



Towards a European Policy on Open Access

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6th December 2012

MedOANet National Workshop, Athens, Greece

EU Policy objective

The EU wants to optimise the impact of publicly-funded scientific research

- At European level (Framework Programmes)
- At Member State level

Expected impacts:

- Economic growth (accelerated innovation)
- Better science (build on previous results)
- More efficient science (avoid duplication)
- Improved transparency (involving citizens & society)

One way to get there: open access (OA) to scientific information

OA = online access at no charge to the user

- to peer-reviewed scientific publications
- to research data

For publications:

- OA comes after a decision to publish
- OA does not interfere with patenting

Two main OA publishing business models

- **Gold OA**: costs covered (by authors) → **immediate OA**
- **Green OA**: deposit of manuscripts → **immediate/delayed OA**

Expected benefits of open access

- Results of publicly funded research can be disseminated more broadly and faster for the benefit of:
 - researchers
 - industry
 - citizens
- Equal access across Europe and beyond
- Drive down the costs of dissemination without sacrificing quality



European
Commission

EU politics are complicated...



European Commission



Council



European Parliament

The European Commission is a...

Policy maker

- Proposes EU legislation
- Legislates with other EU institutions
- Invites Member States to act

Funding agency

- Sets access and dissemination rules for EC-funded research
- Research Framework Programmes (next: Horizon2020)

Capacity builder

- Funds infrastructure projects relevant for open access and Digital Science
- Funds projects that support EC policy



Two Commissioners on open access



Vice-President Neelie Kroes
Digital Agenda
Digital single market



Commissioner
Máire Geoghegan-Quinn
Research & Innovation
Horizon 2020
European Research Area (ERA)
& Innovation Union

EU concrete objectives

Develop and implement open access to research results from projects funded by the EU Research Framework Programmes (FP7, Horizon 2020)

- Including fund research and support activities in the area of open access

Encourage national policy initiatives

Contribute to policy co-ordination between Member States

Open access in FP7

OA Pilot in FP7

- **7 areas (>1300 projects to date)**
- **20% of total FP7 budget (2007-2013)**
- **Survey (summer 2011)**

OA publishing costs are eligible in FP7

- **Since the beginning of FP7, for all projects**
- **Limited to duration of project**

European Research Council

- **Updated (2012) Scientific Council Guidelines for OA**
- **Embargo (6 months) including primary data**

OpenAIRE

- **EU-funded portal giving access to repositories across Europe (implements FP7 Pilot)**



Three key documents from the European Commission (16.07.2012)

Communication 'A reinforced European Research Area partnership for excellence and growth'

- **Global setting**

'Scientific information package':

Communication 'Towards better access to scientific information: boosting the benefits of public investments in research'

- **Focus on Horizon 2020**

Recommendation on access to and preservation of scientific information

- **Focus on EU Member States**



1. Communication 'ERA'

The ERA is based on the internal market in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely

Five priority areas:

- More effective national research systems
- Optimal transnational cooperation and competition
- An open labour market for researchers
- Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research
- **Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge**

2. Communication 'Towards better access to scientific information'

Why does better access matter for Europe?

The Commission's vision

Where do we stand?

- Access to publication and data, preservation, international context

What are the barriers to change?

- Transition to OA to publications, the case of data, long-term preservation

Action at European level

- What has the Commission done so far, what are the next steps (**Horizon 2020**)

Communication: what is proposed for OA in Horizon 2020 ?

OA Pilot in FP7

- 'Best effort' to provide OA
- 7 areas
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Allowed embargos: 6/12 months

OA publishing costs

- Eligible while project runs

OA
& Gold
Green
Gold OA

OA mandate in H2020

- Obligation to provide OA
- All areas
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Allowed embargos: 6/12 months
- In addition: pilot for research data
(details to be defined, interests, will be protected)

OA publishing costs

- Eligible while project runs
- In addition (tbc): possibility to cover publications after project ends, conditions to be defined

Horizon 2020

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing Horizon 2020 (COM(2011) 809/3)

- EC proposal November 2011: suggested themes and budget for the framework programme for Research and Innovation(2014-2020)
- Includes many references to open access:
 - Framework Programme
 - Rules for Participation (→ central for OA Rules in H2020)
 - Specific Programme
- Co-decision Council & European Parliament (amendments proposed)
- By end of 2013: Adoption of legislative act
- From 2014 Horizon 2020 starts / launch of first calls

Pilot on open access to data

- To be developed during 2013
- Will take into account privacy, security issues, commercial interests
- Issues to consider:
 - What data? (underlying data, raw data, metadata)
 - What areas? (ERC, FET, societal challenges, others?)
 - Where should data go?
 - Use and re-use / ownership
 - Not just open access: data-sharing and management
 - Need to create incentives for researchers
- Process: internal and external consultations

3. Recommendation to Member States

Member States to define policies for and implement:

- **OA to publications**
- **OA to research data – taking into account data-specific concerns**
- **preservation and re-use of scientific information**
- **e-infrastructures**

Consistency between EU H2020 policy and MS policy

Structured co-ordination of MS at EU-level and reporting

Multi-stakeholder dialogue to be set up



ΣΥΣΤΑΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗΣ

της 17ης Ιουλίου 2012

**για την πρόσβαση στις επιστημονικές πληροφορίες
και τη διαφύλαξή τους**

Recent EC policy steps on OA

- 2006
 - EC-funded Study on the scientific publication market in Europe
- 2007
 - EC Communication on scientific information
 - Council Conclusions on scientific information in the digital age
 - FP7 (OA publishing costs/Gold OA) are eligible)
- 2008
 - Open Access Pilot in FP7
- 2009
 - OpenAire platform launched to give EU-wide access to publications (and since Dec. 2011: research data)
 - EC Communication on ICT infrastructures for e-Science
- 2012
 - Surveys: OA in FP7, State of play in Member States
 - EC Communication on ERA
 - Scientific information package: EC Communication and Recommendation on scientific information

In summary...

- Open access & related measures: not a goal in itself, but a means to improve knowledge circulation and thus innovation in Europe.
- Open access to publications: a general principle in H2020.
- Both **Green** and **Gold** open access measures should be promoted in Europe (Best for transition, not all Member States are the same etc.)
- Open access to data: a pilot will explore possibilities and fully take into account privacy, security and commercial interests.
- Beyond open access: creating incentives and a culture of sharing.

Pointers

Website of the European Commission on open access

- http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/open_access

More with OpenAIRE

- www.openaire.eu

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