

EUT⁺

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Deliverable D115

D8.8c EUT+ University Press Report

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WP 8

Description: Short annual report on the advancement and activities on the EUT+ University Press

Comments: The versions in the other languages of the alliance are available on request.

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<https://www.univ-tech.eu/phase-1-results>

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Foreword to deliverable D115

The present deliverables 115 is to be considered the continuity of D114 (D8.8a.b EUt+ University Press Report) as it presents further the internal workings of the EUt+ Academic Press platform introduced then. Description: This report is thus a specification of the D114 and, as explained in the latter, further references are made in both to D112 (D8.7b Open Science Agenda) as Open Science and Academic Press teams are intricately linked in EUt+ for increased efficiency of processes.

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Introduction

Academic Press portal – embodiment of Open Research Principles

As introduced in D114 when explaining concept behind the creation of the EUT+ Academic Press and its very essence, the landscape of higher education and academic publishing is undergoing a profound transformation, driven by the principles of open research and the demand for increased transparency, accessibility, and collaboration. In this dynamic environment, academic press portals have emerged as crucial platforms that play a pivotal role in disseminating scholarly content and advancing open research practices.

An academic press portal, at its core, is a digital gateway to the scholarly output of an academic institution, publisher, or consortium. It serves as an online hub where a wide range of research materials, including journals, books, conference proceedings, and other academic publications, are made accessible to a global audience. Its relevance lies not only in its ability to share knowledge but also in the alignment with the principles of open research, a movement that is reshaping the way research is conducted and disseminated within our universities.

The most common components of an Academic Press Portal can be:

- + Open Access Content: Open access is a fundamental characteristic of academic press portals. It ensures that scholarly content is freely available to anyone with an internet connection. Open access eliminates barriers to information, democratizes knowledge, and promotes inclusivity. Scholarly materials, such as research articles, theses, and reports, are often published under open access licenses that allow for free and unrestricted use.

- + Institutional Repositories: Academic press portals frequently host institutional repositories that serve as digital archives for a university's or research institution's intellectual output. These repositories include research papers, dissertations, theses, and other works produced by faculty, students, and researchers affiliated with the institution.
- + Journals and Books: Many academic press portals serve as platforms for hosting open access journals and books. These publications cover a wide range of academic disciplines and topics, providing a venue for researchers to publish their findings and share them with the global academic community.
- + Peer Review: Maintaining rigorous peer review processes is essential to uphold the quality and credibility of the research hosted on academic press portals. Peer review ensures that published materials meet academic standards and are of high scholarly quality.
- + Search and Discovery Tools: To make research content easily accessible, academic press portals often include search and discovery tools. These tools allow users to find specific research papers, articles, or books quickly. They may also feature advanced search options and filters to refine search results.
- + Metadata and Preservation: Metadata standards are applied to the content hosted on academic press portals. Metadata facilitates discoverability, tracking, and proper attribution of research materials. Furthermore, portals are responsible for long-term preservation to ensure that scholarly content remains accessible and usable for future generations.
- + User-Friendly Interface: A user-friendly interface is crucial for ensuring that researchers, students, and the wider public can navigate academic

press portals with ease. Intuitive interfaces encourage greater use of the platform and enhance the overall user experience.

- + Analytics and Usage Statistics: Portals typically offer analytics and usage statistics to publishers and institutions. These metrics provide insights into how often and by whom research content is accessed, which can inform decisions regarding content management and strategy.

Academic press portal is intrinsically linked to the principles of open research. Open research is a multifaceted concept that encompasses open access to publications, open data sharing, and open collaboration. Academic press portals embody these principles in various ways, as per:

- + **Open Access**: By providing open access to scholarly content, academic press portals ensure that research is available to a broad and diverse audience. This openness fosters transparency, encourages collaboration, and extends the impact of research findings.
- + **Open Data**: Open research practices often involve making research data openly available. Academic press portals may host supplementary data sets, allowing for greater scrutiny, verification, and reuse of research results.
- + **Collaboration**: Academic press portals are collaborative platforms that connect researchers, institutions, and publishers. They enable interdisciplinary and international collaboration, creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and innovation.
- + **Reproducibility**: Open research emphasizes the importance of reproducibility in scientific studies. Academic press portals provide the infrastructure needed to share detailed methodologies, facilitating the replication of research results.

- + **Inclusivity:** Open research promotes inclusivity by breaking down access barriers. Academic press portals ensure that research is accessible to scholars, policymakers, educators, students, and the public promoting a more equitable dissemination of knowledge.

