



**OPERAS**

open scholarly communication in the european  
research area for social sciences and humanities

# OPERAS

## what, why and how?

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OPERAS has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreements No 731031 (OPERAS-D), No 731102 (HIRMEDS), No 871069 (OPERAS-F), and No 863420 (TRIPLE).



# What is OPERAS



OPERAS is a **Research Infrastructure** on the **ESFRI Roadmap** supporting open scholarly communication in the **social sciences and humanities (SSH)** in the **European Research Area**. Its mission is to **coordinate and federate** resources in Europe to efficiently address the scholarly communication needs of **European researchers** in the field of SSH.



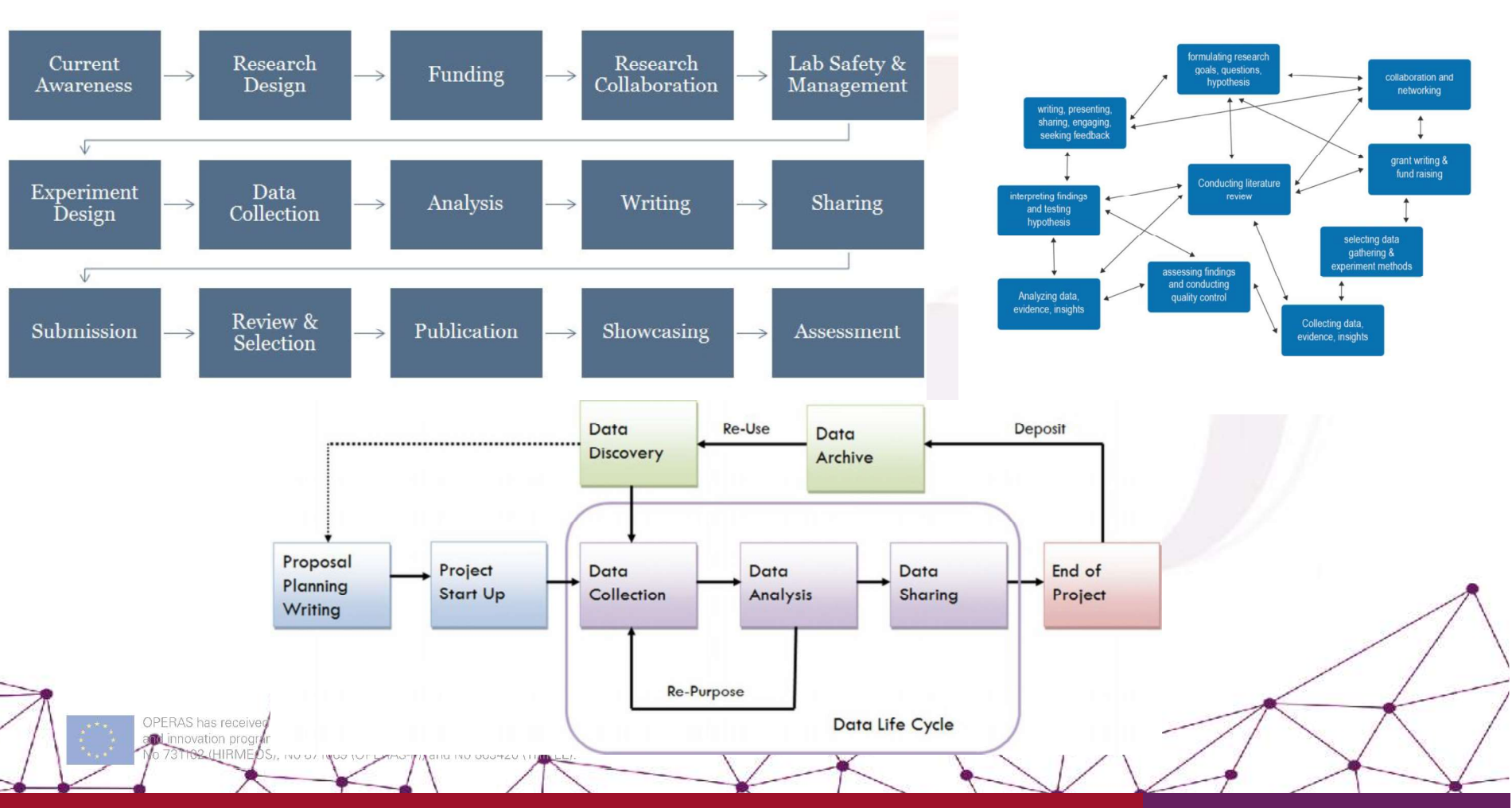
# Why is OPERAS

OPERAS aims to **make Open Science a reality** for research in the SSH and achieve a **scholarly communication system** where knowledge produced in the SSH **benefits researchers, academics, students and more generally the whole society** across Europe and worldwide, **without barriers.**



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## Research workflow



OPERAS has received an innovation program No 731102 (HIRMEDS), No 071003101 (EASHE) and No 000420 (H2020).

