



Open access to research publications in the University of Helsinki

Background

Open access to results of publicly funded research enhances the visibility and the impact of the work of the University as well as of individual researchers.

Most major funding bodies such as the NIH, Wellcome Trust, Research Councils UK and the European Research Council require that the results of research funded by them be made public. The OECD, the European Commission and the European University Association EUA all recommend open access to the results of scientific research.

Together with the Finnish Council of University Rectors, the University of Helsinki has signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities on 23rd May 2006. The goals of the University of Helsinki are

- To support open access to research results
- To make results of publicly funded research openly accessible online to anyone interested
- To encourage other funding bodies as well to require research results funded by them be made public
- To increase the visibility, use and impact of research results of the University of Helsinki by providing open access through the University's own repository
- To make its repository and publication records openly available online and available for linkage to other repositories internationally
- To ease the reviewing of research results with open access research publications

- To make it easier for researchers to make their results public with the help of different support services

Open access to research publications at the University of Helsinki

The University of Helsinki requires that *researchers working at the University deposit copies of their research articles published in academic research journals in the open repository of the University.*

In this decision, “researchers working at the University” are persons under the KOTA data collection obligation referred to in pp. 22-23 of the *KOTA handbook* of the Division for Higher Education and Science of the Ministry of Education of Finland.

Furthermore, in this decision a “research article” is a *single article* published in an academic journal, serial publication, conference publication or another kind of compilation. The depositing obligation does not apply to monographs.

This decision applies to articles approved for publication from 1st January 2010 onwards. The University of Helsinki recommends the depositing of articles in the repository of the University also for articles published before this date.

In addition to the research articles referred to in this decision, other kinds of publications such as popular articles, other published texts, serial publications of University departments, teaching material and, publishing contracts permitting, monographs may be stored in the open repository of the University of Helsinki.

The University of Helsinki recommends that when publishing articles, researchers working at the University favour publication channels with open access policies such as the open access journals in each discipline and open access serial publications. In addition, it is possible to store a published research article following the established norms of the discipline in question in a *discipline-specific, open repository* (e.g., ArXiv for physicists).

Further information and more detailed instructions are available in Appendix 1.

Open availability of research results as part of the full cost of research

The University is changing over to a full cost model in research funding. All costs of a research project must be incorporated in the research funding, including publication costs such as author fees for open access journals.

Further information

The Library Coordination Office is responsible for the implementation of this decision: Ms Kaisa Sinikara, Director of Information and Library Services, email: kaisa.sinikara@helsinki.fi, tel. GSM 050 3699736 and Ms Veera Ristikartano, Project Manager, email: veera.ristikartano@helsinki.fi, tel. 191 21724.

Rector Ilkka Niiniluoto

Rapporteur Ms Kaisa Sinikara, Director of Information and Library Services

Appendix 1. The repository policy of the University of Helsinki repository

Appendix 2. Repository services of the University of Helsinki

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The University of Helsinki requires that researchers working at the University deposit copies of their research articles published in academic research journals in the open repository held by the University. The parallel storage of research articles is based on the Rector's decision on the Open Access to Research Articles.

The University provides researchers with the support services needed in the parallel storage of research articles. The E-publication support services will help researchers with depositing full-text articles in the repository in all campus and faculty libraries and will help in the acquisition of depositing licences when needed.

Repository policy

1. Researchers working at the University of Helsinki, other University personnel and persons under their authorisation may deposit research articles in the open repository of the University of Helsinki (hereafter "the repository").
2. Researchers may only deposit articles authored by themselves in the repository, including articles authored in collaboration with other researchers. Permission for depositing must be given by all authors.
3. The University of Helsinki requires that researchers working at the University *seek to maintain the right to parallel deposit of their article* in the open repository of the University of Helsinki when signing a publication contract for the article. At the moment, most academic publishers allow the deposit of the article in the open repository of the research organisation.
4. Researchers must keep a final published version of the article or a copy of the file accepted for publication for the repository.

5. The researcher is responsible for seeking permission, if needed, to publish article content that is not authored by her/himself (e.g., images or tables).
6. The researcher is responsible for submitting a full-text version of her/his article to the repository administrator. A separate web form is used for submitting a full-text version.
7. An article under the depositing obligation must be submitted to the administrator as soon as it has been published. Articles can be deposited also before the publication date if the publishing contract allows this. The article will be openly accessible online only after the embargo period stipulated by the publisher or the funding body has expired. The embargo is a set period within which the publication cannot be made openly available.
8. The final or published article or the version accepted for publishing will be primarily deposited in the repository. The repository policy follows the operational principles of most significant academic publishers. If the repository policy of the publisher or the discipline requires something else, a different version of the article may be deposited (e.g., preprint, draft).
9. Articles must be submitted to the repository administrators in a standardised and hardware-independent format (e.g., pdf), or if the nature of the material requires, in some other format supported by the repository and agreed upon with the administrators.
10. Articles may be enriched with depositing other background and supplementary material in the file formats supported by the repository.
11. The researcher (or a person authorised by her/him) is responsible for submitting the same full-text file to the administrator that is described in the article description data.
12. The repository administrator checks the file and its technical functionality before making the article openly accessible. At this point, the administrator also checks the repository policy of the publisher if it is not yet known.

13. If needed, a note on the specific conditions of the publisher's repository policy will be attached to the article. The administrator is responsible for attaching the information.

14. If the repository administrator becomes aware of a copyright infringement concerning a deposited article or a claim that the administrator is not vested with the right to publish the article, the article in question may be withdrawn from the repository immediately by the repository administrator.