EOSC & European COVID-19 Research Data Platform

Marić, Ivan; Mihaljević, Slaven

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EOSC
&
European COVID-19 Research Data Platform







Ivan Marić, SRCE – University of Zagreb, University Computing Centre
EOSC GB Croatian delegate
Slaven Mihaljević, Ministry of Science and Education

Meeting of the RCC Working Group on Open Science and Research and Innovation, 29 May 2020

EOSC Vision

EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD

*"We are creating a **European Open Science Cloud** now. It is a trusted space for researchers to store their data and to access data from researchers from all other disciplines. We will create a pool of interlinked information, a 'web of research data'. Every researcher will be able to better use not only their own data, but also those of others"*

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

- Key aspects
  - Open Science and FAIR data
  - Federation of existing and plannend infrastructures and policies
  - Co-operation across disciplines and countries



EOSC Where do we stand?

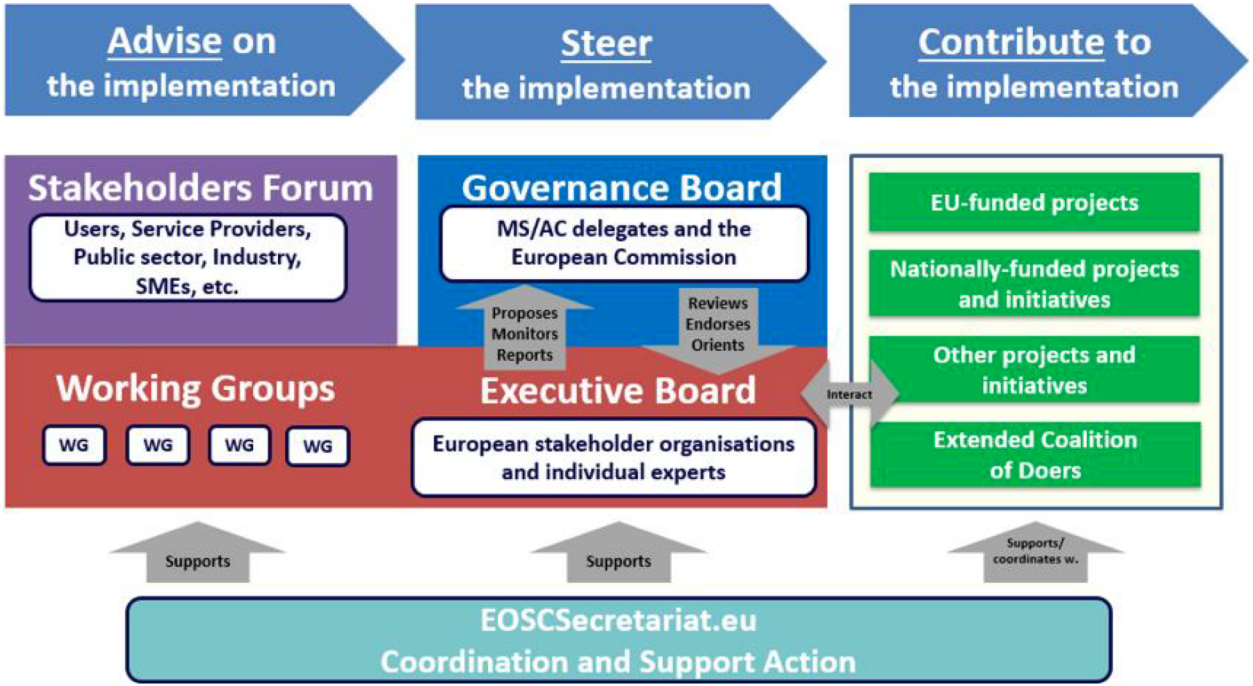


EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD

- 2018 –2020 initial period of EOSC implementation
  - H2020 projects
  - Governance: Executive Board + 6 WG, Governance Board, European Commission

- Currently preparation for next stage:
  - Strategic Partnership under Horizon Europe programme
  - Set up a Minimum Viable EOSC
  - Governance structure, including an EOSC association, Strategic research and innovation agenda

EOSC (2019-2020) - Governance structure



EOSC Governance Board – main issues

Partnership proposal

- Co-programmed partnership
- May, 2020 First version of pp will be published as living document
- October, 2020: final version
- Content: EOSC-vision, objectives, reasons for partnership, planned implementation, governance of the partnership

- In total 79 delegates representing all 27 Member States and 13 Associate countries (as of today)



https://www.eoscsecretariat.eu/eosc-governance/eosc-governance-board

EOSC Governance Board – main issues

Sustainability of EOSC

- Legal entity: Belgian AISBL
- Association will be partner of EC
- Development of statutes
- Under discussion:
  - Membership and member categories
  - Fees and contributions
  - Distribution of power within LE, voting rights
  - Involvement of MS/AC through Steering Board, Mandated organisations, partnership board
  - Processes for year 0

