



The upcoming National Open Access Strategy in Switzerland

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Abstract

Open Access, the free access to scientific research results, has been a topic for various stakeholders for more than ten years. Yet most scientific publications are still not freely accessible and the traditional licence-based publishing systems continues to prevail. But recently, science politicians of various countries and the European Union have picked up the topic of Open Access, placed it into the context of Open Science, and now call for fundamental changes in the way research results should be incentivized, evaluated, distributed, published and reused. The Amsterdam Call for Action on Open Science, led by the Dutch EU Council Presidency, is a hallmark of this new political drive, which has the potential to deeply change the scholarly publishing system. Meanwhile in Switzerland, swissuniversities, the rector's assembly of all Swiss Higher Education Institutions, has taken the lead in elaborating a Swiss national Open Access strategy, following a request by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation. An important element of this strategy will be to bring together key stakeholders in Switzerland and to follow the European trends. This talk will summarize these recent proceedings in Europe and Switzerland and show which road Open Access is likely to follow in the coming years.



Added value of Open Access / Open Science



Why Open Access?

- Academic science is funded by public resources and results should thus be a public good (always respecting competition fears of researchers, intellectual property, data protection and other sensitive research results)
- Better transparency and re-using of data will enhance efficiency of science and prevent irreproducibility – problems for which science has recently been criticized heavily
- Economic driver:
 - Very basic principle of economics:
Information → Innovation → Growth
 - Concrete example: knowledge-intensive small and medium-size enterprises (SME; KMU) are likely to profit from free access and re-use of scientific results → important for Switzerland as the „land of SMEs/KMUs“



Such a cover of The Economist (2013) is very bad news for science

Open Access strategies and activities : increasingly, Gold OA is the goal



Goal: 100% (green and gold) [OA in 2022](#)



- [Governmental goal](#) of 50% (100 %) gold OA within 5 years (10 years)
- [VSNU & Springer Big Deal](#): OA publishing and access subscription (also with Wiley)



- [Government & RCUK action](#)
- Support of gold and green OA
- Goal: 100% gold OA
- JISC APC [pilot offsetting](#) APC costs with subscription fees
- HEFCE: OA obligatory for the next [Research Excellence Framework](#)
- [Wellcome Trust Open Access Policy](#) incl. strict sanctions



- [DFG](#) supports
 - German universities to establish OA publication budgets since 2010
 - Development of [infrastructure for OA publications](#)
 - [DeepGreen](#) (development of green OA workflows)
- [OA2020](#) journal flipping initiative by MPDL (supported by many scientific organizations)



Research Council: five-year gold OA funding scheme



Goal: 100% OA in 2015 (green and gold)



European Commission; Dutch presidency

- Open Science [strategy](#), [policy platform](#), [agenda](#) and [conference](#); incl. OA and new rewards/incentive models
- Recommendation to the member states: [60% OA by 2016](#)
- Call on publishers for [new business models](#)

FP7 & Horizon 2020

- [Mandatory OA policy](#), green and gold OA

Science Europe

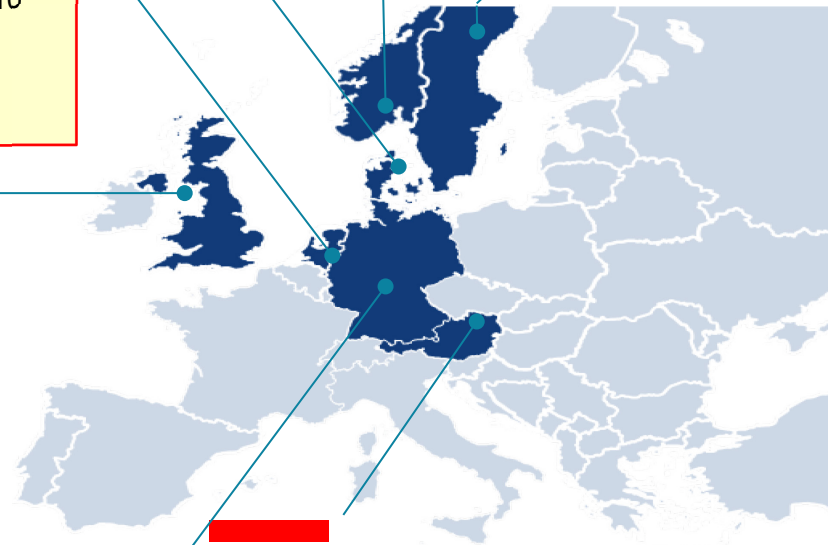
- Strong OA [position statements](#)
- Principles for OA publishing services in 2015

LERU

- [Roadmap](#) (green and gold) and [statement](#) (anti double dipping) on OA

EUA

- [Roadmap](#) on OA, expert group for Big Deals



- [OANA](#): network supported by 50 organisations. [Recommendations](#) for national OA strategy
- Goal = 100% gold OA until 2025
- FWF & Austrian library consortium piloting offsetting model with [IOP](#) and [T&F](#)

- FWF: worldwide first OA [book programme](#)
- FWF: highest [OA expenditure](#) of a funding agency



