OPEN ACCESS IN ESTONIA
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Open Access principles and regulations in Estonia

In Estonia there have been different discussions involving researchers, university representatives, publishers, funders and policy makers, not on the question whether or not Estonia should have an open access policy, but what the policy should be like.
In 2010, Estonia started to implement the Research Infrastructures Roadmap[1] (p. 59) project, which included two OA-related topics: the Estonian E-Repository and Conservation of Collections and the Natural History Archives and Information Network (NATARC). Since 2012 the Estonian Research Council requires that articles, produced from publicly funded research, shall be available for everyone via the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS)[2] a national register that aggregates information on R&D institutions, researchers, projects and research results. This mean that there has been a clear change in the principles for giving out research grants. Nevertheless, a clear national open access policy has not been developed yet. The main strategy document for Estonia's RD&I policy is "Knowledge-based Estonia 2014–2020"[3] approved by the Riigikogu (Estonia's parliament) in the autumn of 2013 and Open Access principles has been added there as an underlying standpoint. The strategy document see Estonia as an active and visible international cooperation partner in the field of R&D and innovation and outlines the aspiration of developing Estonia's research institutions to a higher quality, versatility and visibility. Initiating discussions

on the importance of having a national open access policy in Estonia is one of the main needs that the Open Access activities address.
Up to now there are 24 Open Access journals in Estonia indexed in Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), most of them have been operating for more than five years. In addition to the journals, there are also 5 repositories listed in Directory of Open Access Repositories (OpenDOAR) that include open access materials.

Open Access activities supported by University of Tartu Library

Since 2009 one of the main supporters of Open Access initiatives in Estonia has been The University of Tartu Library (UTL). The UTL Open Access activities in 2010-2012 have clearly initiated important discussions on the necessity of open access publishing in Estonia. These activities lead the UTL to participate in the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research' Research and Innovation Monitoring Program[4] in 2012, where the UTL created a report about the OA principles, and the respective copyright issues and business models. The UTL has become an important centre of expertise for questions related to open access publishing in Estonia.
In October 2010 the UTL opened the Open Access web gate[5] that provides information

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[1] Estonian Ministry of Education and Research, Estonian Academy of Sciences. *Estonian Research Infrastructures Roadmap*, 2010. Tartu: Estonian Ministry of Education and Research [viewed 7 October 2014]. Available from: https://www.etis.ee/Portaal/includes/dokumendid/Teekaart.pdf
[2] Estonian Research Portal, 2014 [viewed 19 October 2014]. Available from: https://www.etis.ee
[3] RD&I strategy "Knowledge Based Estonia 2014-2020" [viewed 17 October 2014]. Available from: http://erawatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/erawatch/opencms/information/country_pages/ee/policydocument/policydoc_0009

[4] Kelli, A., Mets, T., Burenkov M. Autoriõiguse ning avatud juurdepääsu (open access) küsimused teadus- ja arendustegevuses. 2012 [viewed 17 October 2014]. Available from: http://www.tips.ut.ee/index.php?module=32&op=1&id=3527
[5] Open Data web gate [viewed 7 October 2014]. Available from: http://www.utlib.ee/openaccess/eng

about OA and links to the largest OA repositories and journals. This website is one of the main sources for OA information in Estonia. UT Digital Archive in DSpace[6] is an institutional repository for e-theses and e-publications, digitized theses and books, manuscripts and images etc. During the year 2011, UTL contributed to the development of a positive brand for the UT digital archive. The strategy involved technical developments and the use of promotional materials such as brochures, posters and web sites to describe the general benefits of an institutional repository. To encourage authors to deposit their works in the repository, UTL presented a video, demonstrating best practice. As a result, the repository has grown significantly. In 2010 it registered over 13,000 deposited items, in 2012 more than 25,000 and it has shown that it is a good way to expose research to a wider audience. During the years 2011-2012 the number of visits and hits have also increased greatly up to 3 million hits per year. The Library also offers the Open Journal Systems platform for publishing to both university members and members of other research institutions (the total number is now 12 OA journals)[7].

In 2012 UTL started a successful collaboration with the University of Tartu Press to promote and implement OA publishing in the university. As a result University of Tartu Press has actively started to develop open access to research information. Some of the monographs and collections of articles published by University of Tartu Press are now available on the open access platform OAPEN (Open Access Publishing in European Networks)[8] and indexed in DOAB (Directory of Open Access Books).

In 2013, the University of Tartu Library opened the Open Data web gate. [9]The website presents information about Open Data principles and the opportunities of preserving and making research information accessible.

In 2014, UTL joined the Knowledge Unlatched Pilot project. During the Pilot, Knowledge Unlatched is working to secure pledges from nearly 300 libraries (incl UTL) in order to unlatch a collection of 28 front-list titles from recognised scholarly publishers.

To support the OA movement in Estonia, UTL participates in the European Commission (EC) funded OpenAIRE and OpenAIREplus projects[10]. UTL cooperate with the Estonian Research Council providing researchers with the opportunity to comply with the EC OA pilot and make their EC funded research output OA in UTL's institutional repository.

In the beginning of 2014, the University of Tartu joined the DataCite[11] organisation, becoming the only organisation in Estonia with the right to assign unique DOI numbers to single objects and data collections. The DataCite Estonia project[12] will develop a web-based platform for the registration of research data and establish a consortium that can be joined by all Estonian universities and research and development institutions. The DataCite Estonia, jointly coordinated by the UT Library and the UT Natural History Museum, is unique in Estonia and also in Eastern Europe. It will significantly contribute to make the Estonian research data visible and accessible to the international scientific community. The new platform could become available (offering DOIs as well as offering expertise in publishing data sets) to other scientists in Baltic States. This will

[6] DSpace at University of Tartu, 2011 [viewed 7 October 2014]. Available from: http://dspace.utlib.ee/dspace/
[7] EIFL-OA Case Study „Open access and open data support services at Tartu University"[viewed 7 October 2014]. Available from: http://www.eifl.net/eifl-oa-case-studies
[8] OAPEN (Open Access Publishing in European Networks) [viewed 12 October 2014]. Available from http://www.oapen.org/
[9] Open Data web gate. University of Tartu Library [viewed 15 October 2014]. Available from

http://www.utlib.ee/index.php?e_id=411&e=1
[10] OpenAIRE project [viewed 7 October 2014]. Available from: https://www.openaire.eu/
[11] DataCite [viewed 15 October 2014]. Available from: http://www.datacite.org/
[12] Preparations for and the creation of the DataCite Estonia platform were financed according to the agreement on the use of state budget support no 1.4-6/14/2 between the Estonian Research Council and the University of Tartu.

further enhance cooperation among the Baltic
States centres of excellence.

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OAPEN (Open Access Publishing in European Networks) [viewed 12 October 2014]. Available from
http://www.oapen.org/

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