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Open Access and Open Science in Italian Universities
Parts of the speech

- Actions for Open Access in Italy
- The Publication of Research Data
- Conclusions
Over the last thirteen years, the CRUI (Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane) has acknowledged the importance of full and open access to scholarly information belonging to the public domain for scientific research and education. Therefore, it has been fostering the web dissemination of scientific knowledge produced by Italian Universities and Research Institutions.
Italian Declaration supporting the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities promoted and organised by the Library Committee of the Italian Council of Rectors.

It is the first institutional action of Italian university rectors to support OA. This event has helped foster awareness of Open Access issues and has boosted interest in Open Archives and related technologies for a more effective dissemination of scholarly content. Since the Messina Declaration 71 out of 77 Italian universities have signed the Berlin Declaration.
Gruppo OA: Guidelines and Actions

1. Linee guide per il deposito tesi di dottorato presso BNCC Roma e Firenze
2. Linee guida per anagrafe e valutazione della ricerca
3. Linee guida per la creazione di archivi aperti
4. Linee guida per riviste elettroniche
5. Linee guida per metadati
6. Linee guida per policy e regolamenti di ateneo
7. Adoption of Open Access principles in University Regulations (Statuti di Ateneo)
8. DOI and NBN (DataCite and Magazzini Digitali)
In the following years, the principles of open access have been also based on voluntary initiatives, even if the CRUI coordinated them.

Over the past years many universities and research institutions have placed repositories which are based on different approaches: in some cases they collect and make available the entire scientific production. In others, the articles are archived but not made all publicly accessible.

30 Italian universities, research and funding institutions (e.g. Telethon, Cariplo, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, CNR, INFN) have adopted OA policies that support OA and particularly the ‘Green Road’, more or less strongly.
Open Access in Italy

- Dichiarazione di Messina, 2004;
- Position Statement of Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB), 2006;
- Institutional Policy for Open Access to Scientific Publications of the Instituto Superiore di Sanità;
- Fondazione CARIPLO Open Access Policy;
- Theleton Open Access Policy;
- Legge 112 / 2013;
- Position statement of Research Institutions and of the CRUI, 21 march 2013;
- Messina Road Map 2014-2018: signed by 49 universities and research centers
### Open Access in Italy by Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Italian Universities that signed the Berlin Declaration</strong></td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Access in Universities Statutes</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Access Policies (Universities and Research Centers)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Access Repositories in Italy (Institutional and Disciplinary)</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Open Access Articles, Books and PHD Thesis (Pleiadi, not updated)</td>
<td>140,000 ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions that adhered to DataCite/CRUI DOI Project</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned DataCite/CRUI DOI: Articles, Books, PHD Thesis andDatasets</td>
<td>76,958</td>
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On 7 October 2013, the Italian Parliament approved the Law 112/2013 concerning the valorization of culture.

Through Section 4 of this Law, the Italian Parliament aims to align its national law with the European Open Access policies emerging in the EU FP7 and in the EU Horizon 2020, as well as those expressed in the EU Commission’s Recommendation of 17 July 2012 on access to and preservation of scientific information and Commission’s Communication “Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investments in research”.

Italian Law 112/2013
November 4th 2014 marked the tenth anniversary of Messina Declaration on Open Access.

A special momento of the day was the signature of the Open Access Road Map 2014-2018.

Up until now, it was signed by 49 universities and research centers.
Universities and research centers committed themselves to work together through three directions:

- Strengthening actions aimed at promoting cooperation and a shared vision of OA among universities and research centers.
- Adopting an OA policy (green road) and supporting the fully integration of current research information systems (CRIS) with OA repositories as strategic action into dissemination and enhancement of Italian research output.
- Building a shared vision to implement a national policy on OA research data and their reuse according to the international standards and guidelines.

Messina Open Access Road Map 2014-2018
Therefore, CRUI Open Access Group is fostering and monitoring Open Access in Italy and will publish in next weeks

- guidelines on Rights managements and publishing clauses,
- guidelines on OA research data and their reuse.
The Question

- The Publication of Research Data
Research Data

Data have always been the foundation of scientific research, but in the digital age, data are more important in conducting, reporting and discovering research. For data to be discovered and acknowledged, however, data must be widely accessible and cited in a consistent and clear manner in the scientific literature.

“If research data can be shared, used and reused by researchers, it will make science more effective; results can be verified and new insights can be drawn from the data itself”. 
Research Data

- How to publish data?
- Which publishing platforms should be used?
- Which metadata describes administrative, and structural information completely?
- Which quality control and validation procedures should be followed?
- How to licence research data?
Research Data and Metadata

Semantics

• formal approach: XML-based, well-structured ontologies are required in dealing with uniform, authoritative collections of information
Joint Declaration of Data Citation Principles (June 2014)
The international non-profit consortium of over 80 institutions from over 30 countries worldwide, plays a very important role in the building of an infrastructure for research data.

In my last post, I explored the evolution of the library as publisher movement. The growth of digital publishing and the desire to bring about reform in scholarly communication has led to a rapid expansion of library publishing programs. As I outlined, many of the initial library publishing programs were partly motivated by a desire to disrupt subscription publishing and...
Datasets in Humanities and Social Sciences

Archaeologists and social scientists on datasets:

• the features that data repositories should have,
• the way they should ensure the long-term accessibility, citeability and stability of the content published on the platform,
• how to make them quotable and reusable by others,
• the peculiar forms data peer review should assume
• what peer review of data should certify
• open peer review
Datasets in Humanities

Scholars in the humanities are also running some experiments on how to conduct an open peer review of datasets, which are very interesting and deserve attentive consideration in view of Openness in Scholarly Communication to the whole society.
Horizon 2020 Open Research Data Pilot and the European ZENODO data repository have adopted the DataCite Metadata Schema.
Metadata

Resource Description and Access (RDA)?

• A standard for descriptive cataloging, initially released in June 2010

• It provides instructions and guidelines for use by libraries and other cultural organizations such as museums and archives, those descriptions produced according to the instructions of RDA are intended to be compatible with any coding schema, including the data environments used for existing records.
An *Open Linked Data Framework* for creating and publishing *open linked data* adopted by:

- Museo Galileo in Florence
- The Autonomous Province of Trento
- Universities SHARE (Scholarly Heritage and Access to REsearch), a coalition of Universities (Napoli Federico II, Napoli L’Orientale, Napoli Parthenope, Salerno, Sannio, Basilicata and Salento) to share cultural heritage
Conclusions

I think we could say that Open Science is always at the crossroad of the evolution of information and communication technologies, the paths of different disciplines and the transformations of their methods, the changes in the markets of scholarly communication and in the criteria for assessing the quality of publications.
Conclusions

• Though in the presence of heavy economic constraints, we should be able to transform the passages of institutional life (such as the procedures of assessment) into as many occasions for developing strongly innovative perspectives.

• It is also a question of creating and maintaining cooperation among at least three agencies: university governance, library and computer services, production-distribution circuit of the research outcomes – from the department to university publishing, where it already exists.
Conclusions

• The skill in making system, and not competition, can contribute to the growth and development of Italian universities