

Press release

Attention: news desks/science and education correspondents

For immediate release

Brussels, 21 March 2016

EUA endorses Large-scale Implementation of Open Access to Scholarly Journals

The European University Association strongly supports the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL) in its Expression of Interest in the "[Large-scale implementation of Open Access to Scholarly Journals](#)".

An outcome of the 12th Berlin Conference (8-9 December 2015), the MPDL Expression of Interest states that the potential of Open Access must be harnessed for the benefit of scientific research and learning. The three main points are:

- transform scholarly journals from subscription to Open Access publishing in accordance with community-specific publication preferences;
- convert resources spent on journal subscriptions into funds for Open Access business models;
- invite all parties involved to collaborate on a swift and efficient transition.

Of particular importance, it also states that Open Access to scholarly publications must benefit society at large. EUA sees this initiative from the Max Planck Society-MPDL, based in Munich, as an important step in intensifying efforts to implement Open Access to research publications on a large scale in Europe.

EUA has been advocating, promoting and supporting Open Access policies and initiatives at institutional, national and European levels (e.g. Horizon 2020). Specifically, EUA has and will continue to support sustainable Open Access journal publishing systems, as well as ongoing developments to improve the European Open Access repository infrastructure (e.g. OpenAIRE).

Open Access is a cornerstone of EUA's work in the transition towards Open Science. EUA has recently published its "[Open Access Roadmap for Research Publications](#)", which outlines a series of concrete actions to support the development of an innovative, transparent and sustainable scientific publishing system.

In the roadmap EUA outlines the main focus areas for its work on Open Science which include Open Access, copyright, data protection and text and data mining; new models of evaluation and quality assessment; digital literacy and awareness.

Links:

[MPDL Expression of Interest](#)

[EUA Open Access to Research Publications Roadmap](#)

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The European University Association (EUA) is the representative organisation of more than 800 universities in 47 European countries and 36 national rectors' conferences (NRCs). The Council of EUA is comprised of the President, the members of the Board, and of the presidents of all of Europe's NRCs. EUA works closely with its members to ensure that the voice of European universities is heard.