



Eesti Teadusagentuur
Estonian Research Council

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS OPEN ACCESS AND OPEN DATA

H2020 GRANT AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS

GRANT AGREEMENT

ARTICLE 29.2

OPEN ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Each beneficiary **must ensure open access** (free of charge, online access for any user) **to all peer-reviewed scientific publications** relating to its results.

In particular, it must:

(a) as soon as possible and at the latest on publication, deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication in a repository for scientific publications;

Moreover, the beneficiary must aim to deposit at the same time the research data needed to validate the results presented in the deposited scientific publications.

(b) ensure open access to the deposited publication — via the repository — at the latest:

(i) on publication, if an electronic version is available for free via the publisher, or

*(ii) **within six months** of publication (**twelve months** for publications in the social sciences and humanities) in any other case.*

(c) ensure open access — via the repository — to the bibliographic metadata that identify the deposited publication.

The bibliographic metadata must be in a standard format and must include all of the following:

- the terms European Union (EU)" and "Horizon 2020";*
- the name of the action, acronym and grant number;*
- the publication date, and length of embargo period if applicable, and*
- a persistent identifier.*

ANNOTATED GRANT AGREEMENT

EXPLANATIONS ON ART. 29.2 – P. 249

What? Beneficiaries must ensure open, free-of-charge access to the end-user to peer reviewed scientific publications relating to their results.

[...] Open access means ensuring that, at the very least, such publications can be read online, downloaded and printed — via a repository for scientific publications, a publication platform or publisher site.

[...] Open access can be provided through:

a) publishing in open access ('gold' open access) [...]

b) self-archiving ('green' open access)

[...]

How? Open access to scientific publications involves four actions:

1) Deposit, in a repository for scientific publications, a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version of the publication (or the final peer-reviewed manuscript as accepted for publication, author's version). [...]

2) Provide open access to the scientific publication — either via open access publishing (i.e. via the publication venue AND via the repository) or as self-archiving (i.e. via the repository only). [...]

3) Ensure open access, via the repository, to certain bibliographic metadata that identify the publication [...]

4) Aim to deposit at the same time with action 1, ideally in a data repository, the research data needed to validate the results in the deposited publication. [...]

GRANT AGREEMENT

ARTICLE 29.3

OPEN ACCESS TO RESEARCH DATA

OPTION 1a for actions participating in the Open Research Data Pilot: Regarding the digital research data generated in the action ('data'), the beneficiaries must:

- (a) *deposit in a research data repository* and take measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate — free of charge for any user — the following:
 - (i) *the data, including associated metadata, needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications*, as soon as possible;
 - (ii) [...]
 - (iii) *other data, including associated metadata, as specified and within the deadlines laid down in the 'data management plan'* (see Annex I);
- (b) *provide information — via the repository — about tools and instruments at the disposal of the beneficiaries and necessary for validating the results (and — where possible — provide the tools and instruments themselves).*

This does not change the obligation to protect results in Article 27, the confidentiality obligations in Article 36, the security obligations in Article 37 or the obligations to protect personal data in Article 39, all of which still apply.

As an exception, the beneficiaries do not have to ensure open access to specific parts of their research data under Point (a)(i) and (iii), if the achievement of the action's main objective (as described in Annex I) would be jeopardised by making those specific parts of the research data openly accessible. In this case, the data management plan must contain the reasons for not giving access.

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EXPLANATIONS ON ART. 29.3 – P. 251

What? [...] ‘Digital research data’ is information in digital form (in particular facts or numbers), collected to be examined and used as a basis for reasoning, discussion or calculation; this includes statistics, results of experiments, measurements, observations resulting from fieldwork, survey results, interview recordings and images.

Only data that is generated digitally in the action is concerned. Actions are encouraged to digitise any other data and provide open access to it, but they are not obliged to do so. [...]

Open access to research data means taking measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate data — via a research data repository. [...]

Actions participating in the pilot must draw up a data management plan (DMP) within the first 6 months of the project implementation. [...]

How? Procedure for open access (research data):

Step 1 — Deposit the digital research data, preferably in a research data repository.

Step 2 — Provide open access by taking measures to enable users to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate the data free of charge (e.g. for databases: by attaching an appropriate creative commons licence (CC-BY or CC0 tool) to the data; if the access/use is not subject to any rights: by indicating that no licence is needed).

Open access must not be given immediately; for data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications, as soon as possible; for other data, beneficiaries are free to specify embargo periods for their data in the data management plan (as appropriate in their scientific area).

Step 3 — Provide information, via the repository, about tools and instruments for validating the results. Where possible, the beneficiaries should provide those tools and instruments (e.g. specialised software or software code, algorithms, analysis protocols, etc.).

WORK PROGRAMME

ANNEX L - CONDITIONS RELATED TO OPEN ACCESS TO RESEARCH DATA

Participants will engage in research data sharing, according to Article 29.3 of the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement(s). This means that beneficiaries must deposit and take measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate, free of charge for any user: (1) data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications ('underlying data'); and (2) other data as specified by the beneficiaries in their Data Management Plan (DMP, see below).

Projects can "opt-out" of these provisions before or after the signature of the grant agreement (thereby freeing themselves from the associated obligations) on the following grounds:

- a) Incompatibility with the Horizon 2020 obligation to protect results that are expected to be commercially or industrially exploited
- b) Incompatibility with the need for confidentiality in connection with security issues
- c) Incompatibility with rules on protecting personal data
- d) Incompatibility with the project's main aim
- e) If the project will not generate / collect any research data, or
- f) If there are other legitimate reasons not to provide open access to research data

Any costs related to the implementation of these provisions are eligible for reimbursement during the duration of the grant.

A proposal will not be evaluated more favourably if the consortium agrees to share its research data, nor will it be penalised if it opts-out.

[...]

USEFUL MATERIALS

H2020 MANUAL

Chapter Cross-cutting issues – sub-chapter *Open Access and Data Management*

A list of reference documents and links to other sources and FAQ

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