

## Green Open Access – the secondary publication act

**In addition to having published an article in a closed access journal, you would like to make it freely accessible? This is usually possible by means of the secondary publication right via the Green path of Open Access.**



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### How do researchers make articles freely available through their secondary publication right also called self-archiving?

It is often possible to make the preprint (Author's manuscript/Submitted version) or the postprint (Author's accepted manuscript/Accepted manuscript) version – unfortunately more rarely the publisher version – of articles that have appeared in closed access accessible after an embargo period.

The platform [Sherpa/ROMEO](#) provides an overview of how this specific publication right can be exercised for individual journals, i.e. which version (pre-/postprint or publisher's version) of the article can be released, after which period of time, and under which conditions. Further information on additional publishing an article OA can also be found under the copyright provisions of most publishers' homepages, often under the title: "Permissions and Copyright Information", "Sharing Policy" or "Author's Guidelines".

However, the author contract always governs the conditions of a secondary publication. Therefore, in case of doubt, always ask the publisher or, when signing the contract, make sure that there is the possibility of a second publication!

Members of the University of Bayreuth can in some cases exercise rights of additional publication through alliance, national or consortium agreements negotiated by the library. Please feel free to ask us about this. If at least half of a contribution was funded by public third-party funds, [§38 Abs.4 UrhG](#) generally allows a second publication after twelve months have passed since the first publication.

### Where can researchers additionally publish their articles?

Once the legal issues have been clarified, the next question is where to publish the second publication. Both subject-specific and institutional repositories are available. Subject repositories are subject-specific full text collections, whereas institutional repositories collect documents from all members of the institution across the disciplines. Authors can decide freely which one they want to use, provided that they have the necessary rights of use. The decision does not have to be exclusive.

### Which possibilities does the University of Bayreuth offer?

The University of Bayreuth provides the institutional repository EPub Bayreuth.

Members of the University of Bayreuth can upload their scientific full text documents here, e.g. event contributions, [dissertations](#), unpublished manuscripts or their final versions, as well as journal articles within the scope of self-archiving rights, and publish them as Open Access.

Institutions and chairs can publish [Open Access publication series](#) via EPub Bayreuth. It is possible to additionally issue the series in print.

### Which advantages does EPub Bayreuth offer?

A publication via EPub Bayreuth provides you as the author with three key advantages:

- **Higher visibility:** As the University of Bayreuth's full text repository, EPub Bayreuth is connected to many higher-level reference systems, including Google Scholar, BASE and various library catalogues such as WorldCat and Gateway Bayern. Therefore, EPub Bayreuth can also register a relatively high trust value in a

normal Google search, so that publications in EPub Bayreuth reliably receive a high ranking position in the search results.

- Furthermore, there are plugins for browsers which – if access to a publication is blocked by a so-called paywall – search in the background for available Green Open Access variants of the desired articles, which can then be reached with one click (<https://unpaywall.org>).



- **Higher citation probability:** Open Access full text documents are accessible freely on the internet. Thus, they are easier to find and are read more often. This increases the probability of being cited significantly.
- **Legal security for authors and readers during subsequent use:** In contrast to networks like ResearchGate, the legal terms of use of secondary publications in repositories are always clarified and clearly indicated.

University of Bayreuth recommends the use of EPub Bayreuth in its [Open Access Strategy](#) to make scientific articles available worldwide.

The Bayreuth University Library is happy to assist you in checking which version you may make available on EPub Bayreuth and when.

The Open Access team of the Bayreuth University Library answers questions regarding Green Open Access publications:

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