

Opening Requirements Engineering for Transparent, Accessible, and Reusable Research

1st Interactive Workshop on the Promotion of Open Science in Requirements Engineering 2026

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Abstract

[Background.] Since 2024, the *International Working Conference on Requirement Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality* (REFSQ) has established its *Open Science Initiative* with the *Open Science Track*, *Open Science Policy*, and *Open Science Competition*. These measures aim to encourage and support authors in contributing to open science in requirements engineering (RE) by making their research and artifacts more transparent, accessible, and reusable. Despite a growing number of replication packages accompanying accepted publications at REFSQ, we found several fundamental issues when analyzing the artifacts published from 2023 to 2026, such as missing explicit data availability statements or the limited use of persistent repositories with corresponding licenses for long-term archiving. There is a need for action to more actively promote open science and REFSQ's initiative in the community to better disseminate and establish the knowledge and application of open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. **[Aims.]** The *Interactive Workshop on the Promotion of Open Science in Requirements Engineering* (RE-OpenS) provides an interactive platform for researchers to familiarize themselves with open science and REFSQ's initiative to effectively apply recommended open science best practices. **[Method.]** The first edition of RE-OpenS is a half-day, paperless, and interactive workshop consisting of three blocks: 1) A theoretical session on open science and REFSQ's initiative with its recommended open science best practices to emphasize their importance, benefits, and incentives, 2) Two practical sessions with two hands-on exercises for learning skills and practical experiences to leverage two open science infrastructures with their services and tools recommended by REFSQ's initiative, and 3) A feedback session for discussion and development of a roadmap for the next editions of RE-OpenS to address the needs, challenges, and wishes of the community. **[Results.]** RE-OpenS raises awareness for open science and REFSQ's initiative, introduces recommended open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools, fosters networking, and lays the foundation for future editions of RE-OpenS. The participants become familiar with open science and REFSQ's initiative by learning skills and gaining practical experience for their research. **[Conclusions.]** While the results of REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* show positive trends, the topic of open science and REFSQ's initiative need to be more actively communicated to the community. We must gradually sensitize researchers to these topics by guiding and empowering them to leverage open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools as an integral part of their work. RE-OpenS pursues this endeavor to promote open science in RE and thus open it for transparent, accessible, and reusable research.

Keywords

Requirements Engineering, Open Science, Best Practices, Infrastructure, Transparency, Accessibility, Replicability

1. Introduction

The landscape of academic publishing faces a steadily growing volume of research outputs, with approximately seven million publications produced annually and even exponential growth indicated [1]. This massive expansion has intensified long-standing concerns about transparency and reproducibility, culminating in the widely recognized replication crisis [2]. Despite the associated problems, “*the replication crisis has led to several positive structural, procedural, and community changes*” [3, p. 1]

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contributing to a fundamental shift toward more transparent and verifiable research practices. Open science has emerged as a crucial framework to address these concerns by ensuring that research artifacts are not only shared but remain transparent, accessible, and reusable throughout their lifecycle.

Within the requirements engineering (RE) community, the *International Working Conference on Requirement Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality* (REFSQ) has taken a proactive stance. Since 2024, REFSQ has established its *Open Science Initiative*, comprising the *Open Science Track*, the formal *Open Science Policy*, and the *Open Science Competition*. Together, these measures provide structural, procedural, and motivational support for authors to adopt open science practices in their research.

These efforts have already led to positive developments, in particular a substantial increase in explicit data availability statements (2023: 0%, 2024: 5%, 2025: 14%, 2026: 100%) and the provision of replication packages (2023: 44%, 2024: 72%, 2025: 72%, 2026: 91%) of publications accepted at REFSQ. However, we found several fundamental issues in the artifacts published from 2023 to 2026, especially the limited use of persistent repositories with corresponding licenses for long-term archiving (2023: 44%, 2024: 45%, 2025: 45%, 2026: 65%). These rudimentary issues substantiate the need for action to more actively promote open science and REFSQ's initiative in the RE community. We need to better disseminate and establish knowledge and application of open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools in RE so that researchers use them as an integral part of their work.

