The OPERAS Innovation Lab aims to provide a knowledge hub on novel scholarly communication and prototype innovative and FAIR services for OPERAS, Research Infrastructure supporting open scholarly communication in the social sciences and humanities (SSH) in the European Research Area.

What does innovation mean to the SSH community?

Scholars see innovative means of disseminating their work and data as a chance to improve the process of sharing ideas with different audiences, thanks to technological affordances.

They understand innovation either in terms of form (novel means of communicating ideas through different media), or access (opening up outputs and making them easily accessible).

What we consider a “scholarly text” has thus become understood as an expression that can employ different media and engage creatively with underlying data.

Activities of the OPERAS Innovation Lab

**Observatory**

An overview of relevant practices, initiatives and projects discussed on the Lab’s website and a list of resources gathered in a Zotero library.

**Case Studies**

Workflows with solutions and steps to be followed by researchers willing to engage with similar formats, featuring support options from various e-infrastructures.

**Recommendations & Guidelines**

See *The Future of Scholarly Communication* (cf. Maryl and Błaszczyńska 2021) sharing actionable recommendations, and other reports.

**Support for Innovation & Prototyping Solutions**

Solutions to be prototyped through an iterative process, involving various stakeholders, with an aim of enriching the OPERAS services portfolio.