



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

08-10-2015

## NEWS

### Negotiations resume

*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:*

#### Negotiations

Negotiations with Wiley are progressing. Negotiations are also still underway with Elsevier and Oxford University Press, and have started with Kluwer. Preparations are now being made for negotiations with Taylor & Francis and the American Chemical Society.

#### Open access week

Open access week takes place globally from 19 to 25 October. Universities all over the [world](#) will be organising lectures, symposiums and discussion events during this week. Many activities are being organised in the Netherlands for open access week too.

On Monday 19 October, a debate on open access is being held at Radboud University Nijmegen, titled 'Who takes the plunge. The perspective of the researcher, the editor-in-chief, the PhD candidate and the administrator'. The discussion will be moderated by Martijn van Calmthout, science editor at *De Volkskrant* newspaper. The other speakers will be Sarah de Rijcke (researcher at the Centre for Science and Technology Studies), Johan Rooryck (professor of the Syntax of Romance Languages at Leiden University), Gerard Meijer (chair of the Executive Board at Radboud University Nijmegen) and Machteld van Egmond (PhD candidate at the ENT department at Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre). Further [information](#).

On Thursday 22 October the Groningen University Library will be organising a symposium titled 'Research without paywalls – Chances and challenges of open access for the humanities and social sciences'. The symposium will start with a lecture by Martin Paul Eve (University of London and founder of the Open Library of Humanities) in which he will focus on open access in the humanities and social and behavioural sciences. The following academics will then share their experiences and their open access publications in a presentation: Andrej Zwitter, Hedderik van Rijn, Hayo Terband and Marleen Janssen. Further [information](#).

### Open access in the media

In the run-up to open access week, [Prof. Gerard Meijer](#) (president of the Executive Board of Radboud University Nijmegen) will be explaining the principles of open access and calling on his colleagues to start publishing under open access.

On the SciELO [blog](#), scientist and open access advocate Jan Velterop has published a post in which he explores the issue of what exactly is holding back the transition to open access and who might be affected by higher costs as a result of open access. The general consensus is that overall costs will not rise and are likely to fall. Velterop acknowledges that in some academic disciplines, open access can indeed lead to higher costs. This might be the case for specialisms associated with relatively few different journals (and thus subscriptions costs) but which publish a lot (and therefore have high APC costs). On the other hand, institutions focusing on education will be a lot better off, given that they read more articles than they publish. These are however the extremes on either side of the spectrum. Velterop therefore calls for negotiations to take a really thorough approach, in order to achieve the 'big deals' that could compensate those disciplines that are justifiably concerned about higher costs. He holds up the approach taken by the VSNU as an example, and advises readers to keep a close eye on negotiations in the Netherlands.

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

### Quote

"Europa ist für einen erfolgreichen deutschen Forschungsstandort von großer Bedeutung, denn nur in europäischer Zusammenarbeit mit einem attraktiven, leistungsfähigen

A full overview of the events taking place at universities in the Netherlands is provided elsewhere in the Newsletter.

### European developments

Having first reached an agreement with Dutch universities in November 2014, Springer has now also come to an [agreement](#) on open access in Austria. The result of the negotiations with the Austrian Academic Consortium is that the consortium will have online access to 2,000 Springer journals from 2016 until 2018. Members of the consortium will also be able to publish in 1600 journals under the hybrid open access model. Brigitte Kromp, open access representative at the Austrian consortium, describes it as a groundbreaking agreement: 'We hope this will make a major contribution to the rapid transition from a closed publishing world to an open publishing world.' The agreement is effective from 2016.

In France, a new [proposed law](#) has been presented for public consultation. Members of the public can give online feedback on the proposal, which includes a pledge for greater online freedoms and will ensure that more data is made accessible to a wider audience.

gemeinsamen Forschungsraum wird es uns gelingen gegenüber anderen forschungsstarken Weltregionen in Zukunft zu bestehen.[...] [D]er freie, grenzüberschreitende Austausch von Wissen ist ein Kernelement des Europäischen Forschungsraums. Deshalb wollen wir die Wege des offenen Zugangs – Open Access – zu wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen, Daten und Publikationen ausbauen, die aus öffentlich finanzierten Vorhaben entstanden sind."

German Minister of Education Johanna Wanka on the European Science Agenda (2014).

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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

### Relevant events:

#### Open access week

**19 October – UvA, VU, Leiden, Nijmegen, KNAW, SURF:** '[Connecting data for research](#)'. This symposium will focus on good examples of collecting, structuring, visualising and sharing research data.

**19 October – Radboud University:** '[Who takes the plunge?](#)'

**22 October – VU University Library:** '[How to publish a world-class paper](#)'. At this seminar, a number of experienced scientists and a publisher will explain the entire publication process and address the questions authors might come up against when they start out.

**20 October – Utrecht University:** [Workshop series on open access](#) and open data.

**20 October 13.30-17.00 – Tilburg University:** 'Maximize your research input'. An afternoon of presentations and networking opportunities chaired by Marc van den Berg, director of Library and IT Services, Tilburg University.

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## 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.

### 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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**21 October – Maastricht University:** [‘What journal to publish in’](#), a seminar looking at the criteria and tools that can help authors select the most appropriate journal and use new ways of improving the impact of their work.

**22 October – Groningen University Library:** [‘Research without paywalls - Chances and challenges of open access in the humanities and social sciences’](#).

**22 October – VU:** seminar on [‘How to publish a world-class paper. Everything you always wanted to know about scientific publishing’](#).

**Other events**

**22-23 October 2015:** [Designing Comprehensive Open Knowledge Policies to Face Climate Change](#), symposium in Vienna, Austria.

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

**18-20 November 2015:** [OpenEd15](#): ‘The Impact of Open’ in Vancouver, Canada.

<http://www.vsnu.nl/openaccess>  
[www.openaccess.nl](http://www.openaccess.nl)

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