

## OPEN ACCESS obligations in Horizon 2020 to scientific peer reviewed publications

Open access (OA) can be defined as the practice of providing on-line access to scientific information that is free of charge to the user and that is re-usable. A distinction is usually made between OA to scientific peer reviewed publications and research data. In Horizon 2020 open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications (primarily articles) is mandatory; however, researchers can choose between the open access route most appropriate to them.

Following the publication of the new version of the "Guidelines to the Rules on Open Access to Scientific Publications and Open Access to Research Data in Horizon 2020" (v.3.2 dated 21 March 2017" available at the link:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/oa\\_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide_en.pdf)

on March the 27th the Director-General at Research and Innovation of European Commission, Robert-Jan Smits, has published a letter addressed to H2020 participants who apply to peer reviewed scientific publications. The letter is available at the link:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/comm/170406\\_open-access\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/comm/170406_open-access_en.pdf)