

*“State policy of open access to  
scientific publications and  
information in EU countries:  
Experience of Cyprus”*

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# Overview

- The Knowledge Area
- The Open Access (OA) era in EU
- The Publication Era – Libraries
- Open Access Route
- Main Topics of Libraries relating to OA
- Practices?
- What we have done in Cyprus
- Future Steps

# The Knowledge Area

As mentioned by OECD (1997) “the knowledge economy depends as much on the knowledge **distribution** power of the system as on its knowledge production power. This openness to knowledge will provide the impetus for the accelerated growth of knowledge societies”.(Raju, 2013)

“**Openness** means unhindered access to information and knowledge. The free flow of information is a major component to bridging the knowledge gaps between privileged and under-privileged communities”. (Raju, 2013)

# The Open Access (OA) era in EU: Initiative

Based on Budapest OA Initiative (BOAI, 2002):

*"OA is the **free availability of information resource 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 knowledged and cited"*

# The Open Access (OA) era: In few words

- *OA = online access at no charge to the user to peer-reviewed scientific publications to research data*
- *For publications: OA comes after a decision to publish*
- *OA does not interfere with patenting*

# The Publication Era: Journals and Libraries through Time

Before E-journals	E-journals	Open Access Journals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collections of paper journals</li> <li>- slower research cycle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A massive collection of e-journals</li> <li>- Simplification of the research process (literature immediately available)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Free access for all users</li> <li>- Social responsible behaviour (free access to all)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The bound volumes of newspapers in stacks</li> <li>- The library pays subscriptions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Easy and quickly accessibility</li> <li>- The library pays a subscription (consortia)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increases citations of publications</li> <li>- Enhances the visibility of scientific work</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Awareness of new e-resources</li> </ul>	<p>Problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- stagnation of library budgets</li> <li>- management of collection of newspapers losing its importance</li> </ul>	<p>Problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financing of publication in the open access (APC)</li> </ul>

# Open Access Types:

## GOLD

- **published originally as OA**
  - journals, monographs (full peer review, “pure OA”)
  - megajournals (modified peer review, “pure OA”)
  - articles (full peer review, “hybrid OA”)
- **published originally via toll access, OA via rolling wall**
- **3% of physics/astronomy to high 13% medicine (Björk 2009)**
- **annual growth rate est. at 20% (Springer; Laakso et al 2011)**
- **60% of all peer reviewed journals by 2025**

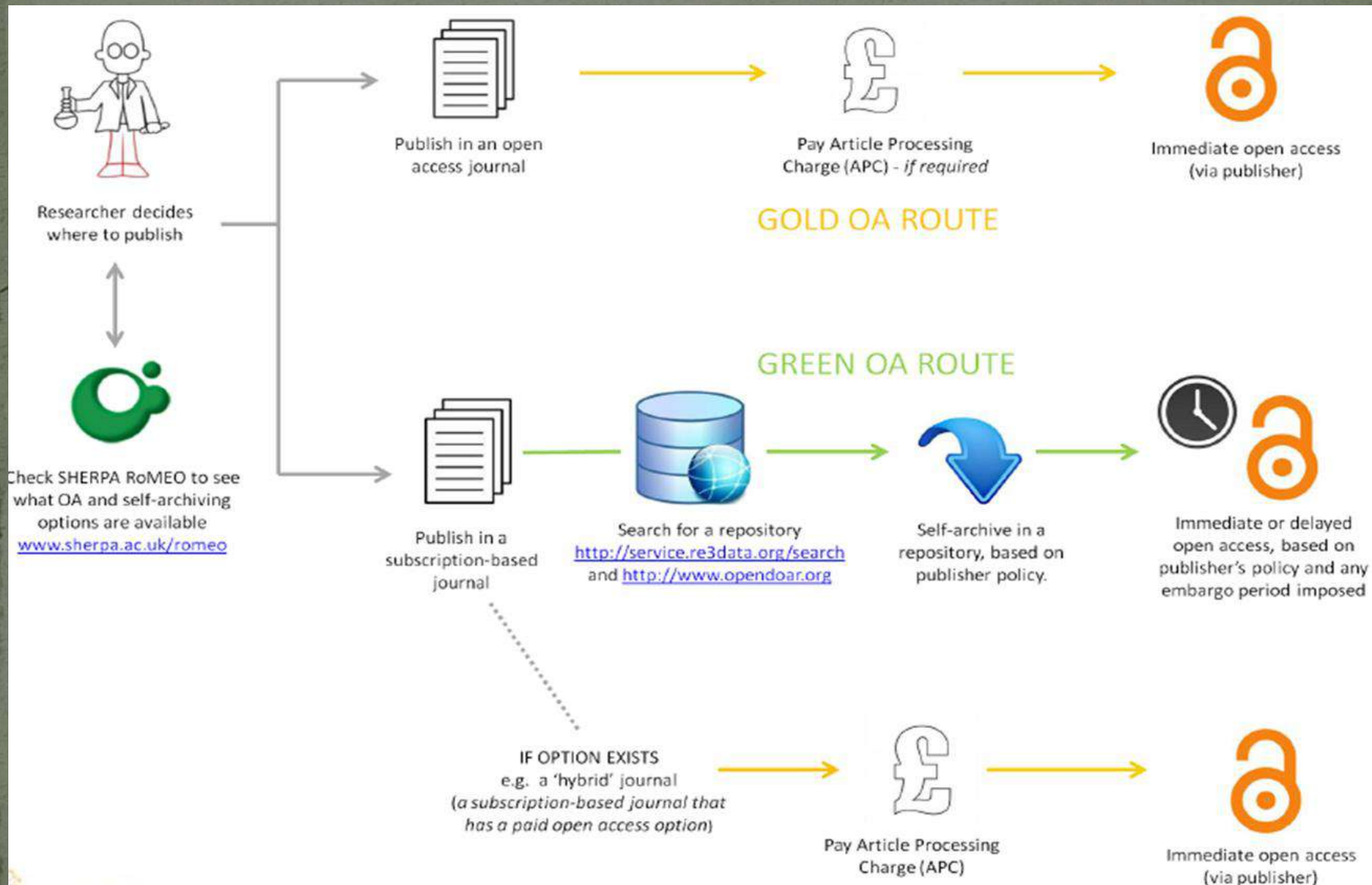
## GREEN

- **Pre-print or post-print (permission)**
- **6% of biochemistry/microbiology to high 30% earth sci (Björk 2009)**

