

The ERICs in Horizon Europe

A successful case



www.eric-forum.eu



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On the ERICs and the ERIC Forum

The European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) is a specific legal form that facilitates the establishment and operation of Research Infrastructures with European interest.

The ERIC model

It provides a legal capacity recognised in all EU Member States, a faster process to create an international organisation, and exemptions from VAT and excise duty. This makes the ERIC model a fundamental tool for the establishment and operation of common research infrastructures.

The ERIC Forum

The ERIC Forum strategically contributes to the development of ERIC related policies by sharing best practices, tackling common challenges, fostering visibility, impact and sustainability of ERICs and contributing to the European science policies and research context.

With 32 ERICs established, the ERIC Forum has become one of the leading voices in European science policy.

ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN ERIC



A legal capacity recognized in all EU Member States



Flexibility to adapt to specific requirements of each infrastructure



A faster process than creating an international organisation



Exemptions from VAT and excise duty

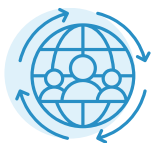
Advantages for Research

ERICs provide the European research community with access to high-quality data and cutting-edge technologies to support scientific excellence and respond to global challenges.

Moreover, they support mobility of researchers and knowledge across the ERA, promote collaboration between countries and favour a European coordination of national infrastructure capacities and capabilities.

More in details

ACCESS TO RIs



- Provide access to state-of-the-art research facilities and services for researchers from Europe and beyond, including universities, industries, SMEs, and incubators.
- Experts provide technical and scientific support to users accessing the RIs.
- ERICs offer predefined access processes, ensuring efficient and transparent use of resources.
- Researchers can access facilities either through funded projects (free access) or with their own funds (subject to capacity).

DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES



- Potential upscaling of research from TRL1 to higher TRLs (e.g. TRL7,8,9) in several research infrastructures facilities.
- Direct contribution to technological development.
- Promote the mobility of researchers and knowledge across the European Research Area, fostering international collaboration.

EPOS ERIC

www.epos-eu.org

The **European Plate Observing System**, is a long-term plan to facilitate integrated use of data, data products, and facilities from distributed research infrastructures for solid Earth science in Europe.

SERVICES

Community Building. Thematic Core Services: Seismology, Near-Fault Observatories, GNSS Data and Products, Volcano Observations, Satellite Data Products, Geomagnetic Observations, Anthropogenic Hazards, Geological Information and Modelling, Multi-Scale Laboratories, Tsunami. They integrate more than 250 research organizations from 26 countries in Europe.

Open Data Access. EPOS Platform: a one-stop shop for users worldwide, to discover and access solid Earth science data, data products, services and software and metadata for scientific research. Data are open and freely accessible to everyone.

Data Processing and Visualization. Provision of interactive virtual research environments for data analysis, processing and visualization tailored to the user needs.

Technological development. Data Portal Open Source Code, released under a GPL3 license; EPOS IT solutions already taken as reference by other research infrastructures: ENVRI: development of the ENVRI Catalog of services is based upon the EPOS catalog architecture; EOSC: EPOS is registered as a resource provider as it hosts the ENVRI catalog of services; JERICO: EPOS Data Portal software was used as the key system to provide access to marine assets; several national initiatives have shown interest in the EPOS software to build their data sharing portals.

Contribution to Open Science policies. e.g., EPOS Data Policy, EOSC, Data Spaces. Sharing solutions and practices for sustainable Research Data Management.

Training. Activities targeting different user groups contributing to enlarge, widen and empower the user community, fostering the multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary usage to engage early career scientists and students.

HORIZON EUROPE - FUNDING

Pillar I



Pillar II



EQUIP-G – A SUCCESSFUL CASE

www.equip-g.eu

The EQUIP-G project marks a major milestone in the advancement of Earth observation technologies in Europe. With a focus on imaging the Earth's interior through precise gravity measurements, EQUIP-G is developing and deploying a European network of quantum gravimeters — high-performance instruments based on atom interferometry.

EPOS's expertise in data standardization and interoperability will support the development of a Thematic Core Service (TCS) for gravimetry, aiming to integrate quantum gravity data into the EPOS data ecosystem. Community engagement and open science are embedded throughout EQUIP-G's strategy, ensuring wide access to instruments, data, and knowledge.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EQUIP-G: European QUAntum Infrastructure Project for Gravimetry

Grant Agreement n. 101215427

Funded under Horizon Europe (Call HORIZON-CL4-2024-DIGITAL-EMERGING-02-01)

Starting date: 01.06.25

Ending date 31.05.29

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

This 48-month initiative brings together 20 partners from 11 countries, including research institutions, national metrology bodies, and infrastructure providers. Led by CNRS, the project collaborators aside from EPOS include: Stitching Quantum Delta NL (Quantum Delta NL) and Universiteit Utrecht (UU); Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior De Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC); GFZ Helmholtz Centre For Geosciences and Humboldt-Universitaet Zu Berlin (UBER); Bureau De Recherches Geologiques Et Minières (BRGM), Office National D'Études Et De Recherches Aéropatiales (ONERA), Laboratoire National De Métrologie Et D'Essais (LNE), Université De Toulouse (UT), and Météo-France; Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia; Instytut Geodezji I Kartografii (IGiK); Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU); Maanmittauslaitos (NLS FGI); Koninklijke Sterrenwacht Van België (ORB);

Szabályozott Tevékenységek Felügyeleti Hatósága (Supervisory Authority Of Regulatory Affairs); Associacao Portuguesa Quantum Institute (PQI).

MORE INFORMATION ON EQUIP-G AND EPOS ERIC'S ROLE

The quantum sensors involved in the project will offer unparalleled sensitivity and accuracy for detecting mass changes in the Earth's subsurface, enabling new applications in fields like hydrology, climate monitoring, energy resource management, and volcanic risk mitigation. By combining ground-based, airborne, and future space-based gravity observations, EQUIP-G strengthens Europe's strategic autonomy in geoscientific instrumentation.

EPOS ERIC plays a central role in WP4 (FAIR data implementation and integrated data use) and WP5 (Community Building).