

Open Science and the Reform Universities' Paradigm

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Introduction

ERUA is the alliance that brings together the different aspects of the university reform paradigm.

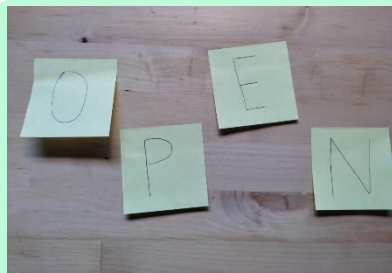
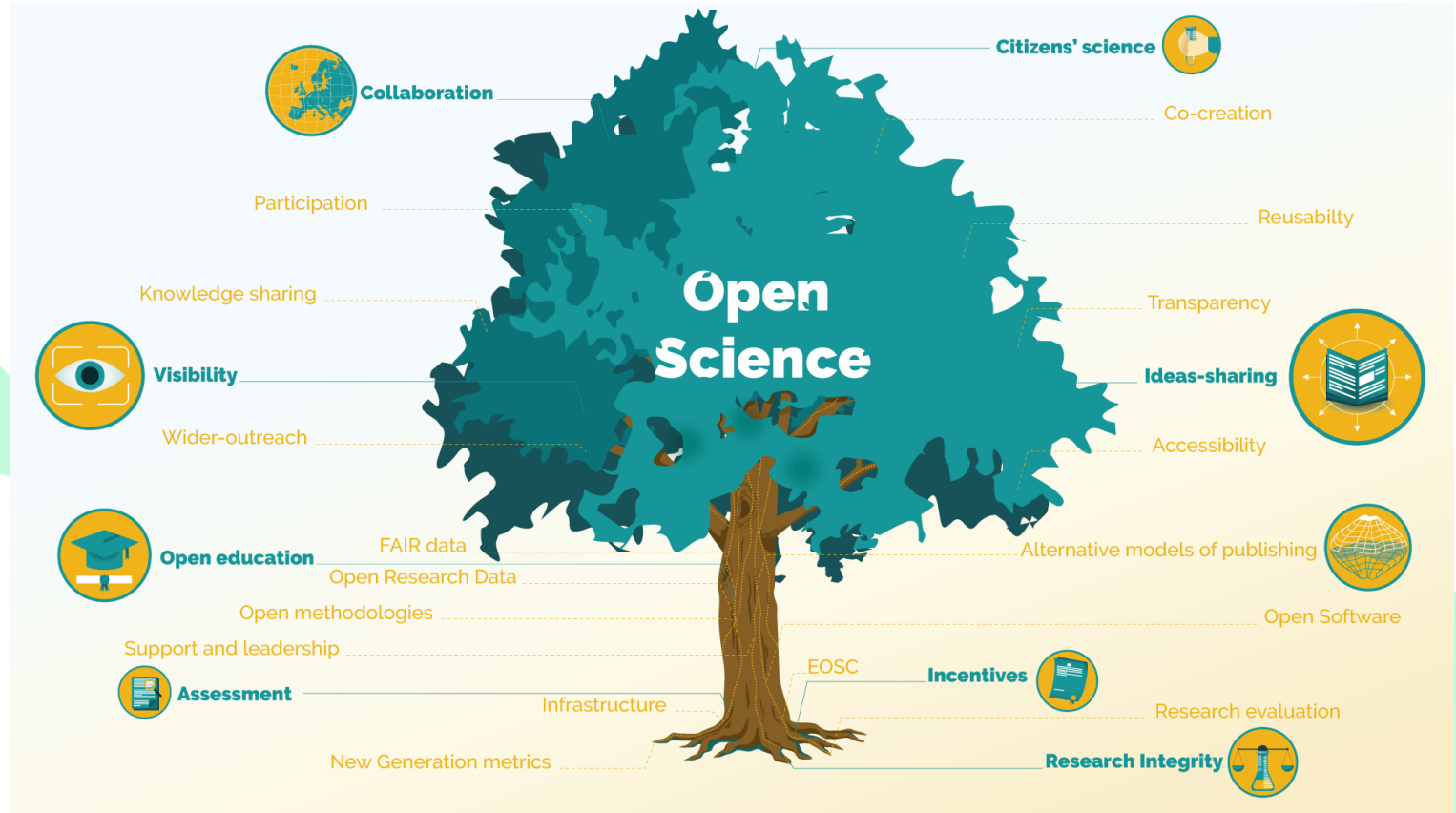
Open science in its different aspects is a cross-cutting and overarching topic for both ERUA and re:ERUA, as well as for the general development of all the five Universities

It seems that we are reform universities in the field of open science as well, as all 5 Universities are “national pioneers” in different aspects of open science

The question arises is Open science directly related to the reform paradigm?



