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For rectors meeting on 19. January 2023

Document: Open Research Statement

Background:
The Open Research Statement is a result of work package 8 (T8.6-7) of the EUt+ Initiative. This document is a commitment to Open Research and has been presented to the rectors during the Rectors Board meeting in Troyes in September 2022. After discussion, an addition regarding the EUt+ Academic Press was to be included.

Content:
The Open Research Statement describes EUt+ vision for Open Research. In the section stating the commitment the mentioned of the EUt+ Academic Press has been added as fourth and fifth bullet points.

Approval and recommendation:
During the meeting of the Research Committee on 7th December 2022 in Darmstadt, the Vice President for research of h_da approved the wording of the addition and the new version of the statement. The committee recommends to the Rectors to sign the document.
EUT
OPEN RESEARCH STATEMENT

ENGLISH VERSION
EUt+ Open Research Statement

The European University of Technology, (EUt+) is an alliance of eight European universities of technology who share a common vision of a human-centred approach to technology and the ambition to establish a new type of higher education institution on a confederal basis. Through EUt+, the partners are committed to creating a sustainable future for students and learners in European countries, for the staff of each of the institutions and for the territories and regions where each campus is anchored.

Research, actively engaged with the University’s academic life, engaged with its communities and regions, its students, and citizens, is a vital element of the new university’s connections to the wider research ecosystem and the communities and regions in which EUt+ is present.

From the outset, EUt+ has committed to an ambitious vision for Open Research:

- We believe that research outputs should be publicly and freely available at the point of presentation.
- We believe that research outputs must be available to researchers, teachers, businesses, charities, and philanthropies, the public sector, and the citizen with no restriction on reproduction and distribution save the author’s control over the integrity of the work and the right to be properly acknowledged.
- We believe that free availability means, easily accessible, permits users to read, download, copy, distribute, search or mine, link to, index, or any other lawful purpose with appropriate IP protections and licences such as Creative Commons and with proper acknowledgement of the producer.
- We believe that Open Research makes our research more accessible, improves research progress, makes research more transparent and accountable, and more responsive to societal challenges.
- We believe that Open Research fosters research quality by promoting research integrity, reproducibility, and replicability.
- We believe that our research outputs should be made available without the need for specialist technologies, using open standards and that data be FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable).
- We believe that research data should be shared under the principle "As Open as Possible, as Closed as Necessary”.
- We believe that research outputs include research results, research data, research methodologies, software, exhibitions, and performances, and other products of normal academic enquiry.
- We believe an Open Research ecosystem is good for research, researchers, citizens and EUt+. We believe that appropriate protection of any intellectual property is not in conflict with the principles of Open Research.
We commit to Open Research by:

- Maximising the proportion of our research outputs, including FAIR data, that are available in Open Access repositories/outputs at the point of presentation, supporting the implementation of Plan S in appropriate Open Access Journals and supporting Green OA in preference\(^1\).
- Developing an Open-research-permissive IP protection regime to support industrial and commercial partners to convert research outputs into impactful research outcomes.
- Supporting the use of humane, fair, transparent, and responsible use of indicators for research evaluation and career progression.
- Providing the EUt+ Academic Press which is an open access publishing platform for members of the Alliance. This will serve to disseminate the scholarly outputs of the members and will publish in all the languages of the Alliance.
- Further assist the dissemination of scholarly outputs by harvesting the open access repositories of the Alliance members under a common portal of the EUt+.
- Integrating Open and Citizen Science methods into our curricula to provide our students with the skills and training in Open Research to enable them to flourish in this new environment.
- Publishing detailed data on our institutional research performance.
- Developing an Open Educational Resource (OER) policy, the creation and dissemination of OERs and aim to support creators and users of OERs equally.

\(^1\) Whether these are OA or not, we do not endorse the publication in predatory journals accepting low quality works that do not contribute to increasing the knowledge of the scientific community. We do not support hybrid journals.
Hochschule Darmstadt
Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences

Prof. Dr. Arnd Steinmetz, President

Τεχνολογικό Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου
Cyprus University of Technology

Καθηγητής Παναγιώτης Ζαφείρης,
Πρύτανης

Rīgas Tehniskā universitāte
Riga Technical University

Leonids Ribickis, Rektors

Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena
Technical University of Cartagena

Prof. Dra. Beatriz Miguel Hernández,
Rectora

OllSCOIL THEICNEOLAIOCHTA BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
Technological University Dublin

Prof. David FitzPatrick, President

Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca
Technical University of Cluj-Napoca

Prof. Dr. ing. Vasile Țopă, Rector

Технически университет София
Technical University of Sofia

Иван Кралов, Ректор

University of Technology of Troyes
Université de technologie de Troyes

Christophe Collet, Director