

# International Data week 2023

## Report

### Introduction

This humble report serves as a comprehensive account of my participation in the International Data Week 2023 which took place in Salzburg in Austria, encapsulating the diverse aspects and notable highlights of the event, as well as my experience with participating as a scholarship holder in the event offered by RDA DE e.V.) .

It aims to offer an insightful portrayal of the key takeaways and experiences from this globally recognized gathering, emphasizing the significance of the discussions and developments in the realm of data. Furthermore, the following sections will furnish an overview of the different aspects of the event including a detailed overview of the event, its impact and relevance and many more.

### Event overview

From around the world, researchers of diverse backgrounds, ages, and professions gathered in the captivating city of Salzburg, Austria, from October 23 to 26, 2023, to participate in International Data Week 2023, also called the "Festival of Data." It aimed to provide a platform for data scientists, data stewards, and researchers to delve into discussions about their work. These conversations unfolded in diverse sessions, presentations, and casual interactions, including coffee breaks and different social events.



The presentations covered various topics such as FAIR data, FAIR digital objects, PIDs, and a range of other data science-related subjects, also including challenging ethical and open science issues. Discussions also revolved around the work in RDA and active working groups. The event offered flexibility, allowing participation either in person or virtually, with the added convenience of rewatching recorded sessions on the Whova platform.



The significance of International Data Week extends beyond just a gathering—it facilitates collaboration on a global scale, transitioning from local to international networks. Moreover, it provides an opportunity to strengthen existing connections and forge new ones, fostering a resilient community centered around data. This event also acts as a showcase for cutting-edge approaches and state-of-the-art methodologies in the field of data science.

Overall, the event was a resounding success, smoothly executed thanks to the dedicated efforts of the organizers.

## Participation in IDW 2023

My involvement in International Data Week 2023 kicked off with the exciting news of being awarded a scholarship from RDA DE e.V., alongside four other students. I am immensely thankful for this invaluable opportunity, which has significantly shaped my understanding of the data landscape and played a crucial role in my personal and professional growth.

Currently, I'm actively engaged in projects related to the FAIRness of Data and FAIR digital objects, a direction inspired by my choice of sessions during the event.

I attended several sessions during the event, each contributing significantly to my understanding and expertise. One such session, titled "Domain-Specific Metadata" held particular importance for my work, as metadata plays a crucial role in my field. The session was highly informative, offering insights into various use cases within the domain.

Another captivating session I participated in was "Where are the FAIR Earth, Space, and Environment Science Discipline Data Repositories." This session included discussions on the working group and featured lightning presentations. The depth of information provided was invaluable to my knowledge in this area. A closely related

session, "The Way to FAIR, From the Instrument to the Researcher," delved into profound discussions about FAIRness and Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) by two RDA working groups. The insights gained from these discussions added a significant layer to my understanding as well.

I also engaged in the session "Why Persistent Identifiers," which offered a deep dive into the purpose and adoption of PIDs. Given my current involvement with PIDs, this session provided valuable input to enhance my work. Additionally, I further explored the realm of FAIR digital objects through the session "FAIR Digital Object: Fabric," by an RDA interest group. This session addressed challenges related to FAIR digital objects and PIDs, offering crucial perspectives.

In expanding my knowledge beyond my field, I attended sessions on ethics, such as "Data Ethics and UNESCO Recommendation for Open Science" and "Inclusivity in Open Science." Recognizing the importance of ethics, I sought to broaden my understanding, finding these discussions particularly intriguing. The closing plenary session posed interesting questions as well, such as whether ethics slows the progress of data science and whether we have failed in our ethical responsibilities. The engagement of experts and researchers in addressing these challenging topics made for a compelling conclusion.



As a final highlight, the announcement of the location and date for the next International Data Week added an exciting note to the event. Anticipating the upcoming gathering in Brisbane, Australia, heightened my enthusiasm for continued learning and collaboration in the dynamic field of data science.

The lively exchange of ideas during the sessions was truly motivating. Witnessing the enthusiasm and passion of fellow researchers has inspired me to catch up and actively contribute in future opportunities. The ability to access recorded sessions is also great,

allowing me to revisit sessions I attended and catch up on those I missed. The networking sessions and coffee breaks provided excellent opportunities to connect with individuals from diverse disciplines. Engaging with experts in FAIRness and PIDs during these sessions offered valuable insights into my work. Additionally, attending poster sessions exposed me to many intriguing topics.

Beyond the informative sessions, I had the chance to explore parts of the city, appreciating its beauty, castles, gardens, and testing local foods. The overall experience was amazing, enhanced by a musical evening featuring the amazing compositions of Mozart. Although I missed the bar hopping networking session, I heard it also went great and a good chance to connect with other people.

In summary, participating in IDW 2023 marked a significant milestone in my career and personal development. It was an incredible personal adventure, providing an eye-opening opportunity to interact with experts and researchers, fueling my aspirations to become one of them in the near future.



## Impact and relevance



I strongly believe that the journey of learning is an ongoing process, and there's no better way to advance in science than by learning from experts in the field. On the first day of the international data week, I initially felt a bit disappointed, observing that many attendees held PhDs or were professors. It seemed like I might be far from reaching my goals. However, as I engaged in conversations with these individuals and also attended insightful presentations, my disappointment transformed into motivation. I realized that their achievements simply meant I needed to put in more effort into my work and studies.

I am confident that with dedication, I can achieve my ambitions. Perhaps, in future events, I'll be the one presenting my work or research. The experience at IDW 2023 has reinforced my positive outlook, and I believe I can bridge the gap to my goals by putting in the extra effort.

## Feedback and conclusion

The International Data Week provided a remarkable opportunity for researchers and experts worldwide to gather and discuss their shared passion: how data can contribute to improving our lives. It served as a valuable chance for aspiring researchers like myself to integrate into this dynamic community, gaining motivation to tackle the challenges needed to reach our goals.



I'm especially grateful to have been selected by RDA to attend IDW 2023. The experience was truly enriching, and I appreciate the support provided. The insightful discussions and engaging presentations have not only expanded my understanding but also fueled my enthusiasm to contribute meaningfully to the field. I am thankful for this opportunity and eagerly look forward to the future endeavors it has set in motion for me.