The Impact of Bulgaria's National Open Science Plan on the New Bulgarian University (NBU)

Radostina Todorova, Ph.D., Library Director
Assoc. Prof. Eduard Marinov, Ph.D.
In the presentation

• Open science at New Bulgarian University before the National Open Science Plan

• National Open Science Plan

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- As of 1999, The New Bulgarian University Library started a project for electronic publishing on open access of scholarly journals, based on „Gold open access“ model, embraced fully by the university academic community.
- Back in 2005 the Scholar Electronic Repository of the New Bulgarian University has been launched, thus acquiring „green open access“ to the research output of the University and allowing authors to self-archive their originals.
- In 2016 the NBU Publishing House started publishing on open access on a broad scale.
- Again, in 2016 on institutional level is decided that all monographs and study materials have to be deposited to the Scholar Electronic Repository of the New Bulgarian University.
- The beginning of 2019 marked the effort to transit all journals on open access to the „New Bulgarian University Academic Journals Portal“. 
Open science in New Bulgarian University before the National Open Science plan

New Bulgarian University Academic Journals Portal has been realized under the project "Expanding the Impact of Research Journals Published by NBU" funded by the Central Strategic Development Fund of the NBU Board of Trustees.

Sledva: NBU Journal of Humanities and Arts

SLEDVA is a journal for university culture published twice a year by the New Bulgarian University in Sofia, Bulgaria. The journal started in 2000 and has had over 40 issues so far. Its title is a play on words, meaning both “to study at the university” and “to be continued”. The materials range from specialized academic essays and parts of larger research to reviews and texts written by students. The journal has sections on literary studies, philosophy, art history, theater, cinema, visual arts, memory of the recent past, academic travels, and creative writing. The editor-in-chief is Eilyana Kourtasheva, Ph.D. The graphic design is made by the contemporary artist Nadezhda Oleg Lyahova.

New Bulgarian University Academic Journals Portal has been realized under the project "Expanding the Impact of Research Journals, Published by NBU", funded by the Central Strategic Development Fund of the NBU Board of Trustees.
Open science at New Bulgarian University before the National Open Science Plan

• The Central Fund for Strategic Development of the NBU Board of Trustees provides financial support to research and creativity projects.

• Academics and PhD students can apply.

• Grants are assigned to creativity and research projects.

• Achieved results are popularized in open access publications.

• Information on project grants, accomplished results and succeeding publications are accessible on the University site.

• Special “Project” Department assists academics in applying for national, European and international grants.
Open science at New Bulgarian University before the National Open Science Plan

- The NBU also participates and implements other aspects of Open science:
- Open research data and open educational resources
- Open source
- Citizenship science
- “Ne varietatem timeamus”
In the beginning of 2021

• A national plan for the development of Open Science Initiatives in Bulgaria has been approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria.

• The Plan defines the strategic goals, the roadmap and the instruments to encourage Bulgarian researchers and research institutions to implement Open Science principles in practice and brace it as a main path to research.

• The plan should be promoted and accomplished in a series of coordinated joint efforts by the scientific community in the country and the organizations, funding scientific research.

• It sets the role of the Bulgarian Portal for Open Science and its sustainable development toward the evolving of national network of repositories for data and open access publications, linking them to the European Open Science Cloud.

• The execution of the National Plan will acquire the necessary conditions for increasing the performance of the metric indicators, the citability and the visibility of the Bulgarian researchers.
Main goals of the plan

• Launching of Bulgarian Open Science Cloud - BOSC.
• Access to scientific information will be facilitated and access will be acquired through a single entry point.
• The Bulgarian Portal for Open Science and the national repository are designed in compliance with the instructions and guidelines of OpenAIRE.
• The repository is to be indexed in the Global Directory of Academic Open Access Repositories - OpenDOAR.
• The Bulgarian Open Science Portal and the national repository are developed and maintained by the Minister of Education and Science through the National Center for Information and Documentation.
Main goal of the plan: Bulgarian Portal for Open Science

The language picture of the world and encyclopaedia as a complex sign system

1999, Publication, Open access

Authors: Kasabov, Ivan

Language

Handle: http://eprints.nbu.bg/2204/1/SKM_654e14041709510.pdf
Other goals of the plan

- More transparency on projects financed with public funds.
- Developing skills and competences, maintaining the Repository and the Portal.
- Strengthening integration within the European Research Area and the international scientific community.
In the end of 2021

• The Council of Ministers approves the National Program "Stimulation of Publication Activity in Authoritative International Scientific Journals and Open Access to Scientific Information".

• The aim of the Program is to stimulate the publication activity of the research staff and to increase the number of scientific publications in authoritative scientific journals, referenced or indexed in the global databases Web of Science and/or Scopus, as well as to promote sharing of research input on open access and its adoption as standard practice by the research community.

• The Program runs for a specific period of time and is target-funded.

• The Program is aimed at researchers from higher education institutions, whereas for the authorship of scientific publications in journals, referenced or indexed in the global databases Web of Science and/or Scopus, also, sharing scientific results on the Bulgarian portal for Open Science, and institutional or international repositories, additional remuneration will be provided to them.
During 2022

• Agreement between Bulgaria and Elsevier.

• Elsevier and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria have established an agreement to support authors in Bulgaria who wish to publish open access. The cost of publishing open access is covered under the terms of this agreement. When publishing open access in hybrid journals, eligible corresponding authors do not have to pay an article publishing charge (APC).

• The Agreement fixes the maximum number of articles to be issued for 1 year and preferential prices for the remaining publications, after reaching the limit of agreed volumes.
Open science at New Bulgarian University after the National Open Science Plan

What happens with the data?

• Scholar Electronic Repository of the New Bulgarian University is completely integrated in the Bulgarian Portal for Open Science.

• Data-harvesting from the Scholar Electronic Repository of the NBU to the Bulgarian Portal for Open Science is weekly-based; data is extracted by criterion - status of the document, published.

• Scholar Electronic Repository of the NBU data is indexed in OpenAIRE.

• Data on open access dissertations from the Bulgarian Open Science Portal are associated with the Scholar Electronic Repository of the New Bulgarian University, increasing the university's presence in the DART-Europe Portal project.
Open science at New Bulgarian University after the National Open Science Plan

What are the outcomes for NBU researchers?

• Achieving global visibility of scientific results.
• Increasing global impact on the achievements of young researchers.
• Stimulating the self archiving activity in Scholar Electronic Repository of NBU, where submissions are still voluntarily-performed.
• A greater understanding among scientists of the role of scientific publishing houses.
• Striving to present scientific results in journals, indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science.
• Popularization, open access and indexing in international databases lead to an increase in citations, which improves the rating of NBU in the ranking of universities in Bulgaria.
• The popularity of NBU researchers among the global academic community is growing.
Open science at New Bulgarian University after the National Open Science Plan

What are the outcomes for NBU Library?

• The Library assists the Deputy Rector for Scientific Research in submitting information to the Ministry of Education and Science for various indicators related to the Plan and Program "Stimulating Publication Activity in Authoritative International Scientific Journals and Open Access to Scientific Information".

• Expansion of the training for the academic staff.

• Consulting editorial boards of university journals.

• Steady interest in library and information services by lecturers and doctoral students.
Thank you for your attention!