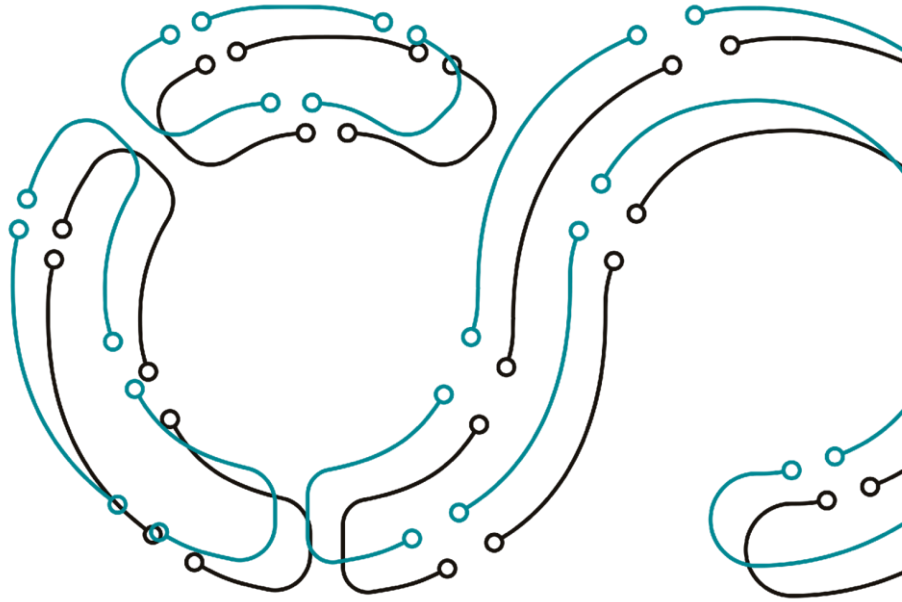
Give us a home: what research communities need from EOSC

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I belong to several communities

The use case: one researcher, many communities

Community	What we have in common	Where we talk
Pangeo	big-data geoscience	**Discourse, Discord**
Galaxy	image analysis, Earth data	**Discourse, Element**
Jupyter	interactive computing	**Zulip**
FORRT	replication, open research	**Slack**
Nordic RSE	research software engineering	**Zulip**

Research services I use across them, many on EOSC: EOSC AAI · Pangeo@EOSC on EGI · EGI Notebooks · usegalaxy.eu · ROHub with B2DROP and B2SHARE · OpenAIRE

A community is who we are, not the research software, tools or platform we use

- people who meet, discuss and travel to shape what comes next
- a core that stays, while people and software change
- something in common, and a sense of belonging

Today I do not know what belonging to EOSC would mean. Open Science is too broad to belong to.

Meet people where they are

A question for the User Forum: not one more forum

AI agents are fast
They need no forum to talk to each other: MCP servers and open APIs.

Humans are slow
They need time to understand, real discussions and social chat, and they already have their channels.

So connect, don't duplicate:

1. **Read and write from each community's own channel**
   two-way bridges through Matrix/Element to Zulip, Mattermost and others
2. **All my communities in one place**
   connected to all, so I choose the channels I follow, and their priority
3. **Organised by community, not by node**
   nodes mean little to researchers: different users, different views
4. **Keep the history**
   open formats: a community can move tomorrow and keep its history

A federation of channels, as EOSC is a federation of nodes: not one more place to check.

Give us a home

Not an organisation, not a project: why a community would come to EOSC

1. **Apply as a community**
   sponsored or affiliated, as open-source communities do with NumFOCUS
2. **Resources that outlive projects**
   compute, storage and services for the community, beyond projects
3. **Basic tools for everyday work**
   video, chat, mailing lists: many in Europe may not be allowed to use Zoom or Slack; same for Google Doc, Microsoft tools…
4. **Visibility and micro-grants**
   amplified in EOSC news and social media; small grants for sprints, hackathons, training events

A model that works: NumFOCUS

Open-source communities apply to be sponsored or affiliated:

- a network and events
- visibility, listed on its website
- Small Development Grants, up to $10,000
- if sponsored: Zoom for weekly meetings, legal and financial support

Projects end, communities stay. Open to the world, as our communities are. We are ready to try it.