



LIGUE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES EUROPÉENNES DE RECHERCHE  
ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES



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## Memorandum of Understanding between LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche) and COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repositories)

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The aim of the **LIBER Foundation** is to represent the interests of the research libraries of Europe, their universities and researchers. The Foundation promotes in particular:

- efficient information services
- access to research information
- innovation in end-user services in support of teaching, learning and research
- preservation of cultural heritage
- efficient and effective management in research libraries

The **COAR e.V.** is a not-for-profit association of international repository initiatives launched in October 2009. It aims to enhance greater visibility and application of research outputs through global networks of Open Access digital repositories.

LIBER and COAR share objectives to promote Open Access repositories and to develop international co-operation for repositories and their infrastructure. Both organisations share a vision on Open Access implementation, and its importance for research, teaching and learning.

### Vision

Joint work on Open Access implementation in Europe and internationally, pursued in partnership by both LIBER and COAR, will be founded in the Berlin Declaration on Open Access.

### Governance

- LIBER and SPARC Europe have entered into an alliance in the area of Open Access. SPARC Europe will be the arena where LIBER and SPARC Europe together pursue joint activity on Open Access in Europe with COAR.
- LIBER and COAR will look to collaborate in Working Groups, where appropriate, to further Open Access repository activity in Europe and internationally.
- Regular reports will be submitted to the LIBER, SPARC Europe and COAR Boards, describing successes and challenges.

### Objectives

- LIBER and COAR agree to work together to submit project bids for funding, with other partners, where appropriate.
- The SPARC Europe and COAR Work Plans will be the locus where LIBER and COAR agree their practical goals for Open Access repositories and progress will be monitored by both Boards.
- The focus of the alliance will be the promotion of international co-operation for the development of Open Access repositories as the infrastructure of the digital research, new models of scholarly communication and the development of advocacy, tools and structures to support this.

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**Communication**

- Both COAR and LIBER agree that the web will be the principal form for disseminating information about the work of LIBER and COAR on Open Access repositories, and the principal location of this information will be the websites of both organisations.
- Both organisations will use modern web tools and social networking to advance the cause of Open Access repositories in partnership throughout Europe and internationally.

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This Memorandum of Understanding was approved by both the COAR and LIBER Boards.

Signed on behalf of LIBER:

Date:



Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen  
National Library of Finland  
Finland

Signed on behalf of COAR:

Date: 02.05.2011



Norbert Lossau  
Göttingen State and University Library  
Germany

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