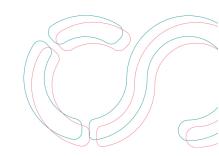


### EOSC Association AISBL 9th General Assembly Meeting Online, 22 November 2024

Date/Time:	22 November 2024 08:00-10:00 CET (registration) 10:00-13:30 CET (General Assembly)
Location:	Online Meeting via Zoom https://eosc-eu.zoom.us/j/9572443922?omn=84314411749
Chair:	[KL] Karel Luyben (EOSC-A) <u>Karel.Luyben@eosc.eu</u>
Secretary:	[UG] Ute Gunsenheimer (EOSC-A) <u>Ute.Gunsenheimer@eosc.eu</u>
Invited Guests:	Representatives of the European Commission (EC) and the EOSC Steering Board (EOSC-SB)
Delegates and Observer Representatives:	The list of participating organisations can be found in Annex 1.
Date of Production:	07 December 2024

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### meosc

### Before the meeting

Online check-in for the meeting opens at 8:00 CET. Delegates and guests are welcomed at the virtual registration room on Zoom, where each identifies themselves with a picture ID before being admitted to the main meeting room. The online check-in ends at 10:00 CET, and no late check-in is allowed.

A total of 226 registrants entered the Zoom meeting.

### Item 01: Welcome and opening (Information / 10')

EOSC-A President Karel Luyben [KL] welcomes the meeting participants and opens with a review of some housekeeping rules regarding the use of Zoom, the high-level voting procedures, and who to contact in case of technical issues.

It is specified that only delegates from Member organisations and delegates from Mandated Organisations have voting rights according to the EOSC-A Articles of Association. It is also specified that each voting session will start with the question, "Who abstains?", so the Voting Monitors have time to calculate the reference total of votes.

It is recognised that quorum has been reached, and thus the meeting can proceed.

#### EOSC Association AISBL

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### Item 02: Adoption of draft agenda (Decision / open voting / 15')

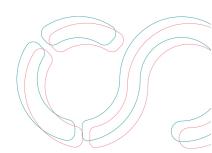
KL presents the draft agenda, and indicates that its adoption by the GA will serve as a test of the Votebox voting system. Instructions for using Votebox are reviewed, including how to vote using the app and how to vote as a proxy.

The process for the distribution of voting PIN numbers is clarified by Mélanie Collot [MC] from the EOSC-A Secretariat. The PIN numbers are then distributed by email to eligible voters.

#### VOTING

Philipp Schwarz [PS] from Votebox opens the test vote on the adoption of the agenda. The agenda is adopted unanimously by the GA, and the Votebox system functions as expected. Two abstentions are noted.

EOSC-A Secretary General Ute Gunsenheimer [UG] explains that any remaining issues with receiving PIN numbers and/or with the use of Votebox will be handled via the Zoom chat function.



EOSC Association AISBL

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# Item 03: Admission of new Members & Observers (Decision / open voting / 15')

#### Paper A – New Members and Observers

EOSC-A Director Ignacio Blanquer [IB] reviews changes in the EOSC-A membership that have taken place between GA#8 (28 May 2024) and GA#9.

Four Members have resigned membership in order to re-apply as Observers:

- Łukasiewicz Research Network Institute of Innovative Technologies (EMAG), Poland (applicable as of 2025)
- National Library of Technology (NTK), Czech Republic (applicable as of 2025)
- Scuola Normale Superiore (SNS), Italy (applicable as of 2025)
- Centro de Investigación Ecológica y Aplicaciones Forestales (CREAF), Spain (applicable as of 2025)

Three Observers have resigned membership in order to re-apply as a Member:

- Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics (SIB), Switzerland
- NORDUnet, Denmark
- Research Data Alliance Association (Europe) AISBL (RDA), Belgium

Two Members and one Observer have resigned from the Association:

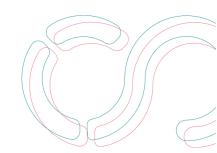
- Member Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. (Fraunhofer), Germany (applicable as of 2025)
- Member Consorzio per valutazioni biologiche e farmacologiche (CVBF), Italy (applicable as of 2025)
- Observer Climate Change Centre Austria (CCCA), Austria (applicable as of 2025)

Two new applications for Members have been received (+3 changing status)

- Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (Iscte), Portugal
- UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), UK

Four new applications for Observers have been received (+4 changing status)

- F6S Network Ireland (F6S), Ireland
- Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO), Belgium
- Royal Belgian institute of Natural Sciences (IRScNB KBIN), Belgium
- The Cyprus Institute (CYI), Cyprus



EOSC Association AISBL

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IB explains that these changes bring the current member base to 263, which will revise down to 251 on 01 January 2025 when the year's full slate of changes in membership status take effect.

#### Presentation of provisional Members and Observers

Short presentations are then made by the organisations subject to admission as Members or Observers.

