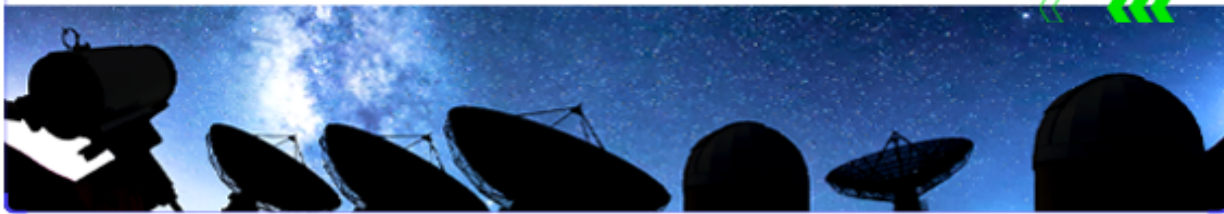




NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER #16

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear colleagues,

We are now coming to the 16th ORP newsletter, and this period is marked not only by the last TNA ORP call, but also by the very first recall for the Time-Domain Multi-Facility & Multi-Frequency Access. TNA access is a real success story, and the joint call represents a major achievement for ORP, being the most ambitious program in this area.

We'd like to remind you that we've started 'ORP science talk' meetings to bring the project to life. We encourage you to take part: they only last an hour, and the presentations have all been of the highest quality!

We would also like to announce that the next and final meeting of the ORP Consortium will take place in November in the South of France (Marseille or Aix-En-Provence). We hope to see many of you there and we'll come back to the organisation of the meeting in our next Newsletter. Wishing you all, with a little advance notice, a very happy summer vacation.

Stéphane Basa, on behalf of the EMT

Board - Vice Chair election

On 4 March, **Agnieszka Slowikowska** (then Vice-Chair of the Board) stood for the position of Executive Vice-Chair following the departure of René Vermeulen (ILT).

Aga has agreed to step down from her role as Vice-Chair of the Board as soon as she is appointed Executive Vice-Chair. She was successfully elected on 26 March.

To replace her in her role as Vice-Chair of the Board, **Karl Schuster** kindly agreed to take on this role and was successfully elected Vice-Chair of the Board on 16 April.

In brief, the Chairs of the Executive Committee are **Paulo GARCIA** (Chair), UPORTO and **Agnieszka SŁOWIKOWSKA** (Vice-Chair), UMK/JIV-ERIC.
The Chairs of the Board are **Vassilis CHARMANDARIS** (Chair), FORTH and **KARL SCHUSTER** (Vice-Chair), IRAM.

LOFAR DATA SCHOOL

The 7th LOFAR Data School took place from April 15-19, 2024, at ASTRON in the Netherlands, with 44 participants from 17 countries. They learned about LOFAR through lectures and hands-on tutorials. Topics included imaging, polarimetry, pulsars, and VLBI. Students worked in teams to analyse data and presented their findings. Activities included a LOFAR array visit and a tour of the Dwingeloo telescope. Read more [here](#).

e-MERLIN Data School

After the success of the first e-MERLIN Data School in 2023 with the financial support of ORP, e-MERLIN held the second e-MERLIN Data School at the University of Manchester from 13 to 15 May 2024.

5 in-person participants and 4 online learned about e-MERLIN data analysis using the e-MERLIN CASA Pipeline.

All materials are available from the logistics part on the [event page](#).

Read more [here](#).



Current ORP TNA Opportunities Open

ORP Transnational Access opportunities presently open:

- [European ARC Network](#): No specific deadline

ORP science talk

The 'ORP science talk' is a one-hour webinar that takes place on zoom, to give the community (ORP and, we hope, beyond) the opportunity to present its work and scientific results.

Each meeting consists of a few minutes of general information sharing from participants (information on upcoming schools, the next call for proposals, etc.) and two scientific presentations based on ORP results.

The first session took place on 3 April with [Cosimo Inserra](#), who works on supernovae, and [Zsolia Nagy](#), who specialises in young stellar objects. You can consult the recording of the talks [here](#) !

On 5 June, we welcomed **Gyula I. G. Józsa** who explained how satellites affect astronomy and how astronomy responds, followed by **Lukasz Wyrzykowski** who presented the science with the BHTOM telescope network.

The next meeting will be organised after the summer holidays. Stay tuned!

