

White Rose Libraries Repositories Service Quarterly Report

January – March 2025



White Rose
Research Online



White Rose
Etheses Online



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



University of
Sheffield



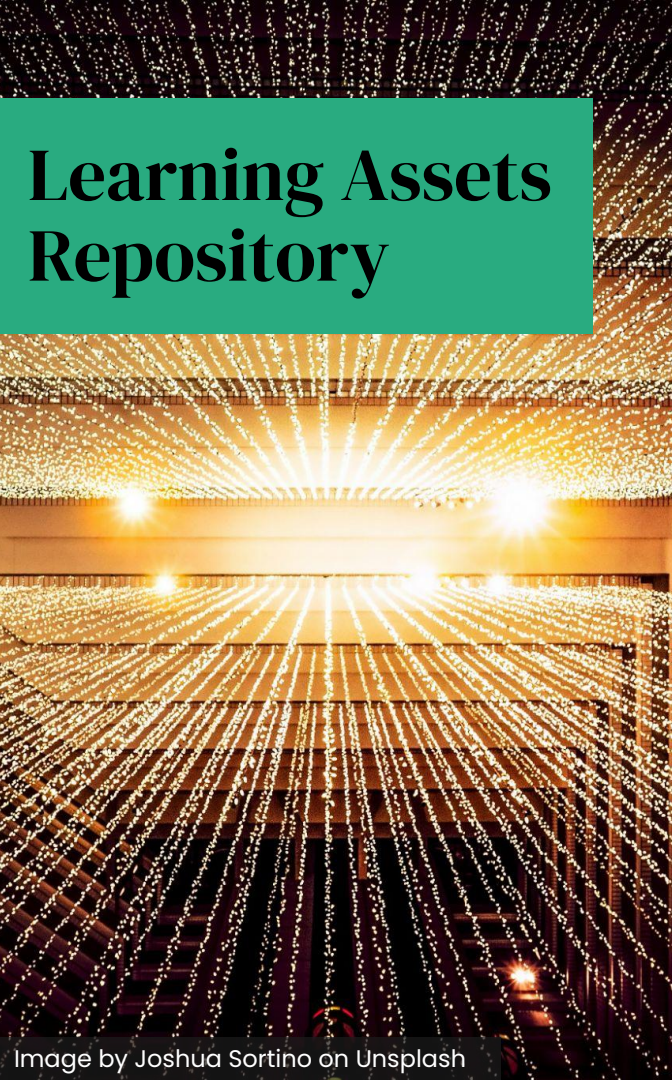
UNIVERSITY
of York

Repositories Renewal Project

The upgrade to the infrastructure for both WRRO and WREO is now complete. Following the successful move of WREO (White Rose Etheses Online) onto the live server at the beginning of January, WRRO (White Rose Research Online) has now also been upgraded to the latest version of Eprints.

There was a period of user testing, where colleagues at the three institutions explored the functionality and usability of the new platform, before WRRO was migrated to the live server at the end of March. WRL is very grateful to John Salter, our Technical Support officer, for successfully implementing the upgrade, and to colleagues at the three institutions for their help in testing the new platforms. You can read the project report on the [WRL website](#).





Learning Assets Repository

WRL have agreed to explore the viability of a shared Open Learning Assets Repository. The Repositories Board is now investigating the potential to deliver this repository via EPrints, to sit alongside the existing shared repositories; WRRO and WREO. Task and finish group(s) will be convened to undertake detailed scoping of both the technical aspects and the workflows, processes, and resourcing that would be required.

