Open Access in Portugal and FCT’s Policy Proposal

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2013.10.17
MedOANet Final Conference, Athens, Greece
Open Access in Portugal and FCT’s Policy Proposal

• Open Access in Portugal
  – Background
    • First steps
    • Milestones
    • Infrastructure development
      o RCAAP
  – Current situation
    • Institutional mandates
    • Repositories
      o Open Access documents available in RCAAP
    • Open Access Journals

• FCT’s Open Access Policy Proposal
First steps

• Universidade do Minho

• Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO)
  – Electronic virtual library covering selected scientific journals collections from Latin America, Spain and Portugal
  – Project developed by two Brazilian institutions, FAPESP and BIREME
  – Portuguese section Portal made available (2005)
    • to promote the quality and the worldwide dissemination of Portuguese scientific journals
Milestones

• CRUP – Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities
  – Declaration endorsing open access (2006)
    • Recommendation: every university should establish institutional repositories for their publications
    • Suggestion: establish a national policy for articles arising from publicly-funded research to be made available in Open Access
  – Working group on open access
    • Involvement of policy makers
    • Liaison with international initiatives
      – EUA Open Access Recommendations

• RCAAP (2008)
Infrastructure development

• RCAAP (2008)
  – Goals
    • Promote visibility and accessibility to the Portuguese scientific output
    • Improve access to information about national scientific output
    • Integrate Portugal into international initiatives
  – Governance
    • UMIC (Funding agency and political coordinators)
    • FCCN (General and Infrastructures Coordination)
    • UMinho (Scientific and Technical Coordination)
  – Services
    • Electronic Services
    • Publisher copyright policies & self-archiving support
    • Communication, awareness, training
    • Advocacy and Networking
Infrastructure development

- RCAAP (2008)
  - Electronic Services
    - RCAAP Portal – central repository aggregator
      - Luso-Brazilian Directory, in partnership with IBICT (2010)
    - Institutional Repositories hosting
    - Shared repository
    - Data repositories
    - Scientific Journal hosting
    - Stats
Institutional repositories and OA mandates

Repository evolution

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>RI (locais)</th>
<th>SARIs</th>
<th>Total Agregados</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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</table>

Source: Project RCAAP (2013)

- Institutional OA mandates – 15
Evolution of PT OA documents on RCAAP

Source: Project RCAAP (2013)
Open Access Journals

- **Directory of Open Access Journals**
  - 83
  - 28th position out of 122 countries

- **Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO)**
  - 40 titles, 27 of them current

- **RCAAP**
  - 27

- **LusOpenEdition**
  - 7
Funder mandate for publicly-funded research to be made OA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructural conditions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Political conditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>– Research Institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>– International environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generalised acceptance of OA principles by the research community</td>
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</table>

Portugal is sufficiently mature for the adoption of a mandate towards availability in OA of research results obtained through public funding
Guiding Principles

Open Access:

• Publicly-funded research outputs must be made freely available and accessible to all the researchers and general public as soon as possible, allowing any user to read, search and re-use its content subject to proper attribution, but without any further barriers other than those related to gaining access to the Internet.

• Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge and removal of any barriers to knowledge circulation, including digital barriers (COM, July 2012)
Open Access Policy Scope

• Content of peer-reviewed research publications that include research outputs obtained in whole or in part through FCT funding

• All types of publications including:
  – journal articles
  – conference proceedings
  – books
  – doctoral thesis
  
as long as it contains research outputs obtained in whole or in part through FCT funding
Open Access Policy Objectives

• Optimise the investment and ensure the maximum economic and societal return of **public funding** in scientific research activities;

• Maximise use of **existing e-infrastructures**, particularly RCAAP (Repositório Científico de Acesso Aberto de Portugal)

• Boost **international visibility** of Portuguese researchers and research institutions
Open Access Definition

Open Access to Scientific Publications:

⇒ **Unrestricted** access, through the Internet, to research publications resulting in whole or in part from **public funding**:

• Allowing any user, without any costs or charges, to:
  – Access anytime and without any restrictions to the full content of research publications in electronic format
  – Search and re-use the content of research publications
    » provided that re-use is subject to full and proper attribution
What is expected from researchers

Authors should deposit **any publication in any RCAAP repository** (licensed under a Creative Commons CC-BY license or equivalent):

- Journal articles, conference proceedings and books [an embargo period of 6 to 12 months (SSH) to the full publication content is allowed]

- Doctoral thesis (36 months maximum embargo period allowed)
Publishing formats

In all cases, the immediate **deposit** of author’s final accepted manuscript in a suitable (RCAAP) **repository** is required.

Publishers of research journals, proceedings or books either:

a) Publish directly in an Open Access format, allowing **immediate and unrestricted access** to the final version of the research publication.
   - In this case, an “Article Processing Charge” may be charged and is eligible for refund

or

b) Publish in a non-Open Access format, i.e., the publication must be paid to access its content.
   - In this case, an embargo period of up to 6/12 months (SSH) to the full content of the research paper deposited in the repository is allowed but, should it be invoked, the publisher is not entitled to charge any amount for publishing
Access to and sharing of Data and other research results

General guidelines

Researchers are encouraged to share data and other outputs resulting from research projects funded by FCT by placing and making them available in Open Access databases

The decision to make available such outputs ultimately lies within each researcher
Public Consultation

Information

• Policy proposals were made available in FCT’s website for public scrutiny

• Deadline for contributions was July 19th

Outcome

• Around twenty documents with contributions, suggestions and/or statements
Public Consultation

Most discussed topics

• Generalized praise for the initiative and for the OA Principles
• Cost for Gold OA publishing
• Embargo periods seen as too short
• Requests for financial support to digital publication
• Transition period towards full implementation of OA policy
• Author’s freedom of choice
• Double-dipping
FCT's Open Access Policy Proposal