While academic press portals have made significant strides in advancing open research in higher education, they also face challenges. Sustainability, quality control, and the need for ongoing technological advancements are areas that require attention. However, the opportunities are vast, as these portals contribute to a more open, interconnected, and collaborative academic landscape.

In conclusion, academic press portals are essential tools in the promotion and facilitation of open research in higher education. By providing open access to a wide array of scholarly materials, they support the principles of transparency, accessibility, and collaboration. These portals play a pivotal role in advancing knowledge dissemination and enabling researchers to contribute to the global academic community, reinforcing the transformative impact of open research on higher education. Core issue of the present report is to depict the implementation and status of the EUT+ Academic press portal, hosted in the Technological University of Dublin web.

An Operation Academic Press portal – background

Creating an operative Academic Press portal within a European university alliance of eight partners is a complex undertaking with several challenges and difficulties that must be navigated to ensure its success. While the initiative holds great promise for promoting open research and collaboration, the following are key challenges that can be encountered:

- + **Heterogeneity in Policies and Practices:** Each university within the alliance may have different policies and practices regarding open access publishing,

intellectual property, and copyright. Harmonizing these diverse policies to establish a common framework for the Academic Press portal can be challenging. Addressing these differences requires negotiation, compromise, and the development of a shared vision for open research.

- + **Technical Integration:** Integrating multiple universities' systems, repositories, and databases into a single, cohesive portal can be technically demanding. Variations in technology infrastructure, metadata standards, and content management systems need to be addressed to ensure seamless data integration and user experience. These are still pendent to be adopted by all the members.
- + **Governance and Decision-Making:** Determining the governance structure of the Academic Press portal is a critical challenge. Decision-making processes must be transparent, inclusive, and equitable, considering the interests and contributions of all partner institutions. Developing clear roles and responsibilities is essential for efficient portal management.
- + **Content Quality and Peer Review:** Maintaining consistent and high-quality content across the portal is vital. Establishing rigorous peer review processes and editorial standards that align with each institution's academic values and culture can be complicated. Ensuring a commitment to quality while adhering to open access principles requires careful planning and continuous oversight.
- + **Sustainability and Funding:** Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Academic Press portal is a major concern. Identifying sustainable funding models, whether through institutional contributions, grants, or other sources, is essential. It is crucial to secure the financial resources needed to maintain and enhance the portal over time.
- + **Technical Support and Infrastructure:** The portal's technical infrastructure must be robust and reliable. This requires ongoing maintenance, updates,

and technical support. Technical challenges, such as cybersecurity and scalability, need to be addressed to prevent disruptions in service and data security breaches.

- + **Training and Capacity Building:** Universities may have varying levels of expertise and resources in open access publishing and repository management. Providing training and capacity-building opportunities to ensure that all partner institutions can effectively contribute and manage content is essential.
- + **User Engagement and Promotion:** Encouraging user engagement and promoting the portal within and beyond the academic community is a significant challenge. Developing strategies for user outreach, marketing, and engagement that leverage the strengths of all partner institutions is crucial for achieving the portal's objectives.
- + **Legal and Ethical Considerations:** Navigating the legal and ethical landscape of open access publishing, including copyright, licensing, and intellectual property rights, can be complex. Partner institutions must ensure compliance with national and international regulations while promoting open research.
- + **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Ensuring that the Academic Press portal is inclusive and represents a diverse range of research fields, methodologies, and perspectives is a fundamental challenge. Fostering equity in access and participation is essential for its success.

In conclusion, creating an Academic Press portal is a significant and commendable endeavour, but it comes with a myriad of challenges. Overcoming these difficulties necessitates careful planning, open communication, and a shared commitment to the principles of open research. Successful collaboration will not only benefit the partner institutions but also contribute to advancing the global open research

movement in higher education. Addressing these challenges collectively is essential for the portal to fulfill its potential as a transformative force in the academic world.

Based on the described challenges, is still pending the policies harmonization, a common funding resource of constant financial support and find out the common harmonization of digital systems in other to guarantee an efficient sustainable global system for Academic Press. Vital importance remains in the training of the agents involved in such challenging mission.

1 What is Arrow@TU Dublin?

1.1 Presentation of Arrow@TU Dublin

[Arrow](#) is a database of publications and research outputs by staff and students of TU Dublin. This material is organised and made available in full-text format on the World Wide Web. All material is free to download provided it is attributed to the author and is for non-commercial use.

