



EU-SOLARIS ERIC

Other Policies

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eu-solaris.eu

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BNN	Board of National Nodes
CST	Concentrating Solar Thermal Technologies
DMP	Data Management Plan
EOSC	European Open Science Cloud
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
GA	General Assembly
IPR	Intellectual property rights
MD	Managing Director
PDEC	Plan for Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication
RI	Research Infrastructure
R&D	Research and Development
STC	Scientific & Technical Committee
SLA	Service-Level Agreement

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document gathers the EU-SOLARIS ERIC' policies on:

- Scientific Evaluation
- Dissemination, Exploitation & Communication
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Data Management

All these policies emanate from the basic guidelines gathered at the EU-SOLARIS ERIC Statutes. They have been developed by the Managing Director and must be approved by the General Assembly.

Of course, this is a living document that will be modified as necessary in order to adapt it to the evolving needs of the ERIC.

Other policies, covering specific aspects of the EU-SOLARIS ERIC' principles and operation deserve a separate document, giving their relevance. They are listed below:

- Gender Equality Plan
- Access Policy
- Ethical Code of Conduct
- Procurement and Tendering Policy
- Human Resources Policy

2. SCIENTIFIC EVALUATION POLICY

EU-SOLARIS-ERIC will carry out a full external review of its activities at the beginning of the 4th year of every budgetary cycle.

The evaluation panel will be composed of 3 (three) external reviewers, appointed by the General Assembly and invited by the Chair.

The panel members will each be provided with a 3-year detailed report, to be prepared by the Managing Director, together with Central Hub personnel, the Board of National Nodes members and the GA delegates. The chapter headings of this report will be decided upon by the GA.

The panel will have 3 (three) months to carry out their review, including detailed recommendations for improvement, and submit the report to the General Assembly and the Managing Director.

The Managing Director shall prepare a written response to the panel members no later than 3 (three) months after submission of the panel's report.

This response will be prepared by the Managing Director after consultation and approval by the General Assembly, demonstrating the changes made or planned, and corrective measures put in place or planned, to address the panel comments and criticisms.

Access activities

The procedure for the scientific assessment of the projects that seek access to the infrastructure of EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall take into account the scientific merit, the unmet needs of the sector and the potential use and impact in the sector, and shall be based on the principles of transparency, equity and impartiality.

Such procedure shall be defined in the Access Policy, which is drawn up by the Managing Director and approved by the General Assembly, having consulted the STC and the BNN.

3. DISSEMINATION, EXPLOITATION & COMMUNICATION POLICY

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall take appropriate measures to promote its Members' RIs and its use in research and in any service related to EU-SOLARIS ERIC' objectives.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall promote the dissemination and exchange of the results obtained through use of its Members' research infrastructure.

Without prejudice to potential Intellectual Property Rights, third parties' rights and applicable mandatory and statutory law, EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall ensure that its users make available to the public the results of the research carried out at the ERIC Members' infrastructures and that they do so in accordance with European and national grant terms and conditions. This will not apply to R&D activities carried out by the research centres when using their own infrastructures out of the scope of the ERIC.

It is assumed that a key issue regarding the long-term sustainability of the ERIC is the success in creating an institutional image or 'trade mark' and to achieve a maximum outreach of it by a diversity of means and to a diversity of audiences.

The Managing Director, together with the General Assembly shall select the different target groups and EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall use all of the channels within its scope to ensure maximum dissemination amongst them.

The achievement of this goal encompasses a comprehensive scope of activities, to be gathered at the '*Plan for Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication*' (PDEC) to be proposed by the Managing Director and adopted by the General Assembly.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS POLICY

The Members of EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall agree and approve, through the General Assembly, any further EU-SOLARIS' IPR regulations, under proposal of the Managing Director and having consulted the STC and the BNN. The IPR regulation shall determine the rules of EU-SOLARIS ERIC relating to the identification, protection, management and maintenance of IPR of EU-SOLARIS ERIC, including access to those rights.

