



Attention: news desks/ science and education correspondents

For immediate release

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EUA preparing a roadmap to accelerate the transition to Open Access

At its Council meeting on 23 October 2015 the European University Association (EUA) agreed on the development of a roadmap to assist European universities in the transition to Open Access (OA), to be launched in early 2016. This initiative follows on from a recommendation made by [EUA's Expert Group on Science 2.0/Open Science](#), set up earlier this year to take forward [EUA's April 2015 Antwerp Declaration](#) that underlines the importance for universities of pursuing and further developing the opportunities offered by rapid technological change for new ways of working based on the principles of scholarly sharing and academic collaboration.

The focus will be on the following main areas:

- *Promoting access and use of research publications and research data*, Text and Data Mining (TDM);
- *Addressing the related intellectual property rights and copyright policies*;
- *Fostering structured dialogue among all relevant stakeholders* – including universities, university associations, National Rectors' Conferences, research funders, libraries, scientific publishers, national and European-level public authorities;
- *Supporting the development of European OA policies*, e.g. Horizon 2020, [OpenAire](#);
- *Considering alternative and sustainable OA business models*;
- *Promoting advanced scientific recognition systems* – including peer-review, quality assessment in Open Access, career progression of researchers and quality assurance of non-traditional research outputs;
- *Promoting access and use of research data* – Text and Data Mining (TDM).

The roadmap will build on the outcomes of previous EUA activities in particular the [recommendations on Open Access](#) (2008), the [briefing paper on Open Access to research publications](#) (2014) and [EUA's Open Access checklist for universities](#) (2015).

EUA is committed to working towards a publishing system that seeks to achieve a balance of realistic costs and benefits shared between commercial publishers, research institutions and their researchers, considering that the latter have simultaneously the critical roles of producers of research and peer-reviewers of research publications.

In developing its roadmap on Open Access in the coming months EUA looks forward to collaborating with all its partners and stakeholders in furthering the dialogue and addressing the opportunities, challenges and next steps on Open Access and Open Science. Building upon the recent statements made by Commissioner Moedas and Secretary of State Dekker EUA also views the upcoming Dutch Presidency of the European Council as an excellent platform for the scientific community at large, policy makers and scientific publishers to work together on this crucial topic.

ENDS

Notes:

- [Antwerp Declaration](#), 2015
- [Recommendations on Open Access](#), 2008
- [Briefing paper on Open Access to research publications](#), 2014
- [EUA's Open Access checklist for universities](#), 2015

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The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.