

Practical tips for authors

The following tips are intended to help you publish according to the open access principle.

1. Get an overview of open access journals suited to your subject. You can find such an overview at the DOAJ or at the electronic journals library (EZB)
2. Some open access journals charge a publication fee. DFG-funded researchers may apply for an annual publication allowance of 750 euros. Furthermore, FAU has an open access publication fund. Please contact the University Library for details about funding.
3. Decide whether you want to make your article accessible in an open access journal or via a document server in addition to an original publication. Publications on document servers are usually free of charge.

Document servers are used by many research institutions and universities as institutional repositories. Please contact the University Library for details about the OPUS FAU institutional repository.

By choosing a subject-specific document server, you ensure that your work will reach the expert community. OpenDOAR offers an overview that can be filtered e.g. for disciplines and countries.

4. In archiving already published documents, you may be required to observe publishers' contractual terms. The (non-legally binding) SHERPA/RoMEO database is a useful resource in this regard. Avoid granting publishers exclusive rights of use if possible. You can use the Copyright Addendum Engine to create a suitable addendum to a contract.

Open access publishing at FAU

FAU open access policy:

<http://www.fau.de/forschung/open-access-policy/>

Open Access Publication Fund:

<http://www.ub.fau.de/open-access/>

OPUS FAU:

<http://opus4.kobv.de/opus4-fau/home>

FAU University Press:

<http://www.university-press.fau.de/>

Links und Literatur

Open access information platform:

<http://www.open-access.net>

Berlin declaration on open access:

<http://oa.mpg.de/lang/de/berlin-prozess/berliner-erklarung/>

Budapest Open Access Initiative:

<http://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/>

UNESCO Open Access:

<http://www.unesco.de/openaccess.html>

Federal Ministry for Education and Research:

<http://www.bmbf.de/de/22905.php>

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ):

<http://www.doaj.org>

Electronic Journals Library Regensburg (EZB):

<http://rzblx1.uni-regensburg.de/ezeit/?colors=1>

Directory of Open Access Repositories (OpenDOAR):

<http://www.opendoar.org/>

Creative Commons licenses:

<http://de.creativecommons.org/>

Digital Peer Publishing NRW (DiPP NRW):

<http://www.dipp.nrw.de/>

SHERPA/RoMEO-list:

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>

SHERPA/JULIET-list:

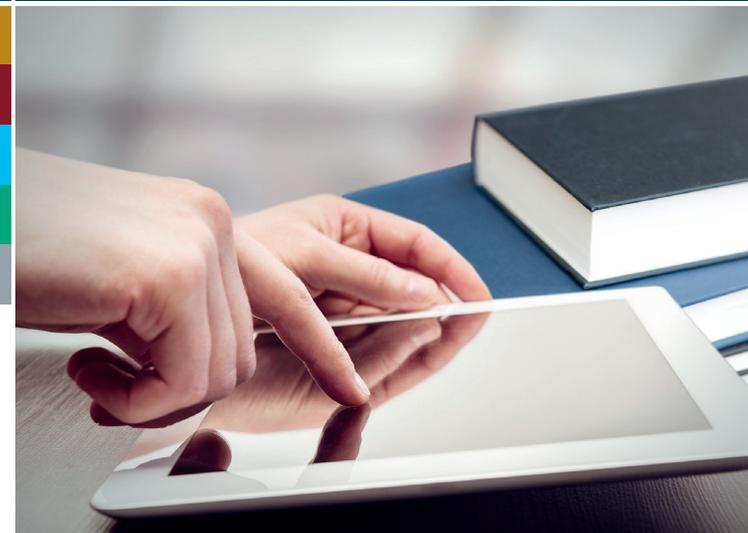
<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/>

Copyright Addendum Engine:

<http://scholars.sciencecommons.org/>



Open access publishing at FAU – Tips for authors



What does 'open access' mean?

Open access stands for free online access to academic documents, with the goal of maximum dissemination and fast availability of information on research. The Budapest Open Access Initiative defines open access as follows:

'By 'open access' to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles (...) or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.'

Open access declarations

In December 2001, renowned national and international researchers founded the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI). In the declaration of the same name, they demand free access to academic works on the Internet and commit themselves to supporting this development.

In 2003, leading national and international research organisations (German Rectors' Conference, German Council of Science and Humanities, etc.) undertook to establish the open access principle. Since then, the Berlin Declaration, which emerged from a conference on open access to scientific and academic knowledge, has been signed by many research organisations around the world.

FAU's president also signed the Berlin Declaration; this and the 2011 Open Access Policy show FAU's commitment to open access. FAU thus strives to promote modern academic communication and barrier-free research transfer.



Open access strategies

The 'golden road'

The term 'golden road' stands for primary publications of research articles in open access journals. The submitted manuscripts usually go through the same quality assurance process (peer review) as research publications in traditional journals. As publications in open access journals also incur costs, new business models have to be developed (e.g. publication fees, institutional memberships, internal publishers and consortia). Such costs can be reimbursed by FAU's Open Access Publication Fund.

The number of open access journals is growing steadily: the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) lists more than 1.5 million articles in approximately 10,000 quality-tested journals (as of February 2014).

The 'green road'

Archiving and depositing academic documents on document servers (repositories) in parallel with planned and already existing print publications is called the 'green road', or self-archiving.

Such document servers are established and run by individual institutions (e.g. OPUS FAU) or as cross-institutional servers. Access to and publication of academic documents are usually free of charge on institutional and disciplinary document servers.

The Directory of Open Access Repositories (Open DOAR) offers a list of all document servers in existence. OpenDOAR lists approximately 2500 repositories (as of February 2014).

Advantages of open access

Open access offers several advantages:

- Free access to academic information
- Increased visibility and citation rates of publications
- Good searchability via search engines and reference services
- Digital publishing means no space constraints, integration of other content
- Internationalisation of research
- Promotion of research efficiency through prompt discussion of research results
- Long-term digital preservation through publication on document servers (such as OPUS FAU)

Legal framework

The rights of use generally remain with the author with publications in open access journals. Special licenses (e.g. Creative Commons licenses, DiPP licenses) may govern the rights of use more closely.

For secondary publication on document servers, the contractual terms of the publishers must be observed. Authors should avoid giving publishers exclusive rights of use and instead ensure the option of open access archiving with addenda to the contract. The SHERPA/RoMEO list offers an overview of publishers' terms with regard to archiving. If nothing else has been agreed, authors may otherwise reproduce and disseminate their work one year after publication in a periodically published collection according to Section 38 (1) Urhebergesetz (Act on Copyright and Related Rights).

From 2014 onwards, publicly funded researchers will also benefit from the new secondary publication rights according to the recently amended Section 38 (4) Urhebergesetz (cf. BGBl I 2013/59).

OpenDOAR