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# Open access to research information

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# Open access to scientific information

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BOAI (2002): By “open access”, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.

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# Two roads to open access for publications

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- Self-archiving (repositories) – green road
  - OA journals – golden road
    - Various bussiness models ('author pays' as more prominent, but less represented - [26% journals in DOAJ](#))
  - Green & gold as complementary means to the common goal!  
Or not?
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# Priorities for OA today

## (11 years after BOAI)

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- policies, mandates - institutions & funders
    - mandates – increasing self-archiving rates
    - requirement is more effective than request
    - monitoring compliance
    - legal framework (FRPAA, FASTR...)
    - formulating an optimal mandate policy (controversies around RCUK&HEFCE and EC mandates)
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# Priorities for OA today

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- Open licences
    - CC-BY
      - essential for open access (permits text- and data-mining)?
      - Or a barrier to wider acceptance of OA?
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# Priorities for OA today

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- Infrastructure and sustainability
    - Repositories network, interoperability
      - Existing softwers, protocols, metadata standards & further development (for instance - NISO OA metadata and indicator project)
    - Central, subject-based repositories (model: PubMed Central, ArXiv) or institutional repositories
  - Advocacy and coordination
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# 'Blurring' the concept of OA

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- gratis & libre OA
  - Embargo periods
  - Open access spectrum
  - Predatory publishers
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# Incentives for OA to publications

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- Increasing the impact (citation)
    - Witnessed by new metric enabled by OA
  - Public access to publicly funded research results
  - Fostering scientific development
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# Open access to research data

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How different is it from OA to publications?

- Fundamental pragmatic and motivational difference
    - Is OA increasing the impact of research data and resulting publications?  
(we have no established impact metrics for data)
    - Privacy and data protection concerns
    - Researchers want the first exploitation right for their data
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- **Difference in infrastructure accessibility**
    - Infrastructure for OA to publication - mostly in libraries and publishing houses (existing and widely present)
    - Infrastructure for OA to data – not yet in place in all countries and institutions, not yet completely defined
    - substantial differences between data collected and used in different scientific disciplines
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# Incentives for OA to research data

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- accelerating innovation (speed of scientific progress & the return on publicly-funded R&D investment, boosting productivity, competitiveness and growth)
- fostering collaboration and avoiding duplication of effort (greater efficiency)
- building on previous research results (improved quality of results)
- involving citizens and society (improved transparency of the scientific process).

(EC Background paper on OA, 2012.)

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# Recomendations and guidelines for OA to research data

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- OECD
    - Declaration on Acces to Research Data from Public Funding (2004)
    - Principles and Guidelines for Access to Research Data from Public Funding (2007)
  - European Union/Commision
    - Riding the wave: How Europe can gain from the rising tide of scientific data (2010)
    - Communication “Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investment in research” (2012)
    - Recommendation on access to and preservation of scientific information (2012)
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