- Government: 12 month embargo [OA policy](#) for all public funding agencies with a budget > \$ 100 Mio.
- Law mandating NIH to provide free access
- Strong OA Ivy League supporters, e.g. [Harvard](#)
- Most advanced OA policies by some charities like [Gates](#), [Ford](#) and others



Open Access in Europe

Large political will in the EU to implement Open Access and Open Science in one broad approach:

- [Amsterdam Call for Action on Open Science](#) (EU council presidency of Netherlands)
- [Open Science Policy Platform](#) (EU Commission)
- European Open Science Agenda (EU Commission)
- Competitive Council Conclusions about Open Science (Science ministers of EU) ([EU-communication](#), [Science article](#)): Political consensus: all scholarly publications should be OA until 2020
- [LERU strongly supports](#) these activities
- European University Association (EUA): [Roadmap to OA](#)



OA in the EU: contents using the Amsterdam Call for Action as an example

Two European goals until 2020:

- Full Open Access for all scientific publications ←
- A fundamentally new approach towards optimal reuse of research data ←

Necessary policies for these goals:

- New assessment, reward and evaluation systems ←
- Alignment of policies and exchange of best practices

Implementation using 12 concrete Action Items:

- Several contain OA, new business models and negotiations with publishers ←
- Several contain new incentives and evaluation models for Open Science ←

ScienceMatters addresses all of this!

Start-up with an amazing world-wide network of scientists

Head of Advisory Board: Thomas Südhof, Stanford U., Nobel prize laureate

We should thus support ScienceMatters

Founder: Lawrence Rajendran, Professor for Systems and Cell Biology of Neurodegeneration, UZH





National Open Access strategy in Switzerland

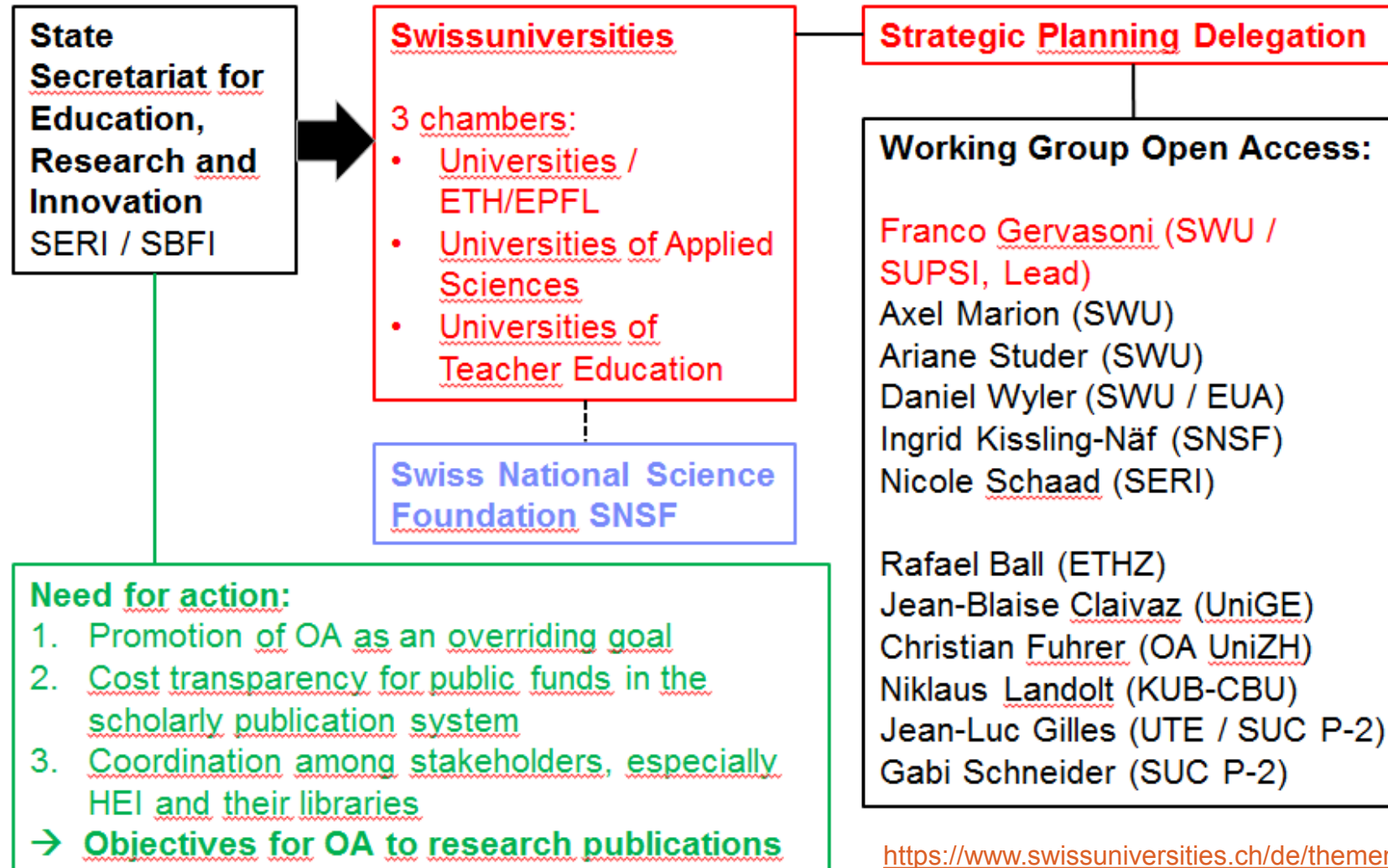
- Objectives and set-up
- Strategy document structure and content
- Draft schedule for stakeholder dialogue & strategy adoption

