

Helmholtz Open Science Newsletter of April 14, 2022

Dear colleagues,

This is the 91st Helmholtz Open Science Newsletter brought to you by the Helmholtz Open Science Office in German as well as in English. With this newsletter, we provide you with a regular overview of the most important open science developments.

You can find the current newsletter and the newsletter archive on the Helmholtz Open Science Office [website](#).

We appreciate you forwarding this newsletter to anyone interested.

For more information on the topic of open science: The internal mailing list os-pro-helmholtz “Helmholtz Open Science Professionals” supports members of the Helmholtz Association who are interested in open science topics, such as open access, open research data and open research software. In addition to information on current developments, practical discussions and information exchanges are facilitated. You can register for the mailing list [here](#). (**Please note:** This list is only available for employees of the Helmholtz Association).

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Recommended Reading

1. Renewed Impetus for Scholarly-led Open Access Publishing Infrastructures

Currently, much attention is attributed to scholarly-led open access publication infrastructures. In this context, the category “[Diamond Open Access](#)” is mentioned frequently. According to this model, open access publications are institutionally financed, so that neither authors nor readers are burdened with costs. The attribute “scholarly-led” forms a central aspect in the discussion: scientific institutions operate the publication infrastructures themselves or finance the services of the publication infrastructures and thus retain greater control over the handling of their publications. Among other aspects, this is intended to ensure the sustainability and diversity of the open infrastructures envisaged.

This is illustrated by a selection of relevant activities from recent months focusing on this topic:

- [UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science](#) (November 2021)
- European Commission: [Towards a reform of the research assessment system – Scoping Report](#) (November 2021)
- [G6 statement on Open Science](#) (December 2021)
- German Science Council: [Recommendations for the transformation of scientific publishing to Open Access](#) (January 2022)
- European University Association: [EUA Open Science Agenda 2025](#) (February 2022)
- Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI): [20th Anniversary Recommendations](#) (February 2022)
- Science Europe, cOAlition S, OPERAS, ANR: [Action Plan for Diamond Open Access](#) (March 2022)
- German Research Foundation: [DFG supports “Action Plan for Diamond Open Access”](#) (March 2022)
- LIBER Workshop “[Making Open Research Europe future-proof; plans for a sustainable and robust publishing platform](#)” (March 2022)

2. open-access.network Hosts Workshops on Open Access Budget Development

As part of the BMBF-funded [open-access.network](#) project, the Helmholtz Open Science Office is hosting the [workshop "Budget development in the context of the open access transformation"](#) (in German) on five dates in April and May 2022. The event is aimed at library staff and other stakeholders from universities and research institutions who decide on the development of the library budget or the future information budget at the institution with the goal of an open access transformation. The available dates are already fully booked.

Other [information services](#) offered by open-access.network include a [helpdesk](#) and a [forum](#). The Helmholtz Open Science Office is involved in the [project](#).

3. Open Access Transformation and Acquisition in Academic Libraries

With [Open Access ermöglichen: Open Access-Transformation und Erwerbung in wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken](#) (i. e., Enabling Open Access: Open Access Transformation and Acquisition in Academic Libraries; available in German only) a practical manual on the subject of open access transformation and acquisition has been published with the participation of Helmholtz that is well worth reading. Background information, practical suggestions, and implementation examples stimulate professional discourse. Existing sources and resources, also from the international context, are taken into account, in particular on the theoretical background of the open access transformation strategy and the ways and measures for implementing the open access transformation in acquisition routines. The proposed recommendations explicitly take into account various financial and personnel scopes for interested institutions.

Reference: Rösch, H., Geschuhn, K., Barbers, I., Bove, K., Pohlmann, T., & Satzinger, L. (2022). *Open Access ermöglichen: Open Access-Transformation und Erwerbung in wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken – ein praktischer Leitfaden*. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6090208>

4. Open Access Monitor Extended to Include Scopus Database

The [Open Access Monitor Germany \(OAM\)](#) records the publications of German academic institutions in scientific journals and monitors the transformation to Open Access. The [Central Library of Forschungszentrum Jülich](#) develops and operates the OAM, which is now extended by the integration of [Scopus](#). The collaboration with Elsevier gives the OAM access to high-quality publication data: Scopus is an abstract and citation database for peer-reviewed literature. The integration of databases like Scopus into the OAM enables universities, research institutions, policy makers and the German scientific community to monitor the development of institutional publication outputs and supports the goal of enabling Open Access throughout Germany. Questions and feedback on the Open Access Monitor can be directed to info@open-access-monitor.de.

