

Open Science – a Reality Check Within ATHENA European University

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Open science is well recognised and established policy principle of the European Union (2019) as well as UNESCO (2021), and it is implemented by various educational and research institutions and societies. In the above-mentioned resources, open science is defined as “system change allowing for better science through open and collaborative ways of producing and sharing knowledge and data” and a framework that “contributes to reducing the digital, technological and knowledge divides existing between and within countries.” Open access to research publications and research data became even an obligatory activity part of the national regulation (Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act, 2022).

In the keynote lecture, the fundamental principles and ambitions of the open science policy will be followed by a selection of implementation models and use cases. The most exposed principles, like the FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, re-

usable) open data, new generation metrics and even citizen science, will be stressed. An experience-based assessment, stemming on the first implementations of open science principles, will highlight the different, even contradictory, expectations of various stakeholders, including the researchers, scholarly communication, research funders, publishers and society in general.

In the second part of the lecture, a brief introduction to the ATHENA European university will be given, followed by the implementation models of the open science principles in the – diverse by content but homogeneous by interest – landscape of the ATHENA alliance partner institutions. ATHENA stands for Advanced Technology Higher Education Alliance and joins nine mid-range Europe-wide partner institutions aiming for excellence in joint research and educational projects, enhanced synergies including the research infrastructure, fostering research quality and impact, and, nevertheless, attracting funds to support its programmes.

In conclusion, the lecture will demonstrate how open science can serve as a binding policy in alliances with clear goals and heterogeneous structure regarding the initial mission, size and research capacities in different fields of science.

Keywords: open science, implementation models, controversies, ATHENA European university, capacity building