

FAIR Coffee 15/02/2022

The flip side of FAIR: How do researchers find and reuse data?

By Kathleen Gregory, postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Vienna

Discussions about FAIR data often focus on how to make data FAIR or stem from the perspective of the data themselves. In this talk, I flip this perspective and focus on the practices of researchers who are finding and reusing data. How do researchers across disciplines actually discover and use data that they do not create themselves? Which data do they seek? For which purposes? How do they make sense of data once they find them? I will address these questions drawing on four years of mixed-methods research and conclude by reflecting on the role of FAIR data in these practices and how these findings can in turn nuance our understanding of FAIRness.