

Creating a Butterfly Effect to Disseminate Scholarly Information: The Turkish Experience

Removing barriers to scientific communication and the objective of creating new models of access to scientific knowledge brought research institutions, researchers and librarians together under the "open access" philosophy. All this effort, despite all the resistance from the major publishers and even sometimes the researchers themselves, took us today to the new open-access publishing models.

Since the beginning, Turkey has become one of the greatest followers of the open access initiatives both nationally and internationally. Even though it all started with very little but great steps and there still long way to go. Over the last ten years of all this development, the lack of awareness and knowledge resulted in resistance and this prevented us to reach the desired level of success.

That's why we would like to keep "creating awareness, equipping the stakeholders with knowledge and developing ownership" are the focal points of open access initiatives in Turkey. In the light and the principles of Horizon 2020 provided by EC, many initiatives are taking in place in Europe. Turkey is also involving in number projects to strengthen and coordinate open access strategies and support institutional repository structures.

OA in Turkey

- One of the biggest higher education landscape with the 169 universities in Europe
- Major Research Funder is TÜBİTAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) [<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr>]
- TÜBİTAK National Databases [<http://uvf.ulakbim.gov.tr>]
- Council of Higher Education National Thesis Center [<http://tez2.yok.gov.tr>]
- The largest consortium is ANKOS (Anatolian University Libraries Consortium Association) [<http://www.ankos.gen.tr>]
- ANKOS open access initiatives are via its Open Access and Institutional Repositories Working Group (OAI/RWG) [<http://acikerisim.ankos.gen.tr>]
- MITOS Interuniversities Open Access System with 32000+ records [<http://www.mitosweb.com>]
- Open Course Materials [<http://www.acikders.org.tr>]
- 210+ journal in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)
- DOAJ in Turkish [<http://www.doaj.org/doi?uiLanguage=tr>]
- Turkish papers in E-LIS: E-prints in Library and Information Science [<http://eprints.rclis.org/view/countries/TR-.html>]



medanet
Mediterranean Open Access Network



DOAJ
DIRECTORY OF
OPEN ACCESS
JOURNALS

eLis
e-prints in library &
information science



Significant activities carried out in Turkey from 2006 to present including recently implemented EU-funded projects, OpenAIREplus and MedOANet.

MedOANet addresses the necessity for coordinated strategies and policies in Open Access to scientific information in Europe. The project will enhance existing policies, strategies and structures for Open Access and will contribute towards the implementation of new ones in six Mediterranean countries: Greece, Turkey, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal. It will also promote national and regional coordination of policies, strategies and structures in these six countries and beyond. Turkey became partner of the project in 2012, led by Hacettepe University, coordinated by Prof. Dr. Yaşar Tonta. <http://www.medoanet.eu>

OpenAIREplus was launched in early December, 2011. The 30 month project, funded by the EC 7th Framework Programme, work in tandem with OpenAIRE, extending the mission further to facilitate access to the entire Open Access scientific production of the European Research Area, providing cross-links from publications to data and funding schemes. This large-scale project brings together 41 pan-European partners, including three cross-disciplinary research communities. Turkey became part of the project in the second half of 2012, led by Izmir Institute of Technology, coordinated by Gültekin Gürdal. <http://www.openaire.eu>

Recent OA Talks

- 25 March 2012, National Library Week, **Istanbul**, Kadir Has University, "OpenAIREplus Presentation"
- 26 March 2012, National Library Week, **Ankara**, National Library, "OpenAIREplus Presentation"
- 28 April 2012, ANKOS 12th Annual Meeting, **Elazig**, Firat University, "ANKOS OAIRWG and OpenAIREplus Project Presentation"
- 5 October 2012, University and Research Libraries Assoc. Annual Meeting, **Batman** University, "Paving the way to an open scientific information: OpenAIREplus Presentation"
- 18 October 2012, National OA Week Activities, **Istanbul**, Koc University, "Open Access and OpenAIREplus Project Presentation"
- 2 November 2012, OA Panel, **Istanbul**, Marmara University, "Enhance the Impact of Your Scientific Academic Studies and Projects: Open Access and OpenAIREplus Presentation"
- 24 January 2013, XIV. Academic Informatics Conference, **Antalya**, Akdeniz University, "An Open and Participative Infrastructure for European Union Researchers: OpenAIREplus"
- 24 January 2013, XIV. Academic Informatics Conference, **Antalya**, Akdeniz University, "Open Access and DSpace Institutional Archive Repository Software Presentation"
- 25 January 2013, BOBCATSSS 2013, **Ankara**, Hacettepe University, "University Librarianship in the Open Access World and Changing Roles Presentation"
- 18 March 2013, 5. Research Information Days, **Ankara**, Middle East Technical University, "Open Access and EU Projects Presentation"
- 27 March 2013, National Library Week, **Izmir**, Yasar University, "Open Access Concept and OpenAIREplus Project Reflections Over the Turkey Presentation"

Major Events

- 19 October 2012, 3rd International Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World, **Ankara**, Hacettepe University, "Developing Institutional Repositories Workshop"
- 7 November 2012, inet'12 OA Panel, **Eskisehir**, Anadolu University, "Open Access to the Scientific Information Support from the Turkish OpenAIREplus NOADs for E-Science Presentation"
- 8-9 November 2012, National Open Access Workshop, **Ankara**, Hacettepe University in collaboration with OpenAIRE Plus and MedOANet Project with participation of librarians, research managers, policy makers, funders, researchers.
- 16 November 2012, ANKOS Library Managers Meeting, **Ankara**, Bilkent University, OpenAIREplus Project Presentation

Providing brochures & posters into Turkish

OpenAIRE guideline
OpenAIREplus (Poster)
How Open is It? (Brochure)
OpenAIRE (Leaflet)
OpenAIRE (Postcard)

Implementing & Translating DSpace 3.1.

Technical training on how to install and use Working in cooperation with ANKOS OAIRWG

Summary

Open Access movement in Turkey mainly started with the activities of ANKOS OAIRWG, rapidly developed since then and now picked up with two major EU Open Access projects, OpenAIREplus and MedOANet. These recent projects helped the transition from awareness phase to the work taken place in a planned manner within the country. The butterfly effect created across the country as the scattered work started to be carried out in collaboration. Institutions now ask for liaison to set up their policies and institutional repositories. They see ANKOS OAIRWG as a contact point. Wider community is now aware of the benefit of the project both at policy and infrastructure level. Both by two of the local project committees, it is aimed to lead funders, institutions and people to adopt OA policies and offer technical support for a OpenAIRE compliant repositories. This will positively affect the dissemination of the scholarly information within the country for a worldwide rich out and make it prepared for the Horizon 2020's research environment.

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