

ROR Steering Group

Terms of Reference

About ROR

ROR is a community-led registry of open, sustainable, usable, and unique identifiers for every research organization in the world.

ROR is operated by California Digital Library, Crossref, and DataCite, and funded through in-kind support, project grants, and contributions from stakeholder organizations.

ROR is specifically designed to solve the problem of connecting research organizations to research outputs. ROR IDs are integrated in Crossref, DataCite, ORCID, and 40+ other systems.

ROR Services

The ROR registry includes unique IDs and metadata for more than 100,000 research organizations around the world. Registry data is openly available under a CC0 public domain dedication.

ROR provides open tools for searching and integrating registry data, including a REST API, public data dump, and OpenRefine reconciliation service.

The registry is updated on a rolling basis, approximately once a month. Registry updates are coordinated by a community curation board.

See the [Appendix](#) for links to more information about ROR services.

ROR Steering Group Role

The ROR steering group is an advisory body that supports ROR's strategic planning and decision-making activities. The group comprises representatives from ROR's operating organizations ("ROR Leadership Team") and additional members from external organizations.

ROR Steering Group members have no governance or fiduciary responsibilities or authorizations over ROR and its services.

Steering group members are expected to:

- Participate in approximately four 1-hour strategy meetings per year
- Provide feedback on ROR strategy
- Help drive awareness and adoption of ROR IDs through their respective networks and communities

Steering Group Membership

ROR steering group membership is by invitation only. Members are invited at the discretion of the ROR Leadership Team. The proportion of for-profit organizations shall not exceed 50% of the total membership.

Membership terms were 1-4 years during the startup phase of the group (2020-2022), ultimately aligning to a 2-year term framework beginning with members onboarding in 2022. Terms for members representing the ROR operating organizations are permanent.

Current members

Name	Organization	Term
Matt Buys	DataCite / ROR	Permanent
John Chodacki	California Digital Library / ROR	Permanent
Lautaro Matas	LA Referencia	2022-2024
Ritsuko Nakajima	Japan Science and Technology Agency	2020-2023
Joy Owango	TCC Africa	2023–2025
Ed Pentz	Crossref / ROR	Permanent
Judy Ruttenberg	Association of Research Libraries	2020-2023
Kathleen Shearer	Confederation of Open Access Repositories	2022-2024
Natasha Simons	Australian Research Data Council	2023–2025
Chris Shillum	ORCID	2022-2024

Past members

Name	Organization	Term
Daniel Hook	Digital Science	2020-2022
Clifford Lynch	Coalition for Networked Information	2020-2022
Ina Smith	Academy of Sciences of South Africa	2020–2021

Meetings and Communications

Steering Group meetings are held approximately four times per year via Zoom. Meetings are coordinated by the ROR Project Lead. Outside of meetings, the main communication channel for the group is email. There is also a private channel for the Steering Group in the ROR Slack workspace.

Amendment Policy

These terms of reference may be amended in writing by the ROR Leadership Team in consultation with ROR Steering Group members.

Appendix: ROR Resources and Services

General information

- [ROR website](#)
- [ROR blog](#)
- [ROR YouTube channel](#)
- [Governance information](#)
- [Sustainability information](#)

ROR community stakeholders

- [Community advisory group](#)
- [Curation advisory board](#)
- [Financial supporters](#)

Communication channels

- [ROR Slack workspace](#)
- [Technical support discussion forum](#)
- [Github discussions](#)
- [PID Forum chat room](#)
- [Mailing list](#)

Accessing ROR data

- [Search UI](#)
- [API](#)
- [Data dump](#)

Technical information

- [Technical documentation](#)
- [Roadmap and overview of development process](#)
- [Curation process](#)