To address this need, we established the *Interactive Workshop on the Promotion of Open Science in Requirements Engineering* (RE-OpenS). RE-OpenS aims to open RE for transparent, accessible, and reusable research by providing an interactive platform for researchers to familiarize themselves with open science and REFSQ's initiative. Through a combination of conceptual input and hands-on exercises, RE-OpenS empowers participants to effectively apply open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. By emphasizing guidance, empowerment, and practical experience, RE-OpenS seeks to raise awareness of the benefits and incentives of open science for both individual researchers and the broader RE community. Below, we summarize the motivation and specific objectives of RE-OpenS:

Summary of Motivation:

- 1) Growing interest in and need to raise awareness for open science, its importance, benefits, and incentives in RE and beyond.
- 2) Need for guidance and empowerment of researchers to effectively apply open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools as an integral part of their work.
- 3) Supporting REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* to promote open science in the RE community.

Objectives of RE-OpenS:

- 1) Raising awareness and educating researchers about open science and REFSQ's initiative, their importance, benefits, and incentives for themselves and the RE community.
- 2) Introducing open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools to the RE community.
- 3) Empowering researchers through hands-on exercises to learn skills and practical experiences to leverage open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools for their research.
- 4) Contributing to REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: Section 2 outlines the motivation and background for establishing RE-OpenS. Section 3 presents the design principles that informed the workshop's conception. Section 4 describes the format and activities of the first edition, including planned extensions for future iterations. Section 5 discusses the expected impact of RE-OpenS and its contribution to strengthening open science practices within the RE community. Section 6 concludes the paper and reflects on the workshop's long-term role in supporting a sustainable open science culture in RE.

2. Background

Open science has become increasingly important in software engineering (SE), including RE, where empirical studies rely on diverse artifacts such as datasets, source code, and qualitative materials.

Mendez et al. [4] emphasize that open science in SE is not merely about making artifacts public but about enabling transparency, reproducibility, and replicability across heterogeneous contexts. They highlight that SE faces unique challenges compared to other disciplines: Sensitive industrial data, human-centric studies, qualitative analyses, and complex legal or ethical constraints. These factors complicate full disclosure of research artifacts and require tailored open science practices that respect the particularities of SE research.

Around 2020, several major SE venues have increasingly adopted open science measures. Conferences such as the *International Conference on Software Engineering*, *International Conference on the Foundations of Software Engineering*, *International Conference on Automated Software Engineering*, and the *International Requirements Engineering Conference*, have introduced artifact tracks, badges, and open science policies encouraging authors to share data and artifacts. Journals such as *Empirical Software Engineering* and the *Journal of Systems and Software*, have likewise strengthened their expectations for artifact availability and licensing with their open science initiatives. These developments reflect a broader cultural shift toward transparency and reproducibility in SE research.

REFSQ has also joined the movement with its own *Open Science Initiative* in 2024. To assess the impact of this initiative, we analyzed the artifacts accompanying accepted papers from REFSQ'23 to REFSQ'26 (see Figure 1). The results show a clear upward trend in the adoption of open science practices:

- Explicit *data availability statements* significantly increased from 0% in 2023 to 100% in 2026¹.
- Provision of *replication packages* significantly increased from 44% in 2023 to 91% in 2026.
- Use of *persistent repositories* with licenses moderately raised from 44% in 2023 to 65% in 2026.
- Use of *SciKGTEx* [5] as one of REFSQ's recommended open science tools reached 22% in 2026.