Any and all Intellectual Property Rights (hereinafter "IPR"), which are created, obtained or developed by EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall vest in and be owned absolutely by EU-SOLARIS ERIC. Nevertheless, limited Data Proprietary periods can be awarded to users.

Without prejudice to the conditions established in the contracts entered into between EU-SOLARIS ERIC and Members or Observers, all of the IPR created, arising, obtained or developed by the staff of a Member or Observer shall belong to that Member or Observer.

With respect to questions of IPR, the relations between the Members and Observers of EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall be governed by the respective national legislation of Members and Observers and by international agreements to which the Members and Observers are parties.

The provisions and the internal regulations at EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall be without prejudice to the background IPR owned by Members and Observers.

The BNN may recommend to the Managing Director agreements with the national infrastructure centres and consortiums with regard to the research infrastructure of EU-SOLARIS ERIC in order to guarantee that such entities, and third parties, have access to the scientific knowledge of EU-SOLARIS ERIC research infrastructure.

5. DATA POLICY

Open Source and *Open Access* principles shall be favoured, following the FAIR principles (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reusability).

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall provide guidance (including via website) to users to ensure that research undertaken using material made accessible through EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall be undertaken within a framework that recognizes the rights of data owners and privacy of individuals.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall ensure that users agree to the terms and conditions governing access and that suitable security arrangements are in place regarding internal storage and handling.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall define arrangements for investigating allegations of security breaches and confidentiality disclosures regarding research data.

The Managing Director shall submit for the approval of the General Assembly, the internal regulations on Data Policy with regard to users of EU-SOLARIS ERIC' infrastructure, the national nodes and third parties such as universities, research centres and industry, without prejudice of existing IPR and applicable mandatory and statutory law.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC Data Principles

The EU-SOLARIS ERIC Data Policy covers: Data acquired, managed, assembled or created through research, survey and monitoring activities by or involving EU-SOLARIS ERIC following Article 22 of the EU-SOLARIS ERIC Statutes.

The EU-SOLARIS ERIC undertakes to commit to the principles of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) Declaration¹.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC has to develop a '*Data Management Plan*' (DMP) and have it accessible on the EU-SOLARIS ERIC website. The DMP governs all research projects generating or collecting publicly funded research data conforming to common methodologies.

Exceptions to the general rule regarding Data Access shall be listed in an online annex to the EU-SOLARIS ERIC Data Management Plan and shall specifically mention the reason for exceptions. It is agreed that EU-SOLARIS ERIC Data Policy rules shall not apply in case of sensitive data management, including personal data, intellectual property data, or data considered to be secret or national security data.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC recognizes that European science must be grounded in a common culture of data stewardship such that research data is recognized as a significant output of research and is appropriately curated throughout and after the period conducting the research.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC undertakes to implement FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reproducible) for data management, and encourage Open Science through the publication of data produced by EU-SOLARIS ERIC and its Users in open databases.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC acts according to the OECD Principles and Guidelines for Access to Research Data from Public Funding², as applicable to generated research Data, and INSPIRE principles, as recommended by the European Commission to encourage stakeholder organizations and Member States. The document can be consulted on the EU-SOLARIS ERIC website.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/open-science-cloud>

² <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264034020-en-fr>

Data Management

As a general rule regarding Data Access and without prejudice to potential Intellectual Property Rights, third parties` rights and applicable mandatory and statutory law, data generated as part of EU-SOLARIS ERIC data shall be made available through Open Access to any person or any organisation requesting such data.

Researchers are required to keep clear and accurate records of the research procedures followed and of the results obtained, including interim results.

This is necessary for demonstrating proper research practices. Data generated in the course of Research must be kept securely in both paper and electronic form, as appropriate. It remains the responsibility of the researcher to ensure that arrangements are in place to maintain the integrity and security of research data.

EU-SOLARIS ERIC shall allow the User(s) an embargo period to work exclusively on the Data they have collected. This period shall be defined in the User Access Contract. After expiration of this embargo period and without prejudice to potential Intellectual Property Rights, third parties` rights and applicable mandatory and statutory law, Data should be licensed under the most recent version of Creative Commons CC-BY.