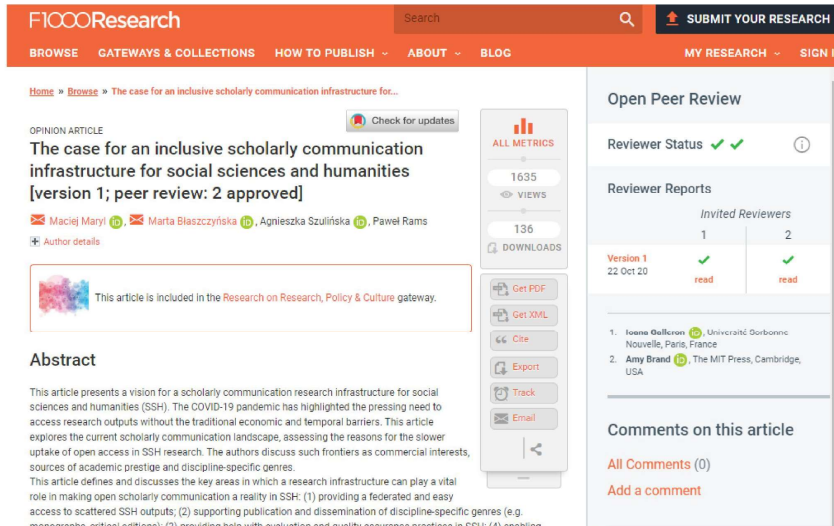
# Specificity of scholarly communication in SSH

- Lesser need for immediate access to result
- Discipline-specific formats: monograph, scholarly editions
- New scholarly communication genres applied in digital humanities



# Key areas

- Open Access to outputs
- SSH Outputs
- Evaluation
- Researcher-driven
- Multilingualism
- Various stakeholders



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OPINION ARTICLE [Check for updates](#)

**The case for an inclusive scholarly communication infrastructure for social sciences and humanities [version 1; peer review: 2 approved]**

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This article is included in the [Research on Research, Policy & Culture gateway](#).

**Abstract**

This article presents a vision for a scholarly communication research infrastructure for social sciences and humanities (SSH). The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the pressing need to access research outputs without the traditional economic and temporal barriers. This article explores the current scholarly communication landscape, assessing the reasons for the slower uptake of open access in SSH research. The authors discuss such frontiers as commercial interests, sources of academic prestige and discipline-specific genres.

This article defines and discusses the key areas in which a research infrastructure can play a vital role in making open scholarly communication a reality in SSH: (1) providing a federated and easy access to scattered SSH outputs; (2) supporting publication and dissemination of discipline-specific genres (e.g. monographs, critical editions); (3) providing help with evaluation and quality assurance practices in SSH; (4) enabling

**Open Peer Review**

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# Open Access to outputs

- Scattered resources without a single, easy access point
- Aggregators (DOAJ, DOAB, OpenAire, CORE) provide different, often limited search options
- Need for a single discovery platform (e.g. TRIPLE)



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# SSH genres

- Need to support monographs, which are often neglected in terms of OA funding and mandates (e.g. OpenEdition freemium model)
- Technical support for scholarly editions (e.g. TEI NPLP)
- Support for genres beyond the traditional book: open notebooks, living books (versioning), annotations, blogs





# Evaluation and quality assurance

- Enabling procedures and tools for impact measure
- Taking into consideration a wide range of activities
- Enabling novel peer-review practices (e.g. post-publication open peer review)
- Advocating for policy and institutional changes



# Researcher-driven

- researcher-oriented infrastructure dwelling on the actual, empirically-evidenced needs of the community
- providing a healthy balance between the commercial interests of publishers, providers, and researchers, which would protect the interests of scholars and smaller players
- E.g. 2.5% Commitment. Invest in Open Infrastructure, or Hirmeos



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# Attentive to local communities through multilingualism

- Supporting publications in local languages (bibliodiversity)
- Support for national infrastructures to provide high-quality content in non-English language (e.g. SciELO)



