

### LINUX DAY2009

The interaction between democracy and Internet through libraries in Italy: is the Italian government going to establish controls on Internet Content?

Paolo Ferri



## Knowledge is a Commons and Knowledge is the boost for informational society

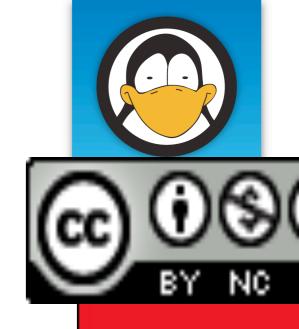
The free availability knowledge is crucial to promote a cultural pluralism, to be aware, informed and discretionary, to be a democratic society

Scientific Knowledge were mostly free (before 1996)

In 1996 with digital devolution begin new digital enclosure process

Bergamo Linux User Group

**Paradox digital revolution = restriction in** access



Understanding Knowledge as a Commons

From Theory to Practice

edited by Charlotte Hess and Elinor Ostron

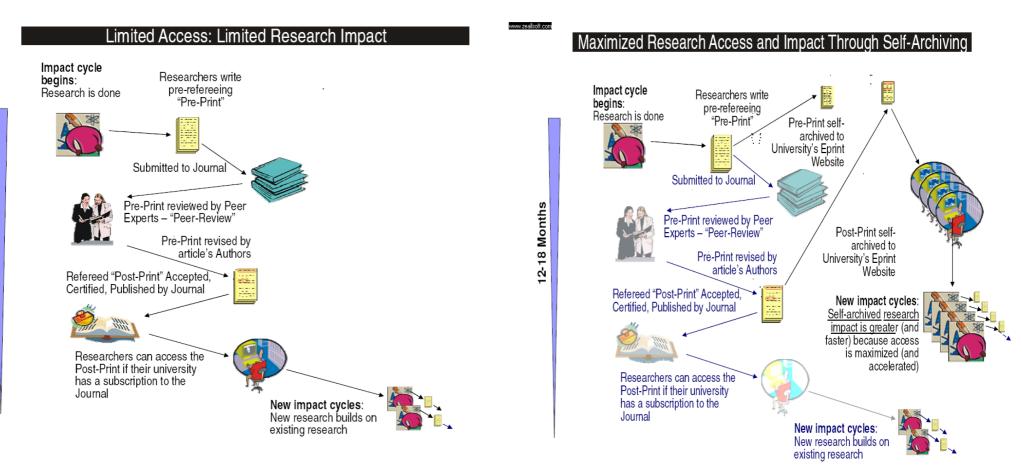


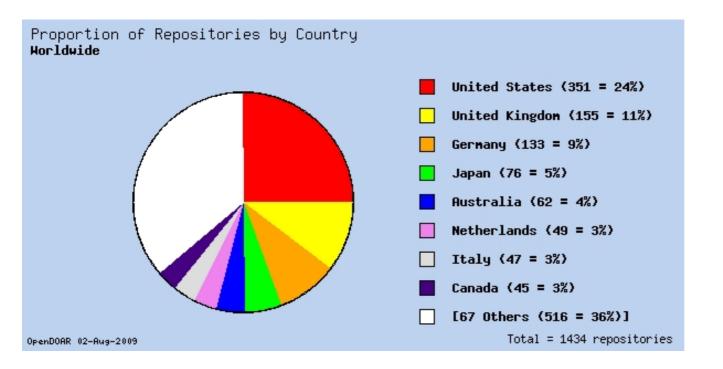
### The risk of the enclosure in scientific literature (Hesse, Ostrom, 2006) Things are getting worse: the "death spiral" 300 250 Journal prices 200 150 100 CPI/inflation 50 Journals 0 ~9<sup>9</sup> purchased -50

Source: Association of Research Libraries

## The risk of the enclosure in scientific literature (Hesse, Ostrom, 2006)

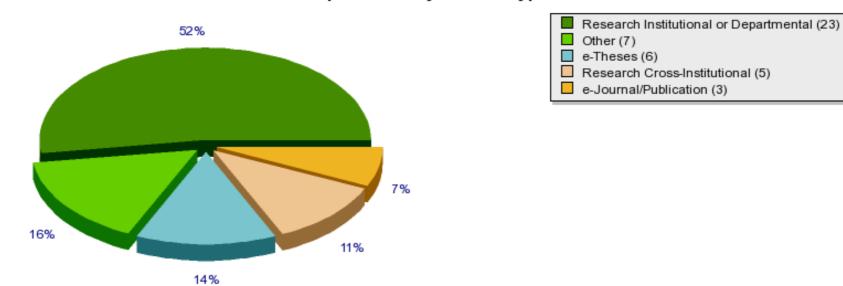








#### **Repositories by Content Type**



Browse Italy (ROAR) resulted in 44 repositories

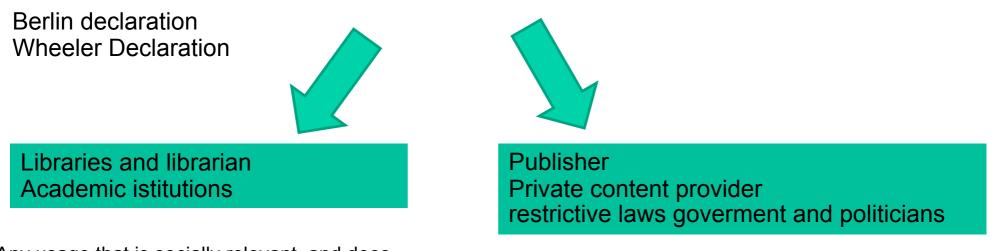
# What about Italy ?

