

Institutional open access policy of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili

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PREAMBLE/EXPLANATION OF MOTIVES

The Budapest Open Access Initiative, 2002, defines for the first time open access as free access to scientific literature through the Internet whilst respecting existing copyright laws and calls for authors and institutions to retain the right to exploit their publications. Furthermore, the Bethesda Statement (2003) calls for articles to be immediately archived to facilitate open access. Finally, the Berlin Declaration (2003) highlights the great possibilities offered by the Internet with regard to the dissemination of knowledge, endorses the open access paradigm, and reiterates the terms of the two previously mentioned declarations. The declaration clearly states the two different routes towards achieving open access: the green route (depositing documents in repositories) and the gold route (publication in open access journals). It is therefore clear that the ultimate objective of a policy that seeks to strengthen the open access model in the ambit of scientific communication has to be to facilitate, promote and incentivise initiatives relating to these two routes; that is, to enable researchers to deposit their publications in repositories and, on the other, to give them incentives to publish in open access journals.

On 1 July 2010, the Board of the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC) approved the "Framework document mandating open access to the research conducted by the universities of Catalonia, created by the University Libraries Consortium of Catalonia", which includes the basic features that should be incorporated into all agreements made in this regard at each university.

Article 3 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation refers, among other things, to the need to promote open access repositories and to the obligation on researchers funded with public money to publish a digital version of the content accepted by scientific publications, thus endorsing the open access paradigm.

Open access means that any user with access to the Internet can at any time read the article, download it, save it, print it, use it or mine its data, provided that the authors' and institution's rights to exploit the text are respected, and archive it immediately in repositories so it can be readily accessed. The law also specifies the two ways of achieving open access: depositing documents in institutional repositories and publishing them in open access journals.

AGREEMENT

In order to promote the open access dissemination of scientific and academic production, the Governing Council establishes that:

- The academic and scientific publications (journal articles, texts presented at conferences, scientific and technical documents, books and book chapters,

research reports, etc.) produced by the teaching and research staff (PDI) and the administrative and services staff (PAS) of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili in the framework of their activities at the URV must be deposited in the University's institutional repository.

On doing so, the conditions established by editors in relation to the archiving of documents in open access institutional repositories will be taken into account. The publisher will establish the conditions that permit free access to the complete final versions of the published text, postscript, preliminary edition, preprint or the final version with restrictions.

The documents have to be archived immediately after their publication or, if this is possible, no later than six months after publication.

- Doctoral and other students of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili must deposit their doctoral, master's or bachelor's theses in the institutional repository of the University (<http://repositori.urv.cat>)

The Universitat Rovira i Virgili encourages its PDI and PAS to publish in open access journals, provided that there are no objective reasons not to.

The University will adopt other incentives that it considers appropriate to fulfil the present mandate which has been in place since 1 April 2014, when the institutional repository came into operation at the URV.

Regarding open access repositories, the Universitat Rovira i Virgili commits to:

- protecting the author's rights, intellectual property and confidentiality,
- following the international regulations and criteria regarding institutional repositories,
- protecting the relation between the Research Management programme, the management of academic content (URVMoodle) and the institutional repository to facilitate the auto-storage of documents introduced in any of these platforms,
- coordinating with the rest of the university system so that the national and international organisations that compile scientific and academic production, ECERCAT, MDX, TDX, RECOLECTA, DRIVER, etc., can collate everything produced at the URV,
- increasing the visibility and interoperability between documents by adding them to academic search engines (Scirus, GoogleScholar, etc.), compilers (OAISTER, etc.),
- preserving and maintaining perpetual access to documents deposited in the repository,
- exempting the PDI from having to refer to and submit documentation deposited in the URV's institutional repository during internal calls for funding assistance or during any competitions that are carried out,
- and coordinating with the Quality Agency of the Catalan University System so that it can access the documentation deposited in the URV's institutional repository in order to be able to exempt PDI from having to refer to and submit such documentation in applications for grants, evaluations and accreditations.