Ethics and Data Archiving   
Worksheet

# Description

This document is a worksheet that should help data stewards, members of data archives and researchers to identify their stance in the debate between offering FAIR data and ethical considerations.

# Offering Fair Data but keeping ethics in mind

Open science is a driver for innovation, helps create high standards for scientific work, saves resources and offers the chance for the betterment of society at large.

However not every dataset can be offered as a findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable dataset. One of the key aspects to deciding in which form research data can be published and how one can reach a FAIR data standard is tied to ethical questions.

Are there risks for participants or researchers when the data is made available? What can be potentially done to alleviate such risks? The following document should help data stewards, members of data archives and researchers to find a position on how the position themselves in the debate between offering FAIR data and ethical considerations

## Task for this worksheet

(1) Reflect on your own position regarding the ethics of archiving and providing data for reuse. Try to formulate a short statement.

(2) Familiarize yourself with your organisation's guidelines regarding the publication of research data. Identify (a) if and how they address the FAIR principles and (b) ethical considerations when it comes to archiving datasets.

(3) Compare the statement you have written at the beginning of the task with the official position of your organisation. Try to align the perspectives and keep them in mind for your own work. If you find a major divergence between your own position and the official position of your organisation try to talk with the individuals involved and responsible to resolve the issue.