# Various stakeholders

- Accommodating needs of different researchers, publishers, libraries, media, non-profit organisations, and companies
- Eg. EKT ePublishing platform for non-profit institutional publisher



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# How does OPERAS work

- Services
- Special Interest Groups
- Innovations
- National nodes



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# Services

- Certification
- Discovery
- Research for society
- Metrics
- Publishing

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# COESO

connecting research and society



Measures

OPERAS Metrics Portal



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# Special Interest Groups

## Special Interest Groups

### Special Interest Groups

- Advocacy
- Best Practices
- Common Standards and FAIR principles
- Multilingualism
- [OA Business Models](#)
- Platforms and Services
- Tools R&D

## Special Interest Groups



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## Innovations



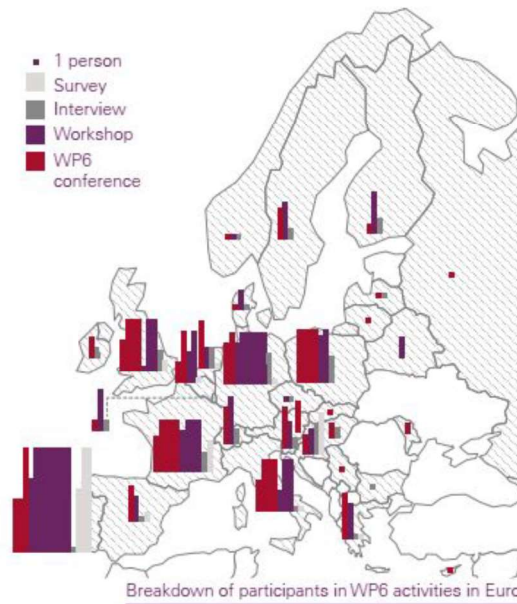
**655** research participants  
**57** interviewed  
**134** filled out surveys  
**464** attended workshops



**342** conference attendees



research participants from **33** countries  
conference attendees from **46** countries





# National Nodes

# OPERAS

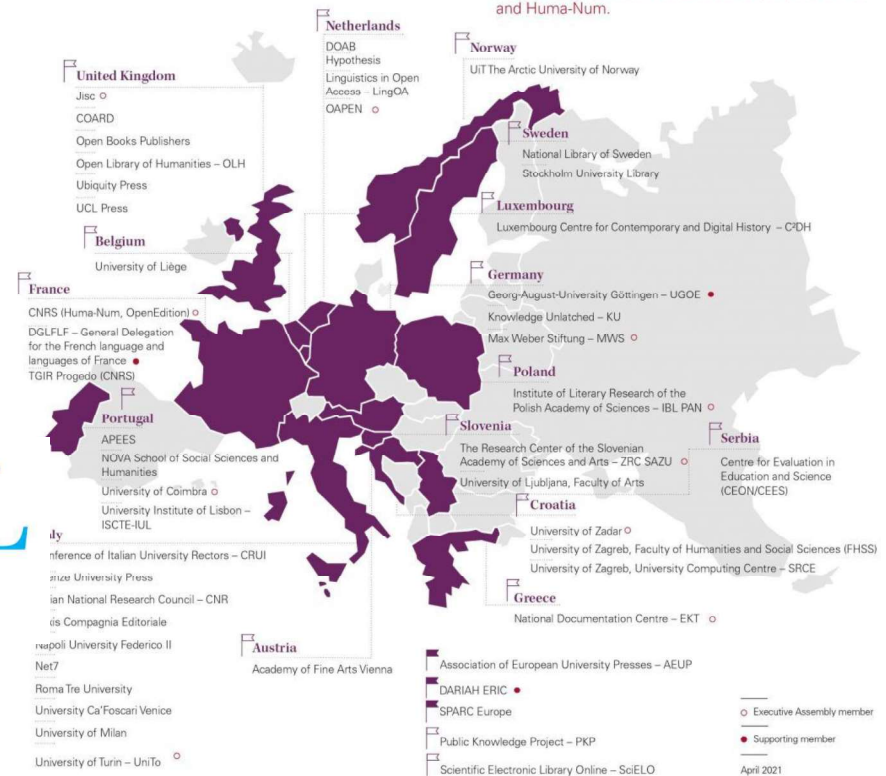
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# OPERAS GER

# OPERAS PL

## OPERAS Members

OPERAS gathers 51 organizations from 16 countries and is led by a 10 members Executive Assembly. OPERAS is coordinated from France by OpenEdition and Huma-Num.



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