

# Shaping new ways to open the book. A workshop of the HIRMEOS project, 2 June 2019, Marseille

## **«Creating New Communities through Open Access»**

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### **Abstract**

Nowadays a free, direct and permanent access to digital scientific content is necessary for every student and researcher. It is a major challenge for traditional forms of publishing and an important opportunity to promote scientific manuscripts in international level. With closed publishing models, academic libraries faced a critical period and were unable to provide the materials they needed for researchers and their students.

This proposal focuses on the issue of successful networking of research institutes and researchers all around the world as means of changing the open access reality. The interest lies in the fact that it is not confined to the theoretical background of networking but also it examines the use of networking practices in open access libraries, especially in regard to monographs, since they are important means of disseminating research results in the Humanities and Social Sciences. However it is difficult, especially for young scientists, to publish their research in the form of monographs. On the other hand the electronic publication of monographs with open access allows us to save resources and add multimedia material, which would not be possible in a printed book. The theoretical assumption of the text is the belief that the link between theory and practice forms participatory and collaborative research practices aimed at improving the quality of the scientific work. The benefits of successful networking are varied, mainly by solving common problems, professional development and researcher's education, common benefit and empowerment of participants. For example, in an online community with open access monographs, each user could invite other users to a discussion about the monograph, get

updates for changes or new additions related to their academic interests. The participating researchers and institutes is a matter of modern scientific research because it is promoted at local, national and international level of communication, cooperation, research and development at a very low cost. Private access restricts the dissemination of ideas and does not fit into the new examples of digital technology. Internet forms an opportunity for innovation, the dissemination of knowledge and the emergence of new ideas. In this way, public data infrastructures would provide the basis for a well-informed discussion on alternative ways of organizing and funding scientific publication in a world where open access to academic achievements is increased. It should also be mentioned that partnerships may often not be properly and suitably managed by the parties involved, so the results of the cooperation are often less useful than expected.

The development and maintenance of research and cooperation networks is particularly important, because they establish democratic structures in humanities by enhancing the personality of each participant, educator or researcher. In addition, networks can provide feedback for the open access system itself if members are enabled to actively monitor, respond to emerging needs, and co-manage, together with scientific staff, developments in research institutions, significantly speeding up the transfer of knowledge through monographs and opening new paths for cooperation and development of new research fields.