Policy Recommendations for Open Access to Research Data in Europe (RECODE)\(^1\): Legal and ethical challenges

14 March 2014 – eHumanities Group, Amsterdam

**Background:** The *Policy Recommendations for Open Access to Research Data in Europe* (RECODE) project is addressing the drivers and barriers in developing Open Data Access (ODA) in Europe to draft recommendations for policy. Providing open access to research data implicates a number of potential legal and ethical challenges, including intellectual property rights, privacy and data protection, academic freedom, misappropriation as well as others. In order to fully realise the potential benefits of open access to research data, these legal and ethical challenges must be identified and good practice solutions must be sought.

This workshop will examine the legal and ethical challenges and potential solutions associated with providing open access to research data. The workshop will be a multi-disciplinary space where a range of different types of stakeholders will provide their perspective on the challenges identified by the research group, suggest additional or alternate challenges and identify and evaluate proposed good practice solutions to address these challenges. Workshop participants will add their unique stakeholder and disciplinary perspective to the project’s initial findings in this area. Through their participation in the workshop discussions, participants will also provide input into the policy recommendations produced in the RECODE project.

**RECODE partners:** Trilateral Research & Consulting, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), The University of Sheffield, Stichting LIBER Foundation, National Documentation Centre, National Research Council of Italy, Blekinge Institute of Technology and Amsterdam University Press.

**Aim of the workshop:**

- Present key findings from a review of select European policy documents and related documents about Open Data Access and findings from the five case studies of research practice.
- Solicit participants’ and case study partners’ feedback on the effectiveness of these policies as well as any gaps to assess their significance for policy development and for research practice.
- Better understand how to match policies with stakeholder drivers and motivations to increase their effectiveness in promoting open access to research data.

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Agenda

9:00am Participant registration and coffee

9:30am Introduction to RECODE (Kush Wadhwa, Trilateral Research & Consulting)

9:50am Initial findings and purpose of today’s workshop (including outlining legal and ethical issues examined in the report) (Rachel Finn, Trilateral Research & Consulting)

10.20am Panel presentations: Good practice solutions for addressing legal and ethical issues in Archaeology, Earth Science and Health/Biology (Chaired by Sally Wyatt, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences)

11:30am Coffee break

11:45am: Break out sessions on “soft law” measures (Facilitated by Thordis Sveinsdottir, University of Sheffield)

- What soft law measures are assisting in addressing the legal and ethical issues raised?
- What good practice examples are already in evidence?
- To what extent might these measures be translated across disciplines?

12.30pm: Lunch

1:30pm Key issue discussion: The proposed General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and open access to research data (Mark Taylor, University of Sheffield)

2:30pm Break out sessions on legislative/policy measures (Facilitated by Victoria Tsoukala, National Documentation Center)

- What legislative or policy measures could be introduced to address the legal and ethical issues raised?
- What good practice examples are already in evidence?
- To what extent might these measures be translated across discipline?

3:15 Coffee

3.30pm Affinity mapping exercise between challenges and good practice solutions (Facilitated by Jeroen Sondervan, Amsterdam University Press)

- What solutions are working well for particular challenges?
- Which solutions should be prioritised?

4.45pm Next steps: Institutional issues in open access to research data: Introduction to RECODE WP4 (Merel Noorman, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences)

5:00pm Drinks reception
Location:

eHumanities Group
Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
Joan Muyskenweg 25, 1096 CJ
Amsterdam (NL)

http://www.ehumanities.nl

To register please visit: http://recodeproject.eu/events/recode-workshops/