



# NEWSLETTER

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## NEWSLETTER #5

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear ORP Consortium members,

For decades the EU's framework programmes have allowed the emergence of an excellent European scientific community, collaborative and united, listening to and respecting the diversity of its institutions and people. ORP is part of this approach of excellent science through the integration of diverse communities. In the current tragic international context, let us appreciate the role that we can play, at our level, for the construction of a strong and united European scientific community.

On another front, we hope that the easing of Covid-related restrictions will finally allow us to meet in person soon to discuss the progress of our work and our next actions.

We wish you a good read!

The ORP Team

## Current ORP TA Opportunities Open

In the following, we list the current ORP Transnational Access opportunities that are open:

- [IRAM](#)
- [Effelsberg](#)
- [Apex](#)
- [European ARC Network](#)

## ORP Coordinator Jean-Gabriel Cuby named CFHT Executive Director - the new ORP Coordinator to be selected soon

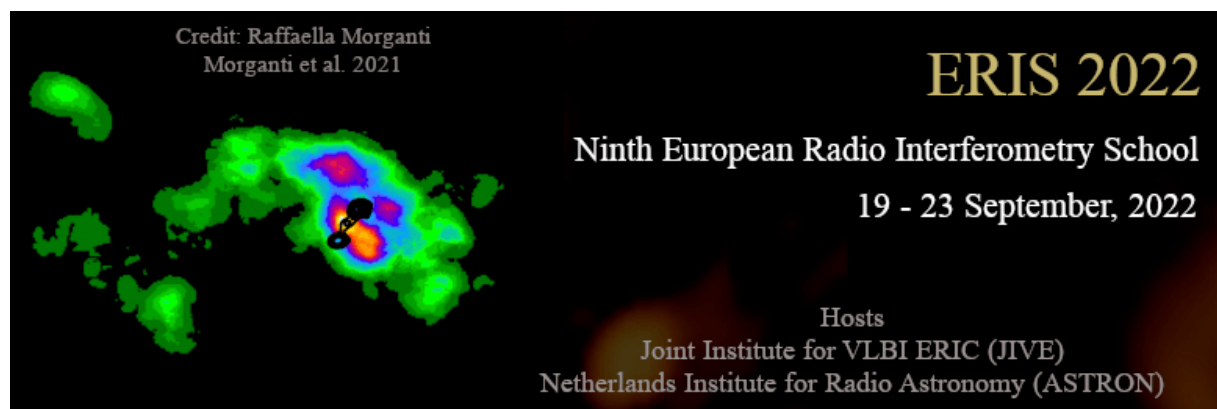
The Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT) Board of Directors announced in February the appointment of Dr. Jean-Gabriel Cuby to the position of CFHT Executive Director effective July 2022. Jean-Gabriel Cuby is currently an astronomer at the Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille and ORP Coordinator. He will be replaced in his ORP Coordinator position in the coming months. [Read more.](#)

## ORP Initiative for International Day of Women and Girls in Science



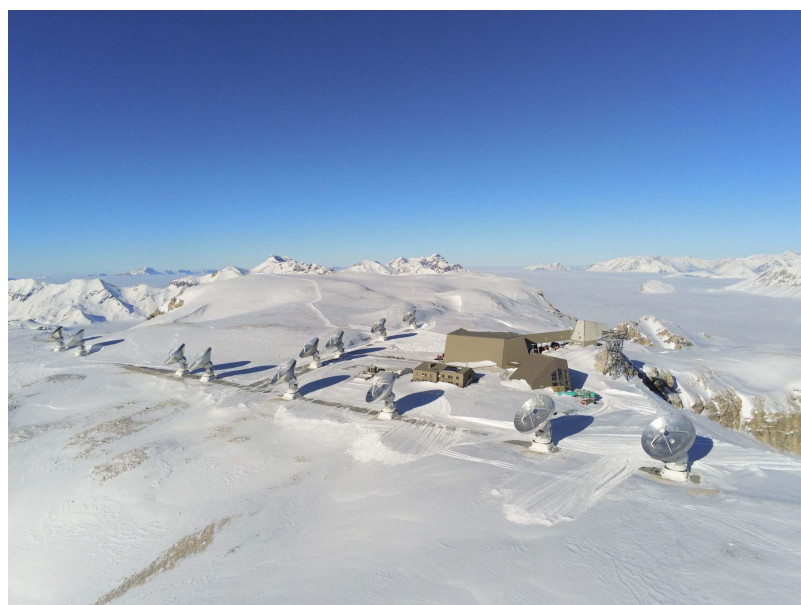
To celebrate the UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science on February 11th, the ORP asked the women involved in the project to share their thoughts on their commitment to gender equality in science. A compilation of thirteen inspirational messages was published on March 8th, the International Women Rights Day. [Read more.](#)

## 2022 European Radio Interferometry School



The 9th European Radio Interferometry School (ERIS 2022) - sponsored by the ORP project - will be hosted by JIVE and ASTRON in Dwingeloo (the Netherlands) on 19-23 September 2022. Registration for the school is open until 15 May 2022. [Read more.](#)

## NOEMA/IRAM: 12th antenna commissioned



The Northern Extended Millimetre Array (NOEMA) operated by ORP Partner IRAM reached its full sensitivity with the commissioning of its 12th antenna.