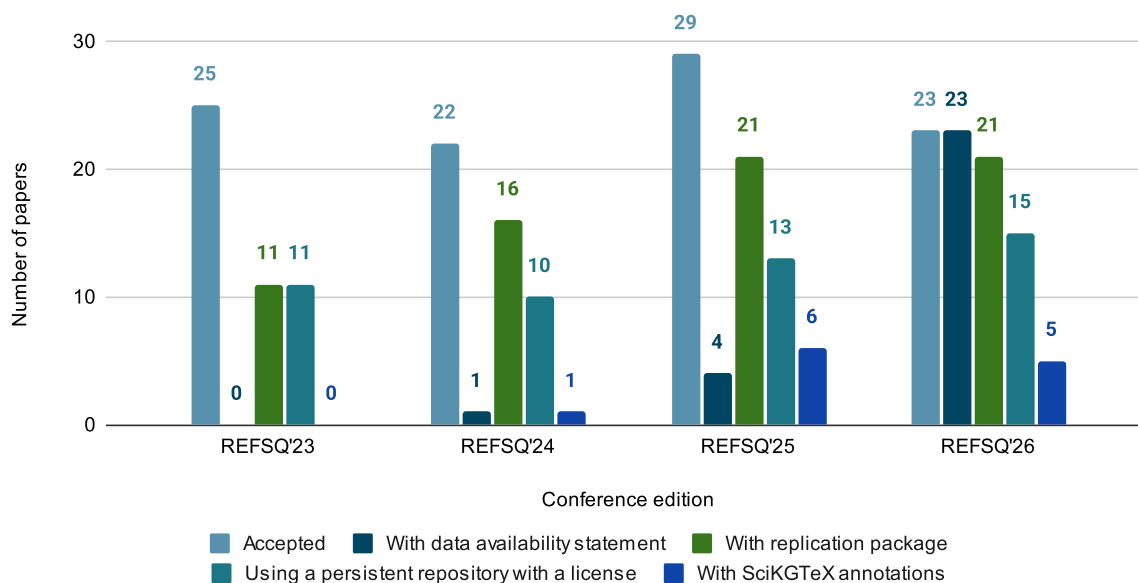


Figure 1: Adoption of Open Science Practices at REFSQ (2023 – 2026).

Despite this progress, the analysis also reveals some fundamental issues that align with the challenges identified by Mendez et al. [4]: Missing or vague data availability statements, absent licenses, and limited use of persistent repositories for long-term archiving. These issues only affect one aspect of open science, namely accessibility. If these issues persist, there is no point in even discussing other aspects, such as replicability, reproducibility, or reusability. These findings indicate that while structural and procedural measures and incentives are essential, researchers also require practical guidance, hands-on experience, and community support to fully integrate open science practices into their workflows.

To address this need, we conceived RE-OpenS. By combining conceptual input with hands-on exercises, the workshop aims to provide an interactive platform to empower researchers to apply

¹In 2026, REFSQ decided to make explicit data availability statements mandatory for accepted papers.

open science best practices using established and recommended infrastructures, services, and tools. RE-OpenS complements REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* by fostering skill development, community engagement, and feedback to continuously improve RE-OpenS and REFSQ's open science measures.

3. Design Principles of RE-OpenS

The design of RE-OpenS is guided by a set of seven principles intended to translate open science ideals into practical, actionable, and community-oriented learning experiences. These principles ensure that the workshop not only raises awareness but also equips participants with the skills, tools, and confidence needed to adopt open science practices in their research.

1. Practice-Centered Learning: Open science is best learned by doing. RE-OpenS therefore emphasizes hands-on engagement with established infrastructures, services, and tools. Participants work directly with real examples, templates, and workflows. This practice-oriented approach helps bridge the gap between conceptual understanding and practical implementation.

2. Alignment with Community Standards: The workshop is designed to reflect and reinforce the open science expectations of the REFSQ community and the broader SE research landscape. All exercises and materials align with established guidelines for artifact sharing, licensing, and documentation, ensuring that participants learn practices that are immediately applicable to REFSQ submissions and compatible with policies at major SE venues.