Christophe Dessimoz presents SIB, the Swiss node of ELIXIR which serves 10 million users per year.

Licia Florio presents NORDUnet, described as the "GÉANT" of the Nordics.

Alex Delipalta presents RDA Europe, which has been an EOSC-A Observers since 2020.

João Olivera presents ISCTE, a public university in Lisbon.

Juan Bicarregui presents UKRI, the UK's public sector research funder with an annual budget of  $\leq$ 10 billion.

Nuno Varandas presents the F6S Network, an Ireland-based platform for tech startups whose mission is to help them grow.

Aaike De Wever presents Research Institute Nature and Forest, a Flemish public research institute focused on biodiversity.

Serge Scory presents RBINS, a Belgian federal scientific institute.

Andreas Athenodorou presents the Cyprus Institute, a multidisciplinary research institute.

#### VOTING

KL begins the voting process by asking the representatives of the Provisional Members and Observers to leave the Zoom room while the voting takes place. KL then asks if there are any objections to voting in all Members and Observers with a single "batch" vote.

There are two objections to this batch process, and a separate vote is held for FS6.

One vote is registered against admission of FS6, which means they are admitted with an overwhelming majority.

There are no objections to a batch vote for the remaining Members and Observers, which are voted in unanimously.

The new Member and Observer representatives are invited to return to the Zoom room and are congratulated on their admission to the EOSC Association.

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# Item 04: Report of President and Secretary General (Information / 40')

#### Paper B – Report of the President and the Secretary General

KL begins the presentation by introducing the structure of the report, which follows that of the 2024 Work Plan, covering first the Tripartite Collaboration and Horizon Europe EOSC Partnership; second, Working with the INFRAEOSC projects; and third, Inside the EOSC Association.

#### Tripartite Collaboration and Horizon Europe EOSC Partnership

KL describes the formation of the Tripartite Group, a sub-group of the Tripartite Governance, and the work they have been doing. By meeting once every two or three weeks for two hours, the group has been able to move more quickly than the Tripartite Governance, which meets only twice a year.

The Tripartite Group has led the process to sequence the potential Candidate EOSC Nodes, beginning with the questionnaire run in summer 2024, and followed by the processing and analysis of the 121 responses to the questionnaire.

The Tripartite Group has also coordinated the community consultation on the EOSC Federation Handbook.

The Tripartite Group has had nine meetings in total, two extended with experts, and has led the discussions on the requirements for EOSC Nodes, the Handbook, the process to build up the Federation based on sequencing and dialogues, and has had discussions leading to an update of the EOSC policy narrative.

KL reviews the three most recent National Tripartite Events held since the last GA: in France, Spain and Hungary, and previews a fourth planned for Slovenia in December.

KL reviews the Partnership's Additional Activities monitoring and reporting, which in 2024 has produced the Additional Activities Report for 2023 and the Additional Activities Plan for 2025, to which more than half of the EOSC-A Members contributed reporting. The AAR 2023 specified 322 MEUR in in-kind contributions from Members; and the AAP 2025 anticipates 340 MEUR in in-kind activities. In total, EOSC-A has reported 1.3 billion euros in realised and planned Additional Activities, far surpassing its Partnership commitment of 500 MEUR. Planning and reporting on Additional Activities will continue through 2030 when the Partnership MoU ends.

KL notes that a new Monitoring Framework for the Partnership has been adopted by the Partnership Board, version 7.0, with updates to the Partnership's Key Performance Indicators, linking them more closely to the present situation of EOSC. Additionally, the new Framework clarifies the language used in the KPI survey process. KL notes that the biannual KPI survey ran in October 2024.

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Rue du Luxembourg 3, BE-1000 Brussels, Belgium +32 2 537 73 18 | info@eosc.eu | www.eosc.eu Reg. number: 0755 723 931 | VAT number: BE0755 723 931

KL highlights recent updates to and new features of the EOSC Macro-Roadmap, a feature of eosc.eu supported by EOSC Focus.

KL moves on to review the fifth EOSC Symposium, organised for the first time by EOSC-A, which took place in Berlin on 21-23 October 2024. Highlights include the high attendance numbers, including 441 on-site participants and 732 following online. Participants from 60 nations, 25 outside of Europe, took part in 26 sessions.

KL calls out two events that took place in coordination with the Symposium, the European Commission's launch of the EOSC EU Node and a co-located EOSCxNFDI event which was integrated with and also followed the Symposium.

KL reviews the key political messages from the Symposium delivered by former German minister Bettina Stark-Watzinger, European Commissioner Invana Ivanova, DG RTD's Signe Ratso and former Italian prime minister Enrico Letta, author of the April 2024, <u>Much more than a market</u>, report. The political support for EOSC was very strong.

