



## Call for Papers

### **3rd International Conference on Open Access "Open Access to Science: Foundations, Issues and Dynamics" 28-30 November 2018 Rabat- Morocco**

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to submit your proposals to the 3rd International Conference on Open Access (ICOA'18, International Conference on Open Access). The theme of this conference is: "Open Access to Science: Foundations, Issues and Dynamics". Two previous editions, ICOA'14 and ICOA'16, were organized by the Higher Institute of Documentation (ISD) and the National Center for Scientific and Technical Documentation (CNUDST) of Tunisia.

#### **Organizers**

School of Information Sciences (ESI) Morocco, Maghrebien Information Processing Society (MIPS-Morocco), Higher Institute of Documentation (ISD) & CNUDST, Manouba University - Tunisia.

**Programme Co-Chairs :** Pr. Nozha Ibnlkhayat (Morocco) & Pr. Wahid Gdoura (Tunisia)

#### **Presentation**

Open Access has invaded the daily life of research and scientific production actors, inducing an upheaval in their communication process. Open Access refers to the free provision of digital scientific content without financial, legal or technical barriers. It has spread from the academic sphere to the economic sphere bringing to science, society and the modern economy new concepts such as Open Science, Knowledge Society, and Knowledge Economy.

Open Access shifts scientific spheres into a digital culture that exacerbates the opposition between private property and creative commons. It redefines access to knowledge dynamics by bringing up its great potential and challenges which can ultimately lead to "unrestricted" access to scientific publications and research data if their sustainability and free of charge principle are guaranteed.

The Open Access movement, which has risen from concerns related to the explosion of digital information, the exorbitant costs of scientific publications and the barriers that hinder their access, addresses the access, exploitation and distribution of books, theses, research reports and peer-reviewed articles. In dealing with research articles, Open Access is implemented through two different models: the “green” open access and the “gold” open access options.

Nevertheless, the status of Open Access, the resources available to it, the awareness of its importance and the way it is implemented vary according to the country, the scientific field and the sector (private or public). Many studies show that open access is underutilized and that many of its actors still find it difficult to accommodate themselves to the concept.

In some countries, consensus on the very need for free access to science or scientific production is not a given. Many questions still remain unanswered about the digitization of publications, the quality of peer evaluations, or the legitimacy of publication costs (APC). Other questions are concerned with the type and quality of the documents to be submitted to find a place in the open archives.

ICOA'18 aims to promote Open Access by highlighting its epistemological foundations, its progress and the reluctance encountered. The questions to be dealt with are: what are the processes, approaches and issues of Open Access? Which models to adopt for its implementation? How to promote it among its actors? Issues are proposed to be addressed through the exploration technological, economic, legal and educational challenges of Open Access. Contextualizing the reasoning on Open Access will make it possible to identify the local specificities and point to the reluctances which block its evolution. It will also help manage change and inspire new avenues for thinking about Open Science and even the Open Society.

ICOA'18 will bring together leading scientists, researchers and academics in the field of Open Access from three continents. The themes proposed for submissions cover a wide range of issues.

## Themes

1. *Theoretical and epistemological foundations of Open Access*
  - Open Access, Open Science and Citizen Science: concepts, approaches and practices to understand the great changes in scientific communication
  - Digital culture and relation to collective memory and to innovation
  - Advances in Open Access: initiatives, calls, models, research and innovations.
2. *Open Access and Evaluation*
  - Open Peer Reviewing
  - New bibliometrics for evaluating the production of science
  - Indexing, citation and impact in the context of Open Access
  - Altmetrics, tools for alternative measures of impact: processes and limits
  - Open Science Mapping: Approaches and Challenges
  - National and international rankings: strengths and weaknesses
  - Feedback from experience of scientific production evaluation.
3. *Open Access and actors of Scientific and Technical Information*
  - Authors, publishers, researchers and readers
  - Library professionals and information systems: Awareness and training on OA, support for scholarly journals and institutional repositories ...
  - Scientific publishers and Open Access: (OA Gold, Open Access Mega Journal)

- Feedback from publishing free journals and open archives.
4. *Technological Aspects of Open Access*
    - Platforms for creating and managing electronic journals
    - Open archive platforms (standards, interoperability, implementation, configuration)
    - Access to research data: standardization, treatment, conservation, dissemination
    - Open research data, Datamining, Text mining ...
    - Safety and risk prevention.
  5. *Economic aspects*
    - Open Access and economic growth
    - OA economic models: Hybrid, Gold OA (APC, No APC), Green, OAMJ
    - Adequacy of models to South countries contexts.
  6. *Legal aspects: Towards a new legal framework*
    - Institutional policies and national strategies for the development of OA
    - Trends in intellectual property (Creative Commons, Addenda author, etc.)
    - Adequacy of existing legal frameworks to the needs of Southern countries.
  7. *Didactic aspects: open educational resources*
    - Open Access, evaluation and valorization of digital teaching resources
    - Management of digital educational data
    - Software for educational platform creation.

**As side events, the conference proposes:**

- A tutorial on a researcher Open Access publication strategy. It will deal with the identification and evaluation of journals, copyright (moral rights, licensing, Creative Commons, Addenda author), the ethics of publication, authorship and co-authorship. Strengths and weaknesses of the Open Access publication will be discussed. This workshop is facilitated by MIPS (Maghrebian Information Processing Society)
- A round table on the specificities of Open Access issues and processes in Southern countries will be led by Florence Piron
- A training workshop on the creation of electronic journals and the criteria for their indexing in the DOAJ will be moderated by Kamel Belhamel & Tom Olijhoek.

A pre-conference satellite workshop entitled "Telemedicine: an Accessibility Tool for Digital Health" will be run by Bethesda National Library of Medicine.

**Submission**

Paper proposals (two-page summary) may be submitted in English, Arabic or French and will be part of the different approaches: conceptual, empirical, quantitative and / or qualitative. The abstract should contain the problem, the methodology and the main expected results, as well as keywords and a short bibliography. The text must be in Times New Roman font, size 12, single spaced.

The proposals acceptance notification will proceed according to announced dates and the authors will be invited to present their final text in conformity with the provided model. Each submission (full text) will be appraised by two peer reviewers from the scientific committee.

Submissions will be made through the conference platform: [icoa2018.sciencesconf.org](http://icoa2018.sciencesconf.org)

## Key dates

- April 30, 2018: deadline for abstract submission
- May 30, 2018: notification of abstract acceptance
- July 31, 2018: deadline for full paper submission
- September 30, 2018: notification of paper acceptance
- November 28-30, 2018: conference.

## Publication and indexation of proceedings

Accepted articles will be published, depending on the researcher's choice:

- In print format of conference proceedings edited by ESI and ISD.
- In electronic format in Open Access journals or platform:
  - **e-TI**: Electronic Journal of Information Technology, [www.revue-eti.net](http://www.revue-eti.net)
  - **IJMS**: International Journal of Multi-Disciplinary Sciences, Mohammedia, Morocco  
[www.ijmsonline.net](http://www.ijmsonline.net)
  - **UNCSTEST Platform**, PIST.

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## Contact

For further information, please refer to:

- Conference Platform : [icoa2018.sciencesconf.org](http://icoa2018.sciencesconf.org)
- Conference email : [nibnlkhayat@esi.ac.ma](mailto:nibnlkhayat@esi.ac.ma)
- Coordinator, Morocco : [nibnlkhayat@yahoo.com](mailto:nibnlkhayat@yahoo.com)

N-B: Detailed information on accommodation and registration fees will soon be available on the conference website.