Open Access Policy for the University of Malta: an Overview

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Open Access Policy?

**Open access (OA)** refers to the practice of providing online access to scientific information that is free of charge to the end-user and reusable. 'Scientific' refers to all academic disciplines. In the context of research and innovation, 'scientific information' can mean:

1. peer-reviewed scientific research articles (published in scholarly journals) or
2. research data (data underlying publications, curated data and/or raw data).

[Guidelines to the Rules on Open Access to Scientific Publications and Open Access to Research Data in Horizon 2020]

**Open Access Policy** expresses the commitment of an institution to disseminate the research and scholarship as widely as possible.
What is an Open Access Policy for the University of Malta (UM OA Policy)?

Legally binding document that serves to ensure that all research outputs produced under the auspices of the University are made freely available to everyone via the Institutional Repository OAR@UM.

‘Researchers are encouraged to deposit all research produced under the auspices of the UM in OAR@UM’ (UM OA Policy § 3.1)

https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar//handle/123456789/20022
Benefits of UM OA Policy: University of Malta

- Collects and preserves its scientific output and disseminates it through its Institutional Repository
- Provides the possibility of indexing and tracking the scientific output of the institution from international search engines on the internet such as Google
- Monitors the number of visits and use, and collects data and indicators that can be used in institutional planning, and the search for sources of funding
- Provides opportunities for the use and re-use of the institution’s output for scientific purposes
- Strengthens international communication and collaboration channels and the institution’s international profile
Benefits of UM OA Policy: Researcher

- Enhances the visibility of their research and their citations
- Increases the usage of their research
- Increases the impact of their research
- Obtains a permanent link for each of their research output
- Collects entire research output on one platform
UM OA Policy Compilation (1)

- Identifying a working group within the Library
- Literature review – evaluation of several documents regarding OA Policies

The H2020 Guidelines on OA to Scientific Publications and Research Data in H2020
Fact Sheet OA to publications and Data in H2020: FAQ
PASTEUR4OA/ Open Access policy guidelines for research institutions

- Literature review – evaluation of several selected OA Policies
UM OA Policy Compilation (2)

• **Identifying the themes that constitute an OA Policy**
Definitions relating to OA Policy, responsibilities of stakeholders involved, copyright issues, waiver options and embargo periods, licence issues etc.

• **Compiling the first draft**

• **Communicating the policy with different stakeholders**
Library Management, UM Legal Office, Directorate for Corporate Research and Knowledge Transfer, University of Minho, PASTEUR4OA

• **Amending the Policy according to the stakeholders’ suggestions**
Communicating the policy with Rectorate
Open Access Policy approved by Rectorate

Presenting the Policy to Senate in September 2017
UM OA Policy – Depositing Research
Who should deposit?

‘Researchers are strongly encouraged to deposit a copy of all peer-reviewed research publications produced under the auspices of the UM in OAR@UM’ (§ 3.2)

Researcher is a member of staff of the UM who has a Council appointment of employment and who performs research as defined in the UM OA Policy.

Research means any systematic investigation or study funded by the UM, and intended as a contribution to scholarship. It refers to the research output created by the researcher in accordance with the UM’s collective agreement, and/or any research conducted through a research grant secured by virtue of the researcher's affiliation with the UM.
Where to deposit?

‘Researchers are strongly encouraged to deposit a copy of all peer-reviewed research publications produced under the auspices of the UM in OAR@UM’ (§ 3.2)

OAR@UM is the UM’s Institutional Repository. It serves as an online platform for the submission and dissemination of Open Access research produced under the auspices of the UM. OAR@UM is managed by the Library.

https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/
How to deposit?

- **Self-deposit**
  Researchers deposit their materials themselves by filling in the appropriate metadata form and attaching the soft copy of the publication

- **Mediated deposit**
  Materials are deposited on behalf of Researchers by the Open Science Department or support staff

https://www.um.edu.mt/library/about/oar@uom_policies#submission
What to deposit?

