



# **Commission Communication 'Towards better access to scientific information' in context**

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**EESC, Section for the single market, production and  
consumption**



# Outline

*Policy objectives*

*Introduction to open access*

*Scientific information package (17 July 2012)*



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## ***Policy objectives***

*Introduction to open access*

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# Two Commissioners



*Vice-President Neelie Kroes*  
**Digital Agenda**  
*Digital single market*  
**DG CONNECT**



*Commissioner*  
*Máire Geoghegan-Quinn*  
**Research & Innovation**  
*European Research Area &*  
*Innovation Union*  
**DG RTD**



# What do we want?

***We want to optimize the impact of publicly-funded research***

- At MS level: with legal tools and policy instruments
- At EC level: in H2020 with legal tools and financial instruments

***Expected impact:***

- Better exploitation of research results by innovative industry → growth and jobs
- Better dissemination of research results to researchers and society-at-large → better science, more transparency



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# One way to get there: open access

***OA = online access at no charge to the user***

- to peer-reviewed scientific publications and research data

***Publications: OA comes after a decision to publish***

- It does not interfere with patenting (decision to publish taken before making it OA)

***Two OA publishing business models***

- **Gold OA**: costs covered by authors / **immediate OA**
- **Green OA**: deposition of manuscript / **delayed OA**



## Expected benefits of open access

- Allow the benefits of science to be exploited by all (researchers, industry, citizens) and give equal access in all EU27 Member States (and beyond)
- Give free access to results of publicly-funded research
- Drive down the costs for dissemination without sacrificing quality





# Open access in FP7

## 2007: Communication and Council Conclusions OA Pilot in FP7

- 7 areas (>1300 projects to date); 20% of FP7 budget (2007-2013)

## OA publishing costs are eligible in FP7

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

## OpenAIRE

- EU-funded portal  
Incl. monitoring (statistics: 27 134 publications  
577 are OA)





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# Scientific information package

- Adopted on 17 July 2012 **together with ERA Communication** "A Reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth"
- Commission **Communication**: "Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investments in research"
  - **takes stock of and announces EC actions on access to and preservation of scientific information**
- Commission **Recommendation** on access to and preservation of scientific information
  - **recommends actions for the Member States on access to and preservation of scientific information**
- Package announces **actions** on:
  - **Access and preservation in the Member States**
  - **Open access in H2020**
  - **Funding of infrastructures and projects on access and preservation**

# Communication: What are we proposing for OA in Horizon 2020 ?

## ***OA Pilot in FP7***

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

Green OA

## ***OA mandate in H2020***

- **Obligation** to provide OA
- **All areas**
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Allowed embargos: 6/12 months
- **Plus: 'pilot' for research data**



## ***OA publishing costs***

- Eligible while project runs

Gold OA

## ***OA publishing costs***

- Eligible while project runs
- **Plus (TBC): possibility to cover publications after project end, under conditions to define**

## Recommendation: OA in the MS

- Comprehensive set of recommendations to MS as a basis for policy-formulation on:
  - 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



## **In summary ...**

*Open access as a means to improve knowledge circulation*

*Not all Member States are the same*

- both 'Green' and 'Gold' open access measures should be promoted in the EU

*In Horizon 2020, both routes should be valid and complementary (transition period of the market)*

***Open access must be effective, affordable, competitive and sustainable for researchers and innovative businesses***

## In the words of Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn:



*Open access will ... boost Europe's innovation capacity and give citizens quicker access to the benefits of scientific discoveries."*

*2012 Stakeholder meeting*

## In the words of Vice-President Kroes:

*"We spend hundreds of billions of euros on research in Europe and we need to make sure the results can have the largest possible impact ... The EU is placing European science as a global leader and giving taxpayers the value for money they deserve."*

17 July 2012 press  
conference





# Pointers

## *The European Commission and open access*

- [http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/open\\_access](http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/open_access)

## *OpenAIRE*

- [www.openaire.eu](http://www.openaire.eu)

## *Twitter*



@OpenAccessEC



@NeelieKroesEU



@ccbuhr

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