
Open Access

Open access (OA) is a publication model that seeks to achieve **immediate**, **free**, **permanent** and **independent** online access to the results of publicly funded science and research.

Characteristics of open access

- **immediate** = access to the results should be provided at the latest when they are published (or even before publishing – e.g. in a preprint repository), it is access without a time embargo
- **free** = access to the results should be available free of charge to end users
- **permanent** = access should be provided in the long term - results must be archived
- **independent** = results should not be read-only, but should be licensed under a public license that allows reuse (e.g. Creative Commons)

There are two basic open access models – green and gold route to open access.

Green route to open access

Green open access is a complement to the traditional way of publishing through scientific journals. Authors still publish their articles in journals with a subscription-based model or in open journals, but at the same time they store and make available the full-text of their article in an open digital repository (so-called **self-archiving**).

We distinguish the following **basic types of open repositories**:

- **Institutional** – A repository of an organization that typically allows only its members to store and access the results. Example: [CU Research Publications Repository](#) (more information can be found in [separate section](#))
- **Disciplinary (subject)** – A repository focused on a specific field or area, usually allows to store and make the results available either to members of the field community or of the relevant associating organization. Example: [arXiv.org](#) or [Pubmed Central](#)
- **Multidisciplinary** – A repository that is unrestricted by organization membership or field specialization. Example: [Zenodo](#)

You can use the [Directory of Open Access Repositories](#) (OpenDOAR) to find a **suitable repository to publish your article** or to search for relevant literature.

Open access to a publication in the case of the green route is ensured by the author. However, specific terms and conditions of auto-archiving (whether the author can make the article available at all, which version and under what conditions) are limited by what is stipulated in the licensing agreement (often called *License Agreement* or *Copyright Transfer Agreement*) or the general licensing conditions of the publisher.

Have you decided to publish by the green route? Take a look at the [Individual steps](#) .

Gold route to open access

The gold route to open access is based on publishing in peer-reviewed open scientific journals. In the case of this route, open access to the publication is provided by the publisher.

There are three basic models of open access journals:

- **Pure/diamond open access journals** = Full content of the journal is openly accessible while publishing-related costs are borne by the publisher (e.g. a university publishing house, scientific community). Example: [Evigogika](#) or [Global Health Research and Policy](#)
- **Paid open access journals** = Full content of the journal is openly available while publishing costs of the article are borne by the authors – they pay a [publication fee](#) ; this type of journals is often mistaken for the entire gold open access model. Publication fees are usually eligible costs in research projects. Example: [PLoS ONE](#) or [Occupational Therapy International](#)
- **Hybrid journals** – The journal is available to subscribers by default, only selected articles are available in open access for a [publication fee](#) . Example: [Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A](#)

Journals that make their content available free of charge after the expiration of the embargo period are not considered to be open access – they do not meet the condition of immediate access.

The idea of paid open journals began to be misused by fraudulent publishers and journals, generally called predators .

You can use the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) database **to find a suitable open journal to publish your article** or to search for relevant literature.

Have you decided to publish by the gold route? Take a look at the individual steps . **Authors from Charles University are also eligible to use discounts on publishing with certain publishers .**

Useful resources

Websites

Creative Commons

<https://creativecommons.org/>

Books

SUBER, Peter. Open access. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, c2012. MIT Press essential knowledge series. ISBN 978-0-262-51763-8.

Dostupné také z: <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/open-access>