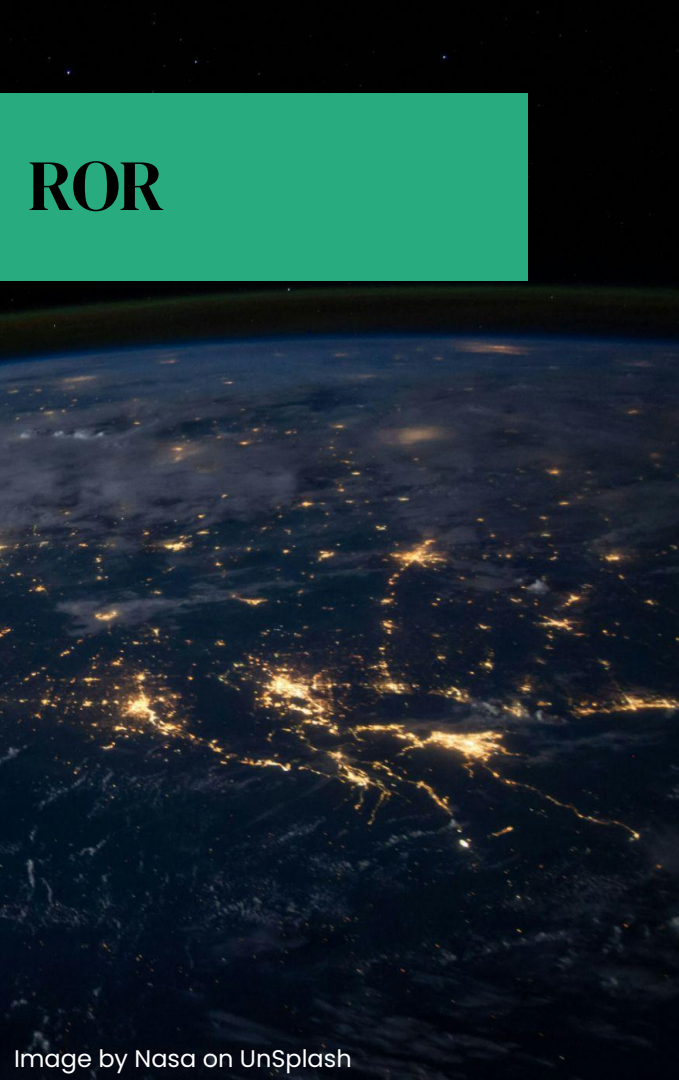
In a parallel discussion, the three site are also exploring the viability of a shared PressBooks licence, to see if there are advantages to working on this with a consortial approach.



MFA

Following the successful upgrade to the repositories infrastructure, the WRL team is now planning the next stage of work on the repositories, which is to add Multi Factor Authentication via institutional Single Sign On.

This will improve the security of accounts in WRRO and WREO. Work on investigating and implementing MFA is scheduled to begin in June.

