

**Aalto Open Research Network**

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# **Annual report 2024**

**19.11.2024**

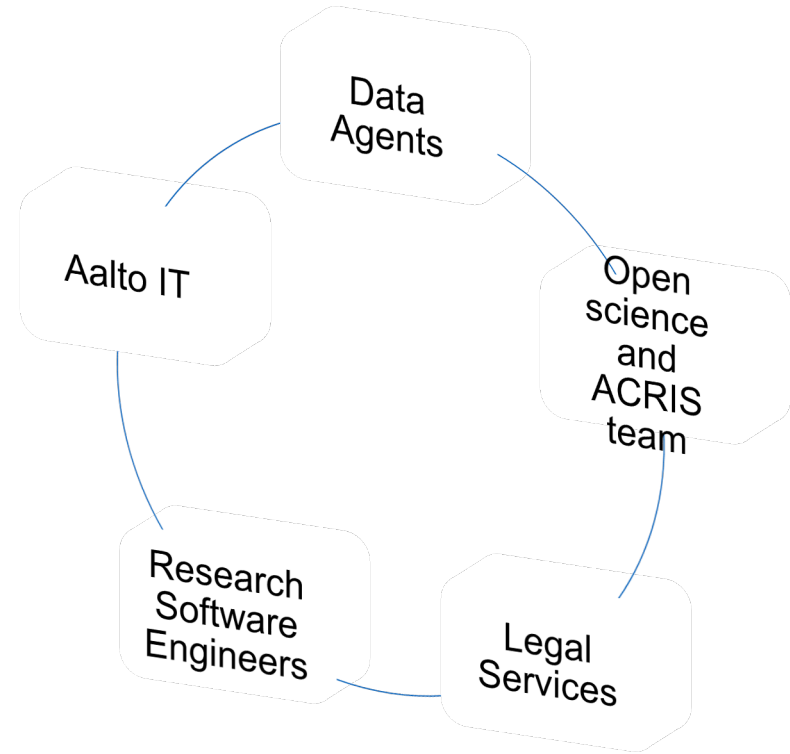


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Aalto University

Udayanto Atmojo, Enriqueta Noriega Benitez, Richard Darst, Lara Ejtehadian, Charlotte Forsgård, Hossein Firooz, Enrico Glerean, Dan Häggman, Clemens Icheln, Lucie Hradecká, Mika Jalava, Beatrice Koponen, Tanesh Kumar, Xiaolong Liu, Mikko Mikkola, Laura Mure, Thomas Pfau, Thuy-Linh Phi, Jarno Rantaharju, Jannika Rinnejärvi, Antti Rousi, Teemu Ruokolainen, Eeva Savolainen, Katri Seitsonen, Pedro Silva, Anne Sunikka, Henni Tenhunen, Antti Valkonen, Essi Viitanen, Tian Yu

# Aalto Open Research Network

- **14 Data Agents** – researchers working part-time to advance RDM and OS
- **Data Advisor**
- **8 RDM&OS Information Specialists** in OSA (Open Science and ACRIS team).
- **5 Research Software Engineers**
- **Legal Counsels**, esp. Lawyer of the ethics committee and Lawyer that specializes in OS and copyright
- **Aalto IT**, esp. the solution owners for RDM services and research infrastructures



# Network results for 2023-2024

**Action:** Reach out to more research personnel who might be unaware of RDM services and don't follow good RDM practices

## 1 Systematic Aalto wide research group visits

- RG visits in 2023-2024: 31

## 2 Training and inclusion of RDM info for personnel

- Our Aalto RDM&OS trainings are consistently revised and receive high amounts of registrations (2023: 31 webinars, 2032 registrations.; 2024: 25 webinars, 2413 registrations)
- The ethics network were able to make teaching of responsible research mandatory for doctoral students. Enrico and Essi teach at the course
- Findocnet OS course allows us to further develop 1 ECTS course on OS
- Data Agents collaborated with legal counsels to provide guidance on research work AI, including AI Act

