



## LIBER RESPONSE TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION COMMUNICATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Last week, the European Commission published the [Communication and the Recommendation to Member States on “access to and preservation of scientific information”](#). Both documents strongly support Open Access as a way of making the free circulation of knowledge in Europe a reality.

LIBER, the Association of European Research Libraries, acknowledges the Open Access policy presented by the European Commission. “Gold” Open Access will continue to be supported in Horizon 2020 by providing funds for OA publishing, and the Commission will consider the conditions under which Open Access publication fees can be reimbursed after the end of the grant agreement. “Green” Open Access is also stimulated by the Commission, accepting embargo periods of 6 months (and 12 for social sciences and humanities) and will be built on the scientific information infrastructure delivered by OpenAIRE. It is also good news that the Commission will set up a pilot for Open Access to, and re-use of, research data generated in selected areas of Horizon 2020.

It is very welcomed that the Commission recommends Member States to define clear policies for the dissemination of, and Open Access to, scientific information publicly funded; and to ensure that research funders and academic institutions implement those policies.

LIBER strongly believes in the key role of research libraries in Europe to support the European Commission and national governments in the implementation of Open Access in the new Scholarly Communication arena. European libraries are strategically situated between funders, researchers, publishers and institutions and have a vast experience providing researchers with access to information.

As representative of European Research Libraries, LIBER will continue to work with its members, the European Commission, and other stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the Commission’s policy and similar current and future national policies along Europe.

LIBER EUROPE

Koninklijke Bibliotheek  
National Library of the Netherlands  
PO Box 90407  
2509 LK The Hague  
The Netherlands  
F +31 70 314 01 97  
Contact: [liber@kb.nl](mailto:liber@kb.nl)