and widely accessible, they need reliable, long-term funding over several years.
- **Infrastructure interoperability and common standards** must be prioritized to ensure that all European research, especially multilingual and SSH outputs, is discoverable and preserved for long-term access.
- **Policy alignment across all levels - funder, institutional, national, and European - is imperative.** Conflicting mandates and unclear guidance undermine researcher compliance and institutional effectiveness.



Key Takeaways and Conclusions

- **Research assessment reform must be coupled with OA implementation.** At the moment, evaluation systems do not properly reward open practices, so they need to be updated to value different types of research outputs and contributions from the research community.
- **Building capacity is essential for real change.** This means keeping up investment in training researchers, strengthening support inside institutions, and improving national coordination, especially in widening countries, so that change is lasting and meaningful.
- **Commercial publisher dominance requires coordinated counter-strategies.** Scaling up Diamond OA, supporting university-led publishing, and advocating for transparent licensing practices can shift market dynamics.
- **Legal frameworks must be harmonized and clarified** to remove barriers and reduce compliance costs. The upcoming ERA Act presents an important opportunity to advance coherent European copyright and data access policies.



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Next Steps and Outreach

- **Follow-up ERA Exchange Event: Diamond Open Access: Fostering Openness in the European Research Area**, on 4 December 2025 in Brussels (organized by IBL PAN and PolSCA in collaboration with OPERAS).
- **Publication of the Full Report**: A comprehensive workshop report, including detailed breakout group findings and participant recommendations, will be published on the INSPIRING ERA website.
- **Dissemination and Social Media**: Workshop materials, key messages, and testimonials will be shared across professional networks, social media, and newsletters to extend reach and impact.
- **Fact Sheets and Practical Guidance**: The INSPIRING ERA team will develop targeted fact sheets and guidance documents on key topics (e.g., OA funding models, copyright compliance, research assessment alignment) for dissemination to policymakers, researcher, librarians, national ministries, publishers.
- **Integration into ERA Policy Recommendations**: Workshop findings will directly inform INSPIRING ERA's policy recommendations to the European Commission and contribute to broader ERA governance discussions.
- **Peer-Learning Networks**: Need for national and cross-country peer-learning networks to enable ongoing exchange and mutual support for OA implementation.

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- ➔ Stay informed about ERA developments that impact research and innovation
- ➔ Access expert insights, resources and practical tools
- ➔ Take part in online events and mutual learning exchanges
- ➔ Receive regular news, updates, and opportunities via our newsletter



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