3. Structural Integration with REFSQ's Open Science Initiative: A central design principle of RE-OpenS is its close alignment with REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*. To ensure this, the organizing committee always includes REFSQ's current *Open Science co-Chairs*, alongside former co-Chairs and researchers actively promoting open science. This structure guarantees continuity, preserves institutional knowledge, and enables RE-OpenS to directly support the evolution of REFSQ's open science measures. Based on the workshop outcomes, the organizers also formulate concrete recommendations for improving REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* and communicate them to the next *Open Science co-Chairs*.

4. Accessibility and Inclusiveness: RE-OpenS aims to lower the entry barrier to open science by providing clear guidance, curated resources, and step-by-step support. The workshop accommodates participants with varying levels of prior experience, from early-career researchers to senior scholars seeking to update their practices. By demystifying open science, the workshop fosters a more inclusive and equitable research culture.

5. Transparency and Traceability: To model the principles it promotes, RE-OpenS ensures that all workshop materials, including slides, examples, templates, and exercises, are openly available under permissive licenses [6]. This transparency allows participants to reuse, adapt, and share the materials in their research groups, thereby amplifying the workshop's impact.

6. Community Engagement and Mutual Learning: Open science thrives in collaborative environments. RE-OpenS therefore integrates interactive discussions, peer exchange, and collective problem-solving. Participants are encouraged to share experiences, challenges, and solutions, creating a space where the community can learn from itself and identify common needs, challenges, wishes, and opportunities for improvement.

7. Iterative Improvement: The workshop is designed as a living format that evolves based on participant feedback and emerging developments in open science practices. Feedback collected during and after each edition informs refinements to the content, structure, and materials. This iterative approach ensures that RE-OpenS remains responsive to the community and aligned with the evolving open science landscape in SE and RE.

4. Workshop Structure and Activities

RE-OpenS follows a modular structure that combines theoretical input, hands-on exercises, and community reflection. This structure ensures that participants gain both conceptual understanding and practical experience with open science practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. While the first

edition focuses on foundational skills and interactive exercises, future editions will expand the format to incorporate community-driven contributions and expert engagement.

4.1. Structure and Activities of the First Edition of RE-OpenS

The first edition of RE-OpenS is planned as a half-day, paperless, and interactive workshop. In Table 1, we present the schedule with an outline of the topics. We split RE-OpenS into a *theoretical session* (30 min), two *practical sessions* (each 45 min), and a *feedback session* (60 min).

Table 1
Schedule and Outline of Topics of the First Edition of RE-OpenS.

| Session | Time | Outline of Topics | Style | Speaker |
|-------------|---------------|--|--|---|
| Theoretical | 08:30 - 09:00 | 1. Welcome (5 min) 2. Introduction to Open Science and REFSQ's <i>Open Science Initiative</i> (10 min) 3. Introduction of two open science infrastructures: ORKG and ORKG Ask (15 min) | Presentation Presentation Presentation | All organizers Tobias Hey Oliver Karras |
| Practical | 09:00 - 09:45 | 4. Create a FAIR-annotated publication for ORKG using SciKGT _E X (45 min) 4.1 Set up an Overleaf project for an exemplary publication 4.2 Use the LaTeX package SciKGT _E X to annotate the publication 4.3 Generate a PDF with embedded FAIR scientific information 4.4 Optional: Upload the FAIR-annotated publication to ORKG | Exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise | Oliver Karras All organizers All organizers All organizers |
| Break | 09:45 - 10:15 | Coffee break | | |
| Practical | 10:15 - 11:00 | 5. Create an ORKG comparison with ORKG Ask and ORKG CSV import (45 min) 5.1 Ask questions on ORKG Ask to identify relevant publications 5.2 Refine the results and extract information from the identified publications 5.3 Export the results and extracted information as a CSV file 5.4 Use the ORKG CSV import for creating an ORKG comparison 5.5 Optional: Create a visualization for the created ORKG comparison 5.6 Optional: Retrieve the information using the SPARQL endpoint | Exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise Sub-exercise | Lena John All organizers All organizers All organizers All organizers All organizers All organizers |
| Feedback | 11:00 - 12:00 | 6. Collect community needs and wishes to develop the RE-OpenS roadmap (40 min) 7. Reflection of the workshop with the participants (15 min) 8. Farewell and closing (5 min) | World Café Discussion Presentation | Katharina Großer All organizers All organizers |

