

# EOSC Winter School 2026

## Thematic Tracks (version: 2 December 2025)

### 28 January 2026

Session A: Identifying solutions; 11:00-12:30  
 Session B: Analysis of solutions; 14:00-15:30  
 Session C: Roadmap and Reporting; 16:00-17:30

### **Thematic Track 1: Federating Capabilities and Interoperability**

Session / Chair	Description	Approach	Objectives	Outcomes
Session A / Diego Scardaci	This session will present the status and expected evolution of the EOSC Federation Architecture, focusing on interoperability and federating capabilities. The requirements from research communities will be analysed to help prioritise the development and implementation of federating capabilities.	Current work on EOSC interoperability will be presented, drawing on inputs from the EOSC Federation Handbook, EOSC-A Technical & Semantic Interoperability TF, EOSC Federation Build-up Group, EOSC Beyond, and other relevant projects and initiatives.	This session aims to increase awareness among research communities of the status of the EOSC Federation and its architecture; and identify the most relevant federating capabilities for these communities, analysing gaps that must be addressed to enable their implementation.	The session will produce informative material on the EOSC Federation Architecture and interoperability, and a roadmap for the implementation of federating capabilities that takes into account the requirements of research communities.
Session B / Esteban González, Tomasz Miksa	Using an interactive format, the session will aim to define common criteria for evaluating and recognising interoperability solutions that can be scaled to EOSC Node, based on the solutions identified in Session A.	Participants will rotate between thematic tables on PIDs, FAIR Digital Objects, Technical & Semantic Interoperability, using their own solutions as references to discuss and agree on shared evaluation criteria.	This session aims to identify the shared characteristics, success factors, and evaluation criteria that make interoperability solutions suitable for adoption by EOSC Nodes.	The session will produce a set of shared evaluation criteria and guiding principles to assess the readiness and suitability of interoperability solutions for adoption by EOSC Nodes.
Session C / Tibor Kálman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create a roadmap for the evolution of EOSC interoperability, drawing on inputs from relevant stakeholders (see Session A).</li> <li>- Prepare reporting materials.</li> <li>- Reflect and discuss on results from Sessions A &amp; B, and other outputs of OAEs and EOSC-A TFs.</li> </ul>	Presentations by World Café chairs and/or session chairs Plenary discussion on reporting for the full group Preparation of the reporting slide deck (rapporteur/s)	Identify session outcomes: Which gaps have been (un) satisfactorily addressed? Identify/prioritize next steps Post-Winter School engagement (OAEs, TFs, and Build-up Group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft summary of session outcomes to present at the plenary</li> <li>- Roadmap for the EOSC Federation: Where are the gaps and how can they be addressed?</li> <li>- Draft roadmap &amp; recommendations for the evolution of Interoperability in EOSC and Federating Capabilities</li> <li>- (Tentative) Work Plans for OAEs for 2026</li> </ul>

## Thematic Track 2: Resources

Session / Chair	Description	Approach	Objectives	Outcomes
Session A / Marek Cebecauer	ROHub: RO-Crate management platform	Lighting Talk/ Presentation / Discussion (incl. poll)		
	Automated workflows and ELNs: EOSC readiness for AI and automated systems		Open discussion on the readiness of EOSC Federation for automated data systems	Recommendation for interfaces and policies required to integrate automation systems and ELNs in the EOSC Federation
	Knowledge base of standards for the EOSC Federation		Knowledgebase of available standards applicable (preferred or recommended) in the EOSC Federation.	Concept of a knowledge graph, clarify what information is needed and valuable for re-use (e.g. ML assistance service)
	Addressing data quality in the EOSC Federation		Working towards ensuring and improving data quality within the EOSC Federation.	Landscape of existing data quality dimensions, Indicators, schemes
	Overview of resources, services and architecture of the upcoming European Health Data Space		Highlight similarities and differences between two Data Spaces regarding data usage, and existing and planned services and tools (FAIR data description, data access application, and usage in VREs)	General information, reuse of existing concepts and solutions
	Conceptual tool towards long-term data retention		Present the TF4's conceptual tool deliverable discuss whether to request candidate nodes with repository tasks to adopt certain guidelines regarding transparency and classification of retention and/or preservation practices.	Define recommendations for the EOSC federation to adopt as it pertains to candidate nodes which retain and/or preserve digital objects. Recommendations on transparency of retention care level and active preservation actions.
Session B / tbc	Data quality and standards for the EOSC Federation	World Cafe	Suggest actions & roles for the EOSC Federation (incl. role of the EU Node and middle level governance) to ensure high quality resources in the EOSC Federation.	Building on the outcomes of Session A
	Tools and policies for automated workflows to populate resources in the EOSC Federation with FAIR data.		Discuss and recommend actions and roles in the EOSC Federation to enable integration of tools for automated population of resources with FAIR data compliant with internal and international standards.	Building on the outcomes of Session A
	Classification and transparency on retention and active preservation of Candidate EOSC Nodes that retain/preserve data		Suggest actions & roles for the EOSC Federation (incl. role of the EU Node and middle level governance) to ensure high quality resources and services in the EOSC Federation.	Building on the outcomes of Session A
Session C / tbc	Define next steps for the TFs, OAEs and projects, record recommendations and concepts for the EOSC Federation Build-Up group based on presentations and discussion in Sessions A and B.	Presentation s by chairs Plenary discussion on reporting Preparation of reporting slide deck (rapporteurs)	Identify session outcomes: Which gaps have been (un) satisfactorily addressed? Identify/prioritize next steps Post-Winter School engagement (OAEs, TFs, and Build-up Group)	