NOEMA is one of Europe's biggest facilities for astronomical research: a network of high-precision radio antennas located on the Plateau de Bure in the French Alps. With the commissioning of its last antenna, NOEMA reached its full sensitivity. [Read more.](#)

## A new state-of-the-art receiver for the 40-metre radio telescope of the Yebes Observatory

The Yebes Observatory has recently completed the design, implementation and installation of a new broadband receiver for its 40-m diameter radio telescope. The receiver is sensitive in the 4.5 to 9 GHz

frequency range, and replaces two older, frequency-limited receivers in C-band (5 and 6 GHz) and X-band (8 GHz), allowing simultaneous observation in these two bands and in additional, previously unavailable frequencies. [Read more](#).

## ORP Activities

During the period 15 January 2022 - 15 March 2022 the following activities have been organised:

**JA4 Training | 26 January 2022** - The radio training group met online on 26 January 2022 and gave an update on activities since the last group meeting in September 2021. Amongst others, a report from the 10th IRAM 30-metre School on Millimetre Astronomy held on 15-23 November 2021 was given. The group decided to develop an event organisers guide and place it in the ORP redmine. The main item for the next meeting will be to find a platform and system for a common and permanent archive for all school materials.

**JA3.3 Adaptive Optics Telemetry Standard | 27 January 2022** - The first implementation developed by the University of Porto was presented to different users. Deployment of the method to specific AO instruments will be tested in the next phase.

**JA 1.4 Accessibility equal opportunities and diversity | 1 February 2022** - JA1.4 core team met online in February 2022 and discussed the importance of defining the boundaries of this joint action. Therefore it was agreed that a Mission Statement will be drafted and submitted to both the EMT and to the Board. The core team also agreed to develop an action plan, which will have to be approved by the Board to get its mandate. This document is meant to define the range of actions of JA1.4 (also in terms of which data will be collected) and will also include a code of conduct. The document will be submitted to the Board in Spring. The JA1.4 TA mapping exercise is therefore postponed to after the approval of the action plan.

**Radio TA/VA group | 21 February 2022** - The radio Transnational Access and Virtual Access leaders met online on 21 February 2022 for the regular update on activities and developments. Two guests were invited, Paul Harrison (UNIMAN) representing WP3/JA and John Davies (STFC/UKATC) representing WP16. P. Harrison presented the development of the Proposal Submission Tool, as this needs input from the radio and optical communities. There was a discussion about the tasks that such a submission tool would have to fulfil. J. Davies reported about the CTAC call and investigated with the participants the boundaries of a possibility for including at least some of the radio facilities in the next call. These discussions will be continued.

**JA1.5 Preserving the skies | 22 February 2022** - The Preserving the skies group met online on 22 February 2022 and gave an update on activities and developments since the last meeting in January 2022. Yebes Observatory (Spain) reported good news. The Spanish spectrum administration visited Yebes Observatory and has been shown presentations on the importance of radio astronomy and VLBI, and also a presentation about RFI problems, their negative effects and the future concerns. It was a very positive dialogue. Amongst other topics, the JA1.5 group discussed the contribution of JA1.5/2.5 to the IAU Centre for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky from Satellite Constellation Interference and also the [JA 1.5 logframes](#) including a potential draft strategy.

## ORP Outputs

- **ORP Publication:** [Kirsten et al. \(2022\) - A repeating fast radio burst source in a globular cluster. Nature 602, 585–589 \(2022\).](#)
- **ORP Publication:** [Nimmo et al. \(2022\) - Burst timescales and luminosities as links between young pulsars and fast radio bursts. Nat Astron \(2022\).](#)
- **ORP Deliverable:** [D.3.1 Documentation on agreed standards and data model for Pilot facilities | UNIMAN](#)
- **ORP Deliverable:** [D3.2 Report on user support across facilities in Europe | ESO](#)

## Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

- **ORP Optical CTAC meeting** | 25-26 April 2022
- **[European Astronomical Society \(EAS\) Annual Meeting](#)** | 27 June–1 July 2022, Valencia, Spain
- **[15th European VLBI Network \(EVN\) Symposium and EVN Users Meeting](#)** | 11-15 July 2022, Cork, Ireland
- **[GA2022: XXXI IAU General Assembly](#)** | 2-11 August 2022, Busan, Republic of Korea
- **[European Radio Interferometry School \(ERIS 2022\)](#)** | 19-23 September 2022, Dwingeloo, Netherlands



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

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