Theoretical session. This session familiarizes all participants with the foundations of open science and the specific expectations of the REFSQ community. It begins with a short welcome and an introduction to the motivations behind RE-OpenS, followed by an overview of REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*. This includes the structure and purpose of the *Open Science Track*, the *Open Science Policy*, and the *Open Science Competition*, which together define REFSQ's commitment to transparency, reproducibility, and responsible research practices. In addition, the session introduces the two open science infrastructures, *Open Research Knowledge Graph* (ORKG) [7] and *ORKG Ask* [8], which are recommended by REFSQ's *Open Science Policy*, used in the *Open Science Competition*, and form the basis for the two practical sessions. By presenting both infrastructures, the theoretical session establishes a shared understanding that enables participants to actively engage in the subsequent sessions.

Practical sessions. These sessions form the core of RE-OpenS and provide participants with hands-on experience using the two open science infrastructures ORKG and ORKG Ask. Each session focuses on a concrete exercise that enables participants to apply open science practices directly to their research workflows. The exercises build on the tutorial series on *Promotion of Open Science in Requirements Engineering* [9, 10] held at *RE'24* and *RE'25*, ensuring continuity with existing community training efforts.

1. Create a FAIR-annotated publication for ORKG using SciKGT_EX: The first practical session introduces SciKGT_EX [5], a LaTeX package integrated with ORKG. Figure 2 illustrates the use of SciKGT_EX. SciKGT_EX enables authors to annotate scientific knowledge according to FAIR principles [11] (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) at the time of writing and embed these annotations directly into the generated PDF. The annotated knowledge can then be uploaded to ORKG, ensuring long-term availability and machine-actionable representation. Through an interactive walkthrough, participants learn how to:

- 1) Annotate key research contributions in their manuscripts,
- 2) Embed structured FAIR knowledge in their PDFs, and

3) Upload the structured knowledge to ORKG.

This session empowers participants to enrich their publications with FAIR (meta-)data and contribute structured knowledge to ORKG, strengthening their ability to meet and align with the goals of REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*.

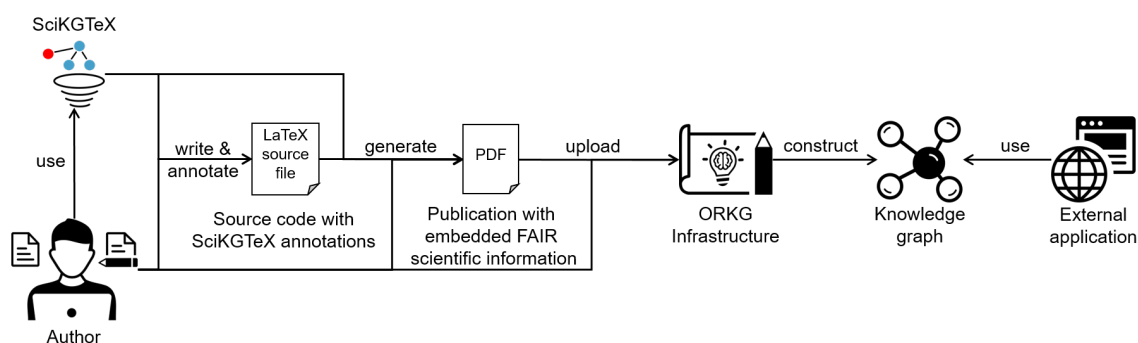


Figure 2: Using SciKGTex to Annotate a Publication and Upload the Embedded Information to ORKG.