*Feel free to pass on this information to anyone who might be interested in sharing their scientific work at this virtual meeting (internal & external ORP).
We're looking for volunteers! 😊*

Please contact sub-emt@orp-h2020.eu if you have any ideas for presentations or need more information.

EVN survey – user's feedback requested by 15 July 2024

The [European VLBI Network \(EVN\)](#) is asking for feedback from the users and the VLBI community through an anonymous survey. This survey aims to engage the EVN community before the [16th European VLBI Network Symposium and Users' Meeting](#) on 2–6 September 2024. Results and conclusions from this survey will be presented at the Symposium.

input is highly valuable to help us understand the current role of the EVN in the community, to get feedback on the performance of JIVE in supporting you, the EVN users, and to help

improve both the EVN and JIVE. Please fill this [survey](#) by 15 July 2024 – Takes less than 10 minutes to complete.



ORP Activities

During the period 15 March 2024 - 15 June 2024 the following activities have been organised:

Radio TA/VA leaders JA4 Training: met on April 3-4, 2024, in Berlin, Germany, not only for general updates but also to foster cross-interaction between infrastructures and training. The optical TA leader Dan Dicken, optical training leader Heidi Korhonen, and the organizer of the upcoming ERIS school, Javier Moldon, were invited. Participants shared lessons learned, gathered ideas for improvement, and discussed potential models for enhancement. A follow-up meeting is planned for autumn.

JA2.2 Seamless Performance - Time-Domain Multi-Facility & Multi-Frequency Access to Research Infrastructures: the group met at the monthly update meeting on 28 March and 25 April 2024. Everything is on track. BHTOM is developing well, with a growing number of active users, targets, registered instruments, monthly processed files and new features within the network. LCO reported on the release of a new facility module at the Liverpool telescope ready for BHTOM to check. This new module was released separately from the new version of TOM Toolkit, but we will try to integrate it in the BHTOM. REM is ready to

accept “mails” and the difficulties of receiving the response that observations are scheduled was being solved.

Transnational Access - From 29 February to 9 April 2024 JA2 opened the **multi-facility Call for Proposals**, enabling science teams to propose for multiple, two-or-more, facilities with one proposal. The proposals would be reviewed in a single process, removing the "double" or "multiple" jeopardy risk usually associated with such endeavours. Thirteen science teams submitted eligible proposals on a wide range of science topics including SETI, planetary science, GRBs, SNe, Fast-X-ray Bursts, AGN and galaxies. Six of the teams requested optical facilities only, and those proposals will be delegated to the optical CTAC. The TAC for the remaining seven was formed and a review date is planned in June 2024, targeting observing in semesters 2024B/2025A. To address GDPR and scientific integrity concerns the proposals were anonymised before distributing to the TAC.

JA4 Radio Training - the group met on 28 May for general updates and to look at the planning for the remainder of the project. Preparations for the remaining training events are progressing well and all the budget will be spent. The group agreed that the meeting with TA leaders in Berlin was useful and that a follow up meeting should be planned for the autumn.

Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

Please circulate the next coming schools/training to all those who may be interested :

June 2024:

- ★ 24-28 June 2024 – Garching/DE – [The promises and challenges of the ALMA wideband sensitivity upgrade](#)

September 2024:

- ★ 02-06 September 2024 – Bonn/DE – [16th European VLBI Network Symposium and Users' Meeting](#)
- ★ 02-06 September 2024 – Durham/UK – [ORP multi-messenger school/Synergy school](#)
- ★ 22–28 September 2024– online lectures & Porquerolles Island/FR – [12th VLTI School of Interferometry](#)
- ★ 30 September – 04 October 2024 – Granada/ES – [ERIS 2024](#)
- ★ 30 September – 02 October 2024 – Heraklion/GR – [15th Gaia Science Alerts workshop and the ORP Time-Domain meeting](#)

October 2024:

- ★ 13-25 October 2024 – Athens/GR – [2024 NEON School](#)

November 2024:

- ★ 18–22 November 2024 – Grenoble/FR – [12th IRAM millimetre interferometry school](#)

Subscribe to the ORP External Newsletter

The external ORP newsletter is aimed at the international astronomical community to publicise the framework and activities of the project, and in particular draw attention to the benefits of bringing together the optical and radio astronomical ground-based communities. **Subscription for the newsletter is available [here](#).**

Please help us spread the update to reach out to as many people as possible!



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