Arrow is an institutional archive or repository as well as a method of dissemination. Our objective is to preserve a permanent record of the research activity of the Institution.

TU Dublin has an official policy supporting Open Access Research. In having such a policy, we contribute to the fast and efficient dissemination of research by making its results freely available.



Figure 1. Principal page of access to ARROW@TU Dublin

Participation in Arrow is open to all members of TU Dublin. Joining the fastest growing repository in the country is just a matter of registering.

Material can be submitted to Arrow in several formats, some of which the system may convert to PDF. The submission process is very straightforward. There are 3 categories you can submit material to: Faculties, Research Institutes/Centres/Groups or Data. The method of submission is the same in each case.

Arrow@TUDublin is acting as a publisher for the University and therefore must be aware of copyright and compliance issues. A [Copyright](#) is available. For all submissions, the Arrow administrator will check to ensure compliance with publishers' policies on open access. Authors are reminded that copyright of their

material is a valuable property right that they should be reluctant to give away to publishers. At the very least, seek permission to lodge a copy of your material on Arrow.

1.2 About the Repository

All material is available under Creative Commons (CC) licenses. Please check the conditions of reuse of materials.

This repository is hosted by Digital Commons. [Find out more](#) about the Discipline Wheel or go directly to the contents of over 600 repositories.

Web possesses several tools for users to find specific research works but also to know the download ratio of each (see figures 2 and 3). Each of them takes the user to the pdf version of the paper or research work/book, etc (see figure 4).

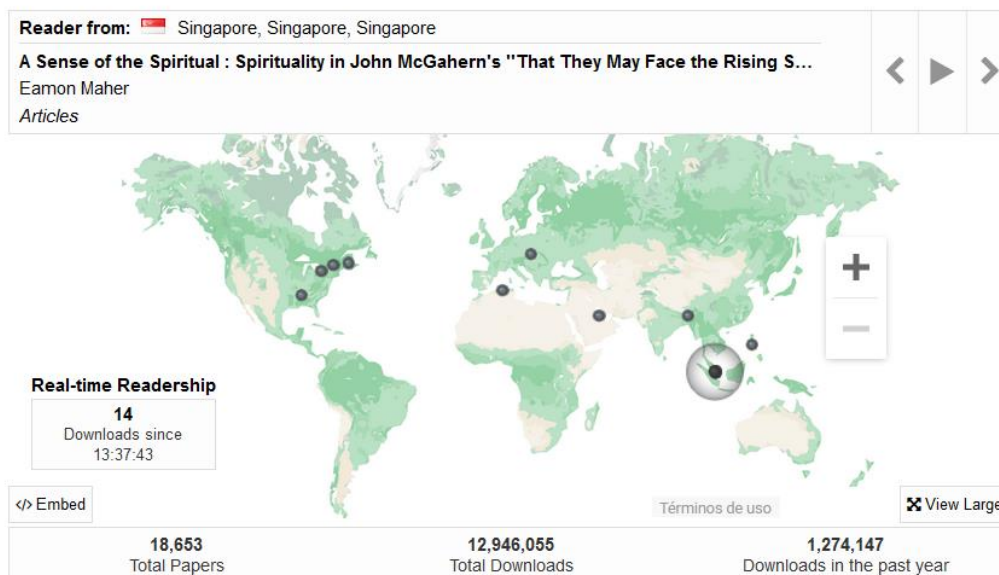


Figure 2. Real time map with downloads worldwide.

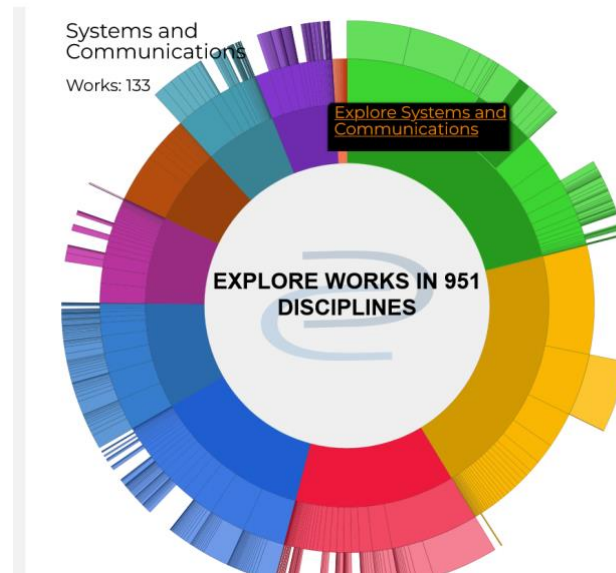
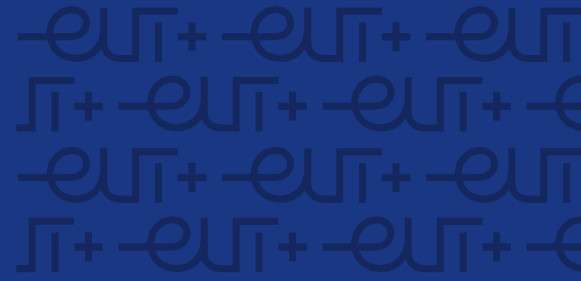