2. Create an ORKG comparison with ORKG Ask and ORKG CSV import: The second practical session focuses on ORKG Ask and the ORKG CSV import for creating an ORKG comparisons (see Figure 3) [12]. An ORKG comparison is a tabular, interactive, and citable overview that enables structured comparison of research contributions across multiple publications [13, 14, 15, 16], as demonstrated in prior RE use cases [17, 18, 19]. This session enables participants to construct ORKG comparisons themselves. Through an interactive walkthrough, participants learn how to:

- 1) Identify relevant publications by formulating and refining queries in ORKG Ask,
- 2) Extract key information from the identified publications,
- 3) Export the results and extracted information as a structured CSV file,
- 4) Use the ORKG CSV import to generate an ORKG comparison,
- 5) Create visualizations for the ORKG comparison, and
- 6) Retrieve the underlying data via the ORKG SPARQL endpoint.

Through this process, participants gain practical experience in querying, structuring, and comparing scientific knowledge using ORKG's services and tools. The session empowers them to independently create reusable, citable ORKG comparisons that support transparent and structured knowledge synthesis in their research.

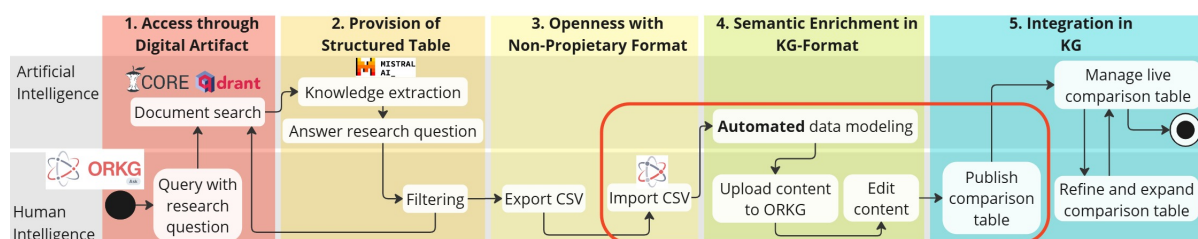


Figure 3: Using ORKG Ask and ORKG CSV Import to Create an ORKG Comparison [12]. The red box outlines the application context of the ORKG CSV Import.

Both practical sessions are conducted as guided, step-by-step exercises. The organizers walk participants through each action, ensuring that they gain not only conceptual understanding but also practical confidence in using SciKGTex, ORKG Ask, and ORKG. These sessions directly support REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* by enabling participants to apply recommended open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools in their research.

Feedback Session. The final session focuses on developing a roadmap for future editions of RE-OpenS and gathering insights on how to further improve REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*. To achieve this,

participants engage in a structured World Café format in which they consolidate and reflect on their experiences from the theoretical and practical sessions. This collaborative setting enables the community to articulate needs, challenges, and wishes related to open science practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. To guide the World Café discussions, we propose a focused set of topics that reflect the goals of RE-OpenS and the needs of the REFSQ community (see Table 2).

Table 2
Potential World Café Topics and Guiding Questions.

| Topics | Guiding Questions |
|---|---|
| Improving REFSQ's <i>Open Science Initiative</i> | What additional support or guidance do authors need? How can REFSQ's Open Science Policy be improved for clarity, feasibility, and fairness? Which infrastructures, services, or tools should REFSQ recommend? What barriers/challenges prevent compliance with REFSQ's Open Science Policy? |
| Needs and Wishes for future editions of RE-OpenS | Which topics should future practical sessions cover, e.g., persistent replication packages? What level of depth is needed (beginner vs. advanced)? Which formats are preferred? How can the theoretical session be improved? How can the workshop become more inclusive and accessible? |
| Expert-Driven Interactive Sessions | Which experts or communities should be invited? For which topics is expert input most needed? Which formats (Q&A, demos, etc.) are preferred? |
| Community-Proposed Interactive Activities | What participant-driven activities should be offered, e.g., experience reports or sessions? How should proposals be collected and selected? How can these activities be integrated into the workshop schedule? |
| Supporting Sustainable Open Science Practices in RE | How can open science workflows be embedded into everyday research? What incentives or recognition mechanisms are needed? What training do PhD students and early-career researchers require? How can RE-OpenS support long-term cultural change? |

