

University Of Rijeka Declaration

European Open Science

*Rijeka,
January 22nd,
2019*

The University of Rijeka recognizes the European Union's current challenges concerning its commitment to promoting research excellence and evidence-based scientific practice. It believes that European science must rest on a unified culture of data stewardship, which recognizes research data as a significant scientific output to be employed for collective well-being and social progress.

The University of Rijeka supports the **European Open Science (EOS)** initiative, a strategic plan for implementing European unity in research data stewardship. Conscious of its role in overall social development, the University of Rijeka gravitates towards the goal of including all scientific areas and all EU members in a long-term, sustainable open science program.

The University of Rijeka agrees with the view that EOS cannot be implemented in a single event or only emerge as a sporadic activity. Instead, its enactment is a continuous process based on continued efforts to acquire both knowledge and new skills - the implementation of a new model of scientific activity that presupposes reciprocal personal, institutional and national respect, coordination, and cooperation.

The University of Rijeka welcomes the **European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)**, inaugurated on 23 November 2018, supports views from the EOSC Summit on 12 June 2017, stated in the **EOSC Declaration**, and stresses that the EOS/EOSC initiative marks the beginning of a process which, both now and in the future, ought to include all relevant stakeholders in scientific activity - all holders of scientific processes, scientific institutions, as well as the initiative's signatories and supporters throughout the EU.

The University of Rijeka agrees that European science must be based on a unique culture of managing knowledge, which recognizes scientific data as a critical research outcome, and which should be appropriately curated throughout and after research has been conducted. The University believes that such a significant change in the culture of scientific conduct, with the inclusion of all scientific disciplines, institutions and EU members, will allow for research data to be used in new scientific activities, transfers of knowledge, innovation, and development.

The University of Rijeka emphasizes the importance of a multidisciplinary approach and believes that all researchers in the EU must have access to an open-by-default,

efficient, and cross-disciplinary research data environment based on efficient usage methodology and supported by FAIR Data Principles (findable, accessible, interoperable, reusable). The University firmly supports the view that open access must be the default setting for all results of publicly funded research throughout Europe, allowing for appropriate limitations only in justified cases of personal data protection, IPR concerns, national security, or like.

The University of Rijeka recognizes the importance of the organizational, legislative, technical, and semantic standards that the EOS/EOSC is, with the aim of ensuring the initiative's long-term sustainability and successful enactment in all scientific environments, planning to develop. The University understands that managing the changes brought about by this new paradigm will involve many challenges at the institutional level, and welcomes the recognition of local needs and priorities. When it comes to enacting EOS/EOSC principles, it stresses the importance of discussions about relevant institutional bodies, decision-making processes, and protocol development, as well as of continuous work on integrating – both existing and future - national and institutional documents and policies throughout Europe.

The University of Rijeka supports the strategy for developing organizational architecture and scientific-research data stewardship services and is ready to devote its available capacities, resources, and principal research equipment to the goal of implementing the EOS/EOSC initiative.

The University of Rijeka holds that the EOS/EOSC initiative is, given its goal of promoting a knowledge-based society, an unrivaled approach to European scientific progress. The University also believes that all scientific institutions in EU will, without exception, benefit from the EOS/EOSC initiative, hoping that it will emerge as a critical mechanism in overcoming the disparity of research-scientific, and technological capacities within the EU, which it recognizes as one of its main institutional challenges.

Following the invitation from the EOSC Declaration, **the University of Rijeka** recognizes and fully supports the initiative, approves of its intentions and plans, and is eager to join the circle of its signatories and supporters.

By means of its bodies and constituents, institutional policies, and activities, **the University of Rijeka** will endeavor to support, develop, and in responsibly executing the EOS/EOSC initiative, to promote and advocate it at regional, national and international levels, and to, according to its capabilities, participate in all future EUA and EU contributions to the ideal of open science.

CLASS: 641-01/19-01/01
REG. NO.: 2170-57-01-19-1



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