



RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE



RDA Association Strategic Priorities

2023- 2025

Mission & Vision



The Research Data Alliance (RDA) is a global initiative to build the social and technical infrastructure to enable open sharing and re-use of data. As the RDA has strong European level engagement and interest, RDA Europe was founded in 2021 in Belgium as a Non-profit organisation (Research Data Alliance Association AISBL) to foster and coordinate the RDA activity in the continental level in Europe.

The mission of RDA Europe is to ***“Inspire, cultivate and support European communities, organisations and individuals to develop and implement globally agreeable solutions to enable open sharing and re-use of data through the Research Data Alliance (RDA).”*** RDA Europe is governed by and operates according to the current Guiding Principles of the global Research Data Alliance, namely: Openness, Consensus, Inclusivity, Harmonization, Community-driven, and Non-profit and technology-neutral.

RDA Europe is built on the strong commitment of the European member states, individuals, organisations, and the European Commission on the mission of the Research Data Alliance. It draws from the rich history and successes of the European Union funded RDA projects, as well as the engaged National Networks in the region of Europe. Since 2021, the RDA Europe has been engaged in building up its organisation and developing the initial work plan, as well as obtaining new initiatives and resources for its operation.

The strategy is divided to 3 goals, with long and overarching perspective, and 4 strategic priorities for the current time period.

Goals

1. FOSTER AND STRENGTHEN CONNECTION TO THE GLOBAL RDA COMMUNITY

The RDA is a global community, and science is international. Thus, it is crucial that RDA Europe maintains close connection to the global RDA activities and supports and strengthens the RDA in general. In particular, RDA Europe will establish and maintain multi-level coordination with the RDA Secretariat, will support directly and indirectly global RDA activities and will seek commonalities with other RDA regions and global activities.



2. ACT, MAINTAIN AND FOSTER IN A MULTIDISCIPLINARY, MULTI-STAKEHOLDER AND MULTILINGUAL WAY

RDA is a diverse community with regards to languages, disciplines and stakeholders; this diversity is also prevalent within the European RDA community. This richness within the community provides a clear mandate for RDA Europe, urging us to engage our stakeholders taking into consideration their individual needs and characteristics. RDA Europe will map and plan a systematic engagement strategy towards disciplinary communities in Europe from a multi-stakeholder perspective. Additionally, RDA Europe will create systematic mechanisms and tools for community engagement and facilitate and encourage multilingualism in the RDA contexts.



3. BUILD AND FOSTER POSITION AND REPUTATION OF THE RDA IN GENERAL, AND RDA EUROPE IN PARTICULAR

RDA Europe is committed to the principles of the Research Data Alliance, and pledges to foster these values in the European discussions. RDA Europe intends to position itself in a constructive way amongst other similar initiatives and create meaningful relationships and collaborations while strengthening existing connections. In practice, RDA Europe will demonstrate the RDA principles in all its activities and will build co-operative partnerships with Open Science initiatives across the field.



"The core of RDA is its community."

For the period of 2023 to 2025, RDA Europe will concentrate on the four key activity areas, presented as strategic priorities:



I. SUPPORT THE EUROPEAN DATA COMMUNITY (INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS) TO WORK TOGETHER AND CONNECT TO GLOBAL INITIATIVES

The core of the RDA is its community. RDA Europe will endeavour to support the European data community's needs on individual, organisational and network levels. This will be done by elevating national endeavours (particularly RDA national activities) to global scale and by facilitating connections horizontally and vertically. RDA Europe will aim to act as an information broker between the national networks, sharing their experiences, methods and tools across the European national borders. RDA Europe will also support bringing European national level experts to global and European level, specifically targeting early career experts, and will act as intermediary between European RDA Networks and external European level stakeholders (e.g., ERICs, Commission, European institutions). We will also commit to support the capacity building of European data communities (e.g., infrastructure, personal skills, organisation) in our endeavours.

II. HELP THE EUROPEAN DATA COMMUNITY TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS FOR THEIR DATA CHALLENGES

Through its connection with the global RDA, the RDA Europe will facilitate the two-way awareness of European-level challenges and solutions in international contexts. RDA Europe will bring global RDA solutions to the European agendas, from a technological perspective but also at the policy level. Similarly, RDA Europe will support bringing European issues to the global level, facilitating internationalisation of European developments. In addition, RDA Europe will investigate and map the Open Science landscape, analysing gaps, needs, and opportunities for the RDA and its stakeholders.

Strategic Priorities

III. ADVOCATE AND ENABLE THE GLOBAL AND EUROPEAN LEVEL SOLUTIONS TO SOLVE RESEARCH DATA RELATED ISSUES

RDA Europe will solidify its position in the European landscape by actively participating in relevant activities and clarifying and advocating its position. RDA Europe follows actively the Open Science policy environment in Europe and actively participates in the European policy discussions in matters relevant to RDA goals. RDA Europe will also clarify, when necessary, its position to key policy developments, and advocate and communicate this position in a structured and strategic manner.

IV. CREATE ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AND MATURITY

As a young organisation the RDA Europe commits to actions that will support its transition to financial and operational professionalisation and maturity. This includes organisational development, development of alternative sustainability solutions, and internal development of skills and capabilities within the organisation and its stakeholders.



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