Through this structured feedback process, RE-OpenS ensures that the workshop remains responsive to the community, evolves based on participant input, and continues to support the advancement of open science best practices within the REFSQ community.

4.2. Planned Extensions for Future Editions of RE-OpenS

RE-OpenS aims to turn open science into a practical experience through its deliberately interactive workshop format. To ensure that future editions continue to meet the needs, challenges, and wishes of the community, the workshop will gradually expand its scope and formats. Building on the insights gathered during the feedback session, future editions will incorporate targeted expert contributions as well as community-driven proposals.

To support more advanced and diverse learning needs, we plan to invite experts for focused practical sessions that address specific open science needs, challenges, wishes, practices, infrastructures, services, or tools. In addition, we will introduce a *Call for Papers* that enables participants to submit proposals for practical sessions and short experience reports on the (un)successful application of open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. These contributions will enrich both the theoretical and practical components of the workshop and foster a shared body of knowledge within the RE community.

Furthermore, we will share the outcomes of RE-OpenS with REFSQ's *Open Science co-Chairs* to support the continuous improvement of REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*. This includes refining the *Open Science Policy*, identifying additional recommended infrastructures, services, and tools, and proposing new challenges for the *Open Science Competition*.

With these planned extensions, RE-OpenS is designed not as a static workshop but as an evolving interactive platform that grows with the needs, experiences, and ambitions of the REFSQ community. The first edition establishes the foundation; future editions will build upon it through deeper expertise, community-driven contributions, and continuous alignment with REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*.

5. Expected Impact and Future Directions

Having outlined the structure and envisioned evolution of the workshop, this section discusses the expected impact of RE-OpenS and how it contributes to strengthening open science practices within the RE community.

RE-OpenS is designed to strengthen open science literacy and practice within the RE community by providing a structured, hands-on learning environment. Through its combination of theoretical grounding, practical exercises, and community reflection, the workshop enables participants to gain both conceptual understanding and practical competence in applying open science best practices, infrastructures, services, and tools. By focusing on actionable workflows, the workshop lowers the entry barrier for adopting open science practices in everyday research.

In the short term, we expect RE-OpenS to increase participants' confidence in using open science infrastructures and to support more transparent, reproducible, and reusable research outputs at REFSQ. The workshop also provides direct feedback to REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative*, helping refine the *Open Science Policy*, identify missing guidance, and inspire new challenges for the *Open Science Competition*. Through this bidirectional exchange, RE-OpenS contributes to a more coherent and community-aligned open science ecosystem within REFSQ.

In the longer term, RE-OpenS aims to foster a sustainable cultural shift toward open science practices in RE. By introducing a *Call for Papers* for practical session proposals and experience reports, future editions will create new opportunities for community members to share insights, document lessons learned, and contribute to the workshop's evolution. Expert-driven sessions and community-proposed activities will further broaden the workshop's scope, enabling deeper engagement with advanced topics such as FAIR (meta-)data, reproducibility, semantic publishing, and research data management.

As RE-OpenS continues to evolve, it will serve as an interactive platform for consolidating knowledge, strengthening community capacity, and shaping the future of open science in RE. The workshop's iterative, community-driven design ensures that it remains responsive to emerging needs, supports long-term skill development, and contributes to the ongoing advancement of open science practices within the REFSQ community and beyond.

