

Open Access – A Work Package in the Priority Initiative "Digital Information" by the Alliance of German Research Organisations

The Alliance of German Research Organisations*



* informal cooperation of the major German public research and research-supporting organisations

Priority Initiative "Digital Information" (2008-2012)

- Provide researchers with the best possible information infrastructure
- Enable free access to publications and research data
- Provide integrated research tools

Work packages and concerted efforts

- **National Licensing**
Provide demand-oriented resources via a national consortium and author-focused rights of use
- **Open Access** (see box on the right)
- **National Hosting**
Ensure sustainable access to digital resources via powerful infrastructure and standardised interfaces
- **Research Data**
Further federated framework for research data with common data policy and discipline-specific approaches
- **Virtual Research Environment**
Deploy subject-based and interdisciplinary research environments
- **Legal Framework**
Give support to authors for open access publishing

Further information about the Priority Initiative Strategy Proposal can be found on the Internet: www.dfg.de/lis

Work Package "Open Access"

The Priority Initiative's goals related to Open Access are dealt with by a dedicated working group.

Fields of activities and sample projects

- **Raising Awareness**
German Information Platform Open Access (<http://open-access.net>)
- **Green Road**
Federate institutional and subject-based repositories
 - Further interoperability
Open Access Network (www.dini.de/projekte/oa-netzwerk)
 - Integration of Data Publication
World Data Centres (e.g. PANGAEA (Publishing Network for Geoscientific & Environmental Data)) (<http://www.pangaea.de/>)
- **Golden Road**
Develop mechanisms to support Open Access Gold
 - Genuin Open Access journals, e.g.:
German Medical Science (www.egms.de)
Living Reviews (www.livingreviews.org)
 - Participate in consortia
SCOAP³ (<http://scoap3.org>)
 - Peer-Review on Research Data
Earth System Science Data (ESSD) (<http://www.earth-system-science-data.net/>)
- **National Licensing**
Correlate open access and national licenses of research information from commercial publishers

The members of the Working Group "Open Access" of the Alliance



www.dfg.de

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) is the central, self-governing research funding organisation that promotes research at universities and other publicly financed research institutions in Germany. The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects and facilitating cooperation among researchers.

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft funds a number of open access projects, ranging from the information platform on open access to establishing a networked repository infrastructure as well as open access journals.

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www.fraunhofer.de

With more than 80 research units, including 56 Institutes, at 40 different locations in Germany the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft undertakes applied research of direct utility to private and public enterprise and of wide benefit to society. Innovation is only possible when researchers are able to share new knowledge as soon as it has been established. In its capacity as a partly publicly funded research organization, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft has a duty to inform the general public about its research activities. At the same time, industrial partners have a need for information that will allow them to find the appropriate partners for their projects. Consequently, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft has recently adopted an own Open Access Policy following the principles signed with the Berlin Declaration.

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www.helmholtz.de

The Helmholtz Association contributes to solving major challenges facing society, science and industry with top scientific achievements in six research areas: Energy, Earth and Environment, Health, Key Technologies, Structure of Matter, Transport and Space. The Association strives to preserve and improve the foundations of human life by research of systems of great complexity with large-scale facilities and scientific infrastructure, cooperating closely with national and international partners. With 26,500 employees in 15 research centres and an annual budget of approximately 2.3 billion euros, it is Germany's largest scientific organisation. The Helmholtz Association was one of the initial signatories of the Berlin Declaration in 2003. Since 2005 the Helmholtz Open Access Project supports the scientists as well as the respective Helmholtz Centres in the realisation of Open Access.

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www.hrk.de

The German Rectors' Conference (Hochschulrektorenkonferenz, HRK) is the voluntary association of state and state-recognised universities and other higher education institutions in Germany. It currently has 258 member institutions at which around 98 per cent of all students in Germany are registered.

The HRK is the political and public voice of the universities and other higher education institutions and is the forum for the higher education institutions' joint opinion-forming process. The HRK addresses all topics relating to the responsibilities of higher education institutions: Research, teaching, studies, advanced continuing education and training, knowledge and technology transfer, international cooperation, and self-administration issues.

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www.wgl.de

The Leibniz Association is a federation of 82 research institutes working on scientific issues of cross-societal relevance. They supply infrastructures for science and research, and provide services based on their research activities – mediation, consulting, and transfer – to the public, to politics, science, and the business sector. The research carried out at the institutes ranges from Natural, Engineering and Environmental Sciences to Economics, Social Sciences, Regional Studies, and Humanities. The typical Leibniz Institute is a compact and flexible unit of excellence, thematically focussed on forward-looking fields of research, working in an interdisciplinary manner, in scientific freedom and under strategic considerations. The Leibniz Association has signed the Berlin Declaration in 2003 and supports Open Access with a dedicated policy and an institutional repository project.

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www.mpg.de

The Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science is an independent, non-profit research organization that primarily promotes and supports research at its own 80 institutes. They perform basic research in the interest of the general public in the natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. In particular, the Max Planck Society takes up new and innovative research areas that German universities are not in a position to accommodate or deal with adequately. The Max Planck Society is a leading advocate of the Open Access paradigm in Germany and on international level and initiated the Berlin Declaration in 2003. Since 2007 the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL) as a central service unit for scientific information management supports the Max Planck Society in its Open Access policy.

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