INTRODUCTION

The 2022 edition of ArcheoFOSS was hosted at Sapienza University of Rome on 22-23 September, in collaboration with the LAD (Laboratory for Digital Archaeology at Sapienza) and the DigiLab (Interdepartmental Research Centre of Sapienza University of Rome), as a hybrid event, both online and in presence. The funding and sponsorship from the Direzione Generale Educazione Ricerca e Istituti Culturali of the Ministry of Culture has been equally important, both at the financial and institutional level, supporting the ArcheoFOSS association to organise previous meetings and to publish their proceedings in a timely manner. As is made clear by looking at the venues of the past 16 years, ArcheoFOSS does not belong to a single research institution, as the yearly "migration" from one city to the next goes on, for now in Italy but hopefully, in the future, also abroad.

The conference programme spans a wide range of topics, organised in thematic panels. Ranging from archaeological fieldwork to theoretical approaches, the two days of the conference have seen researchers from different countries share their work and perspectives about research processes and projects following the Open Science paradigm: open source software tools, open formats and open methodology both for investigation and dissemination. This includes issues like interoperability, data and knowledge sharing, for which open source software has been at the forefront for several years now, both in the specific field of archaeology and the wider scholarly world.

The 2022 edition was based for the first time on panel sessions that provided an opportunity for expert members to present their views and share their experience on a specific topic and then engage in a discussion with the audience. Panel proposals were solicited from community members, scholars and professionals willing to discuss research questions and experience and stimulate further discussion of specific topics. The call for panels went through a public discussion in the GitHub repository of the conference, allowing community members to provide early feedback on the very structure of the conference through an open, not anonymous, peer-review process. The same approach was followed with the call for papers: each proposal was submitted directly through the "pull request" functionality of the repository or uploaded by the organisers. An open peer-review allowed the authors to address questions and to see in advance the other papers in the same panel. The eight panels were (in order of appearance in the conference programme):

1. Archaeological stratigraphy data (panelists: Stefano Costa and Emanuel Demetrescu).

2. GIS open source solution for archaeological context in between Universities, Public Administration, societies, research center: the pyArchInit case (panelists: Enzo Cocca and Gianluca Martinez).
3. Practice and paradigms of open source technologies for archaeological field data (panelists: Fabian Riebschläger and Thomas Kleinke).
4. I/O: ethics, policies and technologies for programmatic and open access to archaeological online data sets (panelists: Julian Bogdani and Riccardo Montalbano).
5. Electronic publishing and Open Science in Archaeology (panelists: Alessandra Caravale and Alessandra Piergrossi).
6. From wiki projects to OpenStreetMap, collaborative approaches to open data creation: problems, case studies, territorial and cultural impact (panelists: Saverio Giulio Malatesta and Paolo Rosati).
7. Moving in the past: open solutions for data set design, spatial analysis and spatial statistical methods to investigate movement in Antiquity (panelists: Domizia D'Erasmo and Noemi Giovino).
8. Maps to the past. Open digital approaches to the investigation of historical maps (panelists: Julian Bogdani and Valeria Vitale).

During the conference, some panels had an introduction or a discussion by well known researchers who were specifically invited, such as Paola Moscati, Anita Graser, Drake Zabriskie and David Rumsey. After the presentations, panels were followed by a lively and focused discussion: the chance to have something better than the traditional Q&A was well received by the participants and in our opinion is a strong indication for future ArcheoFOSS conferences. All presentations were in English, apart from those in the pyArchInit session, all with a strong focus on Italy. The most crowded panel was "Electronic publishing and Open Science in Archaeology" with eight papers presented.

We are proud to realise that the basic idea behind the ArcheoFOSS conferences is no longer a niche topic within the archaeological discipline. The Open Science paradigm has experienced a very rapid diffusion in many contexts and regulations of financing programmes, both national or international, are more and more focused not only on the open access of the research results, but also on a deeper awareness on availability of the data. The generalised application of the FAIR principles is determining a gradual change in the way the archaeological data are being collected, studied, and communicated. The change of policy in favour of Open Science in the archaeological discipline is determined and sustained by a general trend in European institutions and we are glad to observe how the ArcheoFOSS annual conferences are progressively evolving from the meetings of a limited number of enthusiast pioneers towards an internationally participated community of researchers, perfectly convinced

on the importance of wide, virtually global, and multi-levelled collaboration of different actors in our field of research.

While the drafting of these conference proceedings was being concluded, in Italy the Ministry of Culture has introduced the guidelines for the determination of minimum amounts of fees for the reproduction of cultural heritage with the decree number 161 of 11 April 2023, rejecting much of the work carried out by the digital library general directorate of the same ministry just last year with the ICDP - National plan for the digitization of cultural heritage (https://www.cun.it/uploads/7711/Raccomandazione_18_05_23.pdf).

The ArcheoFOSS community has always promoted the freedom of access and use of images of cultural heritage, therefore we follow with concern the ongoing developments, working with other organizations for a modification of the guidelines that respect the public service mission inherent in the role of the Ministry of Culture.

Acknowledgments

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