



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

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## NEWS

### Negotiations: Agreement with publisher Sage

*Koen Becking (Tilburg University), Gerard Meijer (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) and Jaap Winter (VU University Amsterdam) are currently negotiating with publishers about subscriptions to academic journals. The universities are only prepared to renew current subscription agreements if the publishers take steps towards open access. An overview of the latest negotiation developments per publisher:*

#### **Sage: Agreement on open access with publisher Sage**

The Dutch universities and Sage have established an agreement on the much-needed transition to open access (OA). This unique agreement supports researchers by enabling them to publish OA in all Sage-owned academic journals, ensuring high-quality peer-reviewed OA publishing is a more accessible option for researchers within the Netherlands. The costs of publishing in OA format for researchers is partly at a discounted rate and partly a prepaid service by universities without any extra costs for researchers. The agreement with Sage has been made on a budget neutral basis for universities.

#### **Elsevier: negotiations deadlocked**

Dutch universities have been negotiating with publisher Elsevier for the past year about open access. This has not delivered any result so far and there is a risk of negotiations reaching deadlock again. Academics can help achieve open access without the need for double payments. [This fact sheet](#) provides an overview of where we are now with negotiations with Elsevier, and calls upon you to play a part.

#### **Oxford University Press, Springer, Wiley: 1000th open access Springer publication**

Open access has fully taken off at Springer, which has since published its 1000th open access article. With the extension of the contract with the publisher OUP until year's end, strategic discussions can now be held before the negotiations are continued. The agreement with Wiley is currently undergoing further development.

#### **Open access drawing international interest**

Dutch universities are at the centre of international interest for open access. Delegations from countries like Norway, Germany, France and Ghana are questioning the negotiation strategy chosen and the results achieved. This is good news for us since the Netherlands by itself is too small to drive a full transition to open access. Steps also need to be taken at European level at the least. Fortunately, this is a view shared by European Commissioner Moedas, who, during the Competitiveness Council in Brussels at the end of May, emphasised his three O's: open science, open access and open innovation

## Open access in the media

### Organizations around the world denounce Elsevier's new policy that impedes open access and sharing

Elsevier [announced](#) a new sharing and hosting policy for Elsevier journal articles. This policy represents a significant obstacle to the dissemination and use of research knowledge, and creates unnecessary barriers for Elsevier published authors in complying with funders' open access policies. In addition, the policy has been adopted without any evidence that, immediate sharing of articles has a negative impact on publishers subscriptions. Sign the statement about the new Elsevier [policy here](#).

Familiar with Twitter? Follow and engage in the debate on [#openaccess](#)

## Quote

"Open access publishing offers new potential to develop and exchange scientific output, as it helps reaching an extended audience. The shift towards open access is an ongoing process that we should all embrace".

Thaleia Konstantinou  
Postdoctoral Researcher at TU Delft

## Scientists, speak out!

The issue of open access is currently being debated by universities, publishers, on Twitter and at various debate forums and symposiums.

We would like to invite the academic community to make its voice heard.

which he believes are essential for economic growth and job creation.

Open science is an inexorable development with many more benefits than drawbacks. Science must be part of the digital world into which our physical world is currently transforming. Moedas personally argued for making open science part of the Commission's overarching digital internal market strategy. This strategy therefore includes the development of the science cloud, which is to be established with the support of Horizon 2020 and will allow European researchers to store their data in Europe. The possibilities for an exemption to copyright for text and data mining with regard to research and innovation will also be examined. The development of a European open science agenda has the support of virtually all EU member states, including the Netherlands.

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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

You can find out which journals are open access in [DOAJ](#). DOAJ is an online directory that indexes and provides access to high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals.

[Open access FAQ](#)  
[Open access fact sheet](#)

### Relevant events:

**15-21 August 2015:** [IFLA World Library and Information Conference](#) - Cape Town, South Africa

**15-17 September 2015:** [Conference on Open Access Scholarly Publishing \(COASP\)](#) - Amsterdam, the Netherlands

**19-25 October 2015:** [Open Access Week](#) - worldwide

**14-16 November 2015:** [OpenCon](#) - Brussels, Belgium

**18-20 November 2015:** [OpenEd15](#): The impact of Open - Vancouver, Canada

[www.vsnul.nl/openaccess](http://www.vsnul.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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