

EUI endorsement of the 20th anniversary of the Budapest Open Access Initiative - BOAI20

Document prepared by the Open Science Office, EUI Library, and the Office of the Dean of Research in Spring 2022. The BOAI20 statement was signed on 2 May 2022 and is announced through this document published online on 18 May 2022.

The Dean of Research, Prof. Calzolari, and the Library Director, Mr. Torn reconfirm that the European University Institute (EUI) is at the forefront of the Open Access movement by signing and endorsing the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI20) on its 20th anniversary.

On its 20th anniversary, the BOAI issued a [new and updated statement —BOAI20—](#) confirming that the initiative remains committed to the principles articulated in the original BOAI statement from 2002 and the 10-year anniversary statement from 2012, and that it today goes further in ambition, especially when it comes to the four high level recommendations: 1. Open infrastructure, 2. Research assessment practices, 3. Article processing charges, and 4. Read-and-publish agreements. Under each area, this document a) briefly lists and describes how the EUI currently addresses the area through established practices and then b) indicates possible future actions to undertake.

The EUI first signed the BOAI statement on its 10th anniversary in 2012. After this new endorsement, a revision and adaptation of the EUI Open Access policy from 2017 might be considered.

The complete BOAI20 text is available here: <https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/boai20/>
All Organisation Signatures: <https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/sign/signatures/>

Area 1: Host OA research on Open Infrastructure

Host and publish OA texts, data, metadata, code, and other digital research outputs on open, community-controlled infrastructure. Use infrastructure that minimizes the risk of future access restrictions or control by commercial organizations. Where open infrastructure is not yet adequate for current needs, develop it further.

Established practices:

- Cadmus, the EUI research repository is built on an opensource platform (DSpace) and its code is maintained on the advanced development platform GitHub. Its metadata is open and harvestable through the international protocol OAI-PMH, and licensed under the Creative Commons (CC) public domain. Recently Cadmus was migrated to a cloud-based secure environment.
- EUI Research output collected in Cadmus today has 43 % of the total content in Open Access. EUI Research output in 2021 has 66 % in Open Access.
- The demo-version of the EUI COVID-19 Social Sciences and Humanities Data Portal demonstrates the potential of open interoperability of metadata by capturing and harmonizing metadata descriptions on dataset from heterogenous data providers on the web.

- EUI Research projects adopting and developing open infrastructure and making data accessible
- The EUI is actively contributing the development of Open Science interoperability in the context of the CIVICA network under the Work Package 4 (Open Science) task “Explore interoperability of research outputs”

Future actions:

- The EUI should aim at further increase the proportion of Open Access to EUI research output approaching a 100% availability with the target to reach this objective by 2030
- Best practices on Open Data, both quantitative and qualitative will be further enhanced and clarified, also through the EUI Data liaisons network and in collaboration between the departments, the library and the HAEU. FAIR principles will be adopted making data ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.
- A new version of EUI COVID-19 Social Sciences and Humanities Data Portal will soon be released, built on the Open Source platform InvenioRDM. It adopts an interoperability model built on top of open metadata standards and open protocols.
- The EUI COVID-19 SSH Data Portal source adopts an open development model and its source code will be released openly in GitHub upon deploy to production. The Portal will function as one of the two core providers for the Social Sciences in the context of the BY-COVID Horizon Europe funded project.

Area 2: Reform Research Assessment and rewards to improve incentives.

Adjust research assessment practices for funding decisions and university hiring, promotion, and tenure decisions. Eliminate disincentives for OA and create positive new incentives for OA.