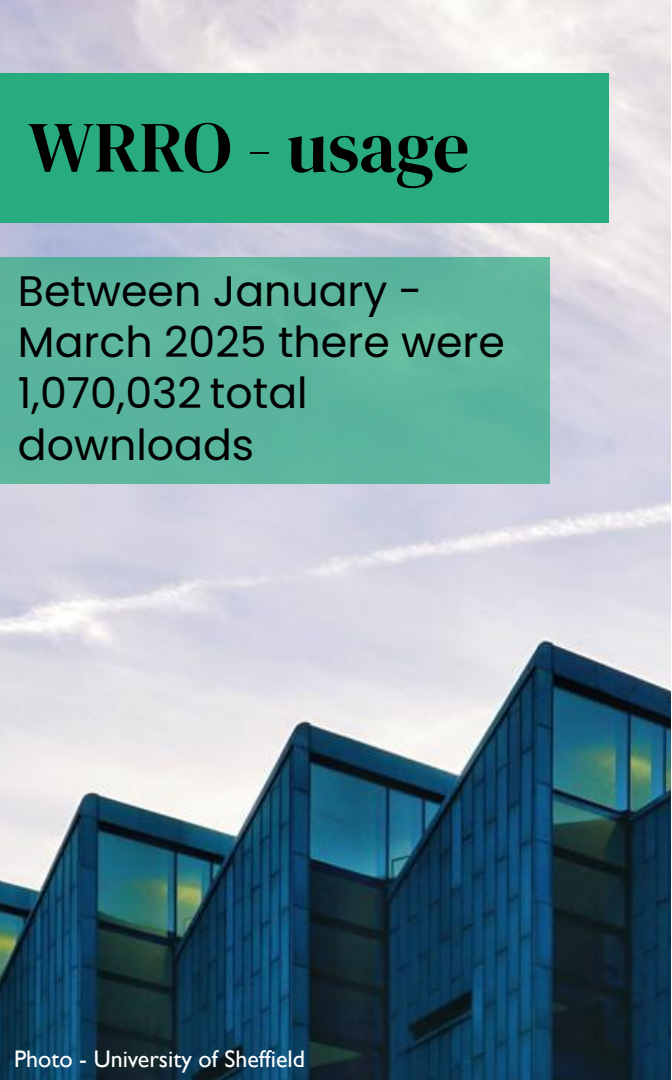


ROR

WRL has successfully applied for a Research Organisation Registry ID. ROR is a global, community-led registry of open persistent identifiers for research organizations, and will be used to identify and connect outputs from WRL.

The WRL ROR is also connected to the RORs for White Rose University Consortium, and the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield, and York, connecting these as related organisations.

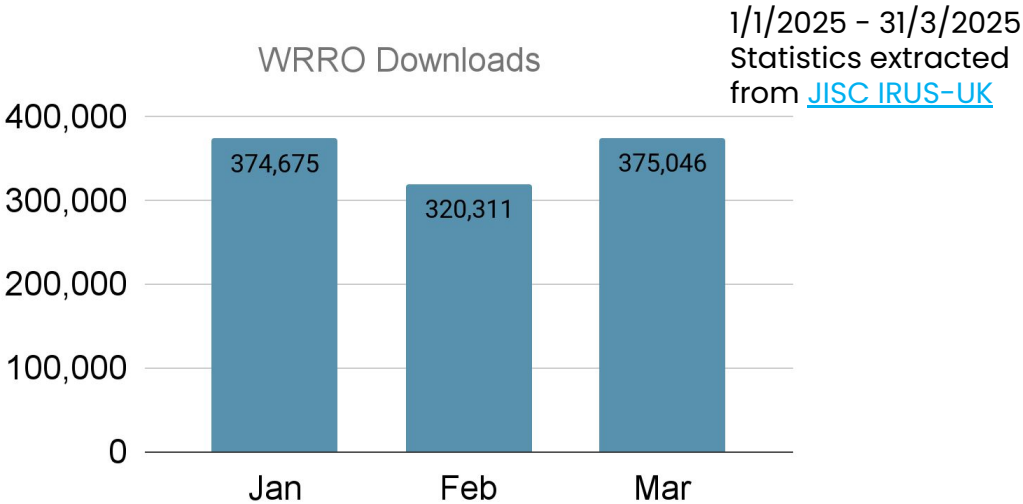
The WRL ROR is: <https://ror.org/00906dm81>



