Open Access initiatives in European Universities: the case of the YERUN network

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Why do we conduct this study?

- We are researchers at *Carlos III University of Madrid* and members of YERUN Network.
- YERUN gives special importance to the promotion of open access policies.
- We want to analyze the relationship between the open access policies developed by universities and open access in publications.
**Methodology**

**Research questions**

- Are there any explicit initiatives for the promotion open access?
- Do YERUN universities follow open publishing trends similar to those of their affiliated countries? What is the percentage of OA documents available at each university?
- Is each institution’s specialization related to OA? Are there any differences in open publication from one subject area to another?
- What types of open access are used at each institution?
- How does OA affect the impact of scientific production?

**Sources**

- *Institutional websites* (of YERUN and each of the universities in the network). To compile information on the policies, strategies, proposals and initiatives for the implementation of open science and open access.
- *International multidisciplinary bibliographic and bibliometric databases*

The publications by YERUN universities included in the Clarivate Analytics Web of Science’s Core Collection (SCI, SSCI; A&HCI) for 2000–2019 were retrieved and analysed.
Methodology

Document analysis

To obtain information from each university, documents such as the following were retrieved from the universities’ web pages:

- University statutes
- Library regulations
- Rules and regulations for publication services
- Institutional regulations

The information was coded and tabulated considering aspects such as:

- Existence of an institutional repository
- Identification of a specific open access section in the repository
- Existence of specific strategies or regulations for the promotion of open access
- Location of open access information
- Actions undertaken to promote open access
- Existing infrastructure (in addition to the repository) for the promotion of open science and open access
Methodology

Bibliometric analysis

1. Selection of documents from each YERUN university
2. Document download and construction of a database
3. Calculation of bibliometric indicators
4. Analysis of the results
5. Relationship between policy and publication records
With the information obtained, a table has been constructed with the following fields:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Instit. repository</th>
<th>Specific OA section</th>
<th>Regulations/strategy for the promotion of OS or OA</th>
<th>Location of information on OS and/or OA</th>
<th>Specific actions on OS or OA</th>
<th>Other infrastructure or specific measures</th>
<th>Instit. OA policy</th>
<th>Instit. OS policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. All the universities have an institutional repository.
2. Twelve of the repositories have a specific section covering OA outputs in various publication formats (five do not, or no such sections have been identified: DCU, UPD, UAB, USD and TVU).
3. There is one institution (Dublin City University) that has a fully open access university press, a remarkable development.
4. Fifteen out of 17 cases were found to explicitly present OA policies, and eight out of 17 have explicitly communicated open science policies.
Results: bibliometric analysis

Figure 1. Distribution of OA publications in WoS by country (Countries with a YERUN university)

In most cases YERUN universities present higher proportions of OA documents than their respective countries.
Figure 2. Thematic specialization. Correspondence analysis with symmetric normalization. Universities and WoS category.
Results: bibliometric analysis

Figure 3. Distribution of YERUN publications by open access type

- OA
- NO OA

- Green accepted
- Green published
- Bronze
- Other Gold
- DOAJ Gold

- 306,253 (68%)
- 147,320 (32%)
Figure 4. Percentage of open access publications by OA type (2000–2019) for YERUN universities.
Results: bibliometric analysis

Figure 5. Mean for the citations received by open access (OA) and non-open access (non-OA) publications by institution (2000–2019)
Conclusions

1. YERUN’s stated commitment to OA has a counterpart on the data analysed.
2. OA Publications present a steady growth along the studied period in most universities.
3. Green open access is the dominant route for the YERUN institutions.
4. The study confirms the overall citation advantage of Open Access publications.

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Open access initiatives in European universities: analysis of their implementation and the visibility of publications in the YERUN network

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Thank you!

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