## OTHER

- **faculty websites, open digital collections, datasets**
- **no estimates on scale**

# Open Access Route





# Main Topics of Libraries relating to OA

- Advocacy of OA,
- Participation in the creation of Universities' Open Access Policies,
- Helping with publishing in OA, Management of Funds for Financing OA Publishing,
- Helping with research data management,
- Copyrights and OA,
- Management of University repository and assistance in Depositing Sources,
- Promotion of OA resources and Management of Collections (Hosting, Cataloguing, Promoting, Harvesting, Educate Users),
- OA New Publishing Assistance and Supporting the Route,
- Educating Academic Community and Project Managers.

# Practices? From Where?

## What others do?:Brainstorming

Is this a practice?

A small video of 48 seconds is enough?

Can a minute introductory video support our Library efforts for OA?

An existing video by OA supporters-Publishers?

When Harvard Library support OA, Why not our Libraries?

# What we have done (or create) in Cyprus?

- 1) We support OA! (Libraries annually organized events for OA),
- 2) All over the year we offer to the researcher from Academic Institutions the opportunity, to published their datasets via Institutional Repositories (OUC, CUT, UCY, +),
- 3) We support and manage the metadata created via our Repositories,
- 4) UCY's Library support OPENAIRE as the National Office,
- 5) CUT's Library ensures the funding for OA for its Institution Researchers,
- 6) OUC's Library implement the Infrastructures to support and host the "National Repository",
- 7) We have worked **all** together to implement our National Policy for OA,
- 8) **WE COLLABORATE**, SUPPORT AND ENGURANGE ALL OTHER STATEHOLDERS OF OA IN OUR ISLAND!

# Institutional Repositories in the Island/ National Harvester

ΚΥΨΕΛΗ (OUC) (<http://kypseli.ouc.ac.cy/> )

ΚΤΙΣΙΣ (CUT) (<http://ktisis.cut.ac.cy/?locale=el>)

ΛΗΚΥΘΟΣ (UCY) (<https://lekythos.library.ucy.ac.cy/>)

**National Repository/OA Harvester (CY/GR)**

(<https://www.openarchives.gr/aggregator-openarchives/portal/institutions?language=en> )

# National OA Policy <sup>1/2</sup>

## 4. Vision, objectives and benefits of the Policy for Open Access to Scientific Information

The vision of the national policy for Open Access is the creation of open access conditions - for all the citizens, researchers and businesses - to the publications of research organizations and academic institutions in Cyprus, that are publicly or privately funded.

The objective of the Open Access Policy is the alignment with European policies (European Commission recommendation, Horizon 2020) and current best practices, effectively participating in the formulation of a research and academic ecosystem, in the framework of which, access to research and especially publicly funded research is immediate and open. This is based on the recognition of knowledge as a public good which brings social and economic benefits at national, European and international level.



# National OA Policy <sup>2/2</sup>

More specifically, the expected benefits for the society, but also for the researchers, are of major importance and are described as follows:

- The total of the scientific work which is foremost publicly, but also privately funded, is concentrated, safeguarded in the long-run and becomes available to the citizens, while at the same time, it becomes internationally available through accessible repositories.
- Publicly funded research projects can be indexed and traced by the internet search engines.
- The traffic and use of the publications can be monitored, while data and indicators for the evolution of research are collected.
- The internal and external evaluation of research stakeholders is facilitated, and so is the dissemination of their scientific production.
- Possibilities for exploitation and reuse of projects for scientific purposes are generated (CV's, publications, reports on excellence, debriefing reports, indicators, websites of research institutions, personal websites etc.).
- The channels for international cooperation are enhanced, as well as the international profile of researchers, research institutions and of the country in general.
- The visibility of the researchers' work is enhanced, receiving therefore more references and citations.
- The impact of the researchers' work is increased.
- Researchers acquire a permanent internet link for each of their projects.

# Funding the actions <sup>1/3</sup>



H.E. President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Nicos Anastasiades  
and EBSCO's Representative Mr. Dragan Nicolic

# Funding the Actions <sup>2/3</sup>



Remedica's President and Rector of CUT University, signing the agreement of €25,000 fund for OA efforts



# Funding the Actions <sup>3/3</sup>



# Webcast with Researchers

- Short “demo” of a Webcast with researchers at Open University of Cyprus

Presenting how to search and gain access via OUC's Platform either to subscription and either the OA content ([DEMO](#))

# Future Steps

- 1) Update our National Policy for OA (due to GDPR Regulations),
- 2) Support other Academic and not ONLY Institutions, to established their Repositories,
- 3) Established – Implement- our “OPEN Data Repository” for the Government,
- 4) Support Island’s Researchers to “publish” at OA Journals
- 5) Arrange more seminars (from Librarians) focused on OA (Face to face or via Platforms),
- 6) “Search” for more Funding Opportunities to support OA,
- 7) Promote the existing efforts and successes
  
- 8) Strengthen our cooperation and enlargement with a private and commercial stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention!

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