‘Researchers are strongly encouraged to deposit a copy of all peer-reviewed research publications produced under the auspices of the UM in OAR@UM’ (§ 3.2)

Post-print is the final version of the output as accepted for publication, including all modifications arising from the peer review process. Post-print versions may have two forms: the Accepted Author Manuscript (AAM), or the Publisher Version (PV), also known as the publisher PDF or Version of Record (VOR).
Which version can be deposited? (1)

SHERPA RoMEO is an online resource that aggregates and analyses publisher Open Access policies from around the world and provides summaries of self-archiving permissions and conditions of rights given to authors on a journal-by-journal basis

http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php
Which version can be deposited? (2)

One journal found when searched for: *ulster medical journal*

| RoMEO: | This is a RoMEO green journal |
| Author's Pre-print: | ✔ author can archive pre-print (i.e. pre-refereeing) |
| Author's Post-print: | ✔ author can archive post-print (i.e. final draft post-refereeing) |
| Publisher's Version/PDF: | ✔ author can archive publisher's version/PDF |

**General Conditions:**
- Pre-print and post-print on institutional repositories
- Publisher's version/PDF may be used on open access repositories
- Publisher automatically deposits in PubMed Central 2 months embargo
- Authors retain copyright.
- Publisher's version/PDF may be used.

**Mandated OA:** (Awaiting information)

**Notes:**
- Publisher last contacted on 12/06/2016

**Copyright:** Not available online

**Updated:** 13-Jul-2016 - Suggest an update for this record

**Link to this page:** [http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/issn/0041-6193/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/issn/0041-6193/)

**Published by:** Ulster Medical Society - Green Policies in RoMEO

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Which version can be deposited? (3)

One journal found when searched for: international journal of tropical disease and health

| Journal: | International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE and Health (ISSN 2276-1005) |
| RoMEO:   | This is a RoMEO green journal |
| Author's Pre-print: | ✔ author can archive pre-print (ie pre-refereeing) |
| Author's Post-print: | ✔ author can archive post-print (to final draft post-refereeing) |
| Publisher's Version/PDF: | ✔ author can archive publisher's version/PDF |
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| | • Publisher's version/PDF may be used |
| Mandated OA: | (Awaiting information) |
| Notes: | |
| | • All titles are open access journals |
| | • Publisher last reviewed on 21/03/2014 |
| Copyright: | Policy |
| Updated: | 21-Mar-2014 - [Suggest an update for this record] |
| Link to this page: | [http://www.sherpajournals.com/2276-1005](http://www.sherpajournals.com/2276-1005) |
| Published by: | SCIENCE DOMAIN International - [Green Policies in RoMEO] |

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Which version can be deposited? (4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal: Early Human Development (ISSN: 0378-3782, ESSN: 1872-6222)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RoMEO: This is a RoMEO green journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid OA: A post open access option is available for this journal</td>
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</tbody>
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**Author's Pre-print:** 作者可以存档预印本（ex pre-refereeing）
**Author's Post-print:** 作者可以存档后印本（ex final draft post-refereeing）
**Publisher's Version/PDF:** 作者不能存档出版者的版本/PDF

**General Conditions:**
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- Author's post-print on author's personal website immediately
- Author's post-print on open access repository after an embargo period of between 12 months and 48 months
- Permitted deposit due to Funding Body, Institutional and Governmental policy or mandate, may be required to comply with embargo periods of 12 months to 48 months
- Author's post-print may be used to update arXiv and RePEc
- Publisher's version/PDF cannot be used
- Must link to publisher version with DOI
- Author's post-print must be released with a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-No Derivatives License

**Mandated OA:** (Awaiting information)
**Paid Open Access:** Open Access

**Notes:**
- Publisher last reviewed on 03/09/2015

**Copyright:** Unlinking the power of academic sharing - Sharing Policy - Sharing and Hosting Policy FAQs - Open access - Journal Embargo Period List (pdf) - Journal Embargo List for UK Authors License (pdf) - Funding Body Agreements

**Updated:** 01-May-2015 - Suggest an update for this record
**Link to this page:** http://www.sharing.ac.uk/noauthor/2013-0378

**Published by:** Elsevier - Open Policies in RoMEO

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When to deposit?

‘Researchers are strongly encouraged to deposit a copy of all peer-reviewed research publications produced under the auspices of the UM in OAR@UM, and to do so as soon as possible upon publication.’ (§ 3.2)

‘Researchers may also opt to deposit a copy of the peer-reviewed research paper upon acceptance for publication accompanied by the publisher’s dated acceptance letter.’ (§ 3.4)

‘The full-text of all publications is to be made openly available at the time of deposit, or as soon as possible thereafter, subject to copyright transfer agreements.’(§ 3.3)

Request a Copy
Useful links

OAR@UM: https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/

OAR@UM Contact: http://www.um.edu.mt/contact/oarlib

OAR@UM Help:
https://www.um.edu.mt/library/helpandsupport/oar@uom_help

UM Open Access Policy:
https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar//handle/123456789/20022

SHERPA RoMEO: http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php
Thank you for your attention!

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