openCost

Agreement PIDs: Small Schema, Big Story

PIDfest 2026

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The project openCost

- **Project partners:** University Library of Regensburg, Bielefeld University Library, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY Hamburg
- Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)
- **Goals:**
  - Creating a technical infrastructure that allows to comprehensively record **all** publication costs and subsequently make them **freely** accessible by means of standardized interfaces
  - Enabling cost transparency on an institutional, national, and international level

Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) – Project number 457354095

Project focus

- Development of a **standardized metadata schema** for the collection/recording and transfer of data on publication costs
- Implementation of an open interface for **harvesting** and querying this data
- Extension of the **Electronic Journals Library** (EZB) with special functions for displaying information on open access publication costs and on the assumption of cost

Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) – Project number 457354095

Project focus

- Development of a internal **metadata schema** for the recording of data on publication costs as a superset of the exchange format
- Provide an validator for the exchange format
- Extension of the **Electronic Journals Library** (EZB) with a new, unique, and persistent identifier for any agreements with publishing institutions including Diamond Open Access and Open Access infrastructures

Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) – Project number 457354095

Information about related agreements

Case 1: Mentioned in copyright

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Case 2: Mentioned in Acknowledgement - Funding

Open Access funding enabled and organized by Projekt DEAL.

Others: No mention at all

? ? ?

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Is this information
Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable

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Types of Agreements with publisher with some kind of publishing component

- Contract clause, which allows additional deposit in institutional repository, e.g. the Version of Record (VoR)
  - German national license
- Subscription with publishing component (institutional level, either fixed payment or based on number of publications)
  - Transformative Agreement, Vouchers
- Consortial Contracts with fixed payments
  - SCOAP³
- Payments for Diamond Open Access
  - Sponsorships, Memberships, Subscribe2Open etc.

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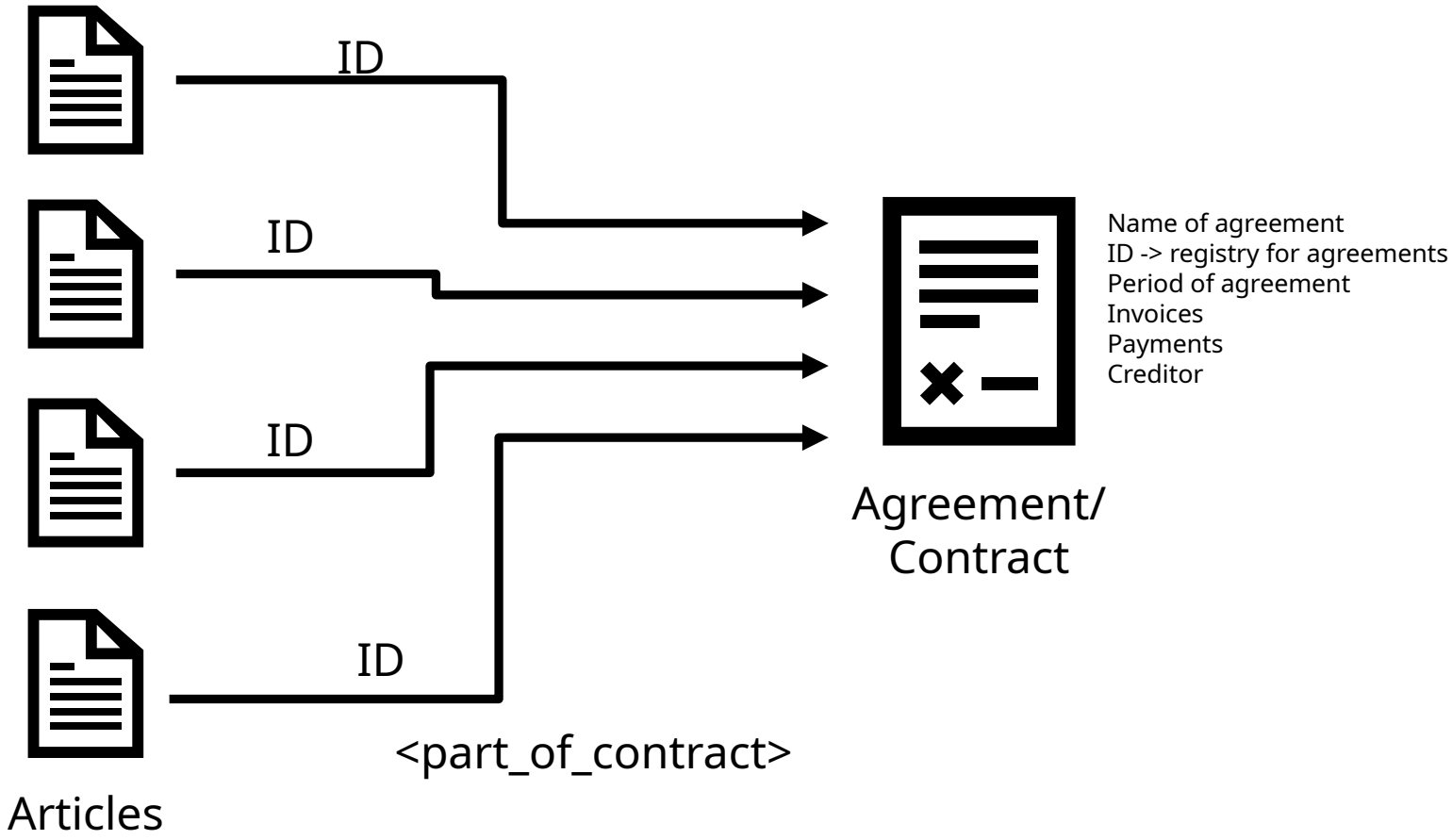
New Entity in Repository: Contract Reference in Article Metadata to Contract