Next 5 slides are adapted from:

Gabi Schneider, Deputy program manager SUC P-2, «Working towards an Open Access strategy for Switzerland», presented at Consortium CSAL annual symposium «Academic licensing and publishing today» Bern, Sept. 7, 2016



An Open Access Strategy for Switzerland: objectives and set-up (Dec 2015 →)





Strategy: draft document structure (overview)

- 0 Preamble
 - 1 Why Open Access to publications?
 - 2 Current situation
 - 3 Principles guiding OA strategy
 - 4 Objectives
 - 5 Action items
- **to be followed by an action plan** after strategy adoption



Strategy: draft document structure and content (1)

#	Chapter	Content
0	Preamble	
1	Why OA to publications?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploit technology in the context of Open Science (,time to market' → enhance collaboration, visibility, attention, ...)• Increase diversity of publication market• Point out flaws and consequences of research evaluation and reputation mechanisms in place – system should be more OA friendly <p>→ For a nation whose prosperity is based on knowledge, OA is an important economic driver</p>
2	Current situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OA is emerging as a standard for high-level research and high on research policy agendas (examples)• Varieties of OA publishing (definitions)• European countries adopt national policies and strategies



Strategy: draft document structure and content (2)

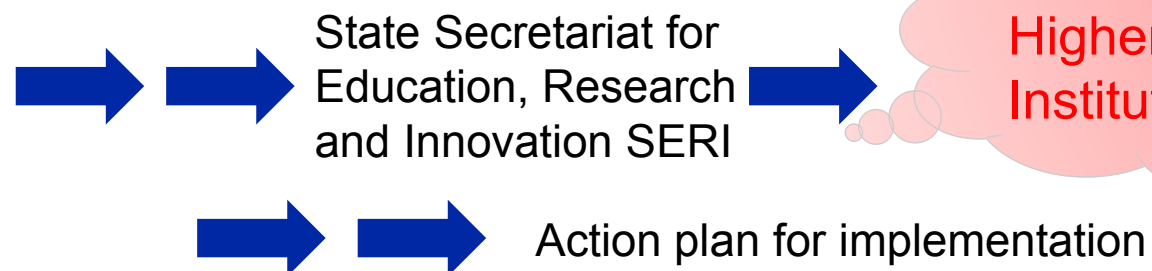
#	Chapter	Content
3	Principles guiding OA strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unified approach: common objectives and political support• Awareness and commitment of research communities• Cost transparency and cost neutrality• Ascertain control and diversity of scholarly publication process• Revise quality assessment system
4	Objectives	Take European objectives as a benchmark: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 80% of scholarly publications OA by 2020• 100% of scholarly publications OA by 2024
5	Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt and align OA policies• Negotiate with publishers (back-up Consortium)• Coordinate and pool resources / infrastructures• Promote / support new publication models• Communicate and raise awareness also among researchers → Pursue several Roads to OA: Green, Gold, hybrid/offsetting/no double dipping, alternative Gold



Strategy: adoption procedure (DRAFT!)

- 31.08. Strategy document draft adopted by working group
- 07.09. swissuniversities Board **OK**
- 08.09. → 1st opinions: SNSF, KUB-CBU, SSIC, ... (main stakeholders) **OK**
- 13.09. SNSF Research Council **OK**
- 16.09. swissuniversities Research Delegation **OK**

- 21.10. swissuniversities Strategic Planning Delegation
- November → Review by swissuniversities members (rectors)
- 14.12. swissuniversities Board
- 31.01. swissuniversities Plenary Assembly





KUB / CBU (Library Directors) position on Open Access

- **Organisation and stakeholder level:**
 - Emphasize role of libraries and Consortium as important national partners in Open Access, especially in negotiations with publishers
 - Get support from swissuniversities, SNF and SERI for a stronger position in negotiations
 - Strengthen competences of the Consortium in the area of Open Access. This requires additional resources. A grant proposal has been submitted to SUC P-2 program
- **Contents and objectives:**
 - Support and negotiate Green Road Open Access (goal: clauses in current licences for short and unified embargo periods)
 - As a matter of principle, Gold Open Access is supported
 - Avoid double dipping by all means (Offsetting agreements)
 - Support alternative Gold OA models and initiatives
- **Detailed paper with recommendations for implementation passed on KUB / CBU meeting of Sept. 21**
- **KUB / CBU was asked by swissuniversities for comments on the national OA strategy document**



Thank you for your attention

Questions?

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