

EASE Poster Exhibition and Competition 2026

Poster: Supporting discoverability and research integrity with best metadata practices

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Transcript of video presentation

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Hello everyone, my name is Madhura Amdekar and I am a Community Engagement Manager at Crossref. Thank you for watching this presentation of my poster on Supporting discoverability and research integrity with best metadata practices.

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Just a quick introduction to Crossref.

At Crossref, we are a not for profit organization that exists to make scholarly communications better. We make research objects easy to find, cite, link, assess and reuse.

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Crossref runs open infrastructure to link research objects, entities, and actions, creating a lasting and reusable scholarly record that underpins open science. Crossref's membership comprises of 25,000 members in 167 countries, and these members have registered more than 180 million open metadata records with a DOI.

Crossref supports a wide range of content types for scholarly and research publications and each type has specific metadata requirements and best practices for registration. This metadata is openly available for retrieval via our APIs and it's used extensively by the scholarly community and several downstream services making it a very rich open data source.

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Today in this presentation, I want to highlight Crossref metadata elements that are considered best practices and how they provide rich context and visibility to research outputs when members submit them as part of their records.

What do we mean by scholarly metadata? Metadata is data that provides information about other data but it's not the content of the data itself. Same applies to the context of publishing as well. The metadata that members send us when registering their content describes the content, but does not contain the text of the content itself. Here you can see some examples of scholarly metadata.

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This metadata forms the foundation of the research nexus, which you can see here. The richer and more comprehensive the metadata in Crossref records, the more value there is for our members and for others in the scholarly community.

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Metadata can support the whole scholarly research ecosystem in many ways, including for:

Research integrity: Metadata provides important context about the scholarly work such as who authored the work, who funded it, how does it relate to other works, and more information, thereby acting as a trust signal about the trustworthiness of the work.

Metadata also supports discoverability: it makes work more visible- the more metadata there is about a piece of work, the more likely is the work to be discovered, assessed, and cited.

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So which are some of the metadata elements that are key for this?

Abstracts are quite important. They refer to the summary of a research work. They are very useful for discovery systems that use these to boost your work, and open abstracts can also be used for analysing integrity issues at scale.

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References

Registering references means submitting reference lists as part of your metadata deposit. References help users to find content, and this increases the chances of your content being read and used.

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Affiliations and affiliation IDs

Affiliation metadata helps in identifying contributor institutions and links research outputs to institutions. They can be used to identify conflicts of interest and for tracking research output of organisations.

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Funding metadata can include name of funder, award number or grant DOI, and an identifier for the funding organisation. Funding information helps to establish clear links between the funding, its research outputs, and the associated organisations and people which promotes transparency.

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Crossref's latest schema version 5.4.0 was released last year and it contains some updates that I would like to draw your attention towards. The updates include being able to supply a "type" for the citations registered with Crossref, being able to supply a version

number to many different record types, and a new status field that allows preprint to be flagged as "withdrawn" or "removed".

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We have documentation on our website if you want help with using the new schema. You can also check how good is the metadata being provided by your organisation using the Crossref Participation Reports. You can also read this guide that we have recently put out on why metadata matters for research integrity and how to contribute.

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Thank you for your attention today