

Syntagma: a platform for independent research

Structure, principles, participation and application · working paper v1.2

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Abstract

This paper describes syntagma-science.com, a platform where research without titles, institutions or connections is published, checked, used and applied. It sets out how works and tools appear openly, how public checking replaces classical peer review, how people can take part, how research turns into application and how the free work is sustained economically without money buying influence on findings. Status at launch: 341 works, 277 of them published or ready, 72 tools.

1 Starting point

Many paths into science require a degree, a university or contacts. Without them, access to publication, review, data and exchange is hard to find. At the same time, much knowledge arises outside institutions: in workshops, businesses, initiatives, scenes and self-study. Syntagma addresses this gap: a statement counts because it is supported by evidence, not because of the person making it.

2 Principles

What is knowledge stays free: works are under open licences, mostly CC BY 4.0. Findings and assessment are kept apart, strength of evidence is stated, gaps are named. Funding, use of AI and commercial ties are disclosed. Working drafts are marked as such. Military, weapons and defence applications are excluded.

3 Checking without peer review

There is no review in the classical sense. Every work and tool is therefore published on its own so that errors can be found from outside. Reports are incorporated with credit; corrected versions receive a new version number, earlier ones remain available. Checked parts later become complete works.

4 Structure of the platform

Topic areas group the works into life and health, engineering and data, society and law, culture and communication, and events and safety. The register lists every work with identifier, status, licence, DOI and change log. Tools run in the browser; input only leaves the device when users start a search or an AI feature with their own access. One search covers pages, works, tools, news and files; a data page offers all files with checksums and the register as a table, BibTeX and JSON.

Connection to science: publications go through ORCID and Zenodo and appear on the site, refreshed hourly; the profile is also linked at Lens.org; an OAI-PMH interface makes the register available to search services such as BASE and OpenAIRE; every work page offers citations in common formats.

Since version 4.4 the register holds the entire published body of work (works with a DOI on Zenodo). Across the areas, series group connected lines of works; the register filters by topic, series, type, year and tool, and the network map shows cross-links and series. Tools with a user interface run only on the platform; repositories such as Zenodo keep the passive version for verification.

5 Participation

Participation follows a simple sequence: use, check, contribute, co-research. Anyone who tests, reports or contributes is credited, with ORCID if they like. Researchers get their own profile with works and publications. Open calls for test runs, theses and accompanying research follow from gaps documented in the works themselves, such as independent ratings for a validation or a test on a second, real dataset.

The community opens participation without hurdles: sign-in via a link by e-mail, no password. Contributions to any work or series (note, source, question, translation, practical experience) are reviewed and appear with the work once accepted, with a name only if wished. Age, degree and background play no role.

6 From research to application

Syntagma is the research unit of several brands of the same owner. Open works lead to tools, prototypes and services: fabrication and generators at Schicht-Werk, tools at Signal-Werk, event technology and apps at CuePoint, nutrition and personal tools at HerbivoreVibes and personal-is, culture and publishing at the Entropic Unit, training at Lern-Agent. The rule: whoever cites, cites Syntagma; whoever buys, buys from the respective brand. The resulting conflict of interest is stated with the works concerned; research works do not advertise products.

7 Sustainability

The free work is sustained by licensed textbooks with a free reading sample, subscriptions (supporters' circle, library, institution), services such as method checks, research reports and publication support, and additional licences. What is paid for is depth, convenience and support, not access to knowledge. Terms depend on the user group: free for everyone, 25 % off with proof for students, independents without income and initiatives, framework and special agreements for institutions and companies. A modular kit combines modules of all brands into one joint offer; users pay for what they use. Purchases and subscriptions buy no influence on topics or findings. There is no advertising, no tracking and no embedded third-party services.

In addition there are sponsorships for single series, one-off support with an invoice, and projects on an all-or-nothing basis: pledges are only due once the goal is reached; the result appears openly on the platform. Kits and learning sets link tools with material for measuring and building.

8 Limits

The platform does not replace professional advice. Many works are drafts. Research, texts, translations and tool code are produced with the support of AI language models; selection, checking and responsibility lie with the author. The number of contributors is small at launch; the platform is designed to grow.

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