

Open Access at the Max Planck Society

"Open Access" – what does it mean?

Open Access literature is online, free of charge for all readers, and permits its distribution and further use for research, education and other purposes.

Open Access is focused on peer-reviewed scholarly research publications and their pre- and postprints.

The Max Planck Society (MPS) publicly demonstrated its commitment to Open Access by initiating *The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities* in 2003.

➤ <http://oa.mpg.de>

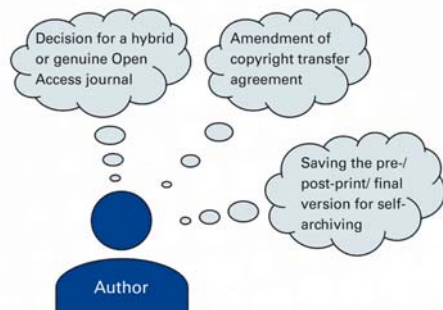
Why should authors care about Open Access?

When authors provide Open Access to their work this leads to:

- ✓ An increase in the visibility and accessibility of their research
- ✓ Maximum usage and consequently a potential rise of the citation rate and impact
- ✓ A strengthening of the author's position as usage rights often stay with the author of the publication
- ✓ Application of innovative functionalities, for example, integration of databases, research data or supplementary materials
- ✓ Reduction of access barriers for interdisciplinary research and web-based scholarly communication

Author's choices for publishing Open Access compatible

During the process of publication authors have various choices to make their work available in Open Access. The MPS strongly encourages its members to make use of these options:



Please refer to the **library** for more detailed information and support relating to the publication and self-archiving process.

Different approaches towards Open Access

Open Access is mainly achieved by changing habits in scholarly communication, especially in journal publishing.

Articles published in **hybrid or genuine** (some/all articles) **Open Access journals** are freely available to the public as the business models of these journals are not or only partly based on subscription charges. Some of them require publication charges instead. This strand of scholarly publication is referred to as "**Golden Road**".

➤ www.doaj.org/oaaj?func=forAuthors

It is supplemented by the "**Green Road**" or "**self-archiving**". These terms refer to an option offered by many traditional toll access journals to their authors, that is to make their articles (often the pre- or post-print version) available via personal websites or specific databases, so-called institutional or subject repositories.

➤ www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo

Authors can secure their right for **self-archiving** independently of publisher copyright policies by amending the **copyright transfer agreement** with an **author addendum**.

➤ <http://oa.mpd.mpg.de/wiki/>

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Supporting the Golden Road

The MPDL conducts central agreements with publishers on Open Access compatible publication models. In these cases Open Access charges are centrally paid for MPS authors.

➤ <http://tinyurl.com/oacontracts>

Examples for OA-Journals in the Life Sciences

- BioMed Central → BMC Biology; PMC Biophysics
- Public Library of Science → PLoS Biology; PLoS Computational Biology

Supporting the Green Road

Together with the MPDs the MPDL is operating and developing the central institutional repository of the MPS.

➤ <http://edoc.mpg.de> ➤ <http://pubman.mpd.mpg.de>

MPS Open Access Network

Interested employees of the MPS can register for the mailing list of the network by sending an e-mail to:

➤ open-access@mpdl.mpg.de

Local Open Access contact

Juliane Pohl

Library, Tel. 3800 or pohl@biochem.mpg.de

➤ www.biochem.mpg.de/en/service/library/publishing