

Open Access Regulations of WWTF

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WWTF supports open access to scientific publications and recommends that all scientists make publications related to projects funded by a WWTF programme freely available. The necessary financial means for this can be credited to the funded project in the application and are thus part of the general budget of the project.

1. Scope:

This regulation applies to journal articles as well as book publications that are based on research funded by WWTF.

2. Ways of Making Publications accessible through Open Access:

There are three options of Open Access Publication for WWTF-funded projects:

Gold Open Access: publishing in an Open Access journal with immediate and unrestricted electronic access to the final version of the publication, by use of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license. Usually costs are charged to the authors.¹

Green Open Access: self-archiving of a version of the article accepted by a journal in a subject-specific and/or institutional repository, which is based on principles of long-term archiving with certain quality standards.² The embargo time between the first date of publication and self-archiving should not be longer than 6 months or, in reasonably exceptional cases, not longer than 12 months.

Hybrid Open Access: the parallel application of publication and subscription costs for one and the same journal. As this form of open access publication results in higher costs for the entire system, WWTF views Hybrid Open Access as problematic. However, currently it is accepted as given practice. The costs for Hybrid Open Access can be covered in the project budget. Schemes, in which a reduction in institutional subscription fees is granted for paid hybrid fees, are welcomed.

Book Publications: can be made accessible over Gold Open Access or Green Open Access. In parallel to electronic open access, printed versions can be charged.

3. Publication Costs:

Publication costs already have to be stated in the funding application. Publications published in scientific journals with appropriate measures of quality assurance as well as book publica-

¹ Gold open access journal should be listed at DOAJ (http://doaj.org)

² Directory of open access repositories: http://www.opendoar.org/

tions can be financially covered within the budget of <u>currently running</u> WWTF-funded projects. However, consideration must be given to the relation of publication costs to other costs, especially regarding personnel.

A maximum of 5.000 Euros from the project budget may be reserved for a maximum of two years for publications that are published after the project ends. A concise publication plan is to be included in the final project report. The disbursement is charged via the final instalment as a non-refundable lump sum. The usage of this lump sum is to be reported within the framework of the ex-post evaluation (see 4).

4. Reporting:

The compliance of Open Access requirements must be substantiated in the regular reports (annual and final) by typing in a so-called *persistent identifier*³ of the Open Access Publication in the WWTF-Online-Reporting System. The reporting of publications forthcoming after the project end is given within the framework of the ex-post evaluation of the projects.

Information about expected Open Access costs after the project end must be provided in the final report. To do this, the online system offers the category "Dedicated Open Access Costs" under "Non-Personnel Costs". In the text field to the right information must be filled in on what the open access budget will be spent.

³ A persistent identifier is a permanent reference in the web for digital objects, e.g. a DOI number or a link to an object in a repository. Personal and institutional websites are generally not seen as permanent enough to qualify as persistent identifier and thus to warrant sustainable referencing.