



## Why and How to Join OPERAS

**What is OPERAS?** OPERAS is the European Research Infrastructure dedicated to open scholarly communication in the social sciences and humanities. OPERAS' aim is to make Open Science a reality for research in the SSH and 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.

### How OPERAS Works

OPERAS is currently developing a catalog of five scholarly communication services at European level, addressing the specific needs of the research community.

- **Discovery Service (TRIPLE project)** will provide a single point to discover SSH open scholarly resources in several languages (data, publications, and other researchers' profiles and projects) which are currently scattered across local repositories and platforms. Its operation is planned for 2023.
- **Certification Service (HIRMEOS project)** The Certification Service, operated by DOAB, provides a single access point to the list of certified peer reviewed monographs available in Open Access in the world. The service operates as a quality insurance service for the benefit of readers and the service providers working with them, such as the libraries. The full release is planned for the end of 2021.
- **Metrics Service (HIRMEOS project)** The Metrics Service collects usage and impact metrics related to Open Access monographs from many different sources and allows for their access, display and analysis from a single access point. It currently operates as a beta service. The full release is planned for the end of 2021.
- **Publishing Service Portal (PSP) (OPERAS-P project)** The PSP collects the publishing and scholarly communication services that OPERAS members offer to the community and gives access to their description from a single access portal.
- **Research for Society Service (COESO project)** The Service is designed to be a collaborative platform between SSH researchers and socio-economic actors. On the platform, collaborative research teams will find resources such as collaborative tools, funding opportunities, communication tools and a matchmaking service to foster and support their desire to collaborate on their research project.



## Why to join OPERAS?

The European landscape of scholarly communication in the SSH is currently patchy, and not organized enough to be efficient, particularly to address the challenge of transitioning to Open Science. OPERAS' keyword is coordination against the SSH fragmentation in sub disciplines, national languages, specific communication channels tailored to specific research objects or to specific communities. Participation in OPERAS is crucial for the transition to Open Science and all the participants can enjoy the benefits of this transition.

OPERAS nurtures the players, even smaller one, pooling and combining services at scale. By gathering a consortium encompassing a large number of players in the European Research Area (ERA), OPERAS will allow partners to benefit from each other and share their research and development costs. Hence it will leverage existing innovation in Europe to bring the whole ecosystem together at the highest level.

Participation in OPERAS will help the national nodes to attract funding from the European Commission, but also from national and regional authorities, to support and expand their activities.

## What does it mean to be an OPERAS Member?

There are three different kinds of memberships, which correspond to three different levels of engagement in the life and activities of OPERAS. An institution may choose the type of membership that is most suitable to its role in the scholarly communication landscape and its particular needs. These types are the following:

- **Ordinary member:** to participate in at least one Special Interest Group equivalent to 10% Full-time Equivalent (FTE) commitment in-kind, with voting rights in the Assembly of the Commons.
- **Core member:** to participate in the Assembly of the Commons and the Executive Assembly, equivalent to 20% FTE commitment in-kind, with voting rights in the Assembly of the Commons and the Executive Assembly.
- **Supporting member:** to shape OPERAS' strategy and future activities in participating and voting in the General Assembly. To support OPERAS AISBL by an annual membership fee and a close relationship - with privileged access to the life and activities of the association.



## **Working together in a Special Interest Group of the Assembly of the Commons**

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) work collaboratively, share information, watch, and prepare projects on their topic. Thus, SIGs are the place where new initiatives, new discussions take place and emerge. Their work constitutes the ground on which the infrastructure will build its strategy and prepare its next projects. The SIGs live from a great international working atmosphere and a diverse participation. They gather from an equal ranking within each other and shared interests.

In OPERAS Governance, SIGs compose the Assembly of the Commons. The Assembly of the Commons is planned to engage with the whole community in its diversity. In this regard, SIGs serve as an entry door for new OPERAS members.

The SIGs are: Advocacy, Best Practices, Common Standards, Multilingualism, Open Access Business Models, Platforms and Services, Tools Research and Development.