# Network results for 2023-2024

**Action:** Streamline what is seen as too bureaucratic

1. Pilot to convert DMP into privacy notice was successful in spring 2024 and continues 2025
2. Piloting to use APL for machine actionable DMP functionalities later in 2024 and 2025

**Action:** Broaden the Data Agent network

1. The Data Agent Network grew with 3 members from 2022

# Metrics 2024 - training

|                                                                    | 2020               | 2021               | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|
| <b>Number of OS&amp;RDM trainings</b>                              | 25                 | 27                 | 31   | 31   | 25   |
| <b>Number of registrations to OS&amp;RDM trainings</b>             | 421                | 2092               | 1672 | 2032 | 2413 |
| <b>RES OS&amp;RDM YouTube channel views</b>                        | 159                | 1200               | 2000 | 2600 | 3700 |
| <b>Curriculum embedded RDM training in PhD methodology courses</b> | Data not collected | Data not collected | 2    | 2    | 2    |
| <b>Number Code Refinery workshops*</b>                             | 4                  | 1                  | 2    | 3    | 2    |
| <b>Number of registrations to Code Refinery workshops*</b>         | 307                | 128                | 559  | 868  | 619  |

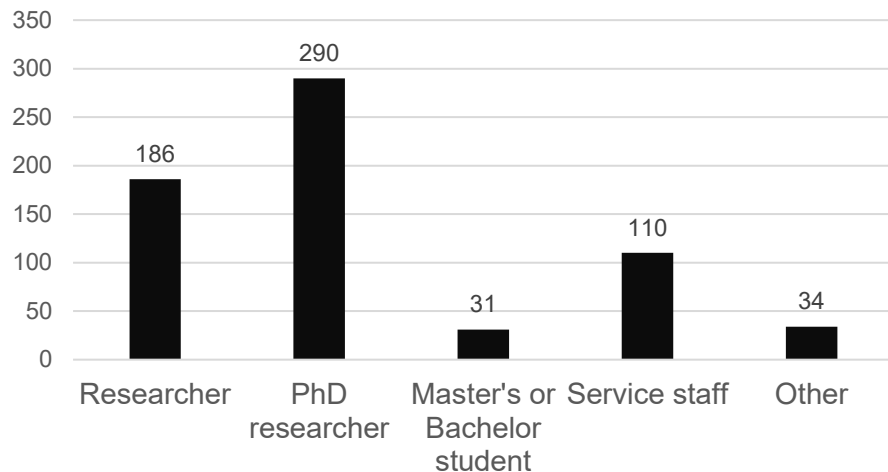
\*= non-RES initiative, run by Aalto RSEs, funded by NeIC, data from:  
<https://coderefinery.org/about/statistics/>

# Key metrics 2024 - Training

|             | Registrations | Aalto<br>registrations | Registrations<br>from other<br>Finnish<br>universities | Other Unite!<br>Universities | Registrations<br>from abroad |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2023 Spring | 1098          | 366                    | 307                                                    | 77                           | 348                          |
| 2023 Fall   | 934           | 463                    | 291                                                    | 42                           | 141                          |
| 2023 Total  | 2032          | 829                    | 598                                                    | 119                          | 489                          |
| 2024 Spring | 777           | 366                    | 283                                                    | 41                           | 87                           |
| 2024 Fall   | 1636          | 688                    | 409                                                    | 178                          | 361                          |
| 2024 Total  | 2413          | 1054                   | 692                                                    | 219                          | 448                          |

# Key metrics Fall 2024 – Training – Distribution of Aalto participants\*

Fall 2024 Aalto personnel registrations -  
different personnel groups



\*= Not a mandatory field in registration. Some data missing for fall 2024. Participant profile data for 651 registrations of total 688 Aalto registrations for Fall 2024

