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## A new look at the university libraries in context European Research Area

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The role of university libraries in the European Research Area (ERA). Collecting, diffusion and exploitation of knowledge like the core of the research system are discussed. The paper presenting an access to knowledge by exploiting the potential of university libraries, the development of online libraries, repositories of scientific information and databases of publications. An examination of the role of university libraries in Poland in the process of the knowledge transfer, the main problem of scientific communication.

**Keywords:** university library, European Research Area, knowledge transfer, access to knowledge