

# ORCID and the Fediverse

## What Can We Do with Public Information?

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# ORCID

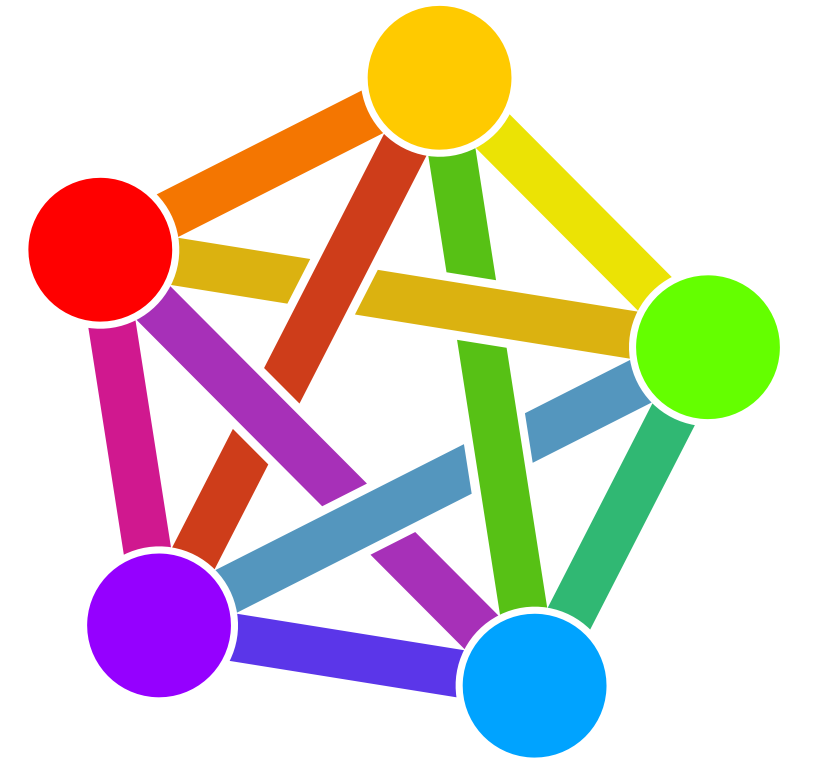
ORCID is an identification scheme and bibliographic database for academics that aims to make **information about researchers' works** widely and easily accessible.

### MOTIVATION

Building a system to make ORCID records **followable** on the Fediverse



And taking a closer look at expectations around the **handling of public information** that people submit to either platform



The **Fediverse** is a collection of interoperable social media platforms where people can follow each other across platform boundaries to **read and share text posts or other media**.

### OBSERVATIONS

- Purpose: sharing data **widely and easily**, avoiding duplicate data entry
- Scope: metadata about **published academic works**
- Timing: often weeks or months late
- Access: web, APIs, bulk downloads
- Permissions: copyright disclaimed, reuse without restrictions



Potential for conflicts when connecting these two environments

- Purpose: sharing data with **followers and visitors**
- Scope: **everyday life updates**, relationships, news, media, ...
- Timing: real-time updates
- Access: web (optional), APIs
- Permissions: read access, republishing frowned upon

#### Working with the Public Data File

##### Download the public data file

Visit the below links to download the [annual public data file](#).

- [2024 ORCID Public Data File](#)
- [2023 ORCID Public Data File](#)
- [2022 ORCID Public Data File](#)
- [2021 ORCID Public Data File](#)
- [2020 ORCID Public Data File](#)

