



Report on Deliverable Number 5.2

Open Science Promotion Activities for Period 1

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Introduction

Over the last decades, the increasing competitive pressure on scientific communities, illustrated by the phrase “publish or perish”, has challenged the openness and transparency of research practices. This has in turn triggered reactions to protect this necessary openness of science. Furthermore, the important share of paywall scholarly publishers limits the dissemination of scientific knowledge, which has led to reactions fostering a more open access to publications. Research funding organisations, and therefore ERA-NETs such as CHIST-ERA, are important actors of these evolutions.

Furthermore, with the digital revolution, data plays an increasing role in scientific studies, and data collection, curation and standardisation has become an increasing activity for researchers. For data-intensive research fields where this activity should be recognised as such to yield the desirable amounts of data, there is a need for dedicated structures serving the research communities. In addition, with the advent of machine learning, model optimisation and artificial intelligence, the learned models must be tested in a blind fashion to avoid biases, which requires trusted third parties. CHIST-ERA, which operates in the field of digital technologies and system modelling, is developing a strategy to accompany and support such evolutions.

All these evolutions can be grouped under the general banner of Open Science, and CHIST-ERA promotes Open Science in various ways. Besides, CHIST-ERA also publishes on its web site much data about its activities. These various aspects of the involvement of CHIST-ERA in Open Science and Open Research Data are presented below.

Support to Open Access

Starting with Call 2017, the Call Announcement includes a mention to encourage Open Access: *“Granting open access to publication and data is encouraged (related costs are eligible in the framework of the respective funding organisation regulations)”*. One funding organisation, GSRT (Greece), even increases its aid intensity for projects where *“the results are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software”*.

Support to Data Sharing and Experiment Reproducibility

In Call 2017, the importance of data sharing and experiment reproducibility was put forward for topic *“Object recognition and manipulation by robots: Data sharing and experiment reproducibility (ORMR)”*, both in the title of the topic and in the topic description. For the other topic, one target outcome is to *“implement independent evaluation of systems, data and outputs”*.

In Call 2018, the issue has been put forward in the description of topic *“Analog Computing for Artificial Intelligence (ACAI)”*, where *“Projects should ... give due consideration to ... experiment reproducibility”* and expected impacts include *“Shared benchmarks and datasets for objective performance assessment and comparisons”*. Reproducibility is also mentioned in the description of the other topic.

Furthermore, it was decided during the period to organise a session on Open Science at the occasion of the Projects Seminar 2019 in Bucharest, in order to raise awareness among the funded projects but also to foster networking between researchers in these projects and organisations engaged in providing services for Open Science. This session will take place on April 3rd, 2019.

Publication of Data about CHIST-ERA Activities

As for past calls, statistics about the selection process and information about the selected projects and the supported topics are provided online on the CHIST-ERA website.

Reviewing Process

As for past calls, the review process is relatively open:

- All panel members have access to all proposals except in case of conflict of interest;
- The name of the panel chair is mentioned when inviting external experts to review;
- The panel composition is published on the web site for each topic.

Perspectives

A major perspective is the Open Science session at the Project Seminar 2019. Further contacts with organisations offering Open Science services will be pursued in view of involving them in the CHIST-ERA networking activities.