

Horizon 2020 framework programme for research and innovation 2014-2020

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The Council held a **policy debate on open access to scientific information resulting from public-funded research projects**, one of the objectives of the development of the European Research Area, which is at the heart of the strategy for growth and jobs.

Member States:

- **supported** the idea of developing broader and more rapid access to scientific publications in order to help researchers and businesses to build on the findings of publicly funded research;
- noted the Commission proposal to develop experimental policy actions on open access to research data and to run a **pilot** for that purpose in the future Horizon 2020 research framework programme;
- welcomed the Commission's view that open access to scientific publications should be a **general principle of the future Horizon 2020 research framework programme** and presented some of the initiatives carried out under their respective national programmes.

Member States emphasised the need to:

- **define clear policies, in consultation with relevant stakeholders**, on open access to scientific publications and research data, on preservation and re-use of scientific information and on related e-infrastructures for disseminating scientific information, at both national and EU levels,
- **promote common implementation standards and criteria**, including interoperable infrastructures, in order to achieve the maximum benefit from open access in a sustainable way within a digital European Research Area.