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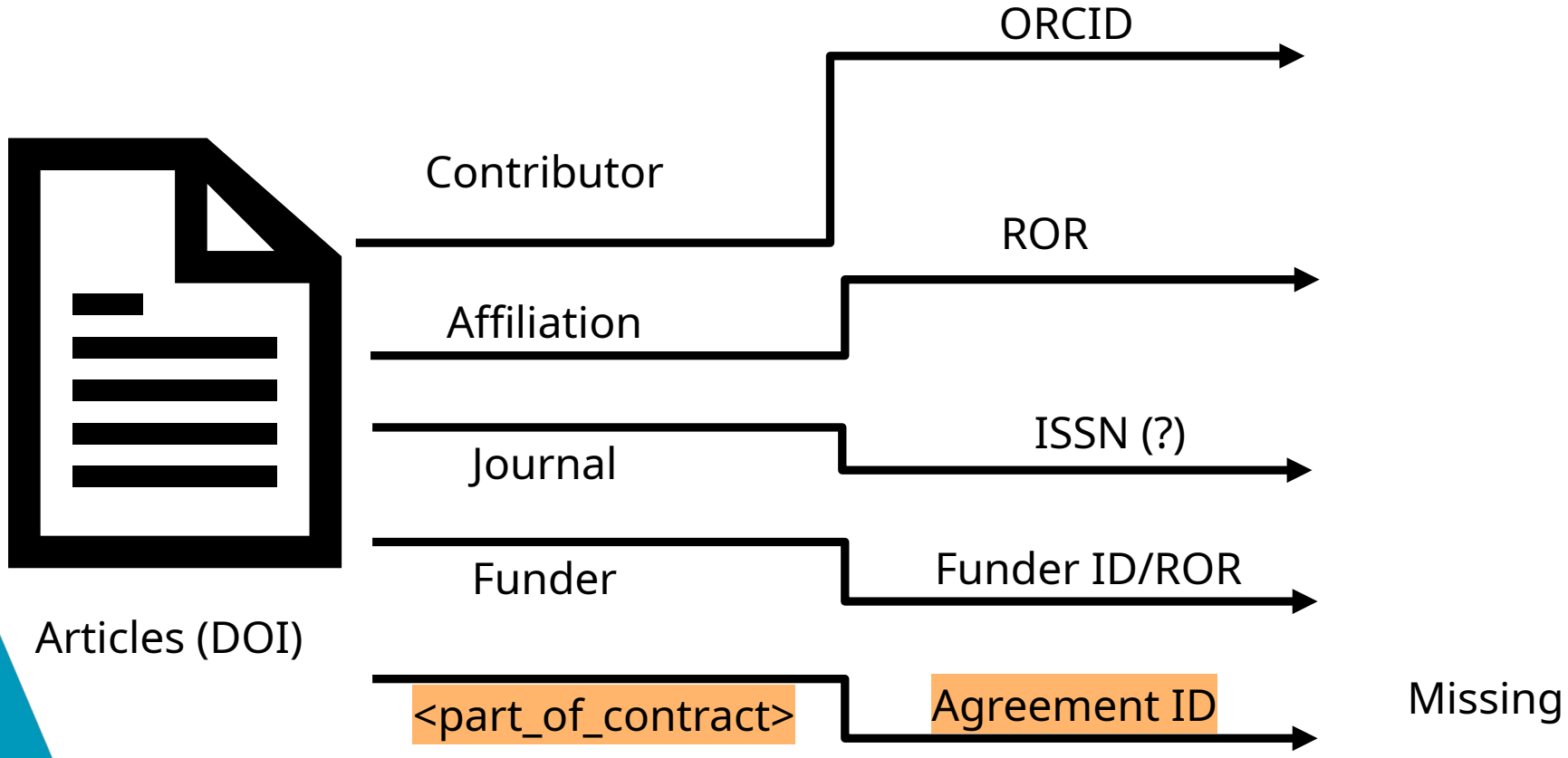
Connection of an article with different entities



