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OFE STATEMENT

Calling on STM Publishers to withdraw their model licenses

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OFE joined 57 other organisations in calling for the International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical (STM) Publishers to withdraw their model licenses and work with the community within the Creative Commons (CC) framework to build a scholarly literature that is compatible with wider human knowledge on the web.

The coalition underlines that while CC licenses are a widely accepted and successfully implemented global standard, the model open access licenses recently released by the STM are not. Even more so, although STM Publishers [affirm](#) that their model licenses are intended to be complementary and interoperable with CC licenses, a closer look shows that the most liberal STM license is barely compatible with the most restrictive CC license (non-commercial, no derivative work).

Another concern for OFE is that STM licenses intend to address text and data mining (TDM), by making available licenses specifically for TDM activities. This ignores the entire debate at EU-level, where many end users, consumers and institutional users argue that additional licenses are not an appropriate solution to solve the uncertainty concerning TDM and rather constitute a barrier and a source of transaction costs ([Report](#) on the responses to the Public Consultation on the Review of the EU Copyright Rules, July 2014, p. 63-64).

The letter signed by all organisations is available [online](#). STM Publishers were also quick to provide a [public response](#).

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