



NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER #17

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear colleagues,

After what we hope will be a restful and pleasant summer vacation, it's time to get back to work. We're now in the final phase of ORP, since the program officially comes to an end on February 28, 2025. However, we'd like to remind everyone that our work doesn't stop on that date. We'll have to deliver the final reporting which is associated with the last payment.

An important date is the next Consortium Meeting to be held in Marseille, France. This will be an opportunity to ensure a complete review of all activities and to reflect together on the future of ORP. Everyone's participation is really important, and we hope to see many of you there.

Finally, we'd like to remind you that we've been organising ORP Science Talks since the spring. It's a very convivial way of discovering some really interesting scientific results. Here again, don't hesitate to attend: it only takes an hour a month, and it's an important moment in the life of our project.

Wishing everyone an excellent return to work and looking forward to seeing you soon at the Consortium Meeting,

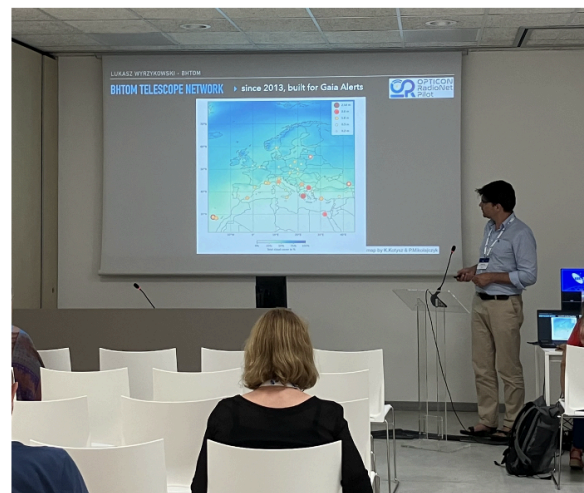
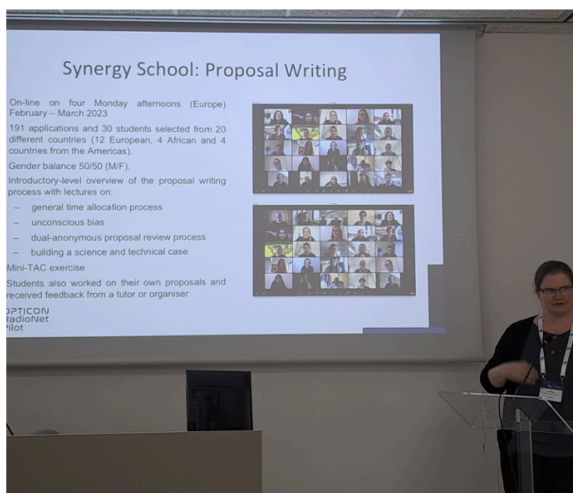
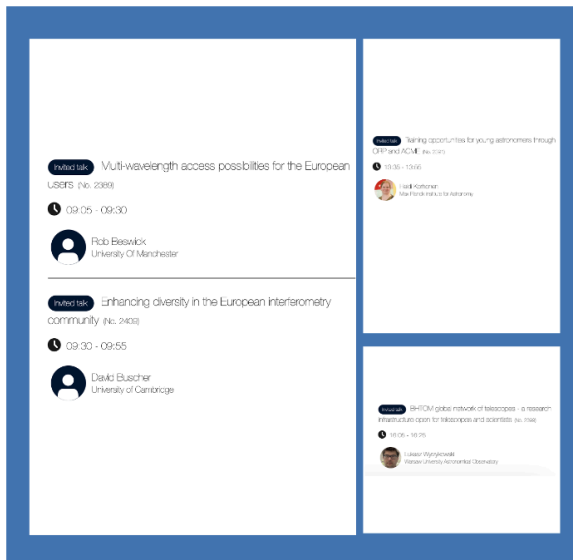
Stéphane Basa, on behalf of the EMT

EAS 2024

This year, the European Astronomical Society (EAS) held its annual meeting in Padova, Italy, from July 1–5. Scientists and visitors from around the world attended in person, with many others participating online.

On July 4, the "European Forum of Astronomical Communities" session took place, organised by ORP members Gerry Gilmore and Lukasz Wyrzykowski. The session spanned three 90-minute parts and included presentations from ORP members Rob Beswick, David Buscher, Heidi Korhonen, and Lukasz Wyrzykowski, ensuring strong representation from the ORP community.

Find more information about the session [here](#).



Current ORP TNA Opportunities Open

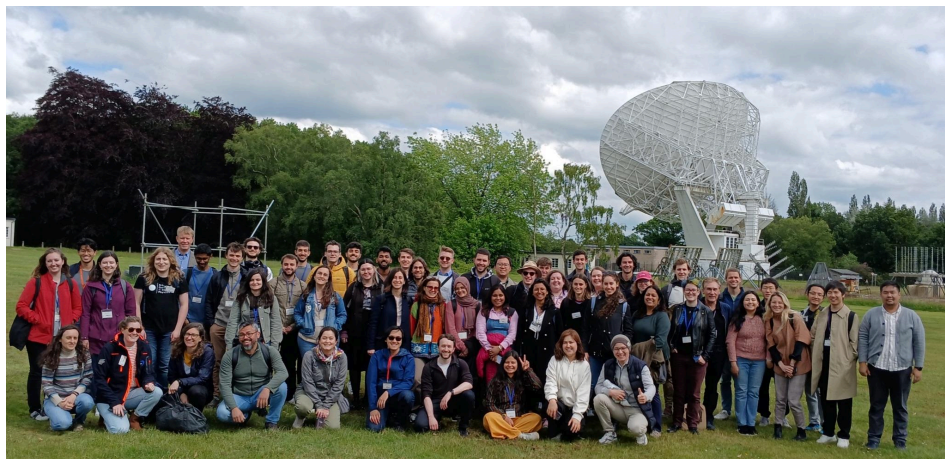
ORP Transnational Access opportunities presently open:

- [Call Effelsberg](#): deadline 26 September 2024
- [SRT Call](#) : deadline October 14, 2024 at 12:00 UTC
- [European ARC Network](#): No specific deadline

ORP supported the First ever ALMA school

ORP supported the first ever European ALMA School that took place at The University of Manchester, UK in June 10-14, 2024.

