

# Open Science Platform

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*Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia (MESTD), adopted 2018, July, 14th*

The platform rests on the fundamental principles of open science as defined by the European Commission<sup>1</sup>, which are also incorporated in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for Scientific and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia in 2016-2020.

The platform is intended for all participants in research and it applies to the outputs of research projects and programmes funded fully or in part from the national budget of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. by the MESTD.

Open science involves the realization of four goals: (1) an open-access approach to scholarly literature; (2) access to research data; (3) the transparency of scholarly communication and methodologies, and (4) the development of a digital infrastructure that makes it possible to achieve these three goals. The realization of these goals should contribute to a greater visibility of research outputs and a stronger connection between research and economy, i.e. between research and society as a whole, as well as to the development of new research projects. The goals of open science are realized with full respect for ethical norms, copyright and intellectual property rights.

Open science is principally achieved through (1) open access to research publications and (2) open access to research data.

## Open access to research publications

Open access to research publications implies the right of every Internet user to read, download, save, print and use the digital content of scholarly publications free of charge, provided that the source of information is duly cited and the content is used in accordance with the terms and conditions of the assigned license. Scholarly publications include articles published in scholarly journals, chapters in edited volumes, conference papers and conference abstracts, PhD theses, monographs, etc.

The MESTD stipulates that open access must be provided to an electronic copy of the published version (if allowed by the publisher's policy) or the peer-reviewed version (accepted for publication) of every scholarly publication. The metadata describing scholarly publications must be deposited immediately after publication in an appropriate institutional / subject-based / national repository, in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 1. The obligation to deposit in a repository also applies to journal articles, monographs, proceedings, etc. published in Gold Open Access.

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<sup>1</sup> **(1)** Guidelines to the Rules on Open Access to Scientific Publications and Open Access to 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](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide_en.pdf);

**(2)** Commission Recommendation (EU) 2018/790 of 25 April 2018 on access to and preservation of scientific information (No. 32018H0790), 2018, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018H0790>

The MESTD stipulates that open access to the integral (full) text of the published research outputs must be enabled immediately, if possible, and certainly no later than 12 months after the date of publication in case of physical and medical sciences, and engineering, or no later than 18 months in case of social sciences and humanities. The MESTD primarily supports Green Open Access, i.e. depositing published research outputs in digital repositories with full respect to copyright and rights granted to publishers.

### **Open Access to Research Data**

Open access to research data implies the right of every Internet user to download, save and distribute research data free of charge, as well as to use, modify and build upon them without asking permission from their creators or owners, provided that the source of information is duly cited and the data are used in accordance with the terms and conditions of the assigned license.

The purpose of archiving research data is to ensure their permanent preservation, and make them accessible within an interoperable digital platform and available for further verification or reuse in other research projects or for some other purpose. Depending on legal restrictions and ethical standards that apply in some research areas, the archived research data may be (1) closed, (2) accessible solely to the members of a defined group of researchers in a given research area, or (3) publicly available.

Research data sets, as well as the metadata describing them, should be deposited in an appropriate institutional / subject-based / national repository, in accordance with the requirements set out in Annex 2.

The MESTD recommends that open access to research data should be enabled immediately after publishing the results based on them in a publication, whenever there are no legal and/or ethical limitations.

### **Final Provisions**

Universities and research institutes shall define and adopt their open science platforms within six months, in accordance with this Platform.

The MESTD will regularly monitor the compliance with the principles set forth in this Platform and the monitoring results will be used in the evaluation of project impacts, future applications for funding, and other activities of the MESTD aimed at improving research activities in Serbia.

# Annex 1. Depositing publications in repositories

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A digital repository is a system of electronic services that enable archiving, permanent storage, public presentation and dissemination of various types of research outputs. The system rests upon a digital database containing full-text documents created as results of the research process (monographs, journal articles, chapters in edited volumes, research data, audio and video materials, etc.) and bibliographic metadata that describe them (titles, authors, editors, publication place, publisher, international standard identifiers such as ISBN, ISSN, DOI, ORCID Id, etc.). Metadata are publicly available, whereas access to full-text documents may be restricted due to copyright or other legal restrictions.

Repositories rest on digital platforms that must meet the minimum technical standards in order to ensure interoperability, i.e. the integration of repositories into the existing international infrastructure. These are the following:

- the compliance with the international metadata harvesting protocol OAI-PMH (Open Archive Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting)
- metadata expressed in the Dublin Core format.<sup>2</sup>

The MESTD primarily supports Green Open Access, i.e. depositing scholarly publications in digital repositories with full respect for copyright and the rights granted to the publishers. Participants in projects funded by the MESTD must deposit in a digital repository: (1) the published version of the publication and the corresponding bibliographic metadata; open access to the full text will be enabled if there are no restrictions in terms of copyright and rights granted to the publishers; and/or (2) the post-print, i.e. the peer-reviewed manuscript (accepted for publication) and the associated metadata; open access to the full text will be enabled after the expiration of the publisher's embargo. If the full text of the published version is already available in open access in the repository, it is not necessary to deposit the peer-reviewed manuscript.

The MESTD will recognize Article Processing Charges (APCs) and Book Processing Charges (BPCs) foreseen in the project budget as eligible costs. The MESTD will not accept individual requests to pay or reimburse publication costs (APCs and BPCs).

The MESTD stipulates that all research outputs available in open access must be assigned machine readable Creative Commons (CC) licenses.

All research outputs published in Gold Open Access must be published under a Creative Commons (CC) license. It is recommended that papers for which an APC was paid be published under a free culture license (CC BY or CC BY-SA).

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<sup>2</sup> DCMI Specifications, <http://dublincore.org/specifications/>

## Annex 2. Archiving Research Data

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In the context of research data, openness must be based on ethical principles and full respect for the legal framework.

Research data sets should be accessible in appropriate repositories that meet international interoperability standards, i.e. (1) OAI-PMH, as an international standard for metadata exchange and (2) structured metadata.

The repositories for research data should allow the assignment of unique persistent identifiers, making it easier to discover and retrieve the deposited content. Deposited research data sets must be accompanied with appropriate metadata.

Research data available in open access must be assigned a standard machine-readable license (preferably CC0, CC BY or CC BY-SA) and must be linked with the publications where the results obtained from these data are published.

The MESTD recommends that a Research Data Management Plan be an integral part of the research plan of each research project. The plan should define the following:

- methods and procedures that will be used to create and collect data (measurements, estimates, surveys, field research, etc.);
- types of expected research data and a rough estimate of their scope and volume;
- methods that will be used to archive research data (where they will be stored and in which formats; which metadata will be used to describe them, etc.)
- access to research data and terms and conditions of access and use (i.e. the individuals, institutions or groups that can access research data and use them, and under what terms and conditions).