Open Access for researchers: mandates, recommendations, strengths... What do you need to know?

Alicia F. Gómez, Irene Maseda
afgomez@cnic.es, imaseda@cnic.es

There are two ways authors can provide Open Access (OA). Before publishing you need to decide which is the better option for you:

**GREEN OA**
- In the Green OA route, you self-archive your work in an OA repository (thematic, institutional, central, etc.)
- Cheaper: You pay no fee
- Wider journal possibilities. You can publish in many "traditional" journals and then archive your work in a repository
- Embargo period (often longer than the funder’s mandatory period)

**GOLDEN OA**
- In the Golden OA route, you publish in OA journals such as PLoS, Biomed Central, etc., or in a regular journal with an OA option.
- It’s the easy way to make your work accessible to all the scientific community
- The author keeps the copyright, so is able to distribute the work freely (i.e. personal/laboratory website, Research Gate, Mendeley…)
- High cost. You pay an additional fee

The Library and Information Service can help you!

**BEFORE PUBLICATION:**
- Negotiating copyright with publishers (if possible)
- Advising on creative commons licenses when publishing in Open Access
- Managing and paying membership options with Open Access editors (Biomed Central, PLoS, etc.)

**AFTER PUBLICATION:**
- Helping you to archive the documents in the right repository, consulting Sherpa/Romeo DB and publishers to learn about the copyright policies
- Selecting the appropriate version to archive in each case (pre-print, post-print, publisher's version…)
- Advising on the management of research data
- Providing information about the open access mandates of the funding agencies

**Some OA Mandates**
- ERC. Deposit documents in PubMed Central 6 months after publication
- Horizon 2020. Deposit the works in any appropriate repository at the earliest possible opportunity (up to 12 months)
- Comunidad de Madrid. Requires deposition in any appropriate repository. Art. 37. Ley de la Ciencia (2011)
- Others (Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Welcome Trust, NIH, etc.)

**Creative Commons**
- There are six types of Creative Commons Licenses:
  - Attribution
  - Attribution-NoDeriv
  - Attribution-ShareAlike
  - Attribution-NonCommercial
  - Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike
  - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDeriv
- You should use the license that best suits your needs when it comes to making the work accessible.

**What can I deposit?**
- Journal Articles
- Book and Book Chapters
- Research Data
- Theses
- Teaching Materials
- Conference papers
- Posters and Presentations

OA publications are read and cited more often than articles available only to subscribers

If you want to know more about Open Access check out this video!