Organised by the European ARC Network, this event offered extensive training on various aspects of ALMA. The majority (66%) of the 50 participants, in various career stages ranging from graduate students to faculty astronomers, had no previous experience with interferometry. The school achieved a close-to-equal gender balance with 44% female participants and included participants from the UK, Italy, Spain, Germany, Norway and Kazakhstan. Lecturers from the ESO ARC and the European ARC nodes covered topics including the basics of interferometry, ALMA calibration, interferometric imaging and self-calibration, archive mining, proposal preparation, as well as the upcoming Wide Band Sensitivity Upgrade to ALMA. Invited talks on ALMA science as well as on the Very Large Telescope Interferometer, were offered as part of the programme. During the school, a trip to Jodrell Bank Observatory was organised, where the participants had a guided tour of the observatory and e-MERLIN correlator. Feedback given by the participants after the end of the school indicated that it was well received and participants found the lectures beneficial to their research. All talks and links to tutorial materials are available on the [meeting webpage](#).



ORP will support the NEON Observing School 2025

The 2025 NEON Observing School will be hosted by the Hispanic Astronomical Center in Andalusia (CAHA), also known as the Calar Alto Observatory, on 2-14 February 2025. This

school that is mainly funded by ORP provides hands-on observing experience on professional telescopes. During it the students will, together with an experienced tutor, go through all the steps from planning the observations to reducing and analysing the obtained data.

This school is mainly meant for Ph.D students in astronomy who do not have prior observing experience with professional telescopes. MSc students in the late stages of their thesis work and junior PostDocs can also be considered. The first half of the school comprises lectures, and planning and carrying out observations. The lectures include, among other topics, modern telescopes, detectors and observing techniques. The second half of the school is dedicated to group work on reducing and analysing the obtained observations, with students presenting their results at the end of the school.

The local costs, accommodation and meals, are covered by ORP, and some limited travel support is also available (and needs to be well justified and applied for on the application form).

The deadline for applications is October 18, 2024, and applicants will be notified about the selection in early November.

More information on the school and the application form can be found [here](#)

ORP Activities

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

JA4 Radio Training group: the group met online on 22 August 2024 for the regular update and the optical training leader was invited. The activity is fully on track, all the budget will be used and the schools supported by ORP progressed according to plan. A few more training events are due to take place before the end of ORP. Among others, these include two synergy schools, one on multi-messenger astrophysics and one on proposal writing. A page is now available on the ORP website that lists all the training organised within the ORP project, including all the lecture materials (see [here](#)).

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 the coordinator (information on upcoming schools, the next call for proposals, etc.) and two scientific presentations based on the ORP results.

On **25 September** at **11 am CEST**, we will welcome **Antonia Drescher** who will talk about “The inner 250 mas of Sgr A* with GRAVITY” , followed by **Taro Shimizu** who will be presenting “A New Era of Precision SMBH masses with GRAVITY+”.

You are welcome to join by clicking on the link [here](#) !

The last event took place on 5 June with **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. You can consult the recording of the talks [here](#).

*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.

ORP Consortium meeting- 5-7 November 2024

The next [ORP Consortium meeting](#) will be held in the Palace ‘**Le Pharo**’ in **Marseille (France)** on **5-7 November 2024**. Its aim will be to keep track of current and future ORP activities up to February 2025, and also to take an overall view of what has been achieved during the project as a whole.

The current programme for this **two-days meeting** is as follows (and is still under development):

- **Day 1 (starts at 2pm)** will be devoted to setting out the scope of the meeting and giving an overview of the last year. There will be a JA1 and JA2 session with feedback from the task leaders.

- **Day 2** will begin with three presentations on transnational access in the radio and optical fields, and on feedback from the Multi Facility Call. This will be followed by the JA3 session. A strategic discussion on the future is scheduled for the beginning of the afternoon, open to all and afterwards, the Executive Committee meeting will take place. A social dinner is planned for the evening.

- **Day 3** will start with the Board meeting, followed by a review of all the activities of the other working groups. The Consortium meeting will end with a note from the coordinator and conclude with lunch.

The meeting [registration page](#) is open until October 16, 2024.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in person. For those if you are unable to travel, remote access will be available.

You'll find all the relevant details [here](#) - more information will be announced in the coming weeks.



Pharo Palace, Marseille

Credit photo : [Flickr](#)

Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

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

September 2024:

- ★ 22–28 September 2024– online lectures & Porquerolles Island/FR – [12th VLT 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:

- ★ 5 –7 November - Marseille/FR – ORP Consortium meeting
- ★ 18–22 November 2024 – Grenoble/FR – [12th IRAM millimetre interferometry school](#)

February 2025:

- ★ 2-14 February 2025 – Calar Alto Observatory/ES – [2025 NEON Observing 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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