KL reviews the public launch of the EOSC EU Node, which he describes as "a seed in the ground, a first building block for the EOSC Federation", and reviews the services offered by the EU Node.

EOSC-A Director Sara Garavelli [SG] then reviews the major points of the new policy narrative for EOSC-A, which is fashioned as a reflection paper on the Letta report. In parallel, SG explains how this new narrative is designed to shape political opinion at the national level (EOSC Steering Board) and relative to the EC's Work Plan for 2025.

#### Working with the INFRAEOSC Projects

UG begins by introducing the seven EOSC Opportunity Area Expert Groups (OAEG) as an important cross-project collaboration mechanism. Though formed quite recently the OAEGs have already moved quickly into their work, meeting every four weeks, establishing work plans and presented already their first results in a session at the EOSC Symposium. In this connection, UG introduces the Winter School 2025.

After reviewing the EOSC Focus project, which comes to a close in May 2025, UG introduces its successor project, EOSC GRAVITY, a 4.6 MEUR project coordinated by EOSC-A that will kick off in June 2025. A key feature are its two cascading grants mechanisms, one for "geo-grants" and another for project support grants. UG highlights the eight other project grants from the INFRAEOSC 2024 HE work programme.

In the second round of 2024 HE INFRAEOSC calls, EOSC-A led a consortium of 10 partners in proposing the 3.6 MEUR EOSC United project, which UG describes as "a future engagement model for the EOSC Federation".

#### Inside the EOSC Association

UG reviews efforts by EOSC-A to deepen its relationship with its member base through the five dedicated forums established for this purpose: Mandated Organisations, the ESFRI-RI working

group, an e-Infrastructures group, a research-performing organisations umbrella group, and a funders group.

UG highlights the release of monthly interviews with EOSC-A's Mandated Organisations that are featured in the EOSC-A newsletter and on the website.

UG reviews the activities of the four EOSC-A Task Forces, which have organised their membership, selected co-chairs and published their approved work plans. In relation to the Health Data Task Force, UG highlights the October 2024 meeting between EOSC and the European Health Data Space enabled by the initiative of DG SANTE.

UG reviews the EOSC-A external and internal communication channels and their growing impact and impressive reach. After noting a nearly 30% growth in website activity over the last six months, a year over year increase of 34% in newsletter subscribers is highlighted along with an impressive opening rate of 45%.

Governance meetings held in 2024 are noted, and a save-the-date announcement is made regarding the 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, which will be an in-person-only meeting in Belgium on 27-28 May 2025.

UG shows the organisational chart for EOSC-A that details how the GA, Secretariat, Board of Directors, Task Forces and membership all work together in a structured way. Capacity building relative to documentation and administrative protocols within the Secretariat is also highlighted.

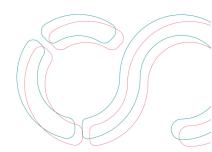
Finally, UG reviews the attainment of the Association's key performance goals for 2024, summarised as:

- Driving the build-up phase of the EOSC Federation in the context of the EOSC Tripartite Governance incl. the drafting of the EOSC Federation Handbook.
- Delivering SRIA 1.3 incl. MAR 2026-2027
- Achieving the requested In-kind Contributions of 500 MEUR of Additional Activities already after two years
- Establishment of four new EOSC-A Task Forces with over 200 volunteers
- Facilitating 7 Opportunity Area Experts Groups with nearly 190 participants
- Consolidating internal communication channels along 5 dedicated Fora
- Organising the EOSC Symposium with EOSC Focus support

#### Q&A

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Concezio Bozzi (INFN) compliments EOSC-A on the impressive numbers from the EOSC Symposium 2024 and asks if the pool of attendees will be expanded in 2025.

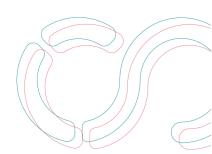


UG responds that after some intense discussions the consensus is that Symposium 2025 will not be extended too massively, with an expected maximum number of participants of around 500, in part to limit the financial risk to the Association.

A question from the chat is addressed: when will the Winter School registration open? UG responds that this will be in the following week.

Arjan Xhelaj (RASH) asks about the possibility of merging the EOSC-A General Assembly with the EOSC Symposium in 2025. KL responds that this suggestion will be considered by the Board.

A discussion then takes place concerning the differences between the OAEGs and the Task Forces. UG notes that the Task Forces are an instrument of EOSC-A included in Articles of Association and are a strategic tool to inform the Board of Directors. The OAEGs are a bottomup initiative from the INFRAEOSC projects, facilitated by EOSC Focus, and inspired by the Winter School 2024, to collaborate across projects.



