

The **Directory of Research Information Systems (DRIS)** is a euroCRIS initiative to map the available research information management infrastructure in Europe (and beyond). It currently includes close to 250 CRIS systems for institutions, research funders and other bodies in multiple European countries.

The main reason for this Directory of CRIS systems is to try and collect a comprehensive snapshot of how widely implemented they are across the European Research Area. In conversations with the leads for European e-infrastructure development at euroCRIS events, a request has often been expressed to have more information on the availability of such systems before they could be taken into consideration as a building block.

At euroCRIS we are constantly on the look for services that may be built on top of the DRIS. Two main ones have been surfaced thus far:

- As shown in the recently held [Spring 2019 membership meeting](#) at CSC in Espoo, CRIS systems are increasingly being harvested by OpenAIRE, for the moment as a beta development. In order for this harvesting to consolidate, CRIS data providers to OpenAIRE will need a persistent ID so that their feeds can be uniquely identified. This ID can easily be provided by the DRIS if the data provider is listed in it;
- Recent surveys to examine the way the CRIS infrastructure is evolving such as the 2018 joint euroCRIS/OCLC [survey on RIM practices](#) or the 2016 euroCRIS/EUNIS [survey on CRIS/repository interoperability](#) could be much more effective if an up-to-date list were available for operational systems that could directly be queried.

In order to make the addition of new entries as simple as possible, a *minimally sufficient metadata set* had been adopted for their description in the DRIS. This also aims to keep the maintenance effort as low as possible by avoiding fields prone to frequent changes such as contact person or number of records kept in the CRIS. This basic description contains just six fields:

- **Type:** type of CRIS, i.e. institutional, funder, national, regional, aggregation, subject-specific, other
- **Organisation:** body operating the CRIS (usually a university or research centre, or a funder)
- **Name:** name of the CRIS (where available)
- **Platform:** software solution underpinning the CRIS. It may be a commercial platform (Pure, Converis, Symplectic Elements, SoleCRIS, etc), an open source solution (DSpace-CRIS, Haplo) or it may have been developed in-house
- **Status:** status of the CRIS, usually operational or under construction
- **URL:** URL for the open CRIS portal where available. If the CRIS is closed, any webpage where information on the system is provided, see for instance the entry for [METIS at Radboud Uni](#)

It is possible to have more comprehensive CRIS entries in the DRIS, see for instance this [WUT Base of Knowledge](#) entry. This information has been collected from the [standard DRIS form](#) that euroCRIS has traditionally used. This form is very comprehensive and has historically led to a low uptake of the initiative, hence the move to the minimally sufficient metadata set above.

In order to have your CRIS added to the euroCRIS DRIS, please email us the info to eurocris@eurocris.org. Thanks.