5. New Research Profile “My KITopen” Improves Visibility of KIT Research Results

The [KITopen repository](#) is the central open science platform at the [Karlsruhe Institute of Technology \(KIT\)](#); it provides research information for Helmholtz, EU, and KIT reporting from different databases on a daily basis. Researchers can now find customized research services via the new portal “[My KITopen](#)”. Using the portal, they can efficiently manage their research output and increase the visibility of their research. [PoF](#) managers can also manage the diverse reporting requirements of the large-scale research area more efficiently and, for the provision of the required OA indicator, involve the participating researchers in the reporting-relevant arrangements in a simple manner. In addition, KITopen cooperates with the non-profit organization [ORCID](#), through which researchers receive an individual Open Researcher and Contributor Identifier. ORCID is directly linked to KITopen (further information on <https://www.orcid-de.org>, project participation of the Helmholtz Open Science Office). For science communication, the KIT library employs standards that are science-owned and compatible with open science. A [short introductory video](#) (German only) to “My KITopen” and [further information](#) (German only) are available.

6. News from the World of Persistent Identifiers

As the cultural shift to Open Science progresses, the cross-linkages of identification systems – grouped under the umbrella term “Persistent Identifiers“ (PID) – is increasingly coming into focus.

In the [ORCID DE project](#), the interconnection of ORCID iDs with the [Integrated Authority File \(GND\)](#) and the resulting possibilities of linking title data of the [German National Bibliography](#) are being developed. As a result, it was possible to link the 160,000th ORCID iD with a GND person record in February 2022.

Furthermore, the project dedicates itself to fostering the establishment of an independent, non-commercial “Organization Identifier“ for scientific institutions. Therefore it supports the [Research Organization Registry - ROR](#). With its [March update](#), the database of the community-driven and open organization registry is now completely independent of GRID, which had been discontinued as a service [at the end of 2021](#). In addition, institutions are now able to actively contribute to the sustainability of ROR through the recently announced [Sustaining Supporters funding program](#).

The results of the ORCID DE survey “[Organizational Identifier in Germany – Results of a Survey in 2020](#)“ show how widespread Organization Identifiers are used at academic institutions in Germany; these results were recently published in the journal [Bibliothek Forschung und Praxis](#) (see also [Recommended Reading](#) below; English version will follow shortly).

In addition, the [new evaluation](#) of the ORCID DE Monitor provides information on the distribution of ORCID iDs at scientific institutions in Germany for different time periods as well as a corresponding visualization on the map of Germany.

These new features will be presented in detail – along with other informative talks – at the [6th ORCID DE Workshop](#) on May 4, 2022 (in German only). [Registration](#) has already been opened.

7. DFG Specifies Requirements Relating to the Handling of Research Data in Funding Proposals

The German Research Foundation (DFG) has specified its [requirements for the handling of research data in funding proposals](#) and makes the provision of information on this aspect mandatory in project proposals. This step is intended to facilitate the subsequent use of research data and, where appropriate, other research objects. The DFG recommends that relevant subject-specific recommendations on standards, methods, and infrastructures be taken into account. Applicants can use a [checklist](#) as a guideline, which can be adapted to the specific project. When searching for suitable subject-specific research data repositories, the checklist recommends the use of the [re3data registry](#) as well as the [RIsources](#) research infrastructure portal.

8. News from the Registry of Research Data Repositories – re3data

The [re3data COREF](#) project team is supporting the [RDA Data Granularity Working Group](#) in conducting a survey to explore how research data repositories are addressing the issue of data granularity. The results of this survey will help improve the description of size and scope of repositories in [re3data](#). In addition, several members of the re3data team are participating in a newly formed [RDA Data Repository Attributes Working Group](#) whose goal it is to create a list of common attributes to describe research data repositories and to identify as well as present examples of approaches to implementing these attributes.