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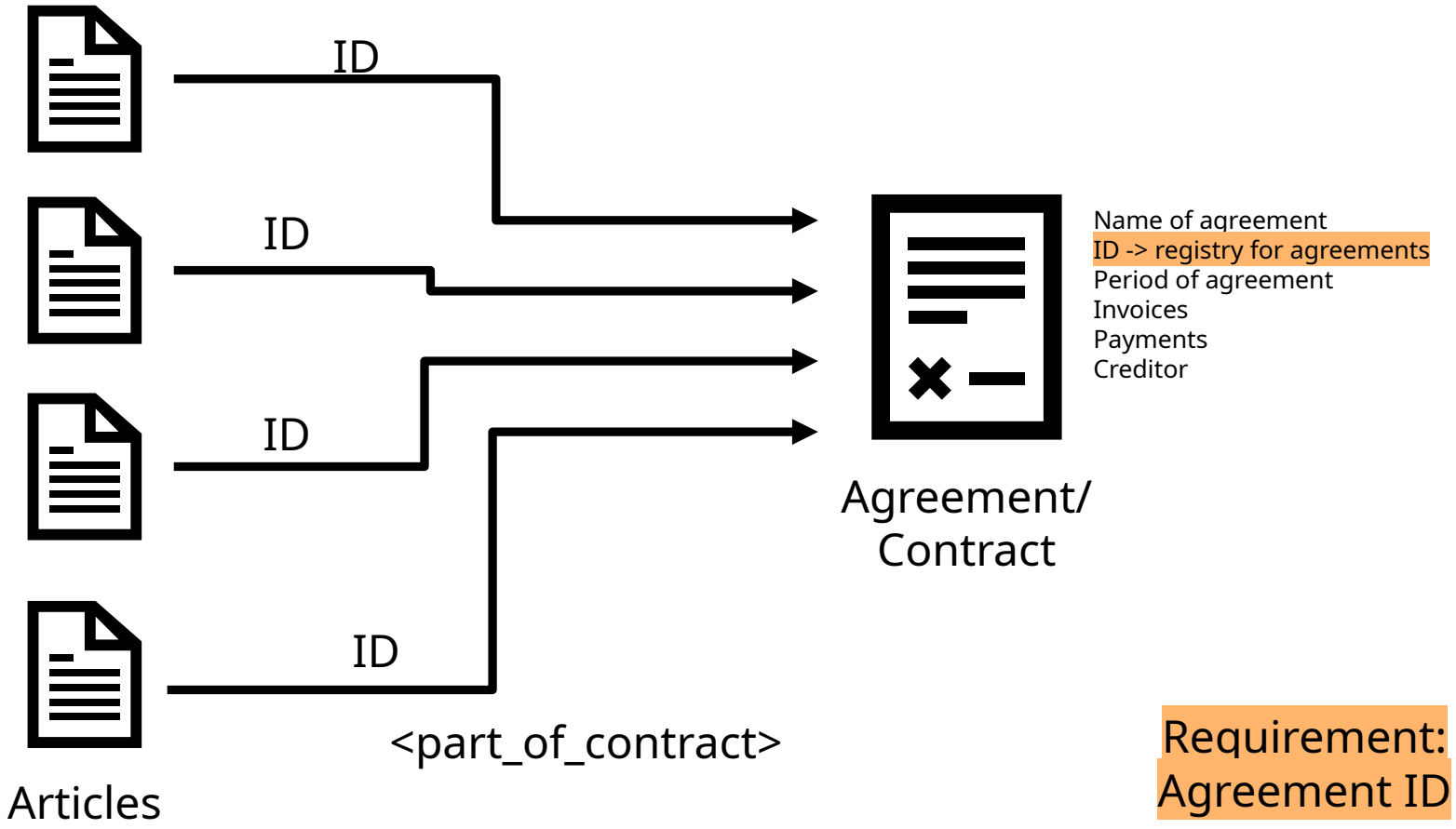

