OpenCitations

A scholarly infrastructure that provides open bibliographic and citation data worldwide

OpenCitations, explained:

OpenCitations is an independent infrastructure organization for open scholarship dedicated to the publication of open bibliographic and citation data using Semantic Web (Linked Data) technologies. OpenCitations also undertakes related advocacy work, particularly as a founding member of the Initiative for Open Citations (I4OC). OpenCitations has the potential to give institutions and individuals the ability to analyse and reuse publication citations in library collections, other infrastructures and in research.

OpenCitations fully supports the founding principles of Open Science. It complies with the FAIR data principles proposed by Force11 that data should be **findable**, **accessible**, **interoperable** and **re-usable**, and it complies with the recommendations of I4OC that citation data in particular should be **structured**, **separable** and **open**. OpenCitations has published a formal definition of an open citation, and has launched a system for globally unique and persistent identifiers (PIDs) for bibliographic citations – the Open Citation Identifiers (OCIs) – for which it maintains a resolution service.

OpenCitations has developed the OpenCitations Corpus (OCC, http://opencitations.net/corpus), a database of open downloadable bibliographic and citation data recorded in RDF. The Corpus contains information on about 14 million citation links to over 7.5 million cited resources from a range of publishers. These are made freely available so that others may build upon, enhance and reuse them for any purpose, without restriction under copyright or database law.

In addition, OpenCitations is currently developing a number of linked data Open Citation Indexes using the information available in third-party bibliographic databases. The first and largest of these is COCI, the OpenCitations Index of Crossref open DOI-to-DOI citations, which currently contains information on more than 445 million citations.

OpenCitations also provides open source software of generic applicability for searching, browsing and providing APIs over RDF triplestores (https://github.com/opencitations).

OpenCitations is innovating the way bibliographic and citation data are managed on several administrative and technical levels. OpenCitations provides, maintains and updates the OpenCitations Data Model which is based on its widely used SPAR (Semantic Publishing and Referencing) Ontologies. These can be used to encode all aspects of scholarly bibliographic and citation data in RDF, which enables them to be published as Linked Open Data (LOD).

Why has OpenCitations been deemed an essential infrastructure?
- OpenCitations aligns well with open science goals;
- It provides an innovative service of open citation data;
- It could be a game changer, challenging established proprietary citation services;
- Supports change in research assessment;
- Is infrastructure at risk and in need of financial sustainability.

SCOSS funding target for OpenCitations:
Operational funding for 3 years: € 1,530,198

How you can help
You can help by committing to help fund the OpenCitations infrastructure. We recommend that you pledge an annual donation for a period of three years, as shown in the table below, in which funding levels vary according to the size and type of the organisation. Pledging for the full term of three years will provide the service with a secure financial foundation on its path to complete financial sustainability. Your pledge can either be paid in one lump sum, up-front, or on an annual basis.

Financial transactions will take place directly between the funding organisation and the service provider, and not via SCOSS. Organisations wishing to support OpenCitations should contact them directly at donations@opencitations.net. Donations will be handled by the Research Centre for Open Scholarly Metadata, an independent research centre within the University of Bologna.

Donation levels

Organisation Size	Annual contribution Level
Large orgs from high income countries	4,000 euros
Small orgs from high-income countries	2,000 euros
Funding orgs	8,000 euros
National or regional governments and international orgs	5,000 euros
Orgs from low- and middle- income countries; small non-profits; orgs with smaller budgets	500 euros

A 25% discount will be deducted from the individual contributions made by members of consortia of 10 or more organisations.

More information

OpenCitations website:	https://opencitations.net/
Contact person at OpenCitations:	Silvio Peroni at silvio.peroni@opencitations.net
OpenCitations SCOSS Application Form:	https://sparceurope.org/download/7903/
SCOSS website:	https://www.scoss.org