



## Memorandum of Understanding

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between

**DRIVER – Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research**

and

**Eurodoc**

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## **Preamble**

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*Eurodoc and DRIVER have identified demand for cooperation in order to progress and enhance the impact of European research within the global research community and more specifically to improve awareness of Open Access among researchers.*

*DRIVER is a joint initiative of European stakeholders, co-financed by the European Commission, setting up a technical infrastructure for digital repositories and facilitating the building of an umbrella organisation for digital repositories. DRIVER relies on research libraries for the sustainable operation of repositories and provision of high quality content through digital repositories. Such content comprises Open Access research publications, including electronic theses and dissertations.*

*Eurodoc is the European Council of doctoral candidates and junior researchers which takes the form of a federation of national associations. Eurodoc aims to 1) represent doctoral candidates and junior researchers at the European level in matters of education, research, and professional development of their careers, 2) advance the quality of doctoral programmes and the standards of research activity in Europe, 3) promote the circulation of information on issues regarding young researchers, and 4) establish and promote co-operation between national associations representing doctoral candidates and junior researchers within Europe.*

*Eurodoc and DRIVER share the vision that Open Access provides the means to improve access to the results of research, and thus improve the impact of that research. Open Access ideals and approaches should be embedded in the research publication process to ensure timely and effective dissemination of the results of research.*

## **Agreement and Collaboration**

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Among all objectives and activities of Eurodoc and DRIVER respectively, overlap between the aims of both organisations can be identified. With the increased popularity and availability of the internet, research processes and the dissemination of research now occur on a global scale. Both Eurodoc and DRIVER wish to support researchers in this highly competitive global environment. Many research institutions have, or are in the process of, establishing digital Open Access repositories to expose their research outputs to the world. By working together Eurodoc and DRIVER will inform and support researchers in making the best use of these repositories and the ideals of Open Access to disseminate their research.

*This agreement includes:*

1. Use of Eurodoc mailing list/website and other communication channels for public dissemination of news about Open Access and DRIVER.
2. Use of DRIVER mailing list/website and other communication channels for public dissemination of news about Eurodoc and news of relevance to early stage researchers.

3. The reciprocal use of DRIVER and Eurodoc conferences and events to disseminate programme information to respective stakeholder groups.
4. Active joint dissemination of best-practices in member countries or regions within both DRIVER and Eurodoc, both at federal and at national level, towards the development of successful approaches to Open Access advocacy and scholarly communication.
5. Active joint dissemination of best-practices in countries or regions without formal approaches to Open Access and scholarly communication.

*Collaboration between Eurodoc and DRIVER is envisaged in:*

- The joint support of an Open Access model for repositories in research institutions.
- A common framework of influence at a national and international level to leverage change through the scholarly community within their own institutions and countries.

The overall cooperation will be coordinated by the successive Chairperson of the Eurodoc Board and by the Scientific Coordinator of DRIVER. They may delegate responsibilities to further representatives of their organizations.

Signatories:

21/09/2009  
Date

7.10.2009  
Date

29.09.2009  
Date

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at

Trenčín  
at

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