

Open Access in Horizon 2020 - EC funded projects

Briefing paper for Project Coordinators

In Horizon 2020, the European Commission (EC) requests all projects to provide open access (OA) to all peer reviewed scientific publications related to project results. The Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement¹ states:

"... as soon as possible and at the latest on publication, deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication in a repository for scientific publications; ... ensure open access to the deposited publication - via the repository - at the latest on publication, if an electronic version is available for free via the publisher, or ... within six months of publication (twelve months ... in the social sciences and humanities) in any other case ..."

How can project coordinators adhere to these open access obligations?

- When you report your publication lists to the EC, you will have to ensure that all publications arising from your Horizon 2020 project are open access and freely available immediately, or as soon as possible, after any embargo period expires.
- Each publication must be accompanied by bibliographic information, containing the details as listed in the box on the right.

How can OpenAIRE help project coordinators?

When these publications are correctly identified as produced by a Horizon 2020 project, they are automatically aggregated by the OpenAIRE portal (provided they reside in a compliant repository). Each project has its own page on OpenAIRE, featuring project information, related project publications and datasets, and a statistics section.

- **Help with reporting:** You can find your publications and project listed at www.openaire.eu. This is embedded in the EC's project portal (CORDIS) and can be used to help in your reporting.
- **Generate your publication lists:** OpenAIRE provides you with a button that will automatically generate a publication list. Check whether the list of publications is complete, and that all are open access. Please notify us of articles not listed.

How can researchers in my project ensure open access to their articles?

- Submit papers to a **journal of choice**, there is no restriction. Publishing costs (article processing fees) can be reimbursed within the project period and budget.
- **Deposit** the final manuscript or publisher's PDF in a repository. **It is not enough to list publications via a project website. They will go unnoticed!**
- An embargo period of 6/12 months is acceptable when required by the publisher.
- **Acknowledge project funding**, both in the publication and in the metadata:
 - Each paper must include in its metadata the terms ["*European Union (EU)*" and "*Horizon 2020*"] or ["*Euratom*" and "*Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018*"]; the **name of the action, acronym and the grant number**; - the **publication date, length of embargo period** if applicable, and a **persistent identifier** (e.g DOI, Handle)

¹ Model Grant Agreement http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/mga/gga/h2020-mga-gga-multi_en.pdf

What is a repository, and can it give a persistent identifier?

An open access repository stores, and provides free access to, the digital collection of research output. Researchers often 'deposit' their publications in their institutional repository or a community-based subject specific repository (e.g. arXiv, Europe PubMed Central). A repository can provide you with a persistent identifier.

What if researchers have no repository?

Always check if your researchers can store ('deposit') their article in a local or discipline based repository. You can find a list of repositories here: www.opendoar.org. Researchers are welcome to deposit in Zenodo, specifically targeted to data and publications from EU projects: www.zenodo.org.

Will publishers allow self-archiving of article copies in a repository?

In most cases, yes. Most publishers (check here: <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>) will allow you to deposit a copy of the article in a repository, sometimes with a period of restricted access (embargo). In Horizon 2020, if the embargo period imposed by the publisher is longer than 6 months (or 12 months for social sciences and humanities), authors are expected to fulfil the open access obligations by choosing open access publishing. OpenAIRE can give you advice on these aspects, especially where self-archiving is not allowed.

What about the management of research data?

Some parts of Horizon 2020 participate in the 'open data pilot'.

OpenAIRE can point you to the right resources if you need to write a research data management plan for your project.

Opting out: Projects may opt out of the open access requirement for specific parts of their research data datasets if the achievement of the project's main objective would be jeopardised otherwise. It is important to note that, independently of participation in the open data pilot, projects have to fulfil their obligation to protect results,

their confidentiality obligations, their security obligations and their obligation to protect personal data.

Opting in: Projects in areas or sub-areas of, or individual projects funded under Horizon 2020 and not covered by the scope of the Pilot may participate on a voluntary basis.

For more information see: <http://www.openaire.eu/en/open-access/open-access-in-h2020/h2020-oa-data>

I need more information

The OpenAIRE infrastructure is funded by the EC to support its OA policy and rules. OpenAIRE can provide you with more information about the Open Access policy in Horizon 2020 and about how we can help you to comply. The OpenAIRE project has local representatives in all EU countries incl. Switzerland, Norway and Turkey (the National Open Access Desks or NOADs). You can contact them directly or ask a question through our helpdesk system.

For more information and contact details, please visit www.openaire.eu.

The EC has an Open Access Factsheet:

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/sites/horizon2020/files/FactSheet_Open_Access.pdf

Guidelines on Open Access to Scientific Publications and Research Data in Horizon 2020:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide_en.pdf