# Metrics 2024 - other support measures

|                                               | 2020               | 2021               | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|
| <b>Feature videos</b>                         | 0                  | 0                  | 0    | 2    | 1    |
| <b>Handbooks, guidelines and SOPs</b>         | Data not collected | Data not collected | 0    | 2    | 3    |
| <b>Documented RG visits</b>                   | Data not collected | Data not collected | 4    | 24   | 7    |
| <b>researchdata@aalto.fi solved tickets</b>   | 59                 | 181                | 180  | 174  | 174  |
| <b>researchdata@aalto.fi commented DMPs</b>   | Data not collected | 72                 | 54   | 71   | 77   |
| <b>DMPs to privacy notices pilot</b>          | 0                  | 0                  | 0    | 0    | 5    |
| <b>Number of ACRIS data sets (metadata)</b>   | 90                 | 158                | 155  | 172  | 173  |
| <b>Number of ACRIS software (metadata)</b>    | 12                 | 34                 | 43   | 32   | 38   |
| <b>Data Hub Data Sources** (total amount)</b> |                    |                    |      | 51   | 57   |

\*\*Non-RES initiative, led by Dept. of Finance, data source: <https://datahub.aalto.fi/e>

# Aalto Data Agents Highlights 2024



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Credit: Unto Rautio

# Data Agent 2024 highlights

**Udayanto Atmojo (Electrical Engineering and Automation) [udayanto.atmojo@aalto.fi](mailto:udayanto.atmojo@aalto.fi)**

- Administering the Aalto Factory of the Future infrastructure's software repository and consulting in data and software publishing
- Research group visits within the EEA department

**Enriqueta Noriega Benitez (Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems) [enriqueta.noriegabenitez@aalto.fi](mailto:enriqueta.noriegabenitez@aalto.fi)**

- Work on Handbook of Machine Learning Analysis
- Webinar on Machine Learning Analysis

# Data Agent 2024 highlights

## **Richard Darst (Computer Science) [richard.darst@aalto.fi](mailto:richard.darst@aalto.fi)**

- Running the Aalto Research Software Engineers group: now at 7 staff with continuing data and OS emphasis
- Lead in CodeRefinery training initiative funded by the Nordic E-Infrastructure Collaboration
- Support during and organization of the Scientific Computing garage ("data systems" responsible person)
- Research Software Engineer support focused on data management and research software.

## **Enrico Glerean (Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering) [enrico.glerean@aalto.fi](mailto:enrico.glerean@aalto.fi)**

- Focus on responsible use of **AI and AI Act: recommendation** page; AI training and useful materials (with Pedro)
- Consultations with handling of personal data, best practices with ethics, and security of research
- External ethics advisor for FAIRCORE4EOSC: midterm report.
- New versions of older trainings (highlight: "how to handle personal data in research" with Anniina and Essi)
- Development of a study curriculum for building AI systems compliant with the GDPR (work for the European Data Protection Board, currently under review).
- "Hands-on Data Protection" workshop with Essi Viitanen.
- Research ethics course with Annukka Jyrämä and Essi Viitanen

# Data Agent 2024 highlights

## **Dan Häggman (Built Environment) [dan.haggman@aalto.fi](mailto:dan.haggman@aalto.fi)**

- Started clarification of ENG data management in Aalto internal storage services with department of Mechanical Engineering Work-storage. The aim is to improve data management, governance and access rights in all of ENG. The task is ongoing.
- Consulting/meetings on storage and moving from cloud to on prem TeamWork service with two groups (PIs) in ENG/CE department.
- Participation in Aalto IT Data Governance Task Force renewing recommendations and guidelines for storage in Aalto.
- Participating in ENG data governance pilot started in November 2024

## **Clemens Icheln (Electronics and Nanoengineering) [clemens.icheln@aalto.fi](mailto:clemens.icheln@aalto.fi)**

- Webinar on publishing research data, and talk at ELE faculty meeting on opening research data
- Research group visits within the ELE department

## **Mika Jalava (Built Environment) [mika.jalava@aalto.fi](mailto:mika.jalava@aalto.fi)**

- Webinar on reproducible research
- Consulting ITS with research data metadata
- Consulting in data governance and reproducible research at the BE department and co-operating institutions

