

Increasing impact of SSH research: Use cases of OPERAS services in the EOSC

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OPERAS is a Research Infrastructure supporting open scholarly communication in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in the European Research Area. EOSC is the European Open Science Cloud and it aims to provide European Researchers with an access to a virtual environment with open and seamless services for storage, management, analysis and re-use of research data, across borders and scientific disciplines by federating existing scientific data infrastructures, currently dispersed across disciplines and the EU Member States. OPERAS aims to make Open Science a reality for research in the SSH and to achieve a scholarly communication system where knowledge produced in the SSH benefits researchers, academics, and students fully and widely, as well as benefiting the whole society across Europe and beyond. OPERAS services are being integrated into the EOSC in order to become more visible and accessible to SSH researchers.

OPERAS aims to offer multiple services to the SSH community, two of them are already available for use, the OPERAS Certification Service (based on DOAB, the Directory of Open Access Books) and the OPERAS Research for Society Service which is based on the Hypotheses platform. Peer-review has a critical importance in scholarly communication, but both its practices and understanding exhibit a great deal of opacity. This is also true for the peer-review processes concerning open access monographs. The Certification Service is a response to the increasing need for transparency and a better understanding of book peer-review processes. The Certification system provides a convenient way to reassure authors and evaluation agencies about the scientific quality of Open Access books. It operates as a quality insurance service for the benefit of readers and the service providers working with them, such as the libraries. A core aim of the open research culture is to ensure that publicly funded research is available to society at large and enable non-professional researchers (or citizens) to improve their awareness of research, expand their critical facilities and increase trust in science and scholarship. To facilitate this, the Research for Society Service allows for communication practices in support of a wide range of interactions with the society, from science popularization to intensively collaborative projects. Those 2 services, both being about research publications, one based on peer-reviewed monographs, and the other one more informal, non-peer-reviewed literature and alternative content types such as blog posts, videos, lectures, etc..., have their benefits in the research workflow. There are other workflows that are also worth mentioning and describe real collaborations with other Research Infrastructures like DARIAH, from how can an blog post be lifted up to the future TRIPLE platform from a researchers blog using OpenMethods and ISIDORE, to how your research data can be reused from Nakala to OpenAIRE Provide and finally becoming part of an EOSC Core service.