In Italy the difficulties in accessing content in order to provide content-derived services is huge



Very confused law on author's rights, much more inclined to protect rights holders (ownership) than free access to knowledge.

Two main direction in the debate



"Any usage that is socially relevant, and does not affect in a significant way the interests of right holders, should be allowed."

### 1. First direction: Libraries/librarian – public Universities



#### home

overview programme submission papers registration organization links









Berlin 5 Open Access : From Practice to Impact : Consequences of Knowledge Dissemination



Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane



Università di Padova, Palazzo del Bo Via VIII Febbraio 2, Padova, Italy

#### 19 - 21 September, 2007

Venue

The Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane (CRUI), the Università degli Studi di Padova, the Max-Planck Gesellschaft, the European Science Foundation, the Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft are pleased to announce that the fifth conference in the "Berlin Declaration" tradition will take place in September 19-21, 2007 in Padua, Italy, with the title "Berlin 5 Open Access : From Practice to Impact : Consequences of Knowledge Dissemination".

List of Participants
Participants Statistics
Conference Video

- Overview (themes & topics)
- Conference Programme
- Abstract and Paper Submission
- Presenters, Abstracts, and Papers
- Registration, Accommodation, and Travel
- Conference Organizers and Key Partners
- Related Links

This conference is sponsored by Università di Padova, Max Planck Gesellschaft, European Science Foundation, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, CILEA and supported by Banca Antonveneta, Wolters Kluwer, CEDAM, CASPUR, CLEUP, Atlantis – Ex Libris and CIPE.







CRUI Italian Group for Open Access coordinated by Roberto Delle Donne joint Belin Declaration

- Italian Wiki on OA **50** (47 public 76 total) universities opened their own institutional archives (to date almost fifty)

http://wiki.openarchives.it/index.php/ Pagina\_principale

http://www.communia-project.eu/



COMMUNIA Thematic Network14, coordinated by Juan Carlos de Martin of the Politecnico di Torino Wheeler Declaration by the *Open University Campaign15* 



Some goverment position and restriction risk to slow down the rise of a Knowledge society



- Decree "Urbani" (center right) Decree Gentiloni (center left) about Internet control by filtering tools.

-the law introduces the sanctions against the music and film piracy committed by electronic means, through web sites or file sharing systems.

- introduced the crime for sharing on the Net works protected by copyright..
- provider must cooperate with police resctriction of on-line privacy

Proposal of law n. 1269 "Levi" by Ricardo Franco Levi (Pd – Democratic Political party),

Could imply that blogs and amateur sites should also be certified such as newspaper and tv brodcaster restriction of free speech.

"editorial product is "characterized by objective product information, training, dissemination, entertainment, whether for publication, whatever the form in which it is made and the means by which it is disseminated."



Recent Italy governments trend

-"seems to be using copyright to restrict the property rights of purchasers of cultural products, by including the techniques of "protection" that actually limits the possibility of using free content, regularly paid, by preventing the regular use of the product purchased on most PCs, on many car radios and other electronic systems, and reducing the sound quality on many others".

-"We observe with astonishment the particular idea of the legislature to confer providers of connectivity services the role of "police line", helping to increase the digital divide between Italy and the most advanced countries like the United States, Sweden and South Korea".

Copyright was born to protect the authors, not the rights owners



-The statement by the Minister that "the violation of intellectual property is theft" is conceptually incorrect. The term "theft" means the removal of property from its rightful owner; on the contrary, the construction of a new copy of a digital content does not prevent the enjoyment of others.

-the government should intervene as little as possible, only to ensure a balance between the public interest and market competition, rather than act to defend the interests of specific areas of the private sector and against the demands of consumers.

The proposal for an Internet Bill of Rights as an open and participative process, able to define itself on multiple levels, such as institutional and self-regulation, through codes of social subsidiarity, able to define itself in ways related to asynchronous awareness differentiated on the worldwide level. This proposal exists in a full logical relationship with the Kyoto Protocol.



# **Changing the value chain**

### For individual purchasers payment of the copy right

# To a Knowledge proportional tax to sustain Knowledge pubblic access and Knowledge public sharing

Rights as a common good and common goods as a right. Library as a common good, library as a right.