



ATHENA



University of Maribor

Open Science at the University of Maribor

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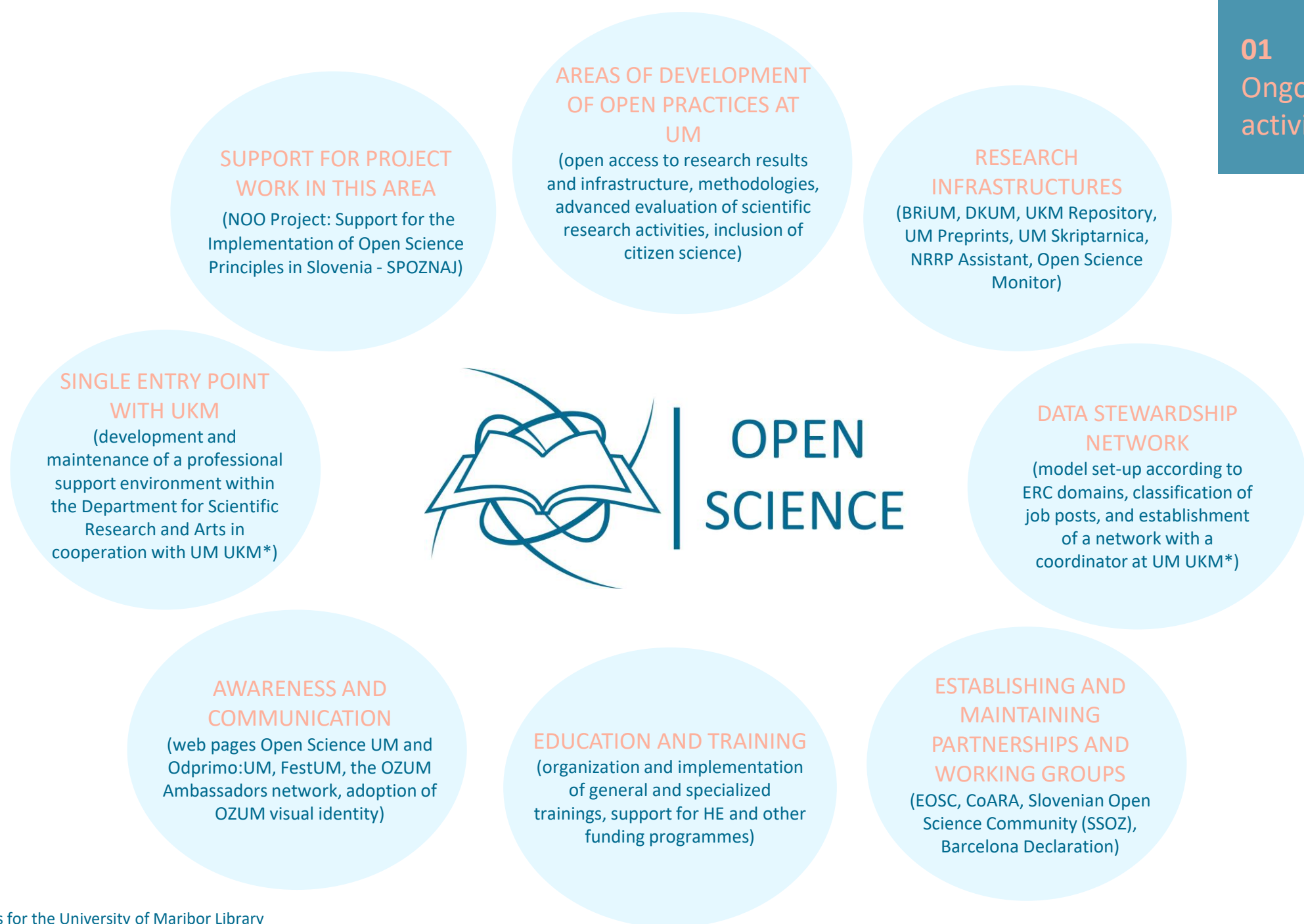
Opportunities for collaboration



- Act Amending and Supplementing the Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act
(ZZrID, Articles 40–42a, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 40/2025, 4 June 2025)
- Decree amending the Decree on the Implementation of Scientific Research Work in accordance with the Principles of Open Science
(Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 39/2025, 30 May 2025)



- Resolution on the Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy for Slovenia 2030 (ReZrIS30, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 49/2022)
- Action Plan for Open Science
(implementation of Measure 6.2 of ReZrIS30 and Article 40 of ZZrID)
- 2030 Research Infrastructure Development Plan (NRRi 2030)



THE WISE LEARNING SPACE

Wisdom, Insight, Support, Exchange

A framework for
transferring knowledge,
raising awareness and
co-organizing educational
events.

