



OPEN SCIENCE AND RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH

EPISTEMOLOGICAL, ETHICAL, SOCIAL, POLITICAL ISSUES

JUNE 23, 2023

AULA MASSA
U6 IV FLOOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SCIENCES FOR EDUCATION "R.MASSA"
UNIVERSITY OF MILANO-BICOCCA (DISUF)

PROGRAM

09:00 - 10:00 | Welcome and Introduction

Prof. Marco Emilio Orlandi (Vice-Rector, University of Milano-Bicocca)

Prof. Guido Angelo Cavaletti (Vice-Rector, Research)

Prof.ssa Cristina Palmieri (DISUF Director)

Prof. Edoardo Datteri, Prof. Guido Veronese (DISUF "Open Science" research group)

10:00 - 11:00 | What kind of Open Science do we want?

Dr. Arwid Lund (Södertörn University)

11:00 - 11:30 | Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30 | Copyright for public and democratic science: from the secondary publication right to the right to open scientific texts

Prof. Roberto Caso (University of Trento)

12:30 - 13:30 | Open Science Blues

Prof. Andrea Saltelli (UPF, Barcelona School of Management)

13:30 - 14:30 | Lunch

14:30 - 15:30 | Open Science as a transformation towards socially engaged research

Dr. Ismael Rafols (Leiden University)

15:30 - 16:30 | Open science, between human emancipation and bureaucratic serfdom

Prof.ssa Maria Chiara Pievatolo (University of Pisa)

16:30 - 17:00 | Coffee Break

17:00 - 18:00 | Discussion and Conclusions

OPEN SCIENCE BLUES

ANDREA SALTELLI

UPF Barcelona School of management, Barcelona, Spain

When it comes to science's crisis, things will be worse before they can be better. The Open Science movement in a case in point. Phenomena of regulatory capture see science as both victim and protagonist, while the hegemony of platforms capitalism as applied to the scientific production process may lead to what has been defined a 'huberization of science'.

Open science will not prevent the collapse of trust in science, whose integrity - whatever we might mean by this term - is compromised in a context of systemic and technological change. One has to go back several centuries in time to find an equivalent subversion of important and cherished truths.

Many have predicted the present transition, from philosophers to the fathers of the ecological movement. History may end up being the best discipline to make sense of the tumultuous present.

OPEN SCIENCE AS A TRANSFORMATION TOWARDS SOCIALLY ENGAGED RESEARCH

ISMAEL RAFOLS

UNESCO Chair on Diversity and Inclusion in Global Science, Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS), Leiden University

In recent decades a variety of policy initiatives have emerged under labels such as 'responsible research and innovation', 'inclusive innovation' or 'transformative innovation policies' and more recently 'open science' (OS).

They all have in common that they ask science to better address societal problems and challenges. In the dominant framing of OS in Europe, the emphasis is placed in how improving access and communication practices will produce better scientific results. In contrast, the 2021 UNESCO Recommendation on OS embraces a broader agenda, shifting from narrower concerns on open access towards stakeholder participation, evaluation reform, diversity of knowledge and the social distribution of research benefits. I will argue that it is this latter vision towards socially engaged research, the one that holds transformative potential.

OPEN SCIENCE, BETWEEN HUMAN EMANCIPATION AND BUREAUCRATIC SERFDOM

MARIA CHIARA PIEVATOLO

Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche, Università di Pisa

Open science is not a particularly new idea: opening up science to public scrutiny is one of the features of the modern scientific revolution. And even the imbalance between science - the living craftsmanship of a community of knowledge - and its supposed embodiment in textual objects is as ancient as Plato's critique of writing in the dialogue Phaedrus.

Although written texts are so context-free and autonomous and their scope is so broad in space and time that it is easy to use them as proxies for knowledge, such use, according to Plato, depends on a delusion: the delusion that science can survive and grow without any interactive teaching and debating.

Despite Plato's critique, the current ideology of "publish or perish" assumes that texts are so autonomous and context-free that they can be evaluated as data, without being read and understood, by calculating their citations (bibliometrics).

Today, both the "publish or perish" ideology and its most popular bibliometric indicators (JIF and H-index) are under discussion. Open science, on the other hand, is becoming the object of an administrative mandate, linked either to the purpose of research evaluation or to its funding. If we understand scientific texts as autonomous and context-free, such a mandate can be presented as a tool within a management model whose purpose is compatible with the exploitation of public research for the benefit of a market otherwise dominated by private intellectual property. But if we understand open science as belonging to a philosophical ideal of human emancipation through the opening of scholarly conversation, we might see it as a way of transforming scientific writing into a public, interactive process involving the society at large.

In which of these two senses is open science mandated? Why does it need to be mandated? And, more radically: can open science be mandated without running the risk of becoming just another task to be added to the burden of duties imposed on researchers by a centralized, administrative research assessment system?

WHAT KIND OF OPEN SCIENCE DO WE WANT?

ARWID LUND

Södertörn University

Openness and freedom are not the same thing. A freedom to act is something different than an openness for other actors' actions. This is the fate of today's open science built on an unrestricted openness. In an era characterized by academic capitalism open science means an openness especially for commercial influences supported by state authorities and research funds.

Contrary to an unrestricted openness giving a dominant capitalist logic freedom to act on science, the open access, open data, and open code of open science, need to be understood as a public good with other, and carefully selected freedoms to act. These freedoms should empower robust collegial modes of (peer) producing science and limit commercial actors' freedoms to act upon science.

COPYRIGHT FOR PUBLIC AND DEMOCRATIC SCIENCE: FROM THE SECONDARY PUBLICATION RIGHT TO THE RIGHT TO OPEN SCIENTIFIC TEXTS

ROBERTO CASO

University of Trento, Faculty of Law - Italian Association for the promotion of Open Science - AISA

The secondary publication right is an essential tool to defend academic autonomy and freedom, which are increasingly at risk. It is not an exception or a user's right but rather a moral and economic author's right to open scientific texts, which is philosophically rooted on the Kantian vision of copyright (protecting the integrity of the discourse between author and public), the public use of reason and the Mertonian norms of science. The right to open scientific texts is a fundamental aspect of the human right to (open) science.