

Thursday February 9th 2023

Three European projects to promote the development of open access "diamond" publications

The DIAMAS, CRAFT-OA and PALOMERA projects, to which OpenEdition, a national infrastructure co-managed by the CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université, EHESS and Avignon Université is contributing, have been launched. Funded by the European Commission, they will help structure the open access "diamond" publishing landscape and consolidate this virtuous model of scientific publication.

The "diamond" publishing model allows researchers to disseminate their work in open access without paying publication fees. The diamond business model relies heavily on grants from research institutions. In March 2022, OpenEdition was among the first signatories of the [Action Plan for Diamond Open Access](#), launched by the ANR, Science Europe, the [OPERAS](#) consortium, coordinated by OpenEdition, and the [cOAlition S](#). This plan proposed concrete actions to consolidate the diamond model and allow it to develop fully.

The European projects DIAMAS, CRAFT-OA and PALOMERA were launched in order to put in place the coordination, pooling and sustainable funding mechanisms provided by the Diamond Open Access Plan.

DIAMAS

As part of the transition towards open access, publishing carried out by research institutions is facing both fragmentation and variations in terms of quality of service, visibility and sustainability. To address this issue, [DIAMAS](#) (**D**eveloping **I**nstitutional **O**pen **A**ccess Publishing **M**odels To **A**dvance **S**cholarly Communication) brings together 23 organisations from 12 European countries with experience in open access academic publishing and scholarly communication. Coordinated by Aix-Marseille Université, the project started last September ([see press release](#)).

DIAMAS will:

- Map the current landscape of Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSPs) in 25 countries of the ERA with special attention for IPSPs that do not charge fees for publishing or reading;
- Coordinate and improve the efficiency and quality of IPSPs by developing a European Quality Standard for Institutional Publishing (EQSIP);
- Formulate community-led, actionable recommendations and strategies for institutional leaders, funders/sponsors/donors, and policymakers in the European Research Area (ERA).

CRAFT-OA

Funded for three years, the CRAFT-OA project (**C**reating a **R**obust **A**ccessible **F**ederated **T**echnology for **O**pen **A**ccess), coordinated by the University of Göttingen and launched on 25-26 January, aims to evolve and consolidate the institutional open access diamond publishing landscape for journals. By offering services and tools applicable to the entire journal publishing lifecycle, CRAFT-OA will enable local and regional publishing platforms and service providers to grow, become more professional and achieve stronger interoperability with other scientific information systems. These developments will benefit the research community and editors involved in publishing.

The project is structured around four axes aimed at improving the technical and organisational infrastructure of diamond open access publishing:

- Making technical improvements to the platforms and software of the journals;
- Creating communities of practice to support the overall improvement of the infrastructure;
- Enhancing the value and visibility of the Diamond model;
- Integrating Diamond Open Access Publishing with the [European Open Science Cloud](#) (EOSC) and other large-scale data aggregators.

The CRAFT-OA consortium gathers 23 partners from 17 European countries. CRAFT-will provide technical and community tools, training materials, resources and services for open access publishing and will encourage practices that will improve the project over time.

Find out more :

- [European Commission grants substantial funding to improve institutional publishing for science](#)
- [Press release: Improving Diamond Open Access across Europe](#)
- In French : [CP Science ouverte : le CNRS apporte son soutien au plan d'action d'accès ouvert « diamant »](#)

PALOMERA

Academic books continue to play an important role in scholarly production and communication of research, particularly in the humanities and social sciences. Academic books should be included in the open science policies and strategies developed by institutions and research funding bodies, to ensure that open science becomes the modus operandi of modern science in all disciplines. However, unlike the publication of articles in journals (especially in the fields of science, technology and medicine), academic books have not received much attention from policy makers in terms of open access. As a result, funding bodies and research institutions rarely request that books be published in open access.

The kick-off meeting of the [PALOMERA](#) (Policy **A**lignment of **O**pen access **M**onographs in the **E**uropean **R**esearch **A**rea) project took place on 17 and 18 January. Coordinated by [OPERAS](#) and lasting 2 years, it will investigate the reasons for this situation across geographies, languages, economies and disciplines within the European Research Area (ERA). Through literature reviews, surveys, in-depth interviews and use cases, PALOMERA will collect, structure, analyse and make available knowledge that can explain the challenges and barriers that prevent open access within academic literature. Based on this evidence, PALOMERA will provide actionable recommendations and concrete resources to support and coordinate aligned policies of funding bodies and institutions for open access books, with the overall objective of accelerating the transition towards open access for books to further promote open science.

The recommendations will be addressed to all relevant stakeholders (funding bodies and research institutions, research community, publishers, infrastructure providers, libraries and national policy makers).

PALOMERA brings together [16 members and partners](#) from approximately ten countries.

For more information, visit the related OpenEdition blog post:

<https://oep.hypotheses.org/3196>

About OpenEdition

[OpenEdition](#) is a national research infrastructure, co-managed by the CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université, EHESS and Avignon Université, that develops a portal for digital resources in the humanities and social sciences and brings together four platforms dedicated to journals with

OpenEdition Journals, book collections with OpenEdition Books, research blogs with Hypotheses and scientific events with Calenda.

The platform hosts over 600 journals, 4,400 research blogs, 50,000 scientific event announcements and 13,600 books. Thousands of users edit and publish content on OpenEdition.

OpenEdition is leading the European infrastructure project [OPERAS](#), to which some 50 institutions from 20 countries are contributing and whose objective is to coordinate and federate resources within the European Research Area in order to respond effectively to the scientific communication needs of the European research community in the humanities and social sciences.

PRESS CONTACTS:

OpenEdition

Sandra Guigonis – deputy director
and head of the editorial sector

sandra.guigonis@openedition.org

06 18 34 25 63

OpenEdition

Pierre Mounier – OPERAS coordinator, deputy
director and head of the international sector

pierre.mounier@openedition.org

06 61 98 31 86

 **Aix-Marseille Université****Communications Department**

Clara Bufi – Director of communications

clara.bufi@univ-amu.fr

04 86 09 08 50 – 06 28 43 04 92

 **Aix-Marseille Université**

Fabien Borget – Open Science project
manager

fabien.borget@univ-amu.fr