Figure 3. Exploratory wheel to find out work in 951 different research disciplines.




[Disciplines](#) [Architecture](#) ▾ [Construction Engineering](#) ▾


 Part of the [CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING](#) Commons

Works in Construction Engineering

2023

[Sustainability and Circular Economy Horizon Scan and Needs Analysis](#), Sadaf Dalirazar, Mark Kelly, Derek Sinnott, James O'Donnell  [PDF](#)
Reports

[Digital Construction Annual Survey 2022 Report](#), Davitt Lamon, Ted McKenna  [PDF](#)
Reports

[International Information Management and BIM Best Practice Report](#), Ted McKenna, Davitt Lamon  [PDF](#)
Reports


[Information Management and BIM Standards and Supports Inventory](#), Ryan Dempsey, Barry McAuley, David Burke  [PDF](#)

Figure 4. Detailed lists of downloadable research documents.

All these same services and tools for users will be replied in the website habilitated for the EUT+ Academic Website.

2 EUT+ Academic Press

The European University of Technology has its [BETA version of Academic Press](#) website hosted by ARROW@TUDublin.

The following text inviting to collaboration can be read:

“The EUT+ Academic Press is an open access academic press available to the partners in the alliance. All material is free to read online. We are committed to the principle that scholarship should be available to all without barriers or paywalls. We offer authors a global readership and thus contribute to the dissemination of knowledge. We welcome quality works of scholarship regardless of subject area. Our material is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Non-commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0) license We are committed to Gold Open Access which is the free, immediate, and permanent online access to a publication’s version of record. Currently, there are no fees for authors.

If you are interested in submitting to the EUT+ Academic Press, please apply for a proposal form from your local representative or the Open Scholarship Librarian”

