

Open-Access-Week 2020



Dear researches of the University of Bayreuth,

During Open-Access-Week 2020 from 19 to 25 October, we updated our Open Access information sheets in English. They cover the following topics:

- What is Open Access?
- Gold Open Access
- Green Open Access
- The DEAL contract
- The international publishing market



The OA-Symbol

What is Open Access?

Open Access (OA) is part of the Open Science initiative and stands for free and unrestricted access to scientific knowledge for all people worldwide.

Over the last decades, the subscription fees for journals from established publishers have increased considerable in many cases. This caused most libraries to cancel quite a considerable number of their journal subscriptions. Open Access offers an alternative form of publication. It makes better use of the advantages of digital communication channels and relies on other forms of funding than the tradition subscription journals. Several research organizations support the OA idea – see for example the [Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Scientific Knowledge](#). Some research funding organizations require open access, so that research results must be made freely accessible.

Which advantages does Open Access publishing have for researchers?

- Higher visibility: internet access alone is all that is needed to find OA publications. The articles can be accessed free of charge and are not hidden behind a so-called "paywall".
"Given existing trends, we estimate that by 2025: 44% of all journal articles will be available as OA, 70% of article views will be to OA articles" (Piwowar, Priem, Orr (2019): The Future of OA: A large-scale analysis projecting Open Access publication and readership, bioRxiv 795310; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/795310>).
- Greater impact: OA publications can be found more easily than those in subscription journals and are thus cited faster and – depending on the license granted – can also be reused more easily.
"The average Green, Gold, and Hybrid paper receives more views than its Closed or Bronze counterpart, particularly Green papers made available within a year of publication." (<https://blog.ourresearch.org/future-oa-key-findings>)
- Strengthening the position of researchers towards (large) publishers: in many subjects, high-quality OA alternatives to established publication platforms are available.

Which forms of Open Access publishing are available?

There are various forms of OA publishing. The most important ones are:

- Golden path/Gold-OA: research results are published in an OA journal, which provides all articles freely accessible on the Internet.
- Green path/Green-OA: planned or already published research articles are published in a repository (secondary or parallel publishing).

Where to find further information on Open Access?

Basic and further information about OA publishing can be accessed via the [website of the University Library](#).

The University of Bayreuth has published an [Open Access Strategy](#). A somewhat different introduction on OA can be found as a blog entry by the Bayreuth University Library „[Keine Angst vor Open Access – Ihre Bibliothek ist für Sie da!](#)“.

If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact the Open Access Support Team of the Bayreuth University Library:

oa@uni-bayreuth.de