Next steps

- Develop **SRIA** together with stakeholders:
  - June: Proposal in GB
  - open consultation process, EOSC symposium
- **Memorandum of understanding** for partnership
- Integration of results of **Working Groups**
  - Skills & Training
  - Landscaping
  - Persistent Identifier Policy
  - Rules of Participation
  - FAIR

European COVID-19 Research Data Platform

FAIR and data sharing against the Sars-CoV-2

The European Commission has rapidly responded to the current **pandemic**:

- The Commission presented on April 7 its ERAvsCORONA action plan (approved by the R&I ministers of all Member States) containing **10 key areas for coordinated R&I actions**
- **One priority**, consisted in setting up a research data sharing platform, as a real implementation case of EOSC, with the objective of **speeding up** and improving the **sharing, re-use, processing of**, and **access to research data** and **metadata** on the SARS-CoV-2 and the related COVID-19 disease
- The Commission called on active EOSC stakeholders like EMBL-EBI, ELIXIR, and other partners to create this **open, trusted, scalable** pan-European environment addressing different types of relevant data
- All data and metadata on this platform will be as **open** and as **FAIR** as possible



President U. von der Leyen

World Economic Forum, Davos, 20 April 2020

"The platform is an important part in the building of the European Open Science Cloud."

COVID-19 Data Portal

The Platform will enable the rapid collection and comprehensive data sharing of available research data from different sources for the European and global research communities. This joint effort is a priority pilot to realise the objectives of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).

Press release: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_680
Video: https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-004711
European COVID-19 Research Data Platform: https://www.covid19dataportal.org/

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Europan COVID-19 Data Platform – A distributed coordination model

Nomination of an EOSC/COVID-19 coordinator in each MS/AC

- would be the to “go-to person” for the consortium developing the European COVID-19 Research Data Platform.

In addition, it is recommended to as far as possible establish national coordination teams in each MS/AC covering the areas of policy, data management, research and healthcare:

1) **A policy coordinator**
2) **A technical coordinator**
3) **A research coordinator**
4) **A health-care coordinator**

A questionnaire

- On 7 April 2020 EC issued a questionnaire & collect information through GB members
- On 31 March, MSE, CSF & SRCE issue a Call and Questionnaire for collecting information on datasets but also research groups working on COVID-19 related research activities
  - Limesurvey
  - Sent to 180+ addresses (national database of research organizations)
  - 67 reponses (as of 23rd April 2020); publicly available at MSE web

HR COVID-19 questionnaire

- Questions:
  - Name of institution
  - Description of research activity
  - List of relevant datasets which are available or will be available to your institution, that you can share and that can contribute to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic (eg, clinical research or epidemiological data)
  - List of e-infrastructure resources (HPC, data services, video conferencing resources, collaboration tools, ..) made available by your institution for COVID-19.
  - Contact information of person responsible for creating nation platform of science system for COVID-19 (first and last name, e-mail address, mobil phone number):
  - Note (anything not covered by previous questions that may be relevant):

HR COVID-19 – other activities

- On 23 March SRCE issue a call for use of HPC/HTC resources for Covid-19 research activities
- Croatian Science Foundation issue a special COVID-19 call with a budget of €1.8 million: IP-CORONA-2020-04
- The Croatian Agency for Small Business, Innovation and Investment (HAMAG-BICRO) acted as a national competition support body for 281 Croatian participants in the #EUvsVirus pan-European hackathon. Among the winning projects was one project by a Croatian company, and four teams that included representatives from Croatia.
- Croatian Scientific Centre of Excellence for Research in Virus Immunology and Vaccines (CerVirVac) has developed platforms – vaccine vectors, based on which its researchers are now involved in research aimed to develop new immunotherapeutic approaches targeting SARS-CoV-2. These approaches are based both on vaccine vectors (herpesviral) and on monoclonal antibodies developed in their laboratories, in collaboration with long-standing partners from Israel and Germany.

HR COVID-19 – other activities

- An interdisciplinary team of scientists from the Ruđer Bošković Institute in collaboration with the University of Rijeka and the Croatian institute of public health have already sequenced different strains of SARS-CoV-2.
- Another interdisciplinary team of scientists from the University of Zagreb in collaboration with the Ruđer Bošković Institute and three different hospitals are beginning with the high-throughput sequencing of both the genetic information of the patients and the virus SARS-CoV-2 t with the aim of determining the genetic risk of individuals.
- Scientists at the Ruđer Bošković Institute started research with a goal to design and implement new improved diagnostic tools for SARS-CoV-2. They are also preparing a novel method for detecting previously unknown viruses, the VirusHunter, for commercial use.
- Scientists at University of Zagreb are conducting research on more effective E-learning systems, as prevention measures for the pandemic. Croatia has been very successful so far in implementing distance learning which was launched on March 16th.

Hrvatsko predsjedanje
Croatian Presidency of the
Vijećem Europske unije
Council of the European Union

Thank you!

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