



## NEWSLETTER #1

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear ORP Consortium members,

Welcome to the first issue of the ORP Consortium newsletter! After 20 years of successful RadioNet and OPTICON programmes, ORP takes the ground-based radio and optical communities to a new level of integration. Through ORP, astronomers in Europe and worldwide will have access to an unprecedented suite of radio and optical infrastructure, harmonized tools, procedures and services facilitating data access and enabling new scientific discoveries and excellent training opportunities for the younger generation. This newsletter, the ORP website, and the ORP Redmine will provide all the information about the project and its progress. Thank you all for your commitment to the success of this challenging programme.

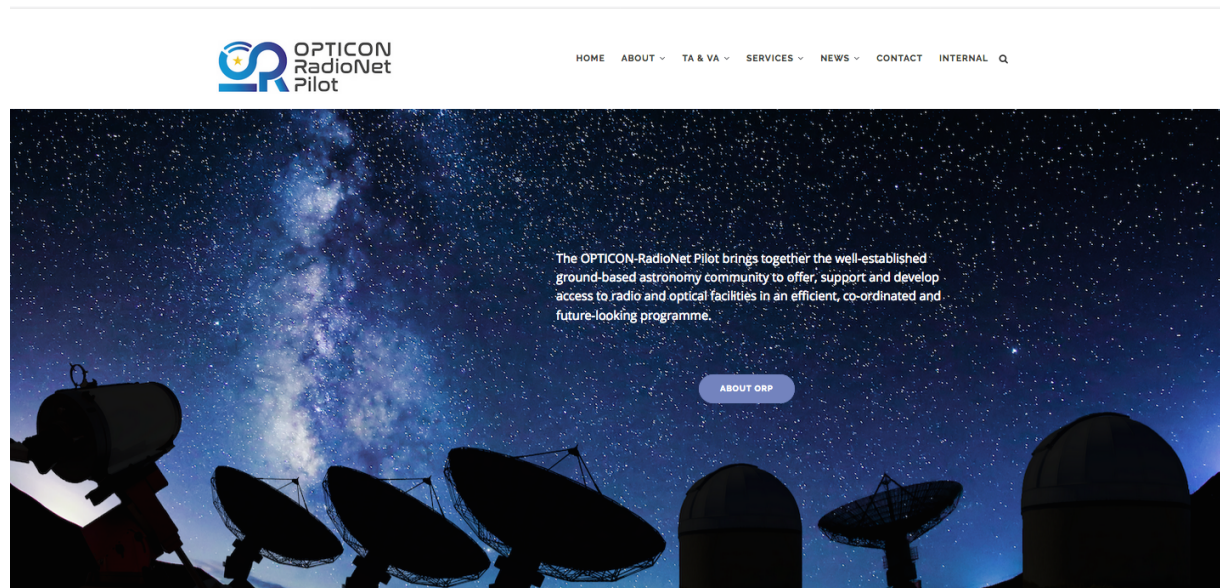
Agnieszka Słowikowska, Chair of ORP Board,  
Francisco Colomer, Chair of ORP Executive Committee,  
Vassilis Charmandaris, Vice-Chair of ORP Board,  
ORP Executive Management Team

## ORP Grant Agreement Signed

On July 1 2021, the European Commission (EC) sent the grant agreement for signature. As originally planned, the Grant Agreement sets the project start date at 1 March 2021. The submission date of deliverables and reports will not be impacted by the EC delay.

The pre-financing has just been received by the CNRS. Transferring the funds to each ORP Partner will take at least until the end of July due to the large number of partners as well as potential delays caused by the summer period.

## New Version of the ORP Website is published



A new version of the website has been published. It includes:

- New homepage with interactive map of all ORP Infrastructures;
- Information about ORP Partners;
- Information about ORP TA/VA Opportunities;
- Latest updates about activities of the project.

[Check the website](#)

Looking for information? Go to the ORP Redmine

The ORP Redmine is a web interface that hosts the ORP Wiki and a storage platform, where partners and consortium members can find:

- The ORP Graphic and Acknowledgement Charter, logos and templates;
- The ORP Calendar with dates, information and reports;
- The Communication & Visibility Forum to share news and discoveries within organisations and facilities.

Personal access codes were shared in an email titled ORP Redmine interface - first login" by H       Dworak.

