

Overview of routes to open access

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Overview: Routes to Open Access

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Open Access

- free access to research results, especially scholarly publications
- comes in different flavors, from “free to read” to “free to use and build upon”
- mandated by funders, demanded by policy makers, wanted by (some) researchers

Key Routes

- (national) open access strategies
- open access mandates
- open access incentives
- open access awareness
- open access publishing
- open access infrastructure

Open Access Strategies

- implemented by several European countries
- setting open access quotas
- differ in preferred routes
 - gold open access (immediate open access to primary publication)
 - green open access (openly accessible secondary version)
- making open access the standard by around 2020

Open Access Mandates

- mandate open access when possible
- research funders
 - Austrian Science Fund
 - Dutch Science Fund
 - Wellcome Trust
- academic employers
- national law?

Open Access Incentives

- set e.g. by employer, funders, organizations
- reward systems
- internal funding
- expand selection criteria for academic positions
- evaluation of researchers and institutions
- reward best practices, e.g. open licenses

Open Access Awareness

- increase commitment of researchers, institutions
- educating researchers about their rights
- reclaim academic autonomy
- informed decisions about publishing strategy
- sharing best practice examples
- provide information, support

Open Access Publishing

- funding of commercial open access models (expensive)
- explore alternative publishing models
- increase transparency and accountability
- institutional funding, consortial funding of platforms
- flip established journals to open access

Open Access Infrastructure

- for production, dissemination, and aggregation of open access publications
- often run by research libraries or institutes
- open access repositories (institutional or subject-based)
- journal platforms, monograph platforms and preprint platforms (see e.g. [ArXiv](#))
- aggregators like harvesters, search engines (see e.g. [BASE](#)), and meta-repositories (see e.g. [PubMed Central](#))

Germany: DEAL

- project, all major academic organizations involved
- goal: national licenses with a strong open access clause
- with Elsevier, Springer, Wiley
- negotiations started with Elsevier
- ~600 institutions, varying end dates of existing contracts

Germany: DEAL, so far

- ~60 institutions cancelled Elsevier subscriptions, more ready to join, Elsevier deactivated access
- Elsevier losing money each week
- mostly positive reactions so far
- calling editors-in-chief etc. to quit Elsevier journals
- open access has to be at the core of every new contract
- international support possible: ask universities, editors, authors to support the transition to open access, demand open access instead of subscription

Example NL

- Letter secretary of state november 2013
- NL prefers gold route
- Implementation consists of:
 - Negotiating Open Access with publishers
 - Cooperating internationally
 - Intensifying Open Access advocacy
 - Monitoring whether target figures for Open Access publications will indeed be achieved

Lessons learned NL

We believe that four important factors contributed to our success, namely:

- a unique negotiation model, united as consortium
- an influential delegation
- loyalty to principles and
- political involvement

Moving on NL

- Open Access has still the full attention in the Netherlands.
- Negotiations with open access results for 7 out of 8 big deals. ([Info in E-Zine](#)).
- National Plan Open Science will be presented on 9 February, and National Platform Open Science will be launched, to be followed on openscience.nl (link active as of 9 February 2017!).

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