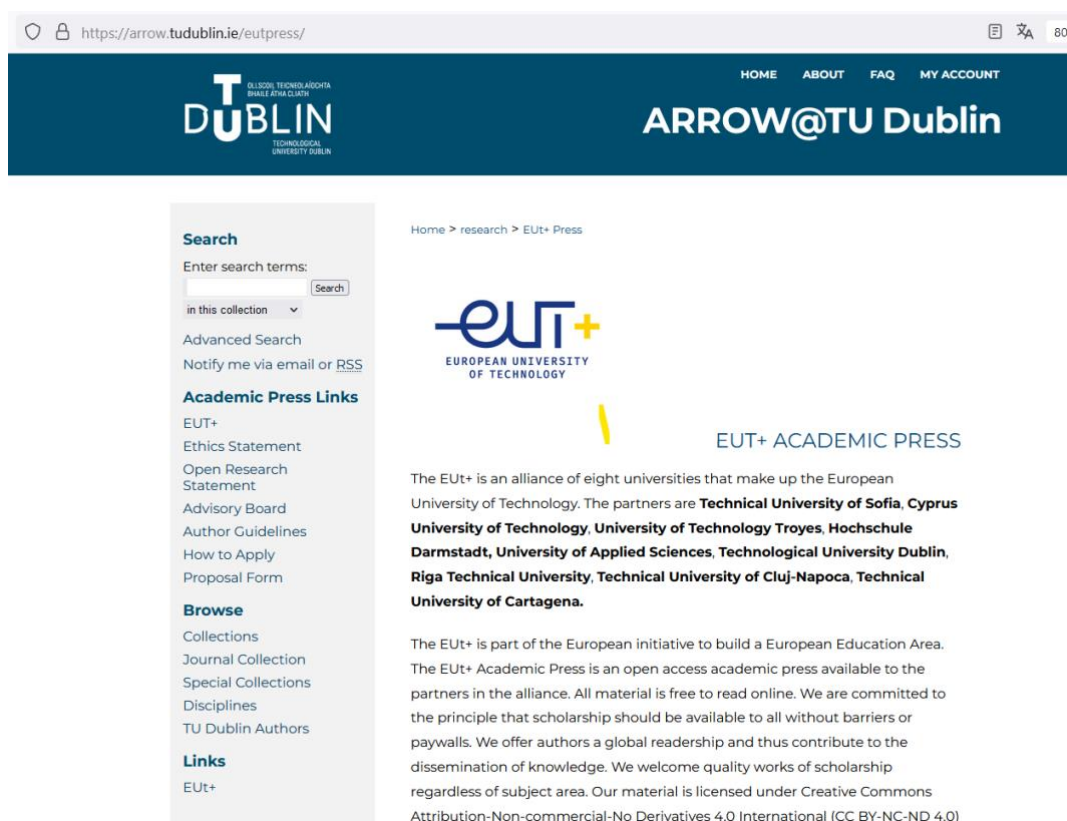


Figure 5. Principal view of the EUT+ Academic Press web hosted by TU Dublin ARROW system.

2.1 Academic Press - Sections and relevant information

Navigating through the website, users can find very important menus, as can be seen in figure 6:

- + EUT+ website access
- + Publications Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement
- + EUT+ Open Research Statement
- + Advisory board
- + Author guidelines for submissions

- + How to Apply
- + Proposal Form

Academic Press Links

EUT+
Ethics Statement
Open Research
Statement
Advisory Board
Author Guidelines
How to Apply
Proposal Form

Figure 6. List of available links for users' submission.

Apart from the logistical and technical links for users' submission and ethics understanding of our Academic Press platform. User can find the various reference repositories.

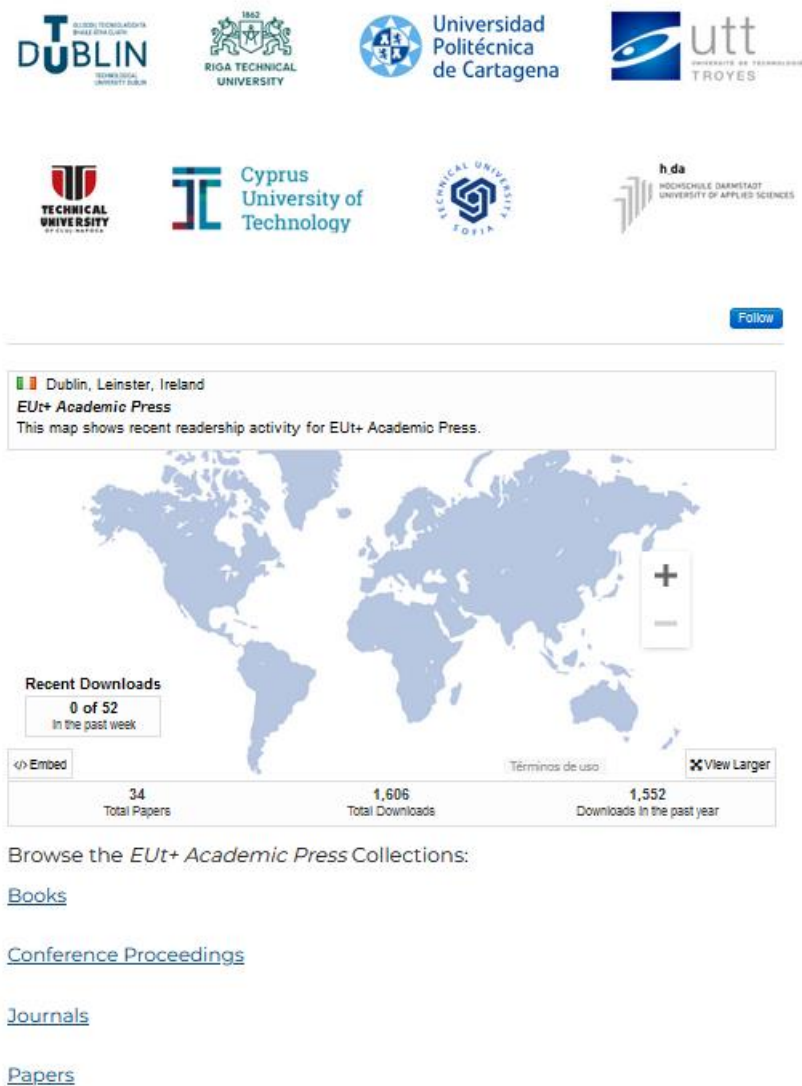
2.2 Academic Press - Repositories





About Institutional Repositories





Institutional Repositories (IRs) bring together all a university's research under one umbrella, with an aim to preserve and provide access to that research.