[Check the ORP Redmine](#)

**Follow ORP Twitter**

If you haven't yet, please follow the ORP Twitter account and help us disseminate its content.

[Follow ORP Twitter](#)

**CORDIS featured the ORP as Project of the Month**



The Community Research and Development Information Service ([CORDIS](#)), the European Commission's primary source of results from the projects funded by the EU's framework programmes for research and innovation features the OPTICON-RadioNet Pilot as "Project of the Month".

[Read the full article](#)

## Report from ORP Activities

During the period March - June 2021 the following activities have been organised:

- **ORP Executive committee meeting | 24 June 2021** – Francisco Colomer (JIVE) was elected Chair of ORP Executive Committee. This meeting also gave the opportunity to discuss the launching of JA1.
- **ORP Online Workshop "Tailored Dispersing Elements for Astronomical Optical Spectrograph" | 16 June 2021** - Over 40 participants attended on 16 June 2021 the ORP Workshop "Tailored Dispersing Elements for Astronomical Optical Spectrograph" that supported participants for the design and manufacturing of Volume Phase Holographic Gratings (VPHG) to improve the performances of astronomical spectrographs mounted especially in small and medium facilities in the European context. Read the Workshop report [here](#).

- **ORP WP5 JA4 Training – Kick-Off Meeting of the Radio Community | 15 April 2021** - The ORP WP5 JA4 Training (radio part) started its work in its online Kick-Off meeting, with John McKean (ASTRON) as leader of JA4 and organisers of the future events from JIV-ERIC, IRAM, UNIMAN, NWO-I and ESO. A general overview of the ORP project and plans for the future training events with radio astronomical infrastructures, such as the EVN, *e*-MERLIN, LOFAR, IRAM NOEMA, IRAM PV and ALMA were given. The JA4 Radio Training group will meet every 4 months.
- **ORP TA/VA Radio (WP6-14) Kick-off meeting | 12 April 2021** - The leaders of the radio TA/VA activities discussed the implementation under the guidance of TA/VA coordinator Simon Garrington (UNIMAN) and the project manager Izabela Rottmann (MPG). Under the ORP - radio TA/VA portfolio of access to arrays (EVN, *e*-MERLIN, NOEMA, and LOFAR) and single dish telescopes (Effelsberg, IRAM PV, APEX) has been extended of transnational access to Sardinia Telescope (SRT) and to European ARC nodes, as well as of virtual access to archives of LOFAR and WSRT. The next meeting is scheduled on Sep. 9, 2021.
- **ORP WP3 JA2 Kick-off meeting | 31 March 2021** - The JA2 Seamless Performance started with the online meeting led by WP leader Rob Beswick (UNIMAN) giving a brief introduction to the activity goals and plans. The details on contractual issues were provided by Izabela Rottmann (MPG). The present task leaders from UNIMAN, JIV-ERIC, UNIWARSAW, ASTRON, ESO and MPG provided details on the task implementation and defined the next steps to be taken. The next meeting is scheduled on July 15, 2021.
- **ORP Kick-off meeting | 24 March 2021** - The ORP Kick-off meeting provided the opportunity to the Work Package leaders to introduce their work and present their objectives. In parallel, a common [press release](#) was shared by 18 Consortium Members and republished by 13 online press agencies.
- **ORP Board meeting | 23 March 2021** – Agnieszka Słowikowska (Nicolaus Copernicus University) was elected Chair of the ORP Board and Vassilis Charmandaris (FORTH), Vice-Chair. Hélène Dworak was nominated Secretary of the ORP Board and de facto of the Executive Committee.

## Upcoming ORP Activities

- JA2 ‘all-hands’ meeting | 15 July 2021
- JA 1.4 Accessibility, Equal Opportunities and Diversity Kick off | 8 September 2021
- ORP Radio TA/VA | 9 September 2021
- [10th IRAM 30-meter School on Millimetre Astronomy](#) | 15-19, 22-23 November 2021



*The ORP project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101004719*

*Copyright © ORP Project*

**Our mailing address is:** [contact@orp-h2020.eu](mailto:contact@orp-h2020.eu)

You are receiving this email because you are part of the ORP Consortium. In compliance with GDPR, you will only receive emails through this email list including the ORP Internal Newsletter.

If you prefer to unsubscribe from this list, click [here](#) or send an email to [sympa@orp-h2020.eu](mailto:sympa@orp-h2020.eu) with “unsubscribe” as subject.