

Title: Building bridges across the ORCID ecosystem

Author: Paloma Marín-Arraiza, ORCID.

Abstract:

ORCID plays an important role in improving the visibility, reliability, and interoperability of researchers' data across the global research infrastructure ecosystem. This presentation, *"Building bridges across the ORCID ecosystem,"* focuses on a pilot project, *Connecting Researchers to Member Integrations*, and places it alongside two related initiatives: the expansion of the ORCID work types vocabulary and the growing interoperability between ORCID and other persistent identifiers, particularly those used in national CRIS or national CV platforms. Together, these developments highlight how ORCID functions not only as an identifier but as a connecting layer within the wider research information ecosystem.

The *Connecting Researchers to Member Integrations* pilot seeks to overcome a common challenge: although many ORCID member organisations have systems that can automatically add verified data, such as affiliations or research outputs, to researchers' records, many researchers are unaware of these options or unsure how to enable them. The pilot introduces an email domain-based notification workflow that sends ORCID inbox messages to researchers whose email addresses match participating member institutions. These notifications link directly to the organisation's member page, where researchers can learn more about available integrations and how to connect them. The aim is to make it easier for researchers to benefit from trusted, automated data flows while helping institutions improve the quality and completeness of their researchers' records. Early results suggest that this targeted, consent-based approach increases engagement and supports more consistent use of verified data sources.

In parallel, ORCID has updated its *work types* vocabulary to better reflect the range of research outputs produced across disciplines. The new taxonomy introduces thirteen additional categories (including image, moving image, sound, musical composition, and conference presentation). It aligns with the COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repositories) Resource Types vocabulary to support interoperability. This broader classification makes it possible to describe more kinds of work, particularly in the arts and humanities, that were previously difficult to represent within ORCID records. It also enables more nuanced bibliometric and impact analyses and helps to promote recognition of diverse forms of scholarly contribution.

The white paper *"It's ORCID and..., not ORCID or..."* (Brown & Meadows, 2025) further emphasises ORCID's role as a collaborative, not competitive, infrastructure. Through examples from Portugal's CIÊNCIA ID, Germany's GND, and the INSPIRE-HEP platform in physics, the authors show how linking ORCID with national and disciplinary systems enhances data reliability, reduces duplication, and increases visibility at both national and global levels. In Portugal, for instance, more than 80,000 ORCID–CIÊNCIA ID connections have allowed the automatic transfer of millions of works into researchers' ORCID records, saving significant time and administrative effort. In Germany, the GND authority file serves

as a curated national identity hub, synchronised with ORCID to maintain accurate metadata exchange.

By bringing together these three developments —the integration pilot, the expanded work types vocabulary, and stronger connections with other identifier systems —this presentation shows how ORCID continues to build bridges across the research landscape. Taken together, they illustrate ORCID's evolution from a standalone identifier into a trusted infrastructure that links people, organisations, and contributions, supporting a more open, efficient, and inclusive global research ecosystem.

References

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