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# Item 05: Adoption of SRIA 1.3, incl. MAR 2026-2027 (Decision / open voting / 15')

#### Paper C – SRIA 1.3, including MAR 2026-2027

KL reviews the current status of the EOSC Partnership's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), including the Multi-Annual Roadmap (MAR), which is co-owned by EOSC-A and the European Commission. An updated SRIA, SRIA 1.3, is up for approval by the GA and differs from SRIA 1.2 only in the contents of Chapter 8, the Multi-Annual Roadmap.

KL reviews the process to update the MAR 2025-2027 with a MAR specifically tailored to the EOSC priorities for the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Work Programme. This process included an initial drafting of priorities by the EOSC-A Board of Directors, which restructured the MAR around four Strategic Pillars tracking with relevant domains of development for EOSC. The draft version was agreed on by the Commission in August and then submitted for a public consultation in September 2024. A final draft was then agreed with the Commission in October, and is now submitted to the GA. If adopted by the GA, the SRIA 1.3 will be submitted for Partnership Board approval at its December 2024 meeting.

Once adopted, SRIA 1.3, including MAR 2026-2027, will serve as the EOSC Partnership's direct input into the Horizon Europe Work Programme for the final years of Horizon Europe. KL notes that a full revision of the SRIA is planned for 2025, which will result in SRIA 2.0.

KL then presents the detailed results of the public consultation to the GA.

#### Q&A

Licia Florio (NORDUnet) notes that the EOSC-A membership is very large, and wonders if EOSC-A has considered other mechanisms to gather more substantial feedback than is possible with surveys.

KL answers by acknowledging the issue and addressing the topic of survey fatigue. KL notes that prior to the consultation there is a lot of conversation between the Board and different internal groups, fora, the membership, etc., but the consultation ultimately addresses the need for the Partnership to accommodate feedback from its more than 2,000 European stakeholders.

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#### VOTING

SRIA 1.3, including the MAR 2026-2027, is submitted to the GA for approval. Three delegates abstain from the vote, and the SRIA 1.3 is otherwise adopted unanimously.

### Group photo and coffee break (10')

Participants are then requested to turn on their Zoom cameras so that a family "photo" can be taken as a series of screenshots of the more than 200 GA participants.

The meeting then breaks for 10 minutes and all participants are asked to turn off their audio and video and to not disconnect from the meeting.



EOSC Association AISBL

Item 06: Election of four Board Members, incl. short presentations of candidates (3+1) (Decision / anonymized voting / 30')

Paper D – Directors' Candidacies

#### Appreciation of outgoing Directors

KL welcomes the delegates back to the meeting following the coffee break. KL notes that two Board members are not up for re-election because they have completed two terms (2021-2024), the maximum allowable in the Articles of Association: Wilhelm Widmark (WW) and Bob Jones (BJ). KL thanks them for their dedication and willingness to work hard for the Association, and offers Wilhelm and Bob the floor.

WW and BJ address the GA, noting the progress EOSC has made during their time and thanking their fellow Board members and the Secretariat staff.

#### Presentation of candidates

KL then offers the floor to the nine candidates for the four open positions on the Board of Directors. Each gives a one-minute presentation of their candidacy. The candidates present themselves in the following order:

- 1. Helen Clare | Jisc (UK)
- 2. Licia Florio | NORDUnet (DK)
- 3. Sara Garavelli | CSC (FI)
- 4. Annika Glauner | ETH Zurich (CH)
- 5. Kamran Naim | CERN (IO)
- 6. Martine Pronk | LIBER (NL)
- 7. Eva Stensköld | Univ. of Gothenburg (SE)
- 8. Maria-Carme Torras-Calvo | Univ. of Bergen (NO)
- 9. Roxanne Wyns | LIBIS KU Leuven (BE)

#### Voting process

KL provides detailed instructions on the voting procedure to elect the four positions, which are based on Art. 3.2 – Voting of the <u>EOSC-A Internal Regulations</u>.

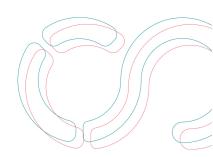
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Anonymized voting using the Votebox election platform is made available through the use of PIN numbers only to eligible voters, that is, official Delegates of Member organisations and Mandated Organisations. Members admitted earlier in the day's meeting are also eligible to vote.

KL describes that because there are nine candidates for four Director positions, the election will consist of four separate selection rounds, where Delegates will choose one candidate per round, as described in Art. 3.2 of the <u>Internal Regulations</u>. The three 3-year term positions will be filled first, and the 1-year term position will be filled in the fourth round of voting including the remaining eligible candidates.

According to the Art. 3.2 procedure, after the four candidates are selected all four Directors will be elected by the GA in a single ballot. This is to accommodate the requirement in the Articles of Association that Directors are elected by a double majority, including a two-thirds majority of votes of Members present or represented, and a two-thirds majority of votes of Mandated Organisations present or represented.



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#### VOTING

Votebox representative PS then reviews the Votebox procedures for the GA and initiates the voting.

