

Petition for guaranteed public access to publicly-funded research results

18,471 people have signed a petition to register their support for free and open access to European research and for the recommendations proposed in the EU's study 'Study on the Economic and Technical Evolution of the Scientific Publication Markets of Europe' in 2006.

"Open access to the published scientific literature is one of the most desirable goals of our current scientific enterprise. Since most science is supported by taxpayers it is unreasonable that they should not have immediate and free access to the results of that research. Furthermore, for the research community the literature is our lifeblood. By impeding access through subscriptions and then fragmenting the literature among many different publishers, with no central source, we have allowed the commercial sector to impede progress. It is high time that we rethought the model and made sure that everyone had equal and unimpeded access to the whole literature. How can we do cutting edge research if we don't know where the cutting edge is?"

Nobel laureate Richard J. Roberts

Dear Commissioner,

Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely and readily available to society. (Berlin Declaration, 2003)

A year after publication of the Study, we urge the EC to endorse the recommendations in full. In particular, we encourage you to adopt the first recommendation as a matter of urgency: **GUARANTEE PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLICLY-FUNDED RESEARCH RESULTS SHORTLY AFTER PUBLICATION** (recommendation A1)

In 24 days, since January 17 2007, the petition gathered **17,728** individual signatures and **743** institutional signatures.

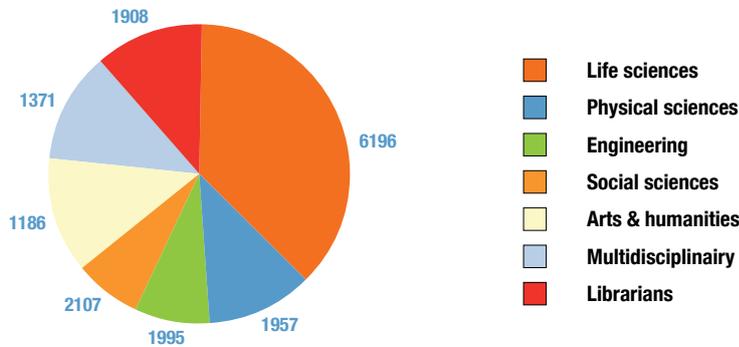
Signatories by countries of the European Union

Austria	197	Finland	141	Latvia	8	Romania	80
Belgium	960	France	1375	Lithuania	118	Slovak Republic	21
Bulgaria	53	Germany	2669	Luxembourg	17	Slovenia	39
Cyprus	94	Greece	133	Malta	13	Spain	1305
Czech Republic	69	Hungary	111	Netherlands	1425	Sweden	438
Denmark	257	Ireland	130	Poland	306	United Kingdom	1686
Estonia	14	Italy	1115	Portugal	1342		

The petition is still live. To show your support please sign the petition at www.ec-petition.eu

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Signatories by discipline



A few sample signatories

<p>Individuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Peter Agre, Nobel Prize Chemistry, 2003 > Martinus J.G. Veltman, Nobel Prize Physics, 1999 > Harold E. Varmus, Nobel Prize Physiology or Medicine, 1989 <p>Research funders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > European Research Council > German Research Council > Swedish Research Council 	<p>Research organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > CERN, Geneva > CNRS, Paris > Max Planck Society, München <p>National academies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences > Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences > Hungarian Academy of Sciences
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Institutional signatories by category

119 Rectors/principals of research organisations; 81 Heads of university/research institution departments or schools; 22 Research-based or research-centred charities/foundations; 17 National or international research funding bodies; 50 International societies or research-based organisations; 61 National societies or research-based organisations; 34 International or national library organisations; 182 Institutional libraries; 91 R&D-based companies; 12 National ICT organisations; 6 Museums (research-based); 9 National academies; 8 Rectors' Conferences/University associations; 9 Government departments; 43 Publishers.



DEFF: www.DEFF.dk | DFG: www.dfg.de | JISC: www.jisc.ac.uk | SPARC: www.sparceurope.org | SURF: www.surf.nl/en

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