FNR Policy on Open Access

Position statement

The FNR attaches great importance to the impact of research outputs on science, industry, policy making and society in general. To maximise the possibilities for impact of research outputs, results from FNR-(co)funded research are expected to be disseminated via high-quality, peer-reviewed publications that are made freely available to any potential reader or user with access to the internet.

Definition of Open Access

We define Open Access as in the Berlin Declaration meaning that publications can be accessed, read or re-used for free by any person with access to the internet, the only restriction being that the work is properly attributed to its author.

Open Access can be achieved either by depositing the publication in an online (subject-specific, institutional or other) repository (Green route) or by making the publication openly available from the publishers' website (possibly) through the payment of article processing fees (Gold route or hybrid model).

Benefits

The removal of technical, financial and legal barriers to the access and re-use of publications contributes to a more efficient and effective use of research results, maximises the potential for innovation, increases the visibility of researchers and their research institutions and provides the conditions for a bigger return on invest of public money.

Principles

In its goal to maximise the impact of research outputs, the FNR adheres to the National Policy on Open Access supported by all major research institutions in Luxembourg and to the Science Europe Principles for the Transition to Open Access to Research Publications. In addition, this policy is in line with the European Commission’s ‘Recommendations on Access to and Preservation of Scientific Information’, (July 2012) as well as the European Commission’s ‘Communication Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investments in research’. Lastly, this policy aligns itself with the Horizon 2020 programme’s mandate on Open Access which is the implementation of the European Commission’s recommendations within its own funding programme.
The FNR therefore adopts the following principles on Open Access:

1. Dissemination of research results through high-quality, peer-reviewed publications is an integral part of the research activity.

2. Publications arising from research funded in total or part by the FNR must be made available online for free reading and reuse, as soon as possible. Where this cannot be done immediately upon publication, researchers must ensure that the embargo is no longer than 6 months (counting from the publication date on). An exception is made for the social sciences and humanities where the embargo can be up to 12 months.

3. Researchers may choose any of the valid approaches to Open Access. They are encouraged to exclusively select routes where quality is ensured and double-dipping\(^1\) is avoided.

4. An electronic copy of the published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication must be deposited in a repository for scientific publications\(^2\). Deposit must be done as soon as possible but at the latest upon acceptance for publication. The chosen repository must enable authors and institutions to easily comply with legal deposit laws and provide comprehensive publication metadata to digital libraries.

5. Where datasets are linked to the publication, these must be made freely available for validation and reuse, and publications must indicate how to access the underlying data.

Implementation

This FNR Policy on Open Access is fully effective from 1 January 2017 onwards.

In order to facilitate the transition towards Open Access, the FNR has created a dedicated Open Access Fund. This new funding instrument aims to reimburse article processing fees that may arise through the Open Access publication of FNR-(co)funded research results. Calls are issued once a year and conditions that apply are outlined in the Open Access Fund guidelines available on the FNR website.

- Proposals where the funding decision by the FNR is taken after 1 January 2017 can no longer request funding for publication costs as part of the project. Article processing charges can only be refunded through the FNR Open Access Fund and according to the conditions set out in the associated guidelines.
- For all other proposals (funding decision before 1 January 2017) or any ongoing projects, the specific rules of that programme for funding of publication costs will remain valid until the end of the contract with the FNR. Nevertheless, the FNR advises to ensure Open Access to all research outputs resulting from FNR-(co)funded projects.

All aspects of this policy, including the parameters of the reimbursement calculation, may be reviewed and adjusted annually.

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1\(^\) Double-dipping is the act of “charging hybrid APCs without the corresponding reductions in subscription prices”. ([Developing an Effective Market for Open Access Article Processing Charges, Bo-Christer Björk and David Solomon, March 2014](https://www凡事则从始至终). page 25.

2\(^\) Institutional, subject-based or centralised