In the first round, **Sara Garavelli** receives the most votes, and is removed from the candidates list.

In the second round, Kamran Naim receives the most votes, and is removed from the candidates list.

In the third round, **Roxanne Wyns** receives the most votes, and is removed from the candidates list.

Martine Pronk, who has requested to be considered only for a 3-year term is now removed from the eligible candidates for the fourth round, which is solely to elect a Director with a 1-year term.

In the fourth round, Licia Florio receives the most votes.

Following the four rounds of voting Roberto Sabatino (HEAnet) questions whether there were any technical issues that prevented all delegates from voting. KL and UG confirm that nearly all delegates cast votes in each round, and those that did not cast votes have likely abstained from voting.

PS then initiates the final vote that will require a double majority to elect the four leading candidates to join the EOSC-A Board of Directors. The four new Directors are voted in unanimously by the Mandated Organisations (with one abstention), and by a majority vote of the Members, including three abstentions and two "No" votes.

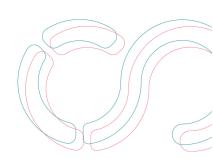
#### Do you agree to elect all four selected candidates (Sara Garavelli | CSC (FI), Kamran Naim | CERN (IO), Roxanne Wyns | LIBIS - KU Leuven (BE) and Licia Florio | NORDUnet (DK)) as Director of the EOSC Association Board?

				1 1	
24	23 (100,0 %)	0 (0,0 %)	1	23	YES
97	92 (97,9 %)	2 (2,1 %)	3	94	
121	115 (98,3 %)	2 (1,7 %)	4	117	YES
	97	97 92 (97,9 %)	97 92 (97,9 %) 2 (2,1 %)	97 92 (97,9 %) 2 (2,1 %) 3	97 92 (97,9 %) 2 (2,1 %) 3 94

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The new Directors are congratulated by the GA. They are:

- Sara Garavelli (re-elected to a second 3-year term)
- Kamran Naim (elected to a 3-year term)
- Roxanne Wyns (elected to a 3-year term)
- Licia Florio (elected to a 1-year term)



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# Item 07: Evolution of the EOSC Federation incl. Handbook (Information / 20')

#### Paper E – Evolution of the EOSC Federation

EOSC-A Director Bob Jones [BJ] updates the GA on the progress of and recent developments within the build-up phase of the EOSC Federation. BJ begins with a summary of the Tripartite Governance's 12 June – 31 August 2024 questionnaire for parties interested in contributing to the build-up phase of the EOSC Federation and a review of the submissions received. The questionnaire received 121 responses, which included 52 organisations expressing interest in becoming EOSC Nodes. BJ then reviews how these 52 have been narrowed to 29 considered as first-wave Potential Candidate EOSC Nodes, and projects that 7 to 10 of these will be selected for the first wave of deployment of Candidate EOSC Nodes in early 2025.

#### Dialogue process to sequence rollout of Potential Candidate Nodes

BJ then reviews the Tripartite's goals for the build-up phase as well as the detailed criteria that are being used to determine the sequencing of the rollout. The goal in 2025, notes BJ, is to have the Federation up and running, consisting of several nodes, as well as to have in place a clear application process to grow the Federation.

BJ then reviews the two-stage dialogue process that will take place between the 29 Potential Candidate Nodes and the Tripartite. A first stage dialogue will take place over four meetings in December 2024.

<i>First-stage dialogue</i>	<i>First-stage dialogue</i>	<i>First-stage dialogue</i>	<i>First-stage dialogue</i>
Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3	Meeting 4
ACTRIS ERIC ARIADNE RI CERN CLARIN ERIC CNR (Blue-Cloud) CNRS-LAPP (ESCAPE) ESRF (PaNOSC)	BITP CNRS (Data Terra) CVTI SR Foundation ICSC HUN REN Lux NDS NCN NFDI	ACOnet / EOSC Support Office Austria ARNES CSC – IT Centre for Science DeiC EUDAT NRIS SND SRCE SURF	BBMRI ERIC Elixir Hub EMBL Euro-Biolmaging ERIC Instruct ERIC

The first stage is to confirm the commitment levels of the organisations to join the first wave of the build-up phase. Some of the Potential Candidate Nodes will then be asked to join the second stage dialogue meetings, which will take place over in January and February 2025. The second

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stage meetings, which will include a smaller pool of Potential Candidate Nodes, will focus on one-on-one technical and organisational deep dives.

BJ then reviews the timeline of the build-up phase through Q3 2025, when the Tripartite expects to prepare for the next wave.

#### Federation Handbook

BJ then reviews progress made on the EOSC Federation Handbook, the purpose of the Handbook, the writing and editing process, and the results of the public consultation on the drafts of the first three chapters and outlines of the remaining chapters. The consultation received 47 responses from 18 countries.

