

Open Access Policy

of the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB)

Open Access stands for unlimited and free access to quality-controlled academic information in the Internet. Through the removal of technical, financial and legal barriers, Open Access is instrumental in accelerating academic innovation processes and improving the visibility of research results. This supports those working in academia in their research and publication processes, and maximises the benefits of publicly funded research. As a member of the Leibniz Association, the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) is committed to Open Access. It thereby adheres to the “Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities”¹ and the “Guidelines on Open Access within the Leibniz Association 2016-2020”².

1. Recommendations and obligations

IGB expects its academic staff to publish their results in accordance with the principles of Open Access. There are two alternative procedures: immediate publication in Open Access (*Gold OA*) or – usually retroactive – self-archiving (*Green OA*).

Gold OA stands for publication in purely Open Access journals as well as in hybrid journals³. IGB recommends publishing under a free usage licence if possible, e. g. Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)⁴.

Regarding reviewed articles in subscription journals which are not freely accessible, IGB obligates its academic staff to make these – within legal limitations – accessible via parallel or retroactive self-archiving (*Green OA*). This applies to all publications that were created mainly while the scientist was employed at IGB and of which they were the “corresponding author”. In this case, the IGB academic staff should make sure not to grant exclusive rights of use to publishing companies when entering a publishing contract, but instead – as far as possible – to secure their own permanent right of use and transfer non-exclusive rights of use to IGB for the institutional and/or a subject-specific repository⁵.

IGB expects its academic staff to include financial resources for Open Access publications – as far as this is possible – when applying for third-party funding. For *Green OA*, the guidelines for EU project publications provide for an embargo period of maximum 6 months.⁶ This should be taken into consideration when choosing the place of publication and/or should be negotiated in time with the publishing company.

2. Implementation

IGB promotes Open Access by:

1. Identifying publications by its academic staff which are legally eligible for Open Access and making them accessible via links in the electronic library catalogue;
2. Self-archiving (*Green OA*) in the subject-specific repository for Life Sciences of ZB MED⁷ and coordinating the registration in the institutional repository LeibnizOpen⁸ of the Leibniz Association;
3. Providing its academic staff with funding opportunities for publishing in *Gold OA*: via a publication fund and via OA memberships with publishers and in professional societies;
4. Documenting paid publication fees to guarantee transparency and cost control (e. g. via the OpenAPC initiative);
5. Supporting a constructive development of Open Access and Open Science as a whole in the Open Access working group of the Leibniz Association;
6. Keeping an eye on the developments in the field of online/Open Access formats;
7. Advising its academic staff on Open Access and supporting them in clarifying issues concerning the Open Access publication of their research results.

Agreed on by the Board of Management of the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) on 6 December 2019.

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¹ Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, <https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner-Erklaerung>.

² Open Access policy of the Leibniz Association 2016-2020, https://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Bilder_und_Downloads/Forschung/Open_Science/Open_Access_Policy_web.pdf.

³ Hybrid journals are journals in which some articles are made available for Open Access by paying article fees (Article Processing Charges, APC) and for which the libraries pay additional subscription fees. This leads to a double financial burden for the authors and the institutions, the so-called “double dipping”. We therefore expressly advise against financing Gold OA in so-called hybrid journals by paying APCs.

⁴ see <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>.

⁵ E. g. Repository for Life Sciences, ZB MED. <https://repository.publisso.de>.

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/open-access-dissemination_en.htm.

⁷ <https://repository.publisso.de>.

⁸ <http://www.leibnizopen.de/home>.