

OPEN-ACCESS-POLICY

08 | 2022

Preamble

As an independent and socially responsible institution of the 21st century, the University of Bremen is committed to making the knowledge and collective achievements of its scholars and scientists available to society on the basis of freedom of research and teaching.

The University of Bremen sees Open Access publication models as an opportunity to provide everyone with free and equal access to the results of scientific work, while at the same time ensuring the maximal dissemination of results.

In line with the above, the University of Bremen signed the [Berlin Declaration](#)¹ on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities of 22 October 2003 to express support for the Open Access movement and to promote discourse on this topic at the University of Bremen.

The University of Bremen embraces digital transformation in all its fields of action and is actively building innovative information and communication infrastructures to promote such development.



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Definition

Open Access stands for unrestricted and free access to scholarly information including its use and dissemination, while respecting and correctly referencing the original authorship.

Open Access has the following objectives:

- fast publication and immediate access
- best possible exposure and dissemination of scientific research results
- optimal re-use of scientific information
- transparency and quality assurance

Open Access has the potential to intensify scientific discourse, expand social dialogue and increase the visibility of scientific publications.

Proviso

These recommendations are addressed to all members of the University of Bremen.

With due regard to the constitutionally protected freedom of research and teaching and the freedom to choose the publication medium and venue that results therefrom, and taking into account the different statuses of open access in the various disciplinary cultures, the University of Bremen makes the following recommendations for the transition to Open Access.

Recommendations for action

In order to permanently establish openness in teaching and research at the University of Bremen, we recommend that all members of the University actively pursue the above-mentioned objectives of Open Access as a part of Open Science whenever possible.

To this end, the University of Bremen advises all scientists to submit their articles to Open Access journals and to publish monographs and collected works on Open Access platforms ([Gold and Diamond Open Access](#))².

Where publication in Open Access has not taken place, the University of Bremen encourages all authors to deposit an electronic copy of their peer-reviewed published articles on an open access document server insofar as there are no legal objections to doing so and while staying within the framework of the possibilities offered by publishers and copyright law (self-archiving/[Green Open Access](#))³. All members of the University of Bremen can make use of the university's own [MEDIA](#)⁴ document server run by the State and University Library (SuUB) in order to do so. The library generally provides support in all matters relating to "electronic publishing", including legal [questions](#)⁵.

To avoid dubious publishing practices (so-called "predatory publishers") and to ensure quality in the Open Access publishing process, the University of Bremen recommends using checklists on [Think Check Submit](#)⁶ and the Directory of Open Access Journals ([DOAJ](#))⁷ as a basis of information. Furthermore, the SuUB's Open Access team is available to advise researchers in the publication process with regards to quality issues. Additionally, on behalf of the Academic Senate at the University of Bremen, [trusted advisors](#)⁸ are available to counsel one academic to another.



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The University of Bremen recommends its authors to use open publication licences that promote dissemination in Open Access ([preferably Creative Commons licence](#) CC BY)⁹.

The funding regulations of many third-party funders allow funds for article processing charges (APCs) to be included in the project budget when submitting a funding proposal. Therefore, the University of Bremen calls on its researchers to make use of such possibilities when planning and conducting third-party-funded projects.

When negotiating with publishers, authors are encouraged to secure the right to self-archive electronic versions as provided for in the guidelines of several research funders. To this end, the University of Bremen recommends authors avoid granting exclusive right of use and instead opt to retain a non-exclusive right to make their works available to the public. This ensures self-archiving remains possible.

Validity of policy: Revised version adopted on 15.08.2022 and acknowledged by the Academic Senate of the University of Bremen on 19.10.2022. This version replaces the previously valid [Open Access Policy](#)¹⁰ of 07.06.2011.



¹ Link to the Berlin Declaration on the website of the Max Planck Society:

<https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner-Erklaerung> (Dated 25.10.2022)

² Link to the SuUB website 'Financing Open Access': <https://doi.org/10.26092/4tgw-1b24>

³ Link to the SuUB website 'Green Open Access': <https://doi.org/10.26092/g1pa-fb17>

⁴ Link to the MEDIA document server: <https://media.suub.uni-bremen.de/?locale=en> (Dated 25.10.2022)

⁵ Email address of the open access team of the SuUB: publizieren@suub.uni-bremen.de

⁶ Link to the website 'Think Check Submit' of the international initiative:

<https://thinkchecksubmit.org/journals/> (Dated 25.10.2022)

⁷ Link to the Directory of Open Access Journals: <https://doaj.org/> (Dated 25.10.2022)

⁸ Link to the trusted advisors at the University of Bremen: <https://www.uni-bremen.de/en/research/research-profile/open-access-at-the-university-of-bremen> (Dated 25.10.2022)

⁹ Link to Creative Commons: <https://creativecommons.org/about/cclicenses/> (Dated 25.10.2022)

¹⁰ Link to the previous Open Access Policy: https://www.suub.uni-bremen.de/uploads/cms/files/Open_Access_Policy_Bremen.pdf (Dated 25.10.2022)