WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ON POLICY LEVEL TO GIVE OPEN ACCESS IN BELGIUM A BOOST?

THE CREF ANSWER
The first goal of Science
- is to increase the human knowledge in order to improve the global well-being for all
- is not to generate outrageous profits for some

Publicly funded research is to be freely accessible to all
- For ethical and philosophical reasons
- For economic reasons
- For strategic reasons
What’s already done?

- Institutional « Mandates » for most universities
  - **Articles**: ULg (2007), ULB (2007), UCL (2008), UMONS (2010 not mandatory but encouraged)

- 3 Repositories for the 3 Academies
  - DI-fusion (ULB+UMONS) 107,000 references – 17,600 with FT
  - DIAL (UCL + FUNDP + FUSL) 88,000 references – 22,300 with FT
  - ORBi (ULg) 86,000 references – 52,300 with FT

- Some Open Access journals
One priority, four facets

- **Green first!**
  - Without a strong frame, Gold OA could become a pitfall (1500-2500€/article)
  - ... and a source of new profit for publishers

- **4 facets**
  - Improved IR
  - Copyrights issues
  - Harvesting
  - Belgian Mandate
Improve IR

- Bibliometrics
- Unified authors identifiers for CfB
- Unified information for peer reviewing status in IR
- Challenge of long-term preservation
- Experimenting new publication models and peer reviewing
- Open data
Address copyright issues

- Developing global tools to help authors not to transfer all rights on the publications to the publishers

- Working on a political level to improve the legal framework in order to retain sufficient rights to the Institutions
Harvesting

- Harvesting in a central portal ALL publications from IR of the Universities
  - Maximizing the visibility and access to the scholarly research of CfB (+280,000 references)
  - With special attention to OA papers
  - Single source for all F.R.S-FNRS evaluations?
Towards a Belgian Mandate…

- Same for ALL Belgian universities
- For authors:
  - Deposit in their IR
    - a copy of the FT for ALL scholarly articles and published conference proceedings
    - In final version
    - Immediately after acceptance
  - Make the FT freely available asap. For example, according to the EU recommendation: no later than
    - 6 months after publication (STM)
    - 12 months after publication (SSH)
  - Introduce in IR bibliographic references of ALL publications and scholarly communications
- For Universities and F.R.S-FNRS & FWO:
  - 6 months after the implementation of this Belgian mandate,
  - only references listed in these IR would be taken into account
  - for all researchers of Belgian universities and for researchers funded by the F.R.S.- FNRS and the FWO,
  - for any institutional official list of publications, including evaluation purpose of curriculum and credit allocation
... before an European mandate!

- The Belgian mandate as an example for Europe
- Convince
  - EUA
  - Other chancelors
  - Funders
  - Other stakehoders