### **Thematic Track 3: Competences and Training**

Session / Chair	Description	Approach	Objectives	Outcomes
Session A: EOSC Academy / Natalia Galica, Isabel Caetano, Eleni Toli	This session will help shape the design and functionality of the EOSC Academy to meet the expectations of current and future EOSC Nodes, while enabling participants to understand how high-quality, needs-based training services support coherent and sustainable enrolment and onboarding within the EOSC Federation.	<p>Short presentations by 2-3 nodes, sharing experiences from the enrolment process, to enable informed discussion (40 minutes): EOSC-PL confirmed; Finland/Italy (tbc) and a thematic node.</p> <p>Group discussions facilitated by representatives of EOSC Federation subgroup and EOSC Academy to focus discussion on training needs of EOSC Nodes to use as feedback for the Academy. [Predefine 2-3 questions to align with the objectives and expectations for the session]</p> <p>Feedback from the groups and conclusions for presentation during the plenary on Thu 29 Jan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gather feedback and insights to support EOSC Gravity to create the EOSC Academy.</li> <li>- Enable EOSC Gravity to identify and understand skills gaps to enable a more effective development of the EOSC Federation through targeted and well-designed training services.</li> <li>- Facilitate understanding of the enrolment process for aspiring EOSC Nodes, and of the onboarding of resources to existing EOSC Nodes.</li> <li>- Address the needs of Nodes joining the EOSC Federation.</li> <li>- Provide participants with knowledge and skills on federated capabilities and rules of participation.</li> <li>- Support implementation of the EOSC Federation Handbook.</li> <li>- Share lessons learned from the First Wave of EOSC Nodes to guide the next phase.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear understanding of the EOSC Academy for all partners across EOSC, including aims and approach.</li> <li>- Enhanced understanding of federated capabilities and rules of participation in the EOSC Federation.</li> <li>- Practical insights from experiences and lessons learned by the First Wave EOSC Node.</li> <li>- Identified skills gaps and training needs to guide the design of EOSC Academy.</li> <li>- Improved alignment between the EOSC Academy's training offer and the needs of future nodes and other Federation stakeholders</li> </ul>
Session B: Embedding Training and Engagement into the EOSC Federation / Sara di Giorgio, Emma Lazzeri, Friederike Schmidt-Tremmel	This session will explore how training, engagement, and competence-building can be embedded within the EOSC Federation by connecting Nodes, Competence Centres and other training providers with end-users to ensure that Open Science training enhances the uptake of the resources offered by the EOSC Nodes.	<p>Short presentations from 2–3 Competence Centres or Open Science training initiatives, highlighting different opportunities and models for collaboration with EOSC Nodes. The focus will be on how CCs and training providers can work with Nodes to align training efforts, support researcher engagement, and connect training activities with the use of EOSC Node services.</p> <p>World Café discussion facilitated by OAEG5. The discussion will build on the topics identified during the meeting with the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explore how Open Science training can enhance the uptake of EOSC Node resources.</li> <li>- Clarify synergies between CCs and other training providers, the EOSC Academy and Nodes.</li> <li>- Provide input for the EOSC Academy and the EOSC Federation Handbook.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identifying strategies/requirements for training and engagement within EOSC Nodes, feeding into the EOSC Federation Handbook, EOSC Rules of Participation, and EOSC Academy.</li> <li>- Shared understanding of the relationships and collaboration pathways between CCs and EOSC Nodes.</li> <li>- Practical suggestions on how training initiatives can support researcher engagement and facilitate the introduction of EOSC Node services into OS/FAIR learning programmes.</li> </ul>

		<p>Subcommittees. Each table will work with short, focused questions to produce concrete outputs.</p> <p>Discussion topics include: collaboration frameworks and interaction models between CCs, training initiatives, and EOSC Nodes; strategies to engage researchers and encourage uptake of EOSC EU Node services; practical approaches to embed EOSC services and capabilities into OS/FAIR training programmes.</p> <p>Feedback from groups and conclusions. Input will feed into the plenary reporting session.</p>		
<p>Session C / Helen Clare, Celia van Gelder</p>	<p>Roadmapping the future of competencies and training in EOSC. Reflection and open discussion on the previous two sessions and previous outputs of working groups and task forces.</p>	<p>Presentation on progress towards meeting the recommendations from the 2021 report "Digital skills for FAIR and Open Science" , other task force outputs and identified next steps from Winterschools 2024 and 2025, identifying progress and gaps. Landscaping / Stocktaking.</p> <p>Thematic discussions and roadmapping - with inputs from Session A and B. Recommendations, timelines, responsibilities.</p> <p>Plenary: Feedback and action planning, including short and long-term actions</p>	<p>To identify and prioritise next steps, including plans for post Winter School engagement, consolidating recommendations and identifying gaps from previous EOSC work on training and skills.</p>	<p>A roadmap and action plan next steps, including identified roles for next stakeholders including EOSC Academy, OA5, Competence Centres and the Training Subgroup of the EOSC Federation.</p>