Established practices:

- The EUI Open Access policy encourages publishing in open access but does not address research assessment or concrete incentives for open access
- The EUI is a partner of the HuMetricsSSH project. In Spring 2021 EUI faculty and Library staff joined the HuMetricsSSH team for a workshop, which intended to initiate a conversation around a more value-aligned approach to research assessment. The HuMetricsSSH team published the white paper [Walking the Talk: Toward a Values-Aligned Academy](#) in March 2022
- The EUI is actively contributing the development of Open Science indicators to be considered as best practice in the context of the CIVICA network measuring the level of adoption of Open Science practices (self-assessment tool) under the Work Package 4 (Open Science) task “Produce Open Science indicators for internal peer evaluation related to strengthening human capital”

Future actions:

- The EUI should consider signing the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment DORA](#) with the intention of adopting its principles and especially committing to consider metrics for assessment alternative to the journal impact factor (IF).
- The EUI should strive towards moving away from commercial control of research access, and research assessment indicators (journal impact factors / rankings), promoting the non-profit control of research access and assessment indicators
- Dropping journal ranking and IF metrics will require changes in research culture, assessing works and people not journals and publishers, also going from quantitative to qualitative metrics.

Area 3: Article processing charges: Favor inclusive publishing and distribution channels that never exclude authors on economic grounds.

Take full advantage of OA repositories and no-APC journals ("green" and "diamond" OA). Move away from article processing charges (APCs).

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) testimonies that the majority of peer-reviewed OA journals are diamond. Nevertheless, universities and libraries still support OA journals primarily by paying APCs.

Established practices:

- The EUI supports its academic community in their efforts to publish Open Access through the Library's 'transformative' agreements with publishers and through a small fund for Article Processing Charges (APC).
- The APC fund option should not be the preferred option for open access publishing. Green and Diamond (non-APC) Open Access options should be considered.
- The EUI Library open Science Office manages the EUI Repository Cadmus which is the EUI central place for green Open Access publishing and deposit. The Open Science Office supports EUI authors in knowing which version of the research output can be made available in green open access.
- The EUI Library has a special fund for fair Open Science initiatives aiming at supporting [no-profit forms of OA](#).

Future actions:

- The EUI should endorse the [Action Plan for Diamond Open Access](#) (recently [endorsed by Harvard University](#)) from Science Europe, cOAlition S, OPERAS, and the French National Research Agency aiming at adopting the principle to support diamond OA journals and the strategies to advance them.
- The EUI should prioritise diamond OA journals, to foster their wider use and recognition, and ensure their economic sustainability. In addition, a discriminatory approach should be avoided with respect to those journals that, despite their quality do not fall under the prestige of traditional publishers, nor because of their low Impact Factor or lack thereof.

Area 4. Read-and-publish agreements: When we spend money to publish OA research, remember the goals to which OA is the means.

Favor models which benefit all regions of the world, which are controlled by academic-led and nonprofit organizations, which avoid concentrating new OA literature in commercially dominant journals, and which avoid entrenching models in conflict with these goals. Move away from read-and-publish agreements.

Established practices:

- The EUI Library has three pluriannual 'transformative' agreements via the Italian Conference of University Rectors (CRUI), currently with Springer, Wiley and Cambridge University Press (CUP), allowing the APC to be fully waived for EUI authors. Each agreement varies in conditions (eg. what articles are eligible in which type of journal (open/hybrid))
- Cadmus, the EUI Research Repository, makes EUI research output available in green Open Access to the world
- The EUI is an organisational member of ORCID, a not for profit organisation which offers persistent identifiers to academic authors and open profile pages like an online CV. Cadmus is fully integrated as a service with EUI members ORCID profiles
- The EUI Library supports [FAIR OS initiatives](#)

- The EUI is actively contributing the development of Training young researchers to Open Science practices by design in the context of the CIVICA network

Future actions:

- The EUI will evaluate alternative business models (in publishing/subscriptions/open access) and could therefore decide to move away from transitory Transformative read and publish agreement after the experience of having negotiated three pluriannual agreements via CRUI (Springer, Wiley and CUP). This should be considered a transitional phase. Openness to research and inclusiveness should always prefer the green and diamond roads to open access.
- Open Educational Resources (OER) - learning, teaching and research materials in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or under copyright released under an open license, that permit no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation and redistribution by others – should be considered to be used and implemented at the EUI.