6. Conclusion

RE-OpenS introduces a new, community-driven approach to strengthening open science practices within the RE community. By combining theoretical grounding, hands-on practical sessions, and structured reflection, the workshop lowers the entry barrier for adopting open science practices and provides participants with actionable skills for producing transparent, accessible, and reusable research outputs. The first edition demonstrates that open science can be taught effectively through interactive, practice-oriented formats that directly address the needs and challenges of the community.

Beyond its immediate educational value, RE-OpenS contributes to the continuous development of REFSQ's *Open Science Initiative* by providing structured feedback, identifying gaps in guidance, infrastructure, services, and tools, and proposing new opportunities for community engagement. The workshop's iterative design ensures that future editions will evolve in response to participant input, integrating expert contributions, community-proposed activities, and experience reports to broaden its scope and deepen its impact.

As RE-OpenS continues to mature, it has the potential to become a central platform for cultivating open science literacy, fostering cultural change, and strengthening the long-term sustainability of open science practices in RE. Through its emphasis on collaboration, transparency, and shared learning, RE-OpenS supports the REFSQ community in advancing the quality, accessibility, and societal value of RE research. In doing so, the workshop not only empowers individual researchers but also contributes to shaping a more open, connected, and methodologically robust RE community, laying the groundwork for future innovations in how RE knowledge is created, shared, and reused.

Biographies of the Founding Organizers



Oliver Karras is Head of Curation and Community Building for Program Area D – Open Research Knowledge Graph (ORKG) at TIB – Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology. His research focuses on open science infrastructures, services, and tools to encourage and support researchers to contribute to open science in various disciplines (i.a., requirements engineering, engineering sciences, energy system research, and medicine). He served as a program and organizing committee member in journals (i.a., IST, EMSE, REJ, JSS, and DKE), conferences (i.a., CIKM, WWW, ICSE, ASE, FSE, CHASE, REFSQ, and RE), and workshops (i.a., CrowdRE, AIRE, MO2RE, and EmpiRE). He was *Open Science co-Chair* of REFSQ'25 and established REFSQ's *Open Science Competition*. He is a member of the *Open Science Board* of JSS and won the Best Artifact Award at RE'24. He is *Artifact Track co-Chair* of RE'26, where he established a central *Open Science Policy* and an *Open Science Competition*.



Lena John is a PhD Candidate at TIB – Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology. Her research focuses on human-machine collaboration in knowledge organization and improving data quality in research knowledge graphs for open science by developing corresponding Human-in-the-Loop approaches, services, and tools.



Tobias Hey is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). His research focuses on natural language processing (NLP) and artificial intelligence (AI) for improving software engineering (SE), particularly in the areas of requirements engineering and traceability. He actively promotes open science by providing datasets, models, and tools to the community to support transparency and reproducibility. He is *Open Science co-Chair* of REFSQ'26 and served as organizing committee member of the SE 2025. He is involved in the *National Research Data Infrastructure for and with Computer Science* (NFDIxCS) initiative of the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Informatics Society (GI). He reviewed for journals (i.a., IST, TOSEM, TSE, EMSE, and REJ), workshops (i.a., AIRE and CrowdRE) and conferences (i.a., ICSE, RE, ASE, and ISSRE).



Katharina Großer is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute for Software Technology (IST) of the University of Koblenz. Her PhD thesis was part of the NPI Program of the European Space Agency (ESA) and her master's thesis earned the AFCEA award. Her research focuses on ontology supported requirements engineering and traceability as well as requirement text quality and templates. She actively participates in open science by frequently providing datasets, models, and tools. Together with her co-authors, she won the Best Artifact Award at RE'23. She is *Open Science co-Chair* of REFSQ'26 and reviewed for the Artifacts track at RE'23-25, as well as for journals (i.a., SoSyM, AIR, KIS, REJ) and conferences (i.a., SAC DSTDS Track).

Declaration on Generative AI

During the preparation of this work, the author(s) used Microsoft Copilot and Grammarly in order to: Grammar and spelling check. After using these tools/services, the authors reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the publication's content.

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