WRRO – usage

Between January – March 2025 there were 1,070,032 total downloads

WRRO Downloads



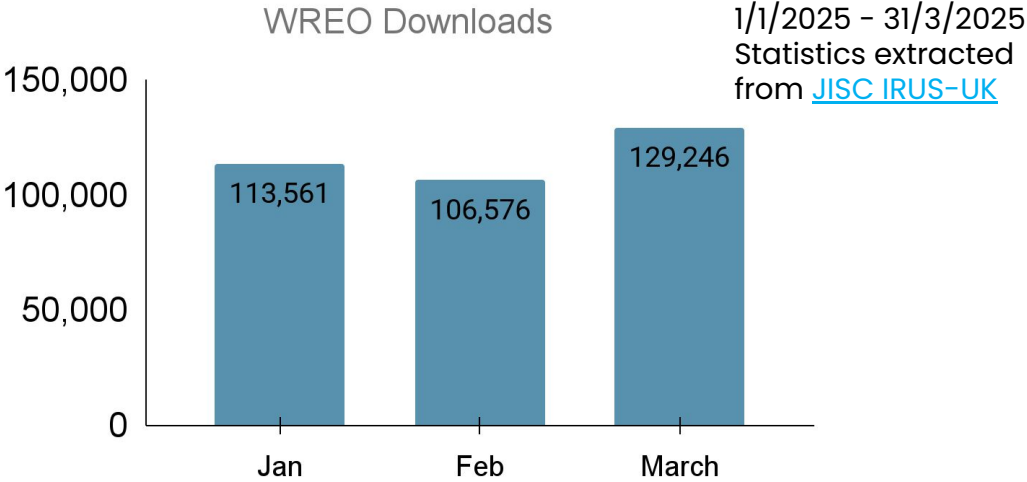
Top 5 most downloaded items from Oct '23 – Sept '24:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Brother, Sister, Rape: Hebrew Bible and Popular Culture | 26,234 downloads |
| A Corpus-Based Analysis of Deontic Modality of Obligation and Prohibition in Arabic/English Constitutions | 7,052 downloads |
| Research in marketing strategy | 5,947 downloads |
| PRISMA Extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) | 3,820 downloads |
| Scoping studies: towards a methodological framework | 3,196 downloads |



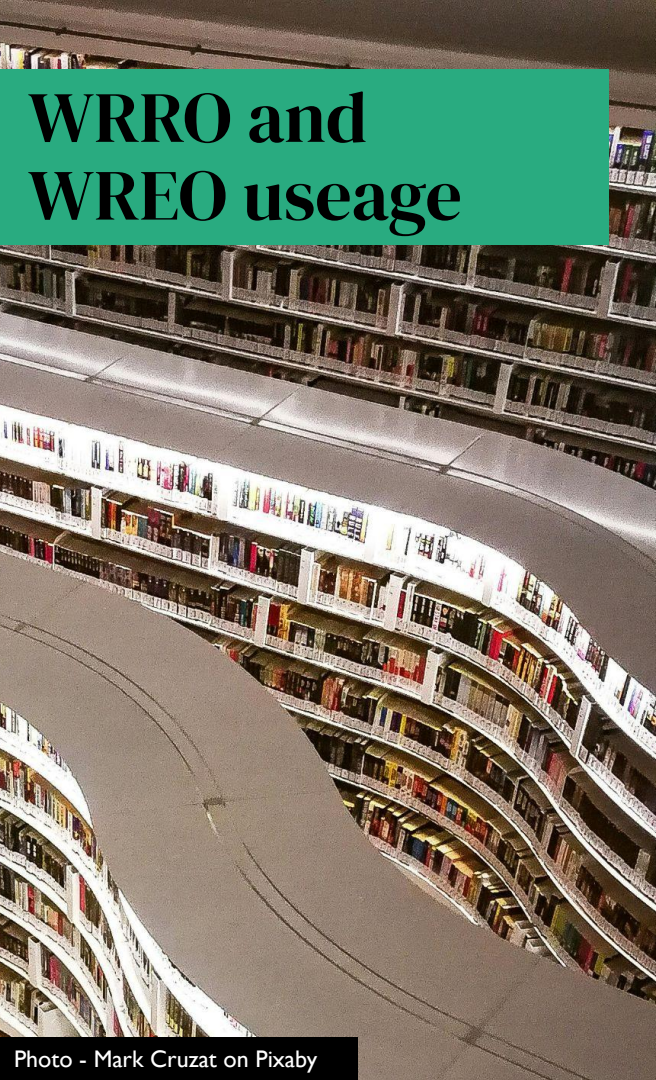
WREO - usage

Between January - March 2025, there were 349,383 total downloads from WREO



Top 5 most downloaded items of 2024:

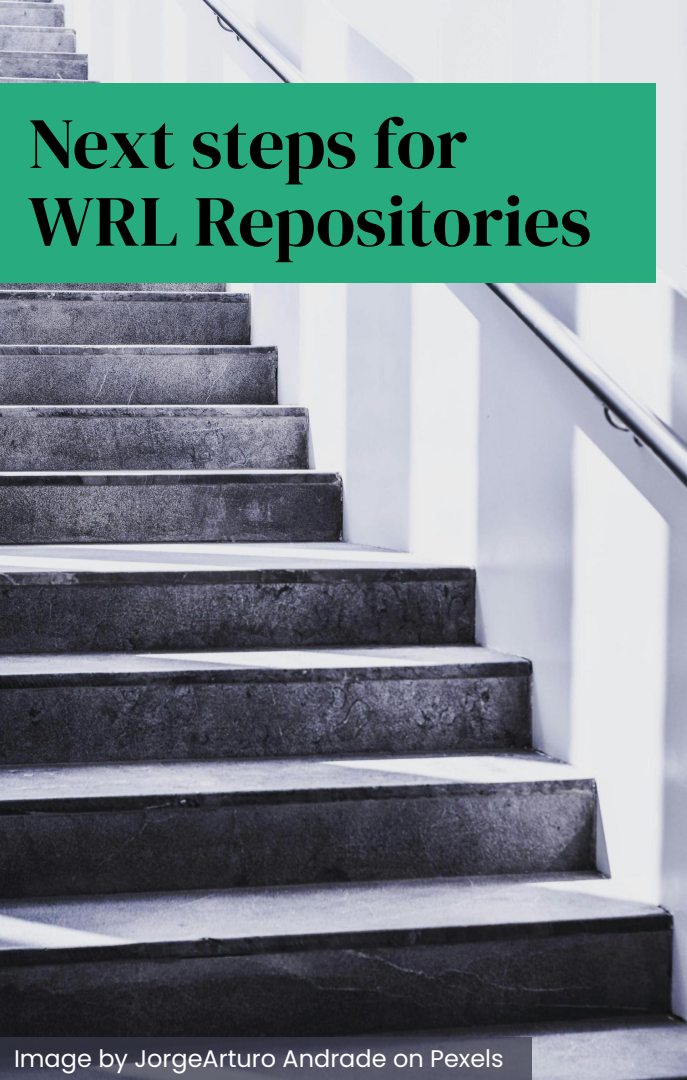
| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Online discourse in a primary school setting | 3,596 downloads |
| An analysis of technical trading strategies | 1,158 downloads |
| Forms of address in Jordanian Arabic with some additional references to speech fellowships | 884 downloads |
| The design process in architecture: a pedagogic approach using interactive thinking | 863 downloads |
| How to even the score: an investigation into how native and Arab non-native teachers of English rate essays containing short and long sentences. | 668 downloads |



WRRO and WREO usage

On a national scale, WRRO and WREO’s combined download stats make them the **second most used** repository platform in the UK, with a **combined total of 1,419,415 downloads**. (statistics extracted from [JISC IRUS-UK](#)).

| Repository | Jan 2025 downloads | Feb 2025 downloads | March 2025 downloads | Total |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| WRRO | 374,675 | 320,311 | 375,046 | 1,070,032 |
| WREO | 113,561 | 106,576 | 129,246 | 349,383 |
| UCL Discovery | 576,801 | 534,068 | 585,742 | 1,696,611 |
| Oxford University Research Archive | 290,843 | 253,138 | 345,099 | 889,080 |
| LSE Research Online | 223,267 | 195,917 | 192,193 | 611,377 |
| Edinburgh Research Explorer | 195,949 | 190,416 | 205,140 | 591,505 |
| Apollo – University of Cambridge | 259,739 | 117,920 | 188,884 | 566,543 |



Next steps for WRL Repositories

Multi Factor Authentication

The WRL team are planning the implementation of Multi Factor Authentication via institutional Single Sign On for the repositories. This will ensure better security for repository user account.

DOIs

Institutional teams are engaging in ongoing conversations around how best to implement DOIs with repository items

SDGs

The Repositories operational group are investigation how SDGs can be surfaced and connected with items in the repositories

Future of repositories

Kate Petherbridge, WRL Executive Manager, has been engaged in conversations across the institutions around the future of the repositories sector, and how to highlight the institutional importance of repositories