IRs are an excellent vehicle for working papers or copies of published articles and conference papers. Presentations, senior theses, and other works not published elsewhere can also be published in the IR.


Under this section, users can find all types of repositories hosted in the web: papers, books, laws, conference communications, etc (see figure 7).




Follow

 Dublin, Leinster, Ireland
EUT+ Academic Press
 This map shows recent readership activity for EUT+ Academic Press.



Recent Downloads
 0 of 52
 in the past week

Términos de uso View Larger

34 Total Papers	1,606 Total Downloads	1,552 Downloads in the past year
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Browse the *EUT+ Academic Press* Collections:

- [Books](#)
- [Conference Proceedings](#)
- [Journals](#)
- [Papers](#)

Figure 7. List of available repositories inside the EUT+ section.

Other classification that helps to find the requested info is a browser of Journal Collections (see figure 8). In that case, users can find papers through thematic journals, publications recent and even have link access to another research [Databases](#).

Home > research > EUT+ Press > Journals



JOURNALS

These are open access journals produced by members of the Alliance and all of which are indexed in either Web of Science or Scopus or both. The submission date is the year of publication of the first issue.

Follow

Submissions from 2020

[Link](#) [DISCERN: the International Journal of Design for Social Change, Sustainable Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#), Nicos Souleles and Ana Margarida Ferreira

Submissions from 2015

[Link](#) [Architecture and Urban Planning](#), Janis Krastins

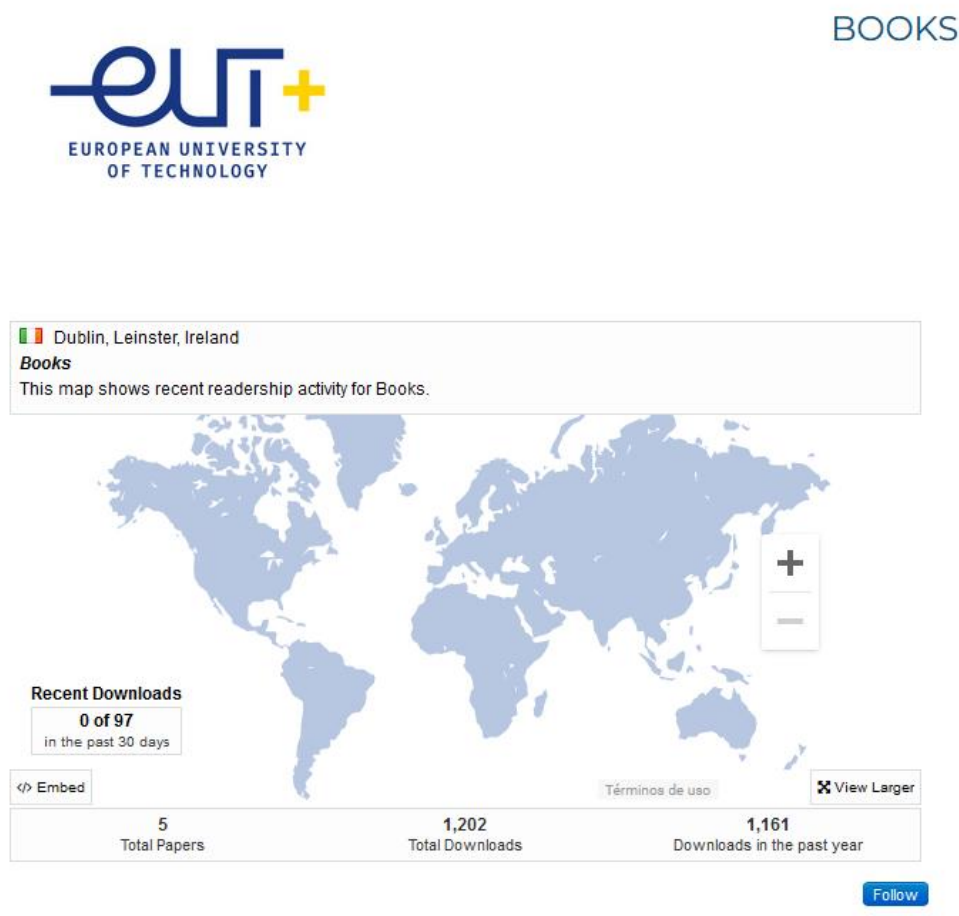
Submissions from 2013

[Link](#) [Electrical, Control and Communication Engineering](#), Ilya Galkin

[Link](#) [International Journal of Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage](#), Kevin A. Griffin and Razaq Raj

Figure 8. Browser by Journal Collection.