Open science at a glance

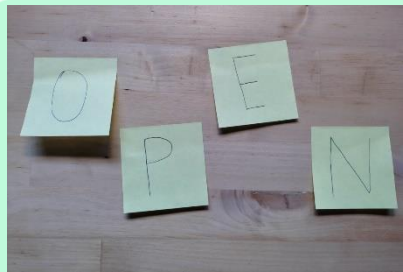


Open science in ERUA

Each ERUA University has its specific focus regarding the perception and implementation of open science, has a different strategy for development, and uses different tools and instruments to implement it

Because, even though we all operate within the European research area, there are clear differences in the national open science policies – both as development and objectives, as well as as achievements

... So... what can we do together to utilize our specific strengths?

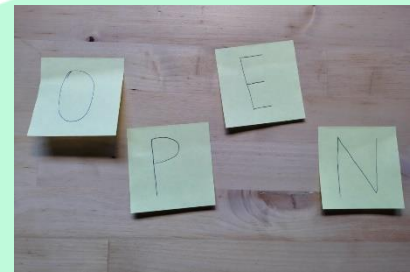


The reform paradigm: What is a reform university?

Reformuniversität (reform university) – “an institution intended to transform” (Ralf Dahrendorf, 1966): Reform universities are transformative institutions and places for renewal

The reform universities were intended as alternatives, but alternatives to what?

- a space for a different kind of research
 - research should not be disciplinary, but interdisciplinary
 - not focus upon the questions of the disciplines, but instead on the problems of the world
 - open to a project approach to knowledge making, gathering teams for researchers for shorter periods to solve distinct tasks
- new kinds of education
 - not limit themselves to vocational and specialized training but prepare students to address new and unforeseen problems and encourage them to become citizens, engaged with the world
- different institutional structure
 - abandon the classical divisions of faculties and departments and challenged institutional hierarchies
 - organize research and education in smaller and more flexible units, which encouraged collaboration and were open for change



What is a reform university today?

Reform universities not only aim at enlarging the landscape of higher education, but also to renew it. Reform universities are often characterized by:

- Flexible and less hierarchical organizational structures
- Interdisciplinarity and openness to new fields of research
- Forms of general education that prepares students to become active citizens
- A focus on contemporary societal problems and challenges
- Inclusiveness and openness to marginalized groups
- Education and research in close collaboration with the rest of society.



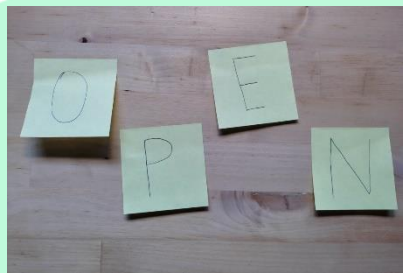
The reform university tomorrow?

The role of reform universities as an alternative cannot be taken for granted:

- most of the reforms are now mainstream
- constant political and legislative pressures, forcing them into conformity
- loosing the connection between research and education and the problems and challenges of the contemporary world

To remain alternatives, reform universities therefore constantly need to revisit their role and function as venues for experimentation and renewal a space for a different kind of research:

- How do our research address the problems and challenges of the world and how do our approaches and solutions differ from those of more mainstream institutions of higher education?
- Are our educations still empowering our students as critical and independent citizens in the contemporary world?
- Do our practices of education and research still serve these goals?



The relation between Open science and Reform universities

- Openness
 - Innovation
 - Engagement
 - Addressing societal challenges
 - Incorporating new technological opportunities
 - Co-creation
 - Integrity
 - ... reform
-
- How is Open science related to keeping the reform university status and addressing "the problems and challenges of the world and how do our approaches and solutions in a different way from those of more mainstream institutions of higher education"?



A few summarized general questions

1. *What is a reform university:*
Do you consider yours as "an institution intended to transform", and why?
2. *Is Open science directly related to the reform paradigm:*
How is Open science related to keeping the reform university status and addressing "the problems and challenges of the world and how do our approaches and solutions in a different way from those of more mainstream institutions of higher education"?
3. *Open science in ERUA:*
What can we do together to utilize our specific strengths?



We are OPEN for your questions and remarks



**Thank you
for your attention!**

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