

Opening up research infrastructures and resources (RIs) across Una Europa: The journey so far



Under Work Package 2 of the Una.Resin project, Una Europa has laid the building blocks for a barrier-free research and innovation ecosystem, paving the way for groundbreaking transnational research by delivering a strategy and action plan for sharing RIs across our alliance community.



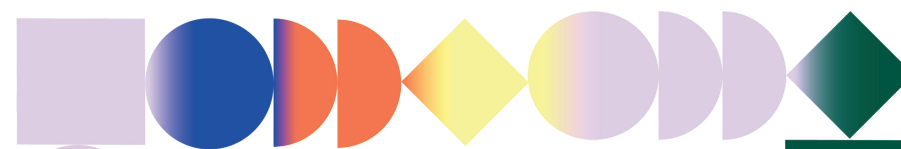
The discovery

Our Una Europa universities hold a treasure trove of research infrastructures and resources to unlock for the benefit of our academics, institutions and wider society. But how do we tap into this potential?



Mapping our RIs

We began exploring opportunities and obstacles by conducting a benchmarking exercise of our partner universities' RIs policies, initiatives and funding instruments. Then we focused in on the untapped resources in two Una Europa Focus Areas: Cultural Heritage and One Health. Collaborating with our Self-Steering Committees of engaged academics, we sped ahead by mapping alliance RIs and what is needed to effectively share them across our community.



Piloting first steps

We kicked things up a gear by piloting some first actions towards unlocking our RIs potential:

1. Developing a blueprint for a common Una Europa RIs catalogue
2. Offering matchmaking opportunities to build connections and facilitate the sharing of RIs



Where to next?

Despite the bumps in the road, we are committed to equipping Una Europa researchers with unfettered access to the alliance's rich store of research assets, as reflected in our R&I Vision. Opening up RIs across our alliance is a crucial step to unlocking our collective potential for groundbreaking transnational research, enabling us to tackle the ever-evolving challenges of today and tomorrow, together.

Blocks and barriers

We encountered several bumps in the road to opening up RIs across the alliance:

- Major legal, financial, organisational, technical and cultural barriers remain underexplored
- Lack of mutual knowledge of RIs across the alliance
- Non-homogeneity in applying open science principles
- Insufficient resources for hiring and training of specialised staff, both administratively and technically



Strategy and Action Plan

With our academics at the wheel, we navigated a route to smoother terrain with a co-created Strategy and Action Plan, based on three pillars:

1. Promoting openness of RIs and data infrastructures to foster research collaboration
2. Strengthening Research and Data Infrastructure skills
3. Developing a stronger, more integrated Una Europa Research Infrastructure Ecosystem



This Work Package was coordinated by:

