

LIBRARY TIPS #9
OPEN ACCESS

Open Science is a global movement that aims to make scientific knowledge **transparent**, **accessible**, and **collaborative** for researchers and society as a whole.



What is Open Access (OA)?

It is one of the central topics of Open Science.

It consists of making scientific publications (articles, theses, dissertations, books) and research data available online, free of charge to users, with the possibility of reuse and share.

European Commission

Open Access Policies

FCT's Open Access Policy

(updated in 2025) requires funded researchers to make the results of their publicly financed projects openly accessible immediately, with no embargo period (except for a maximum of 12 months for Books/Book Chapters/Monographs).

The Horizon Europe programme (2021–2027) made open access mandatory for all publications and research data resulting from European funding.

The Plan S, promoted by cOAlition S, stipulates that all publications funded with public resources must be made immediately available in Open Access, without any embargo period.

Licenses and copyrights

The FCT and Horizon Europe policies include the **obligation for researchers to retain copyright** (at least for the Author Accepted Manuscript).

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Open Access Publication Routes



Gold Route: publication in OA journals – Gold Open Access (GOA) or Hybrid, with costs for the author (Article Processing Charge – APC).

GOA journals are journals where articles are available free of charge. Instead of charging readers, the author pays APC to cover publication costs.

Hybrid journals offer a combination of the traditional subscription model and the OA model, with a fee paid by the author. The author has the option to choose.



Green Route self-archiving of manuscript version in open repository. May be subjected to an embargo period.



Diamond Route: publication in OA journal with no costs to authors nor readers.

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