## Data Agent 2024 highlights

**Tanesh Kumar (Information and Communications Engineering) [tanesh.kumar@aalto.fi](mailto:tanesh.kumar@aalto.fi)**

- Started as a Data Agent in 2023. On leave from the DA program in 2024

**Xiaolong Liu (Electronics and Nanoengineering) [xiaolong.liu@aalto.fi](mailto:xiaolong.liu@aalto.fi)**

- Research group visits within the ELE department
- Individual open data consultant for research group
- Work on metadata of published data sets
- Published 5 datasets in open repository Zenodo

**Thuy-Linh Phi (Bioproducts and Biosystems) [thuy-linh.phi@aalto.fi](mailto:thuy-linh.phi@aalto.fi)**

- International exchange in Sorbonne University, France

# Data Agent 2024 highlights

## **Antti Rousi (Research Services) [antti.m.rousii@aalto.fi](mailto:antti.m.rousii@aalto.fi)**

- Coordinating the Aalto Open Research Network
- Work with AI assisted conversion of DMPs into privacy notices
- Work with the data management section of APL

## **Pedro Silva (Chemistry and Materials Science) [pedro.silva@aalto.fi](mailto:pedro.silva@aalto.fi)**

- Open lectures Research Work and AI (with Enrico)
- Work with RDM cheat sheets at CHEM department
- Aalto representative in the DigiMat WS in TU Munich

## **Henni Tenhunen (Industrial Engineering and Management) [henni.tenhunen@aalto.fi](mailto:henni.tenhunen@aalto.fi)**

- Starts as a Data Agent in 2025

# Data Agent 2024 highlights

## **Antti Valkonen (Economics) [antti.t.valkonen@aalto.fi](mailto:antti.t.valkonen@aalto.fi)**

- Project manager of Aalto Data Hub

## **Essi Viitanen (Research services, ARTS) [essi.Viitanen@aalto.fi](mailto:essi.Viitanen@aalto.fi)**

- Producing the Aalto Open Science prize video and event with Charlotte
- RDM webinars: Intro to RDM, Handling personal data in research, Hands-on Data Protection
- RDM training sessions on handling personal data for doctoral researchers and ITS
- Helping researchers find solutions to RDM questions on a range of topics - from best practice recommendations to proper head-scratchers

**Aalto Open Research Network. V1.0**

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# **Aalto Open Research Network – actions, goals and vision 2025-2026**



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# AORN actions 2025-2026

## Outreach

- RG visits
- Info sessions for Doctoral researchers
- Data management and cleaning clinics
- School meetings

## Training

- Network: Open OS&RDM webinars RSEs: CodeRefinery
- Partaking in mandatory responsible research training for Doctoral Researchers
- 1 ECTS Open science online course (FinDocNet)

## Streamlining what is perceived as too bureaucratic

- Researcher friendly web content
- DMPs converted into privacy notices

## Data management planning

- Research group RDM cheat sheets
- Example lifecycles and SOPs for different data types
- Group specific metadata instructions for published data sets

## Supporting RDM tooling and processes

- APL data management planning
- Data storing governance renewal
- Mid-term preservation development
- RDM process development, e.g., support for metadata, value definitions

## AORN goals 2025-2026

Aalto fosters a culture of good data practices across all disciplines and all levels of personnel

Help the doctoral pilot project and other stakeholders to succeed with guidelines, SOPs, and even hands-on help when needed

Identify critical gaps in RDM practices

Aalto uses in-house developed and national and regional federated infrastructures to provide world class tools for all research personnel

# Vision of the Aalto Open Research Network

Aalto is a leading  
European university of  
responsible and  
sustainable research  
and its support and  
tooling

**This vision supports Aalto's strategic aims of strengthening the clusters of excellence in Aalto's key research areas, helps Aalto to achieve a greater societal responsibility in teaching and continuous learning, and becoming a greater global node of impact**