As a data source, re3data provides information on research data repositories to the [Open Science Observatory](#). The platform, operated by [OpenAIRE](#), aggregates indicators and visualizations on the open science landscape in Europe.

Insightful information on the global landscape of research data repositories is provided by recent posts in the [re3data COREF blog](#):

- [How open are the repositories listed in re3data?](#)
- [What does location information in re3data tell us, and how can it be reused?](#)

The [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#) recommends re3data for [researching suitable research data repositories](#). The [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#) also lists re3data among its [recommendations for Open Science](#); and the [German Research Foundation \(DFG\)](#) refers to the service in a newly published [checklist](#) for handling research data in DFG projects.

9. New ELN Solution Developed at MDC

The [Max Delbrück Center \(MDC\)](#) recently implemented an institutional [Electronic Lab Notebook \(ELN\) solution](#) in order to support researchers in making their experimental, analytical and essential (meta)data more findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (according to the FAIR principles). In line with [MDC's research data management policy](#) and sustainability guidelines, this is also a response to the increasing demands of multiple funding agencies, policymakers, and publishers.

The [RDM team](#) initiated a corresponding project and conducted a user survey and two workshops to define ELN features for researchers at the MDC. The following features were identified as "must-have": local installation, compliance to the GLP and FDA 21 (CFR Part 11) requirements, academic orientation, availability of the metadata creation tools, sample management and inventory management features, and interoperability with other lab notebook solutions. Based on the results, the MDC decided to roll out the ELN solution [RSpace](#).

Currently, the RDM team is onboarding research groups and organizing user training sessions supported by RSpace trainers with the goal of maximizing the usage of the implemented features within RSpace and fully integrating the ELN into their everyday routines. The team also mediates discussions between the project stakeholders (IT, Data Protection Office and RSpace) and the researchers in order to find joint solutions that comply with users' demands, MDC's infrastructure, and data privacy rules and regulations.

The ELN solution offers many advantages over a paper-based lab book: e.g., searchability of older protocols, direct links to the original data, data securely stored on local servers, protection from accidental destruction. Currently, the ELN solution is in a pilot phase; once the first labs have finished the integration process, it is foreseeable that further groups will follow and that the new ELN will successfully be integrated in the daily research routine.

10. Open Science Policy for Austria

In February 2022, a [Policy on Open Science and the European Open Science Cloud](#) has been adopted for Austria. The Austrian Council of Ministers is committed to open, transparent, and inclusive science as well as to the promotion of fair treatment of research processes and their results. The document has been created under the leadership of the [Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research \(BMBWF\)](#) with the participation of the [Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation, and Technology \(BMK\)](#) and the [Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs \(BMDW\)](#). The policy states: "Effectively, Open Science encompasses both research data and research publications. This inclusive process is about the involvement of the public and a wide range of societal actors, the sharing of final results but also of all intermediate stages leading to them, and all forms of dissemination, including publication in multiple languages, as well as the impact of science on society."

11. National Agenda for Research Software Launched in Australia

In March 2022, the [Australian Research Data Commons \(ARDC\)](#) released a [National Agenda for Research Software](#). The agenda is aimed at all those who develop, maintain, manage, and use research software, as well as research infrastructure operators and policy makers. Prior to the publication of the final version, an extensive consultation process involving various stakeholder groups took place. The goal of the agenda is to ensure that research software is recognized and rewarded as a first class output of research in Australia. Among other aspects, reference is made to the [G6 statement](#) on the common understanding of Open Science: "High quality research software is important for excellence in research. It has become a central component of scientific work as rarely any research is conducted nowadays that does not rely on software."

The Helmholtz Open Science Office organized a second [forum on the topic of research software](#) on April 7, 2022, during which the topic of "Software Policies" was one of the focal points. A documentation of this event will be made available soon.

