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Connecting research data workflows with Argos: Embedding services and scientific outputs in data management plans

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Planning Research Data Management (RDM) activities is crucial as it effectively lays the foundations for successful research conduct according to Research, Technology and Development (RTD) best practices and requirements. Additionally, it leads to validated and quality research outcomes at the end of the scientific project / endeavour. Data Management Plans (DMPs) implement RDM policies and describe the activities, means and effort needed to manage data generated, collected and / or re-used by researchers. Moreover, they are seen as outputs that enable data reproducibility, continuously updated with new data as “living documents” of ongoing research. Hence, DMPs have rapidly entered Research Data Management Lifecycles (RDML), included at the beginning of the research process, and have been standardized in structure and content to be easily adoptable by research funders, institutions and communities.

Following the scientific demand, unravels the necessity for flexible and action-capable tools to deal with data management plans that enable research links and information contextualization while also steering compliance with the FAIR data concept. Considering that an important factor to enabling FAIRness of data are the practices followed by research infrastructures and service providers, it poses the possibility for better communication and integrations among various service providers in support of diverse RDM settings (e.g. discipline-specific, multi- or inter-disciplinary, inter-institutional, cross-country and trans-national purposes). Research data services offer a complementary and fine-grained view to addressing concrete actions for the access, sharing and management of data handled as input and/or output in their workflows. Thus, services should become more prominent components of DMP outputs and clearly link to the FAIR and RDM aspects corresponding to their use by researchers.

The presentation is about Argos, OpenAIRE’s machine actionable DMP service, also available as an EOSC (European Open Science Cloud) resource. Argos is a ready-to-use RDA compliant service for creating and publishing DMP outputs. It provides the scientific community with an open source, configurable and extensible instrument for the handling, validation and dissemination of their data management plans, in line with policies settled by a variety of funding agencies, institutions, research communities and other initiatives. Argos is hooked into the OpenAIRE ecosystem and interconnects with its underlying services and the OpenAIRE Research Graph to offer maximum capabilities for metadata contextualisation, integration with diverse research workflows, and validation of input data comprising DMPs. The presentation brings attention to the full DMP lifecycle supported by Argos and highlights collaborations, integrations and out-of-the-box links with OpenAIRE and EOSC services. Finally, it reflects on the role of DMPs from the perspective of service providers and communicates possibilities for embedding services in DMPs, while complementing and automating current RDML practices.

Speaker bios:

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Elli Papadopoulou has a BSc in Library Science and Information Systems. Master’s in Public Policy and Public Administration (Athens University of Business and Economics). Special training in Research Data Management and work experience in academic and research environments: cataloging, classification, management of information systems, user requirements (University of Bath Library, United Kingdom and International Hellenic University Library), and management, preservation and archiving of digital documents (coordination of a digitization project at the CERN Library, Switzerland), For the past four years she has been working for ATHENA Research Center in Greece. In OpenAIRE, she undertakes the coordination of the National Open

Access Desk in Greece (OpenAIRE Greek NOAD) along with the management of the Argos tool for the preparation and publishing of Data Management Plans. She also contributes to Open Science oriented projects at both national and european levels, such as the NI4OS-Europe (National Initiatives for Open Science in Europe) and HELIX (Hellenic Data Service). She has been volunteering at DOAJ since 2015 (associate editor) and at the RDA since 2016 (co-chair of the Early Career and Engagement Interest Group and of the Engaging Researchers with Data Management Interest Group). Her research activities revolve around Research Data Management, Open Science, Public Services and Policy Analysis.

Most suitable track

Delivering services and solutions

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