

Open Access Policy of the University of Graz

Adopted on 14 February 2019



“Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely and readily available to society. New possibilities of knowledge dissemination not only through the classical form but also and increasingly through the open access paradigm via the Internet have to be supported. We define open access as a comprehensive source of human knowledge and cultural heritage that has been approved by the scientific community.” (Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, October 22, 2003)

The University of Graz acknowledges its responsibility to society to ensure free and open access to scholarly publications and research findings of its researchers as well as to objects of cultural heritage. It therefore supports its researchers in embracing Open Access as a means of wider dissemination of their research findings and an expression of good scientific practice.

As a signatory to the *Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities* and in accordance with the principles it sets out as well as in support of EU science policy, the University of Graz hereby issues the following Open Access Policy:

1. The University of Graz strongly recommends that its members publish their scholarly work in open access publications and platforms with quality assurance policies. Exceptions may be justified for book publications in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences and (at least in the short term) the strategic placement of articles in high-impact journals. Furthermore, the University of Graz expects its members to make already published work accessible in the institutional open access repository, uni≡pub, after any applicable embargo period has expired, provided there are no major legal or economic obstacles.
2. The University of Graz expressly reminds its members to pay particular attention to copyright regulations whenever publishing their works. Exploitation rights, in particular self-archiving rights, should be contractually reserved whenever possible.
3. The University of Graz supports the commitment of its members to serve as editors and reviewers for high-quality open access publications and platforms.
4. The University of Graz supports its members in organisational, financial or legal matters pertaining to open access by providing
 - information and consultancy through the Open Access Team at the University Library,
 - venues for publication such as the institutional repository and Graz University Press,
 - services for publishing open access journals,
 - financial support for selected open access infrastructures and publication channels,
 - a publication fund that can cover author fees for (gold) open access publications in quality-assured journals, and by

- negotiating and signing publishing contracts containing open access components.
5. The University of Graz is an active participant in collaborative open access initiatives, both within Austria and internationally, and keeps its members informed about developments in open access.
 6. The University of Graz contributes actively to the ongoing development of standards for the registration and classification of open access publications.
 7. Open access publications are marked in the University of Graz's research documentation.
 8. Open access publications are flagged by the University when evaluating academics' research performance, particularly with respect to the habilitation process and appointment procedures.
 9. Works held by the University of Graz that have significant cultural or academic value will be digitised in a systematic manner and made accessible to the general public in open access format.