Requirement:
Agreement ID

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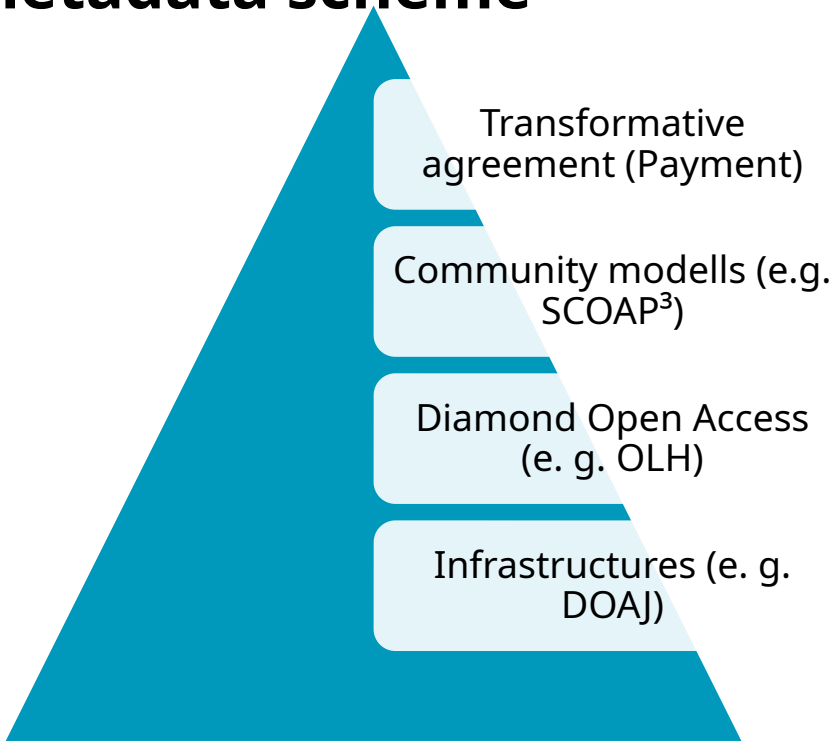
Flexibility of metadata scheme



See Transparency to Sustain Open Science Infrastructure, https://tsosi.org/

Iportant:
No payments on registry level
Must include consortia modells but also institutional agreements

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Agreement ID (with Negotiator, e.g. consortia)

oc-[Provider][Start_Date][Negotiator]-[Number_substructure]

Examples: oc-koala2026tib-1
(https://opencost.de/oc-koala2026tib-1)

- **Metadata**

- Name of Agreement*
- Provider Name (Consortia, Publisher)*
- Negotiator (Consortia Lead, Institution)
- Date: Start – End
- Substructure (e.g. specific subject)
- URL (Link to the Webpage)

* Mandatory fields

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Agreement ID (without Negotiator, e.g. individuell contract)

oc-[Provider]-[Number_substructure]

Examples: oc-scipost-1 (htttps://opencost.de/oc-scipost-1

Metadata

- Name of Agreement*
- Provider Name (Consortia, Publisher)
- Negotiator (Consortia Lead, Institution)
- Date: Start – End
- Substructure (e.g. specific subject)
- URL (Link to the Webpage)

