

Working towards a Global Open Access Network for Scholarship

Governance

- **Membership-based, registered non-for-profit association** under German law (e.V.) with office seat at Goettingen State- and University Library.
- **Executive Board** (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer) as main decision making body
- **Strategic Committee** (Executive Board, Working Group Chairs and regional representatives) as advising entity
- **General Assembly** is the main discussion forum electing the Executive Board, Auditors and deciding about the general strategic direction
- **Executive Director** provides strategic direction, and is present and active in the global debate within the open access repository community.
- **COAR Office** manages day-to-day administration
- **Members and partners:** repository/ university or library organisations, national or regional federations, research or governmental organisations, funders, technology/infrastructure development institutions or service provider.

The World Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is a vibrant association of repository initiatives. Launched in October 2009, COAR now has a membership of over 100 institutions worldwide from 35 countries in 4 continents. Its mission is to enhance the visibility and application of research outputs through a global network of open access digital repositories.

COAR has its origins in the European DRIVER project (FP7). Founding members are several DRIVER partners as well as institutions worldwide like DRF (Japan), CARL (Canada) and CAS (China). Today it is the umbrella for Working and Interest Groups, Task Forces as well as interdisciplinary projects which work on specific topics (interoperability, training, licences, usage data, controlled vocabularies for repository assets etc.)



Strategy

- COAR acts as **global knowledge infrastructure**, based on worldwide networked open access repositories
- COAR strategy focusses on **community, leadership and support** at an international scope
- Institutions are part of the **largest unique network of major institutions and organizations worldwide** related to open access repositories.
- Members and partners benefit from a **stimulating community of international leaders** in their field in an atmosphere of intense, close and fruitful exchange of expertise and sharing of best practice experiences.
- COAR **enhances the profiles of member institutions** and promotes events through dissemination activities.

Resources

- Annual fee of €500 per institution, discounts are possible for consortia
- Supported by Goettingen State and University Library and other members and partners (UNED, Microsoft) in the start-up period
- Membership fees, third-party funding and in-kind contributions cover staff costs, travelling, Working and Interest Group as well as advocacy activities.
- 1,4 FTE are distributed for the posts of Executive Director and Office. Additionally members contribute worktime to projects in Working and Interest Groups.

Executive Board

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COAR Partners

European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

euroCRIS

Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER)

Microsoft Research

Open Repository - BioMed Central

SPARC Europe

Contact

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