Special collections are also considered into this section, as well as books searching, papers and conference papers (see figure 9, 10 and 11).



Submissions from 2023

[PDF](#) [ARTCAREER: Working as an Artist in the Regions of the Republic of Ireland Today: a Policy Report](#), Deirdre McQuillan and Elizabeth Keating

Submissions from 2022

[PDF](#) [Techné Logos and the \(Neg\) Anthropocene: the First Annual Conference of the European Culture and Technology Laboratory](#), Noel Fitzpatrick (ed)

Figure 9. Browser by books.

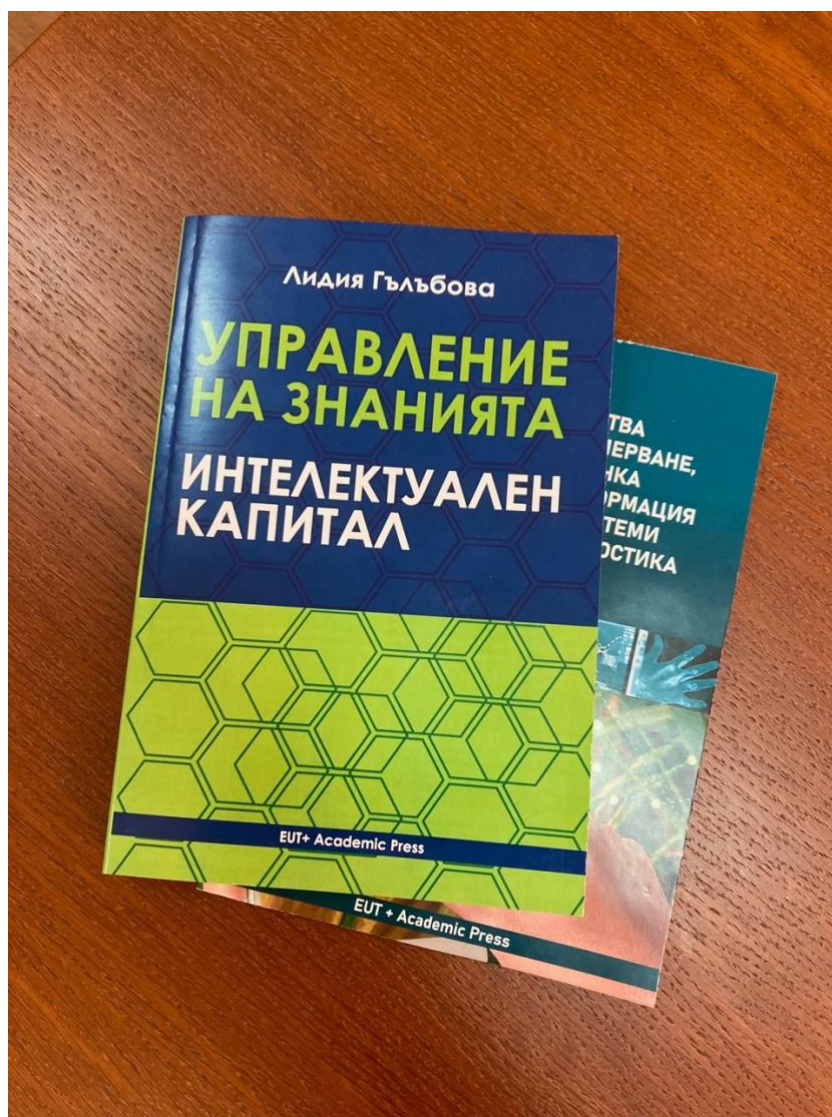


Figure 10. Example of books published under the EUT+ University Press



Follow

Submissions from 2022






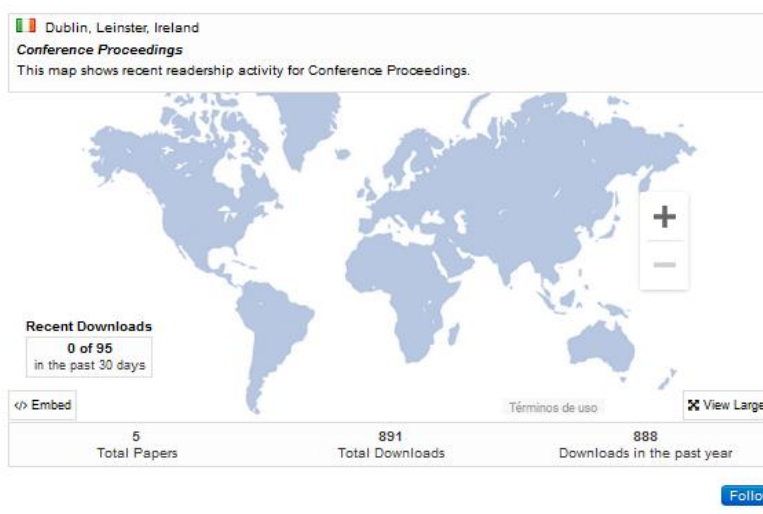
-  [Working with the Intercultural Competence in Higher Education as a Path Towards Inclusion: a Practical Example from EUT+, Natalia Carbajosa, Stefanie Morgret, Catherine Spencer, and Ulta Hameister](#)
-  [Rethinking Higher Education Models: Towards a New Education Paradigm for the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Jon-Hans Coetzer, Lucia Morales, and Cormac MacMahon](#)
-  [Challenges of Data Collection for Equality Between Women and Men: the EUT+ Alliance Case, Yvonne Galligan, Rositsa Velchikova, and Deirdre McQuillan](#)
-  [Advancing Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis as a Novel Methodological Tool in Deepening Insights and Amplifying the Voices of Women Mentees in Leadership Development Programmes in Irish Higher Education Institutions, Patricia Ganly, Serge Basini, and Ashley O'Donoghue](#)
-  [Supporting Educators Towards More Inclusive Design of Entrepreneurship Courses, Sylvia Gavigan, Iulia Clitan, Antonio Juan Briones Penalver, Deirdre McQuillan, Ovidiu Stan, and Antonia Christou](#)

Figure 11. Browser by papers.

home > research > EUT+ Press > Conference papers

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS



Submissions from 2023

[PDF](#) [dexesESC: Development and EXpansion of Existing Services Associated with the EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD, EU+ Sofia Week, 18-10 January, 2023](#), Lubomir Dimitrov (ed), Rossen Radonov (ed), Janina Fengel (ed), Antonio Javier Martinez Vallo (ed), Serban Meza (ed), Denitza Zgureva (tech. ed.), and Kalin Filipov (tech.ed)

Submissions from 2022

[PDF](#) [Re-Imagining Higher Education through Equity, Inclusion and Sustainability \(RISE\): 2nd. EU+ International Conference on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#), European University of Technology

Figure 12. Browser by conference papers.

Conclusion