BJ notes that the purpose of the first version of the Handbook is to provide a how-to on building up the Federation from 2025-2027. The Handbook's purpose, says BJ, is to enable the Federation build-up and give information to organisations, while providing a way to measure the success of the Federation. BJ gives special notice to the chapter on the future governance of the Federation, which still contains several open questions.

BJ states that the goal is to have six chapters ready for review by the end of 2024, and thanks the many volunteers who are contributing to the creation of the Handbook.

#### Q&A

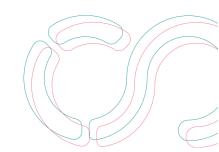
Vincent Klein Ikkink (CESAER) makes a statement on behalf of his organisation that CESAER strongly supports EOSC-A to be in charge of managing the EOSC Federation, and suggests two actions:

- The GA should encourage the board to actively pursue this goal and to seek an official mandate for this ambition at the May 2025 GA meeting;
- The GA membership should promote this idea within their individual organisations.

Ludek Matyska (CESNET) reviews discussions within the EOSC Steering Board, and has concerns that the rollout of the EOSC Federation may be too slow a process for those working at the national level. He asks that the Tripartite be very clear in communicating two things: first, that the rollout should not be perceived as a competition and that there are no winners and losers in this process; and second, the Tripartite should communicate a plan on how to work with those not selected in order to maintain momentum.

KL agrees and notes that UG will elaborate on the engagement plan for the Federation's buildup phase in Item 8: Work Plan 2025.

BJ notes that he believes these sentiments are well understood by the Tripartite.



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### Item 08: Work Plan 2025 (Decision / open voting / 15')

#### Paper F – Work Plan 2025

UG presents the EOSC Association's Work Plan for 2025 following the same three-part structure as the annual report.

#### Tripartite Collaboration and Horizon Europe EOSC Partnership

UG begins by noting that the EOSC Tripartite will issue a second consultation on the Federation Handbook in 2025, and reviews the Federation's build-up phase timeline shown by BJ.

Relative to this timeline, UG then introduces the implementation plan for the EOSC Association's engagement strategy for the deployment phase of the EOSC Federation, which is defined as the period from November 2024 through March 2025, emphasising the need for "good and clear, open and transparent communication".

UG defines the three tiers of target groups for the strategy and the primary corresponding EOSC-A communication channels by which each of the three tiers will be reached:

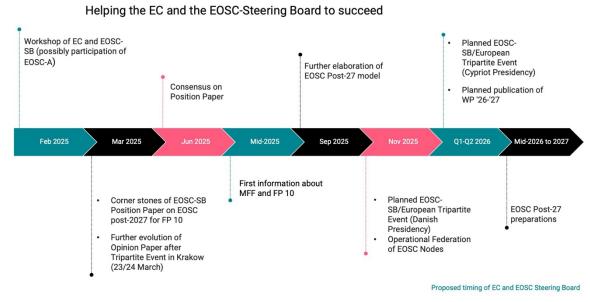
- 1. The broader EOSC community, via the Association's website, eosc.eu, and a dedicated section of the EOSC-A monthly newsletter.
- 2. Organisations generally interested in contributing to the Federation will be kept in the loop via EOSC-A's forum for Mandated Organisations, a bottom-up exchange of information serving to bridge the engagement gap between the national and European levels.
- 3. Organisations actively interested in contributing to the EOSC Federation who have indicated via the Tripartite's questionnaire in what role they might participate have been subscribed to an EOSC Forum Federation build-up group where they will receive regular updates. For this group a webinar is also planned for 28 November 2024, with others to follow corresponding to Federation deployment milestones.

UG then presents the case for EOSC-A to be appointed as the federating organisation for the build-up phase of the EOSC Federation.

UG presents a detailed description of the 2025-2027 timeline for the resumption of the discussion concerning the EOSC post-2027 governance model.

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### တeosc EOSC post-2027: Resuming the Discussions



UG then indicates that EOSC-A will be drafting SRIA 2.0 in 2025. A previously developed draft outline is presented and the next steps for 2025 are detailed, with the goal to deliver a mature draft of SRIA 2.0 by the end of 2025.

#### Working with the INFRAEOSC projects

UG presents a visual demonstration of the result of two years of co-branding efforts between the EOSC Association and the INFRAEOSC projects, and notes that all of the new INFRAEOSC projects coming online in 2025 have agreed to adopt the co-branding guidelines.

The seven Opportunity Area Expert Groups are highlighted, together with the programme for the second EOSC Winter School, which will take place in Seville from 20-23 January 2025.

UG reminds the GA that the 10<sup>th</sup> GA meeting will be held as an in-person only event in Belgium from 27-28 May 2025, and notes that adjacent to the meeting will be a handover meeting between the EOSC Focus, which is closing out in May, and EOSC GRAVITY, which is launching in June. UG then reviews the participants, structure and goals for the EOSC GRAVITY project.