* Mandatory fields

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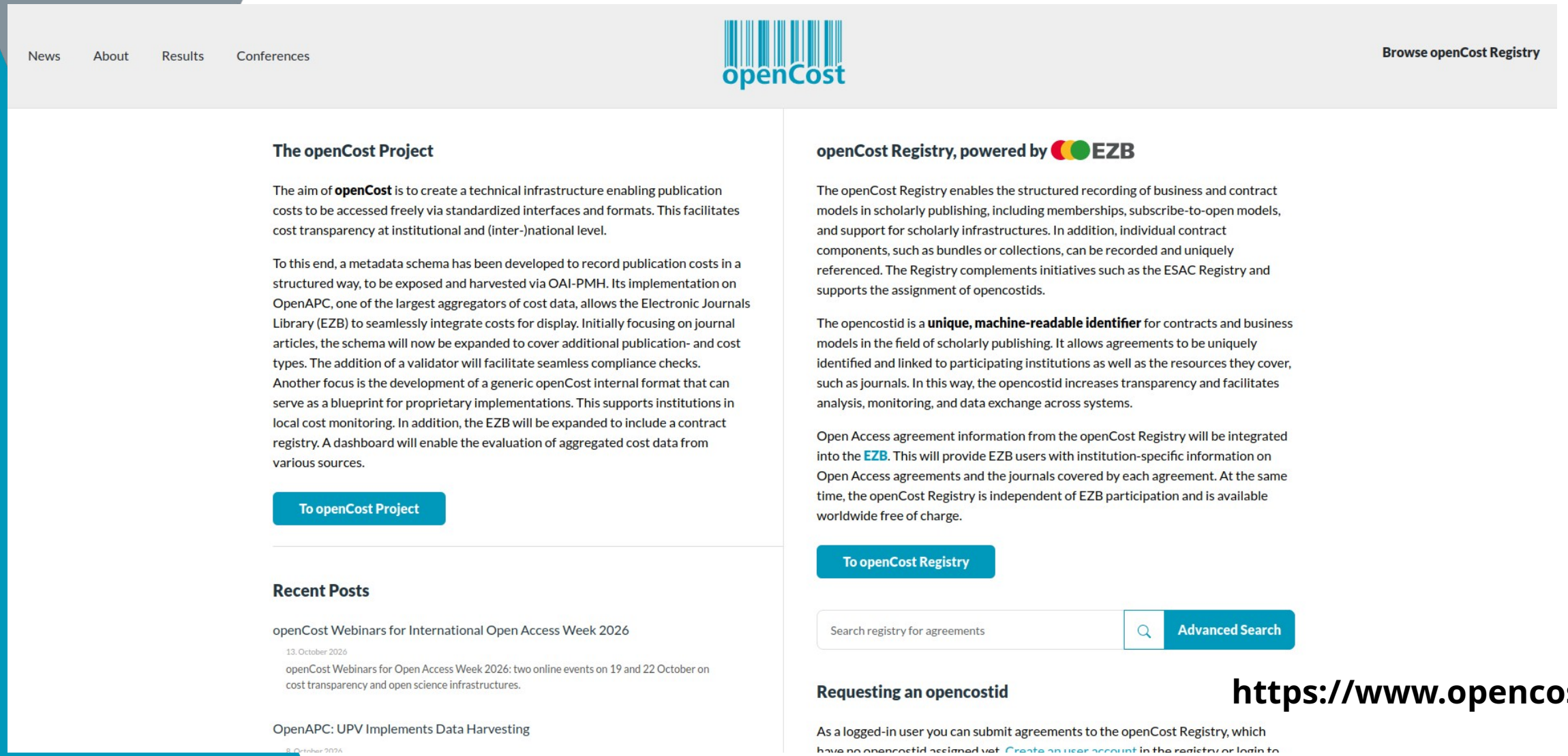
Search & Browse the registry



https://www.opencost.de

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Koala: Environment (SLUB) 2025-2027

opencostid: oc-koala2025slub-1

Alternative Agreement Title:	KOALA Bündel Environment (SLUB) 2025-2027
Date Start:	2025
Date End:	2027
Provider Name:	Koala
Agreement Substructure:	Environment
Negotiator Name:	Sächsische Landesbibliothek - Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden (SLUB)
URL:	https://www.slub-dresden.de/fileadmin/groups/slubsite/KOALA/Product_information_KOALA_B%C3%BCndel_Environment_deutsch.pdf
URI:	https://opencost.de/oc-koala2025slub-1

View this item (editors only)
Export Format EP3 XML Export

https://www.opencost.de

First Use Cases

Reporting of Payments

- For German Research Foundation (DFG)
- Starts June 2026

Transparency

- Including openCost ID in OpenAPC
- Possibility to see all payments and publications of one agreement even over more institutions

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Conclusion

First time, that cost are published

- Freely available
- Standardized
- Human readable
- Machine readable

Fulfilling **FAIR-principles**

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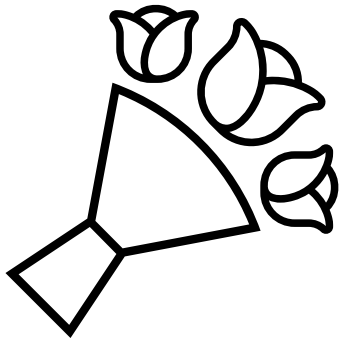
Thanks

- openCost
- DFG-Grant 457354095



- Team
- Julia Bartlewski, Christoph Broschinski, Dirk Pieper (Bielefeld)
- Lisa-Marie Stein, Alexander Wagner (Hamburg)
- Bianca Schweighofer (thanks for slides), Robert Bosek, Cornelia Lang, Colin Sippl, Silke Weisheit (Regensburg)

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Thank you for the attention!

- Website: https://opencost.de/en
- openCost publications: https://www.opencost.de/en/publications/
- openCost mailing list: opencost.info@mailman.uni-regensburg.de

- Github repository: https://github.com/opencost-de/opencost
- Contains the schema and its documentation (including FAQs, tabular description, XSD file for formal verification, and folder with valid sample files)
- Tracks the evolution of the schema in a transparent way

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