Open Science

Horizon Europe

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The European Commission has reinforced the principles of Open Science in the Framework Program for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe. Open Science is a policy priority for the European Commission and an integral part of EU research and innovation funding programmes, as open science practices improve the quality, efficiency, and responsiveness of research.

Wherever possible, research data and key materials resulting from EU-funded research are to be published in accordance with the FAIR principles ("Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-Usable"). This encourages research results to be shared as early and openly as possible among all relevant stakeholders, including citizens, to ensure the use and exploitation of research data and results and to avoid duplication of funding.

Proposal stage

When preparing your proposal, it is therefore important to consider how your project results and the corresponding data and metadata will be disseminated and shared, as the project will also be evaluated in terms of open science requirements. In your proposal, you should describe when and how early you will publish and provide access to your research data and results, or whether there are any particular interests which speak against this (patent applications, data protection regulations, trade secrets). In the evaluation, these aspects are assessed under the criteria "quality and efficiency of implementation", and "excellence" of the project.

The following open science practices are mandatory:

- A data management plan including a commitment to provide open access to research data "as open as possible and as closed as necessary."

- Information about the research outputs/tools/instruments needed to validate the conclusions of scientific publications or to validate/re-use research data.

- Digital or physical access to the results needed to validate the conclusions of scientific publications, unless exceptions apply.

- In cases of public emergency, if requested by the granting authority, immediate open access to all research outputs under open licenses or, if exceptions apply, access under fair and reasonable conditions to legal entities that need the research outputs to address the public emergency (not required under ERC).

Specific requirements may be included in the calls for proposals. If no additional information is included in the call, the general requirements on Open Access apply, which are outlined under Article 17 and Annex 5 of the Grant Agreement (GA).

The Model GA can be found here. More detailed information can be found in the Annotated Model Grant Agreement (AGA) in particular from page 151ff here.

The "Data Management Plan Template Horizon Europe" can be found here.

Further information and help on research data management can also be found on the LUH website. Please also refer to the research data management guidelines at your university.

Project implementation

Publications from EU-funded projects can also be made available via the publication platform Open Research Europe (ORE). ORE is financed and managed by the EU Commission. The publication fees per article are paid by the EU Commission. Use of ORE is not mandatory.

In order to meet the EU requirements for open science, all parties involved must ensure that the following rules for publications, data, and metadata are observed:

- ☑ At the latest at the time of publication, a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or the final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication is to be deposited in a trusted repository for scientific publications.

- ☑ Immediate open access is provided to the deposited publication via the repository, under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public Licence (CC BY) or a licence with equivalent rights; for monographs and other long-text formats, the licence may exclude commercial uses and derivative works (e.g. CC BY-NC, CC BY-ND).

- ☑ Information is given via the repository about any research output or any other tools and instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the scientific publication.

- ☑ The digital research data generated in the action ('data') responsibly, in line with the FAIR principles, in particular, it should be machine-actionable (machine-readable, and automatic computer processing can extract information from the metadata attributes ensuring a cross-linking between different research outputs) and follow a standardised format, in line with community standards.

- ☑ The data should provide rich information on the publication/data (author(s), publication title, date of publication, publication venue); Horizon Europe or Euratom funding; grant project name, acronym and number; licensing terms.

- ☑ Additionally, metadata must be made available via open access under a Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC0) or equivalent, ensuring its reusability.

- ☑ Where research data need to remain closed but there are no compelling reasons that the associated metadata should not be findable and accessible, open access should be provided for the metadata, if possible with CC0 dedication or equivalent, while the dataset itself remains closed for access.

- ☑ Data should be provided with persistent identifier (PID) referencing (e.g., Digital Object Identifier (DOI), for all authors involved in the action (e.g., ORCIDs or ResearcherIDs) and, if possible, for their organizations (e.g., ROR ID) and funding (e.g., funding grant DOI).

The above research data management provisions are also recommended for research outputs other than scientific publications and research data.

Publication Costs

Publication costs incurred as part of an EU-funded project, e.g. for Open Access publications, are eligible costs which can be charged to the project if the above requirements are met. When applying for research funding, you should therefore include costs for publications in your budget.

Further Information

- ▪ HE Programme Guide
- ▪ Open Access Journals
- ▪ Open Access Repositories
- ▪ Journals and Repositories by discpline
- ▪ SHERPA RoMEO
- ▪ JULIET

Universities often offer their own publication repositories. For further information, please contact the relevant contact person at your institution or refer to the list of publication services (DINI, Information in DE only).

Contacts

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- **Stiftung Tierärztliche Hochschule Hannover**
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If there is no direct contact person for your institution, you can contact the OpenAIRE project, which provides an orphan repository.

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