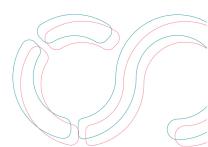
UG presents the structure and purpose of the currently pending project proposal, EOSC United.

UG previews the EOSC Symposium 2025, which will be organised by EOSC-A and is planned for fall 2025 in Brussels.

#### Inside the EOSC Association

UG states that EOSC-A has grown in the last year and will keep doing what it is doing, primarily by keeping everyone informed in a timely, clear and open manner, through the various

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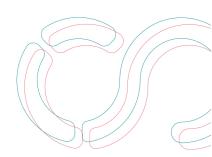


established channels. This includes the EOSC-A Fora meetings for Mandated Organisations, ESFRI RI Working Group, e-Infrastructures, RPO umbrella organisations and the funders group.

UG emphasises that EOSC-A will continue to support the work of its Task Forces as they work towards delivery on their terms of reference.

#### VOTING

The Association's Work Plan for 2025 is unanimously adopted by the GA with no abstentions.



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### Item 09: Budget 2025 (Decision / open voting / 15')

#### Paper G – Financial matters

EOSC-A Director and Treasurer Klaus Tochtermann [KT] begins with an income projection and forecast for the 2024 financials.

KT first notes that EOSC-A issued its annual membership invoices as early as 15 March 2024. As of 29 October 2024, a total of 16 invoices for 2024 membership fees remained unpaid, amounting to 77.500 EUR. Additionally, four outstanding invoices from 2023, totalling 40.000 EUR, are still pending. KT confirms that EOSC-A is actively pursuing recovery of these fees, with legal assistance where necessary.

KT notes that the 2024 forecast and the income projection are well aligned with one another.

KT reviews the forecasted costs and income for 2024 against the proposed budget for 2024. Income was lower than expected, but so were costs, and rather than the projected deficit of 111.000 euros, EOSC-A is forecasted to complete 2024 with a surplus of 36.000 euros.

The budged forecast and income projections for 2024 are noted without questions from the GA.

KT presents the budget proposal for 2025, first by detailing three major assumptions underlying the estimates:

- The fees for Members and Observers stay the same in 2024, and no fees will remain outstanding. Only once it becomes certain that we will not recover them will they be discounted from income.
- The work that EOSC-A is doing in the framework of the co-programmed European Partnership for EOSC will be supported by the Horizon Europe grants EOSC Focus (ending May 2025) and EOSC Gravity (starting June 2025).
- Based on the retrospective financial evaluation of the EOSC Symposium 2024, EOSC-A will carefully assess the requirements for the coming year's event. For now, the EOSC Symposium 2025 has been provisioned with a higher participation fee.

The income projection for 2025 is 2.802.513 euros and proposed costs are the same, resulting in a balanced budget for 2025.

#### VOTING

The 2025 budget is unanimously approved by the GA with no abstentions.

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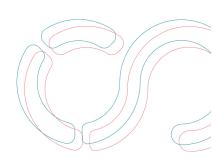
### Item 10: Discussion / AOB (25')

KL reminds the GA participants to save the date for GA #10, 27-28 May 2025, which promises to be a lively in-person-only meeting in Brussels.

KL opens the floor to any other business.

Director Marialuisa Lavitrano takes this opportunity to congratulate and welcome the new Board members.

York Sure-Vetter (NFDI) expresses his thanks to the EOSC-A Secretariat and Board for their excellent work, noting a particular appreciation for the performance of Secretary General Ute Gunsenheimer.



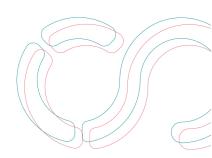
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### Item 11: Closing

KL thanks and bids farewell to the meeting participants, thus concluding the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EOSC Association General Assembly.



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### ANNEX 1: List of participating organisations

Academic Computer Centre CYFRONET of the AGH University of Science and Technology

ACONET Verein

Agentschap Meise Botanic Garden

Aragonese Institute of Health Sciences (IACS)

Area Science Park

Athena - Research and Innovation Center in Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies

**BBMRI-ERIC** 

Belnet

Bogolyubov Institute for Theoretical Physics of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine

Centro de Investigación Ecológica y Aplicaciones Forestales

CERIC-ERIC

CERN

CESAER

CESNET

CLARIN ERIC

Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives (CEA)

Conférence des Grandes Ecoles (CGE)

Conseil des recteurs

Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)

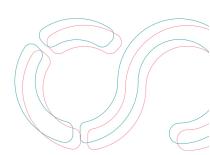
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)

Consorci de Serveis Universitaris de Catalunya

Consorcio para la Construcción, Equipamiento y Explotación del Laboratorio de Luz de Sincrotrón

