

Open-Access-Policy of the University of Siegen

Adopted by the Rector's Office of the University of Siegen on March 30, 2017

The University of Siegen emphasizes the principle of individual responsibility of its scientists for research and teaching, even in the age of digitalization. Hereby, the free and unlimited worldwide access to scientific knowledge is gaining more and more importance. Academic freedom, including the important principle of free choice of the publication channel, is strengthened and extended to important publication possibilities by the open access principle. The basic decision as to whether and by what means a publication is to be made is up to the scientists.

The University of Siegen

- endorses the principles of the Berlin Declaration on open access to scientific knowledge¹ and supports the further development of the open access principle in a sustainable manner;
- offers its scientists up-to-date and effective opportunities to release their publications and underlying research data, according to the open access principle, be it on the "golden path" of open access with a publisher (e.g. with the university publisher universi), or on the "green way" as a second publication with a professional or institutional repository;
- offers support through its central facilities, the University Library (UB), the Center for Information and Media Technology (ZIMT), as well as the service and advisory center for e-science infrastructures, with the execution of the open access principle and the implementation of open content and open source licenses for publications and software;
- welcomes the increasing utilization of the possibilities of open access publishing by the members of the university, and offers financial and technological support as well as organizational support incentives by providing appropriate publication funds or other appropriate support;
- advises authors of their rights, suggesting, in agreement with the German Research Foundation (DFG) and other scientific organizations and funding agencies, to exercise their own rights of use for the electronic version permanently, to exercise their secondary publication rights in accordance with copyright laws, and to deny third parties, if possible, exclusive user's rights of publications;
- appreciates when its scientists in their various functions as editors and reviewers of scientific journals support and actively participate in the transformation to open access journals.

¹ Berlin declaration about open access to scientific knowledge: <https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner-Erklaerung>

² Supporting offers can be found in the research-data policy of the University of Siegen: http://www.uni-siegen.de/start/formularcenter/wissenschaftlerinnen_und_wissenschaftler/forschungsdaten-policy.pdf