12. Review: RDA DE Conference 2022

The [RDA DE Conference 2022](#) of the [Research Data Alliance Germany](#), which took place this year from February 21 to 25, offered a platform for many exciting sessions and interesting discussions. As co-organizers of the conference, the Helmholtz Open Science Office welcomed more than 400 participants and appreciated the lively participation of various stakeholders in the exchange of ideas. In addition to manifold presentations by representatives of the (inter-)national research data community, there were again many stimulating contributions from the Helmholtz community, including the topics EcoDM, Provenance Monitoring and Management, Publication Infrastructures for Data-Centric Research, Reproducible Science, and Data Publishing Best Practices. The slides and other supporting materials for the events are available for review [via the event page](#) (see subpages).

Save-the-Date! We look forward to welcoming you back for the next RDA Germany Conference 2023, February 13-17. [More information](#) will be made available in due course.

13. Review: Helmholtz Open Science Practice Forum Research Data Management

To exchange best practices from the Centers and to promote research data management (RDM) as well as the RDM Community in Helmholtz, the Helmholtz Open Science Office organized the first [Helmholtz Open Science Practice Forum on Research Data Management](#) on February 3, 2022. In this internal forum, different approaches from the Helmholtz Centers to organize RDM were presented as examples. In addition, a focus was placed on concrete service offerings regarding RDM. Furthermore, networking activities with external actors, e.g., in the context of [NFDI](#), [EOSC](#), or [RDA](#), were highlighted. The Helmholtz Open Science Office will continue to actively promote the dialogue on RDM within the community, including a follow-up event.

The detailed documentation of the forum is now available via download: <https://doi.org/10.48440/os.helmholtz.044>

14. Save the Date: Helmholtz Open Science Forum on Open Science and Transfer

On May 12, 2022, the Helmholtz Open Science Office will host a [Helmholtz Open Science Forum on the topic of Open Science and Transfer](#). The virtual event will address various aspects and issues around the interplay of Open Science, technology transfer, and knowledge transfer in the Helmholtz Association. The virtual forum is aimed at all Helmholtz employees; registration is free of charge and the number of participants will not be limited. The majority of the event will be held in German. Questions and discussions are of course also possible in English. The program and further information can be found [here](#). [Registration](#) via Zoom has already been opened.

15. Broad Participation of the Helmholtz Open Science Office at the 8th German Library Congress

This year, the Helmholtz Open Science Office is represented with several contributions at the [8th German Library Congress](#), which is also the 110th German Librarians' Day.

In the session "Data and Standards Data" on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, from 3:30 to 4:00 pm, Antonia Schrader and her colleagues from the [ORCID DE project](#) will address the topic of "[Networked and Open Science: PIDs for Open Science](#)" in their presentation by demonstrating the central role of Persistent Identifiers (PID) in the cultural shift towards Open Science (in German).

Concluding the funding phase of the [EcoDM project](#), in which Christoph Bruch and Janina Richter represented the Helmholtz Open Science Office, recommendations for action on how the potential created by the rapid growth of digitally generated data can be systematically exploited in the interests of society, science, and industry will be presented [on Thursday, June 2, 2022, from 3:30 to 4:00 pm](#) (in German).

Practical workshops will be offered as part of the [re3data COREF](#) and [open.access-network](#) projects, in which Nina Weisweiler and Paul Schultze-Motel from the Helmholtz Open Science Office are involved.

On May 31, 2022, from 09:00 to 10:30 am, there will be a [Hands-on Lab](#) demonstrating how to create, edit, search, and reuse entries for research data repositories in the [re3data](#) registry (in German).

In the Hands-On Lab "[Open Access: Funding Opportunities for Open Science](#)" on June 1, 2022, from 09:00 to 11:00 am, participants can expect an overview of current open access funding opportunities and helpful information on obtaining open access publication funding.

The 8th Library Congress will take place this year from May 31 to June 2, 2022 at the Congress Center Leipzig and is organized by [Bibliothek und Information Deutschland \(BID\)](#), the Federal Association of German Library and Information Associations.

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Imprint

The Helmholtz Open Science Newsletter is published by the Helmholtz Open Science Office.

Editorial staff: Roland Bertelmann, Christoph Bruch, Lea Maria Ferguson, Heinz Pampel, Antonia C. Schrader, Paul Schultze-Motel, and Nina Weisweiler.

Contact: open-science@helmholtz.de

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