

The 2nd International Conference on Integrated Information

## HUNOR: The Collaboration of Hungarian Open Access Repositories

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### Abstract

The HUNOR (HUNGarian Open Access Repositories) consortium was established in 2008 by the libraries of Hungarian higher education institutions and the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to advance national open access practices. The members of HUNOR are dedicated to promoting Hungarian research both nationally and internationally and to achieving effective dissemination of scientific outputs through the implementation of a national infrastructure of open access repositories. Other proposed activities include the organization of a methodology centre, adopting international know-how and standards, the establishment of complementary scientific communication channels, and international relations. As coordinator of HUNOR, the author presents an overview of the Hungarian research repository infrastructure, the achievements, difficulties and goals of the HUNOR Collaboration.

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### 1. Introduction: Global Trends in Scholarly Communication

The formal system of scholarly publishing is being replaced by new models based on different attitudes in financing, technology, management, rights and access. We are living in an age of radical transition, where all stakeholders are forced to face the change and work out their own solutions. The years of harmonizing these concepts are yet to come.

After some years of strong opposition, international for-profit-publishers have started to acknowledge open access and its strategies by publishing their policies on author self-archiving and by offering author-pay-options (Open Choice, etc.) for researchers.

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Research funders are deeply interested in OA and they have issued mandates to increase researcher involvement and available OA content.

Scholars as readers are the main beneficiaries of openly available publications and scientific data, and they use it - even if not knowingly. The scholar-as-author attitudes, however, vary widely among fields of science and geographical regions. There is a growing general awareness of open access detectable among researchers, but the practical details of the ways and strategies, subject and institutional repositories, rights, duties and opportunities remain unknown for them.

Research libraries are playing an intensive role on the OA stage. They have integrated institutional repositories (IRs) into their service portfolio and they perform massive advocacy programs to inform university administration and to get authors involved in open access projects.

## **2. The National Research Environment in Hungary**

### *2.1. Research institutions*

The global transformation of scholarly communication is penetrating into the scientific communities of Eastern and Central Europe.

Although the concept of open access was born in Budapest ten years ago, Hungarian research institutions are slow in reacting to the changes it implies. Research libraries are getting ready to take the opportunity of becoming the centers of scholarly communication in their institutions.

Hungarian research institutions are organized into two groups:

- 70 higher education institutions (19 state universities, 7 non-state universities, 10 state colleges, and 34 non-state colleges)

- The Hungarian Academy of Sciences and its research institutes. The Academy maintains 48 research institutes and other institutions (libraries, archives, information systems, etc.) assisting their work.

### *2.2. Major research funders*

The Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (Hungarian abbreviation: OTKA) has been the major funding agency of basic science and scholarship since 1986 when the transition to competitive research funding started in the country. The principles of operation were modelled on the practice of German and American research. Today OTKA is an independent non-profit organization „with the objectives to provide independent support to scientific research activities and infrastructure, to promote scientific achievements of international standards, and to provide assistance to young researchers.”([http://www.otka.hu/?akt\\_menu=991&set\\_lang=991](http://www.otka.hu/?akt_menu=991&set_lang=991))

The European Commission has a growing share in funding national and international projects through consecutive Framework Programs. Several scholars in STM are involved in large scale projects supported by global funders like the Wellcome Trust, the National Institutes of Health, and CERN.

### *2.3. Mandates*

OTKA signed the Berlin Declaration in 2008. Since then, a paragraph is included on OA in the OTKA Grant Agreement, but the Fund has not introduced a monitoring system on author compliance.

A Government Decree in 2001 mandated the open availability of PhD theses in the country (51/2001. (IV. 3.)). A subsequent Decree in 2007 (33/2007. (III. 7.)) assigned this responsibility to universities and their doctoral schools. Further regulation from the Hungarian Doctoral Council (<http://www.doktori.hu/index.php?menuid=103&lang=EN>) reinforces the Decree on the practical level.

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