

Health Data Task Force

Charter

1 Task Force background and scope

The Health Data Task Force (2027–2028) is the successor to the current Health Data Task Force (2024-2026) and builds on its results. Its purpose is to drive the convergence of EOSC and European Health Data Space (EHDS) developments, focusing on the reuse of health sensitive data while keeping compliance with FAIR principles, thereby maintaining the alignment of EOSC with the Common European Data Spaces.

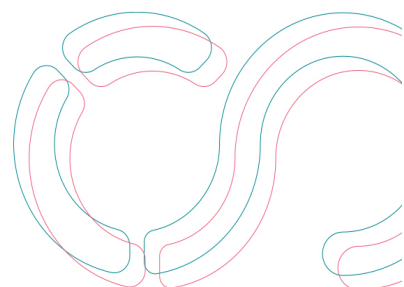
Its objective is to help define the EOSC strategy for the large-scale use of health data in research, by identifying the requirements and ethical and legal grounds that make access to and processing of health and sensitive data within EOSC both fair and safe. The Task Force (TF), building on the deliverables produced in the first TF on Health Data, will work to strengthen the connection between EOSC and the EHDS for secondary-use infrastructure (HealthData@EU).

In line with the mandate set by the EOSC-A Board of Directors, the TF is expected to provide, in particular, advice to the EOSC-A Board on: 1) how EOSC capabilities (data, services and infrastructure) can help in the full development of the HealthData@EU; 2) what challenges EOSC communities will face when using HealthData@EU infrastructure, particularly, when exchange of sensitive data is required.

The TF is a strategic, time-bound body that works in direct service of the EOSC Federation. Its single annual output is a concise paper that identifies a specific problem, sets out possible solutions, and formulates actionable recommendations addressed to the relevant Federation Working Groups or to the EOSC Nodes more broadly, anchored wherever possible in one or more EOSC use cases, so that recommendations are grounded in real Federation needs.

2 Potential areas of work for the annual deliverable

The first TF's deliverable, "[*Identification of gaps, redundancies, and possible synergies regarding different user journeys of researchers in EHDS and EOSC*](#)" analysed the EOSC–EHDS interplay across areas such as: data hosting, discoverability and accessibility; data interoperability and quality; and data processing. The second one "*Strategic view of EOSC supporting the adoption of EHDS*" (under publication) has addressed the EOSC Capabilities and capacities to support the adoption of EHDS for secondary use and organisational aspects for a successful EOSC contribution in such an endeavour. The current TF is expected to build upon those concrete aspects and develop guidance for an effective implementation.



Each area offers concrete, single-paper-sized problems for a follow-up annual deliverable, as follows.

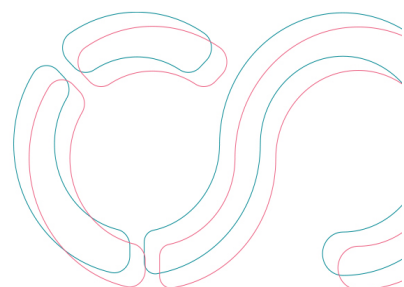
- a) **Data quality and interoperability at source** including questions such as Data Stewardship at source; Standards, community specifications and technical harmonisation; Metadata publication, catalogue federation and dataset deduplication; Cross-domain interoperability and traceability; Reference datasets and European capacity; or Licensing and IPR information.
- b) **Advanced datasets and federated infrastructure** including topics such as Support for federated querying and advanced data search; Multimodal analyses and data linkage challenges; Tooling for data preparation and secondary use.
- c) **Secure Processing Environment (SPE) provisioning** including aspects of Operational interfaces and lifecycle; Scientific requirements and service models; Common assurance and national compatibility; Affordable retention, archiving and controlled re-access; Privacy-enhancing technologies and disclosure control.
- d) **Data return and reuse** with elements such as Outputs from EHDS SPE processing; Navigation to deposition and return services; Enriched and newly generated data; Experience exchange, feedback and end-of-project obligations, Transparency requirements and information duties.
- e) **EOSC roles and value proposition for participation in HealthData@EU** including topics such as Participation models in EHDS, EOSC structures as HealthData@EU participants; Maturity and readiness of EOSC actors for EHDS participation; Governance, compliance, and regulatory framework.

The elected Co-Chairs, building upon the recommendations provided in the final TF 2024-2026 deliverables, in consultation with the relevant Federation stakeholders, will define the topics to address, the precise problem, scope and use-case anchor in the first month of the mandate as well as the methodology to follow to achieve the TF outcomes.

3 Expected memberships

We are looking for members who are willing to contribute actively, in line with the proposed structure (problem – solutions – actionable recommendations). Concretely, prospective members should be ready to:

- Research, analyse and write specific sections of the annual deliverable, within agreed deadlines.
- Critically review and provide constructive feedback on the contributions of fellow members.
- Incorporate feedback received from reviewers and other Federation bodies into the draft.



- Engage with the relevant EOSC Federation Working Groups and, where applicable, the EHDS community, to keep the deliverable connected to real needs.
- Commit to consistent and continuous participation throughout the mandate.

Expertise should be relevant to the chosen disciplinary scope – for example: health-data interoperability and standards; secure processing; metadata and FAIR implementation; federated identity and trust; data quality and utility labelling; or the legal, ethical and governance dimensions of health-data reuse. Knowledge and experience on the HealthData@EU developments will be also considered.

Applicants are asked to submit a short statement of relevant expertise, a CV, and an endorsement letter from their organisation; gender balance and broad representation across the community are taken into consideration in the selection.