ABOUT

Establishing a partnership
with universities to identify
common ground and gaps in
our practices for co-
developing context-sensitive
solutions.

AIM

Step toward systemic
reform supporting the
long-term objective of
achieving cultural shift in
adopting and further
promoting the field at
partner universities.

GOAL

Alliance-Scale Open Science: Cross-Section & Value for ATHENA

enable joint teaching and research across members; OS == connective tissue of portable and interoperable assets

Align → Provide (Alliance service layer)

- **Publications & Rights Retention** → CRIS overlay across members; immediate-OA workflows; RRS templates; TDM-friendly licenses.
- **Research Data (FAIR/CARE)** → Common DMP templates; data-steward network; storage tiers + safe-havens; DOI minting; EOSC onboarding.
- **Research Software** → Alliance Git forge; RSE/OSPO support; CITATION.cff + DOI for releases; package registries.
- **OER & Teaching** → OER repository; CC licensing and provenance; shared learning objects; learning-analytics ethics.
- **Identity & PIDs** → eduGAIN AAI; ORCID, ROR, DOI, RAiD integrated into all services.
- **Assessment & Incentives** → DORA/CoARA-aligned criteria; recognise OS outputs; micro-credentials for OS skills.
- **Compliance & Risk** → GDPR DPIAs/DPAs; export-control & security tiers.
- **KPIs** → % immediate OA; datasets with DOIs and FAIR grades; software releases/year; OER reuse across ≥3 partners; # joint programmes.

Legal Entity Options: ATHENA as One EU Institution?

a vehicle for shared services (hire, budget, sign), coordinate joint programmes (European Degree label)

- **AISBL (Belgian international non-profit) — Recommended**

- Enables: full legal personality; limited liability; staff & contracts; runs infra (OS, CRIS, AAI); KT/IP management; EU projects.
- Limits: anchored in BE law; degrees remain institutionally awarded (AISBL coordinates and assures compliance).

- **EGTC (EU public-law grouping)**

- Enables: strong cross-border public-mission operations & procurement.
- Limits: heavy multi-level approvals; not tailored to degree governance; slower to set up.

- **EEIG (European Economic Interest Grouping)**

- Enables: facilitation of joint activities and contracts.
- Limits: “ancillary” scope; joint/several liability; not ideal for education awarding or sensitive KT portfolios.

- **ERIC (EU Research Infrastructure Consortium)**

- Enables: specific RI with VAT/procurement flex; strong for data/instrumentation.
- Limits: RI-limited; not suitable for teaching or broad KT governance.

- **Status quo (MoU/Lead Beneficiary)**

- Enables: fast collaboration.
- Limits: no legal personality; cannot hire/own/sign; weak for sustained integration.

Recommendation & Example Implementation Plan

incorporate **ATHENA AISBL** with a **transition clause** (migrate to any future EU alliance status) and an **ERIC carve-out** option for a specific RI if needed.

Governance (lean & accountable)

- General Assembly (rectors) → Executive Board → Education & Research Council; OS/KT Steering; Data Protection Officer.

Statutes & Policies (annexed)

- Open Science; IPR/KT; Data Protection & DPIAs/DPAs; Procurement; Research Integrity; Assessment (DORA/CoARA-aligned).

People & Budget

- Core team: Director; Legal/DPO; RDM Lead; RSE Lead; KT Lead.
- Funding mix: membership fees + EU grants + service contracts.

Service Stand-Up (months 7–12)

- CRIS discovery overlay; OA workflows & RRS; data/OER repositories; Git forge with DOI; AAI via eduGAIN; OS dashboard KPIs.

Teaching Integration (months 10–18)

- Select 2–3 joint programmes; align QA/mobility; pilot **European Degree label**; recognise OS deliverables in programme regs.

Success Metrics (board-level)

- OA %, datasets with DOIs & FAIR grades, software releases with citation files, OER reuse across partners, # labelled joint programmes, KT deals with open clauses.



Open science requires a significant shift
in the scientific research culture — a
move from competition to collaboration,
and from *owning* to *sharing*.

(UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science 2023)

*Open Science Brings an
Open Mind.
Create Your Future!*