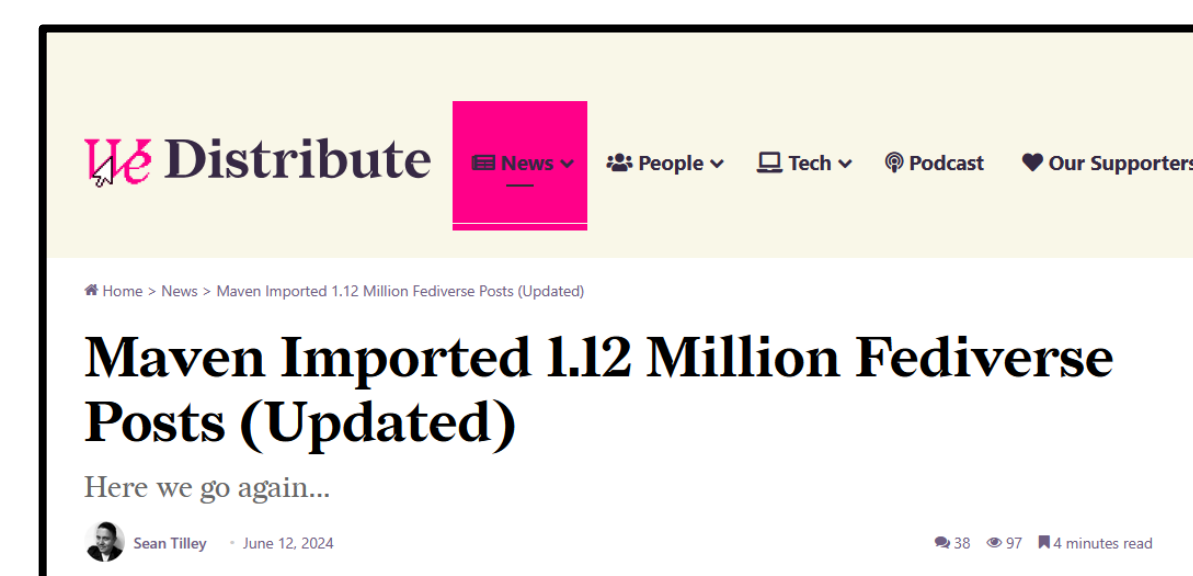
##### EVERYONE (visible to everyone)



Data items which you have set with the visibility of **Everyone** (Everyone Data) will be available to the public for viewing and use through the Registry, the ORCID API, and via the [ORCID public data file](#). Everyone Data is released under a [Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Public Domain Dedication](#). This designation is a dedication to the public domain that allows anyone to copy, modify, distribute, store, or otherwise use Everyone Data for any purpose without asking for further permission.

**Public.** Data marked as Public will be available to the public for viewing and commercial and non-commercial use through an annual public data file which ORCID will release to the public under a Creative Commons CC0 Universal 1.0 Public Domain Dedication. Consistent with the CC0 waiver, the public data file will not contain the restrictions on use set forth in these Terms and Conditions of use, but will include suggested community norms for use.

Source: orcid.org (see the article's bibliography for full URLs)



Source: wedistribute.org (see the article's bibliography for full URLs)

Will ORCID users prefer to have their publication data shared **more widely** by default (**opt-out**), or to not have it shown in the Fediverse without **explicit permission** (**opt-in**)?

Will Fediverse users **object** to an opt-out ORCID integration, even if it is **one-way** only?

**Estimate** potential consequences through a **theoretical impact analysis**:

- Difference in purpose/content between ORCID and social media **limits transferability** of privacy expectations
- **No increased potential for safety issues** identified for opt-out ORCID bridging
- Design task: **match or exceed** current Fediverse platforms in **personal data and privacy management features**

### OUR APPROACH

Follow the bridge project at:  
<https://encyclia.pub>



ENCYCLIA



[https://doi.org/10.18420/ecscw2025\\_pd04](https://doi.org/10.18420/ecscw2025_pd04)

**Present** our analysis and data bridge design considerations to the **Fediverse community** for feedback and discussion:

- Before going public: conversations with several **Fediverse privacy experts** for **feedback and guidance**, adjust concept as needed
- Public project announcement: mostly met with **enthusiasm**, a small number of **critical questions**, no significant objections