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Minimum Requirements for Research Data Repositories: First results

Science Europe Working Group on Research Data

Aim

- Funders and research organisiations require data deposition through their research data policies
- Information regarding minimum requirements of research data repositories is needed
- Different strategies already exist: recommended repositories, certificates
- Overview:
  - Check of repositories
  - Check of criteria for trusted repositories

Check of Repositories

- Check of 58 repositories recommended by various sources (funders, research organisations, publishers) as suitable platforms for open research data sharing and archiving for different disciplines
- Listed in one of four repository registries: re3data, meril, fairsharing, Opendoar
- Creating a separate list of repositories → difficult

Suggestion

- Collaboration with a registry that already contains most recommended repositories
- E.g. re3data: It was the most complete and already displays some information as flags for each repository

Two steps strategy

1. Define a **minimum set of essential criteria** to propose to the repository registry for highlighting during a transition phase
   - Analysis of the criteria set by different entities (funders, research organisations, publishers, databases, CoreTrust Seal,…)
   - Preparation of a set of prioritised criteria
2. In 5 years, only repositories with a **recognised certification** will be accepted, replacing the temporary set of criteria

Minimum requirements for research data repositories – First draft

- Persistent unique identifier
- Metadata
- Data access & Usage
- Machine Readability
- Long-term Preservation

Criteria

- Persistent unique identifier
  - Enable access to the dataset
  - Ensure dataset persistence
  - Enable searching and retrieval of datasets
  - Maintain a repository-managed URI associated with each of those IDs
  - Permanent IDs even if the data have been retracted

Criteria

- Metadata
  - Ensure dataset persistence
  - Enable searching and retrieval of datasets
  - Publicly available and maintained even for retracted datasets

- Data access & Usage
  - Enable access to the dataset
  - Ensure dataset stability
  - Enable searching and retrieval of datasets
  - Information about licensing and permissions

Criteria

- Machine Readability
  - Enable searching and retrieval of datasets
  - At least intrinsic metadata has to be submitted in a structured and machine readable form

- Long-term Preservation
  - Ensure dataset persistence
  - Long-term preservation plan exists
  - Sustainability of repository

Next steps

- Agree on the proposed approach
- Agree on minimum requirements for research data repositories
- Discuss implementation with registries (e.g. re3data)
- Examine existing plans for developing certification schemes
- Align with EOSC

Thank you!

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