24

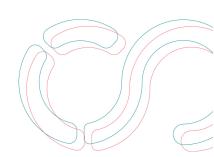
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**Consortium GARR** Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives - CESSDA Coöperatie SURF u.a. CSC - IT Center for Science Ltd Danish e-Infrastructure Consortium (DeiC) Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) Delft University of Technology Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG - German Research Foundation) Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR) EATRIS **EGI** Foundation Elixir Europe Elsevier B.V. Entidad pública empresarial Red.es EOSC Steering Board **EOSC** Association ETH Zürich EUDAT **Euro-Biolmaging ERIC** euroCRIS European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts **European Commission - DG RTD** European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)

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European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere (ESO) European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) European University Association (EUA) F6S Network Ireland FISEVI Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek Vlaanderen (Research Foundation Flanders) Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH Fundacion Publica Gallega Centro Tecnológico de Supercomputación de Galicia Gdańsk University of Technology GÉANT Association Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Stiftung Öffentlichen Rechts **Ghent University** Governmental Agency for IT Development (Kormányzati Informatikai Fejlesztési Ügynökség) Grand Equipement National de Calcul Intensif Graz University of Technology GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH Hasselt University **HEAnet CLG** Illes Balears Health Research Institute Foundation (IdISBa)

Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale / National Institute for Health and Medical Research

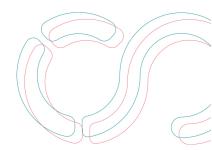
Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et Automatique/ National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology

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Institute Max von Laue-Paul Langevin (ILL) Institute of Physics Belgrade Instituto Universitário de Lisboa Iscte Institutul National de Cercetare-Dezvoltare in Informatica - ICI Bucuresti Instruct Integrated Structural Biology Infrastructure in Europe / INSTRUCT ERIC Israel Science Foundation Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica - National Institute for Astrophysics Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN) Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Czech Academy of Sciences Jisc LBG Karlsruhe Institute of Technology Karolinska Institutet **KU** Leuven LifeWatch ERIC Linnaeus University Łukasiewicz Research Network - Institute of Innovative Technologies EMAG Lund University (LU) Masaryk University NARD National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) National Infrastructures for Research and Technology - GRNET S.A. National Library of Technology National Science Centre

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Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur (NFDI) e.V.

NORCE Norwegian Research Centre AS

NORDUnet A/S

Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

Open scholarly communication in the European Research Area for the Social Sciences and Humanities (OPERAS)

open science for open societies - os4os gemeinnützige GmbH

OpenAIRE

Politecnico di Milano

Politecnico di Torino

Premotec GmbH

Research Council for Sustainable Development, Formas

Research Data Alliance Association (RDA)

Research Institute for Nature and Forest INBO

Royal Belgian institute of Natural Sciences

Rrjeti Akademik Shqiptar

Ruđer Bošković Institute (RBI)

Scuola Normale Superiore

Sikt - Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research

Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information

Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

Sorbonne Université

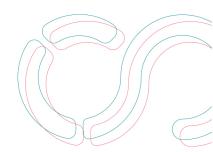
Stichting Health-RI (HRI)

Stichting LIBER

Stockholm University

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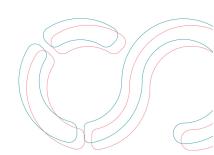
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Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics SIB Swiss National Science Foundation SWITCH Synchrotron SOLEIL Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien) Technische Universiteit Delft (TU Delft) The Cyprus Institute (CYI) The Extreme Light Infrastructure ERIC The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers The Open University The Research Council of Norway TIB Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology UK Research and Innovation Umeå University Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea - Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI) Universidad Internacional Isabel I de Castilla Universidad Politécnica de Madrid Universidad Politécnica de Valencia Università degli Studi di Ferrara Universita' Degli Studi di Padova Università degli studi di Torino Università del Piemonte Orientale Università Milano Bicocca

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Universität Wien (University of Vienna)

Université Clermont Auvergne (UCA)

Université de Lorraine

Université de Montpellier

Université Paris Cité

Universiteit Antwerpen

Universiteit van Amsterdam

Universitetet i Oslo

University of Bergen (UiB)

University of Bologna

University of Coimbra

University of Gothenburg

University of Helsinki (UH)

University of Strasbourg

University of Tartu

University Of Tuscia

University of Zagreb University Computing Centre

University Ss Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering (FCSE-UKIM)

Uppsala University

Utrecht University

Vetenskapsrådet: the Swedish Research Council

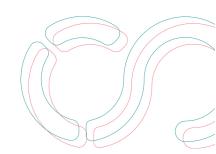
Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad

Vrije Universiteit Brussel

VSB - Technical University of Ostrava

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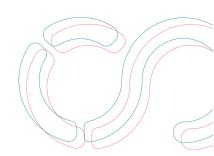
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Vytautas Magnus University (VMU)

ZBW - Leibniz Information Centre for Economics



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