The creation of a beta version of the digital repositories for books, papers, conference papers and journals are a major achievement. It demonstrates the ability of the development team to implement a functional technological infrastructure aligned with the project objectives.

Accessibility and Availability has facilitated access to a wide variety of academic content, including books, papers and other materials. This represents a significant step towards promoting transparency and accessibility in our European university of Technology. The inclusion of different types of repositories, reflects the breadth of research and knowledge generated by participating universities. This enriches the range of content available to the academic community and the public.

The user interface of the beta version is intuitive and easy to navigate, which enhances the user experience when searching and accessing content. Usability is essential to ensure that users get the most out of the repositories. The ability to effectively search and discover content is crucial in an academic environment. The beta version has proven to be able to provide users with tools to efficiently locate resources.

The collaboration of several universities in the creation of the digital repositories reflects a shared commitment to promoting open research. This collaboration has been essential in bringing together a wide range of content. While this version of the common repository is an important milestone, it is important to recognise that this is an early stage of the project, continued effort is required to refine the platform, address potential technical challenges and ensure that it meets expected standards of quality and usability.

Actual findings should also include a look into the future. Consideration may be given to planning future iterations and enhancements to the digital repositories, considering user feedback and evolving academic needs. This is a step towards creating a valuable resource for the academic community. Its potential success in increasing the visibility of research and fostering collaboration between institutions is a positive aspect to highlight.

Finally, the conclusions should highlight the potential impact on promoting open research culture. By providing open access to a wide range of resources, digital repositories contribute to openness and transparency in the production and dissemination of knowledge.

In summary, the conclusions on the EUT+ Academic Press web should highlight the achievements to date, as well as the need to continue to improve and expand the platform.