



All the latest on open access negotiations with the major publishing houses

10-12-2015

## NEWS

### Dutch Universities and Elsevier reach agreement in principle on open access

*Koen Becking (Tilburg University), Gerard Meijer (Radboud University Nijmegen), Jaap Winter (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and the directors of the Dutch university libraries are holding negotiations with publishers on subscription fees for academic journals. The universities are only prepared to renew current subscription agreements if the publishers take steps towards open access.*

### Dutch Universities and Elsevier reach agreement in principle on open access and subscription

The Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU) and scientific information provider Elsevier have reached an agreement in principle that marks a milestone in the Netherlands' transition to open access scholarly publishing and provides Dutch researchers with continued subscription access to high-quality research.

Details of this 3-year agreement, which is to start in 2016, will be finalized in the near future.

"We are pleased about this agreement as it facilitates a sustainable transition to open access," said Prof. Gerard Meijer, chief negotiator for the VSNU and Chairman of Radboud University Nijmegen. "It gives academics at Dutch universities subscription access to Elsevier journals and allows them to publish open access in a selection of these journals. The Dutch universities aim to make 30% of their researchers' publications open access by 2018, this agreement makes it possible to get there. It's genuinely good news and a big deal for open access in the Netherlands."

Philippe Terheggen, Elsevier Managing Director Journals, said: "We welcome the agreement as the continued subscription access to a substantial part of the world's highest-quality, peer-reviewed research is essential to the Netherlands maintaining its position as one of the world's most impactful research nations. In addition, increased open access publishing options will be available to Dutch researchers to globally share their work."

The agreement is in line with the objective of Sander Dekker, State Secretary at the Ministry for Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands, to transition Dutch scientific output towards an open access publishing model.

### Wiley: deal to be finalised in 2016

Big deal negotiations with Wiley deal are well on track

## Open access in the media

Last week, news emerged that the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) has decided to only support research that will lead to open access publications. This report has caused quite a stir in the media. It first appeared in [NRC](#) newspaper. The [Volkskrant](#) newspaper emphasised the consequences for journals and academics. The [news](#) also appeared in [various university newsletters](#). Details about the new policy have been included in the [Government Gazette](#).

## Quote

'This agreement signifies a major step towards open access for science and for Dutch society at large. It will make scientific research freely accessible to everyone.'

Gerard Meijer, negotiator for VSNU and Chairman of Radboud University Nijmegen.

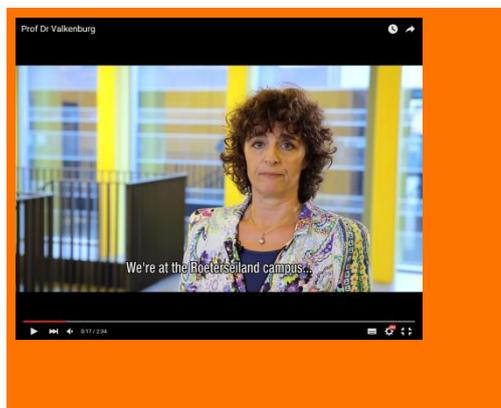
## Scientists, speak out!

The issue of open access is currently being debated by universities, publishers, on Twitter, in various discussion forums and at symposiums. We would like to invite the academic community, in particular, to make its voice heard. [Prof. Levi](#), [Prof. Meijer](#) and [Prof. Valkenburg](#) have already shared their views.

but they will not be finalised until early next year. Titles published by Wiley will remain accessible, and there will be no consequences for Dutch universities.

### European developments

The Open Access Network Austria (OANA) has recently published [16 recommendations](#) aimed to ensure that by 2025 all articles arising from publicly funded academic research are published through open access (via the gold route). A few days later, the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) announced that it was going to support the open access [partnership](#) of the 'Open Library of Humanities'. For further details, click [here](#).



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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Events of interest:

**8-9 December 2015:** Max Planck Gesellschaft: [Staging the Open Access Transformation of Subscription Journals](#) – Berlin, Germany

**09 January 2016:** [How libraries can make it all work](#) – Boston, USA

**17-18 February 2016:** [Open Science Days](#) (MPDL) – Berlin, Germany

**7-8 March 2016:** [Sparc: Meeting on Openness in Research and Education](#) – San Antonio, USA

**4-5 April 2016:** Open Science Conference – Amsterdam, Netherlands

**16-17 May 2016:** [18th International Conference on Open Access](#) – Montreal, Canada

## MORE INFORMATION

- [Frequently Asked Questions on open access](#)
- [Open access factsheet](#)
- [www.vsnu.nl/openaccess](http://www.vsnu.nl/openaccess)
- [www.openaccess.nl](http://www.openaccess.nl)

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## Colophon

The open access newsletter is a publication of VSNU, in collaboration with the various Dutch university libraries and the National Library of the Netherlands. This newsletter is intended for everyone with an interest in open access, including researchers, university administrators, library staff, knowledge partners, politicians and the media.

### Tips or suggestions?

Email [openaccess@vsnu.nl](mailto:openaccess@vsnu.nl).

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