OPERAS
Membership Application: Principles and Procedure

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OPERAS Website: http://operas-eu.org
Full membership procedure: http://operas-eu.org/application
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I (Name of person signing) ..........................................................................................................................
in my capacity as (position of person signing) ................................................................................................
to legally represent my organization (name of organization) ........................................................................
agree to OPERAS’ principles, rules of engagement, and requirements and commitment for participation, as stated hereafter.

Date:

Signature:
PREAMBLE

OPERAS—open access in the European research area through scholarly communication—is a European and international research infrastructure dedicated to open scholarly communication, particularly in the Social Sciences and Humanities. The OPERAS Consortium is open to any organization of any kind in Europe and abroad if it adopts OPERAS’ principles, abides by its rules of engagement, and commits to contribute to its action.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

All OPERAS members agree to actively support and adopt as their common principles:

– The development of Open Science in general and Open Access in the Social Sciences and Humanities in particular
– The FAIR principles
– OPERAS’ mission

DEFINITIONS

**OPEN SCIENCE** is defined as:

– Transparency in experimental methodology, observation, and collection of data
– Public availability and reusability of scientific data
– Public accessibility and transparency of scientific communication
– Using web-based tools to facilitate scientific collaboration

**OPEN ACCESS** is defined as:

– Free access to scientific publications with reuse allowed by the license attached to the publication

**THE FAIR PRINCIPLES** are defined as:

– To be Findable:
  – F1. (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and eternally persistent identifier
  – F2. data are described with rich metadata
  – F3. (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource
  – F4. metadata specify the data identifier
– To be Accessible:
  – A1. (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol
  – A1.1. the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
  – A1.2. the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
  – A2. metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available
To be Interoperable:
- I1. (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation
- I2. (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- I3. (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

To be Re-usable:
- R1. meta(data) have a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
- R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
- R1.2. (meta)data are associated with their provenance
- R1.3. (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards

Also see [https://www.force11.org/group/fairgroup/fairprinciples](https://www.force11.org/group/fairgroup/fairprinciples)

**OPERAS’ MISSION** is defined as:
- To actively support by all possible means the development of open scholarly communication, particularly in the Social Sciences and Humanities

**RULES OF ENGAGEMENT**

By joining the OPERAS Consortium, the member agrees to:
- Abide by the following governance principles:
  - The Core Group defines and adopts the global strategy of the infrastructure
  - The Coordination Office implements all Core Group decisions and manages the infrastructure
  - The Core Group and the Coordination Office can represent OPERAS to third parties
- Actively participate in OPERAS’ activities
- Authorize the Coordination Office to mention them as an OPERAS member

**REQUIREMENTS AND COMMITMENT**

To join the OPERAS Consortium, the member should meet minimal requirements [R] and commit to a list of actions [C].

**OPENNESS**

R: To have a significant or increasing share of its activities dedicated to Open Science

C: To aim at a full transition to Open Access as soon as possible

**TRANSPARENCY**

R: To have demonstrated commitment to transparency in operation and provided to the public clear information about its publication practices where appropriate
R: To have answered required questions in the submission form (surveys.ekt.gr/index.php?r=survey/index&sid=243995&lang=en) and have agreed to these information being shared with other OPERAS members

C: To update information whenever it is necessary

C: To provide its best effort to adopt the Best Practices and Standards defined by the respective OPERAS Working Groups and subsequently adopted by the Core Group

**TECHNICAL READINESS**

C: To provide its best effort to adopt publication and other tools conformant to the state of art defined by the working group on Tools Research and Development

**PARTICIPATION**

R: To have at least one meeting with the OPERAS Coordination Office and one Core Group member prior to the process of application

C: The will to present and represent OPERAS and its services to relevant stakeholders in the member’s environment

**ORDINARY MEMBERS**

of OPERAS have voting rights and are required to commit to 10% staff full-time equivalent.