

Horizon Europe Open Science requirements in practice

Jonathan England

Horizon Europe reference documents

Program Guide of Horizon Europe

Annotated Model Grant Agreement (AGA)

ERC Managing your project > Open Science

MSCA Work Programme

OpenAIRE guides

‘How to comply with Horizon Europe mandate for publications’

‘Open Science in Horizon Europe proposal’

‘RDM in Horizon Europe proposal’

...



Open Science

“Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process”

European Commission

Open Access to
publications

Responsible
management of
data (FAIR
principles)

Open access to
data ‘as open as
possible, as closed
as necessary’

Information about
outputs / tools /
instruments to
validate/re-use
results and data

Digital /physical
access of results to
validate the
conclusions

Requirements for publications

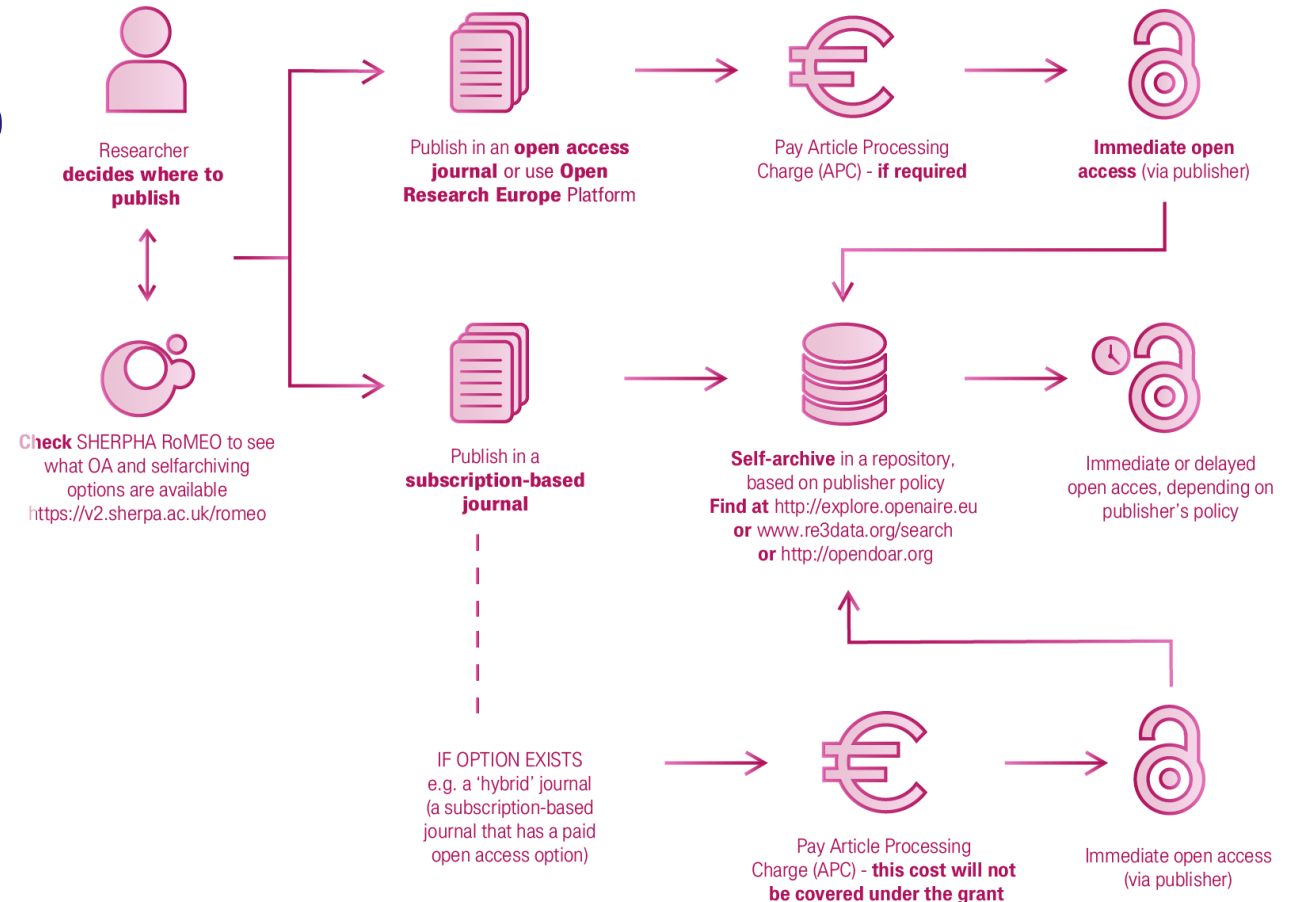
Requirements

- Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) or Version of Record (VoR) in a **trusted repository**
- **No embargo period** (i.e. immediate OA)
- Authors retain their rights (i.e. no Copyright Transfer Agreement) – publication in **CC-BY 4.0**
- Information about research outputs or tools/instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the publication
- Add the acronym/code of the project within

Specificities

- Publication fees (Article Processing Charges – APC) are **reimbursable** if the venue is full OA
- **No restrictions** on where to publish, but APCs for hybrid journals are not covered
- CC BY-NC/BY-ND allowed for long-text formats (e.g. monographs; a chapter in an edited book is not eligible)

Horizon Europe Open Access Mandate



Self-archiving

Minimum for Open Access = **SELF-ARCHIVING**

Check the journal's policy

The screenshot shows the Sherpa Romeo website. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with the following links: About, Search, TJ List, Statistics, Help, Support Us, Contact, and Admin. Below the navigation bar, the text reads "Welcome to Sherpa Romeo". A paragraph follows: "Sherpa Romeo is an online resource that aggregates and analyses publisher open access policies from around the world and provides summaries of publisher copyright and open access archiving policies on a journal-by-journal basis." Below this, there is a search prompt: "Enter a journal title or issn, or a publisher name below:". There are two search input fields: "Journal Title or ISSN" and "Publisher Name", each with a "Search" button. At the bottom of the search area, there are two buttons: "Browse by Country" and "Browse by Publisher".

www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo

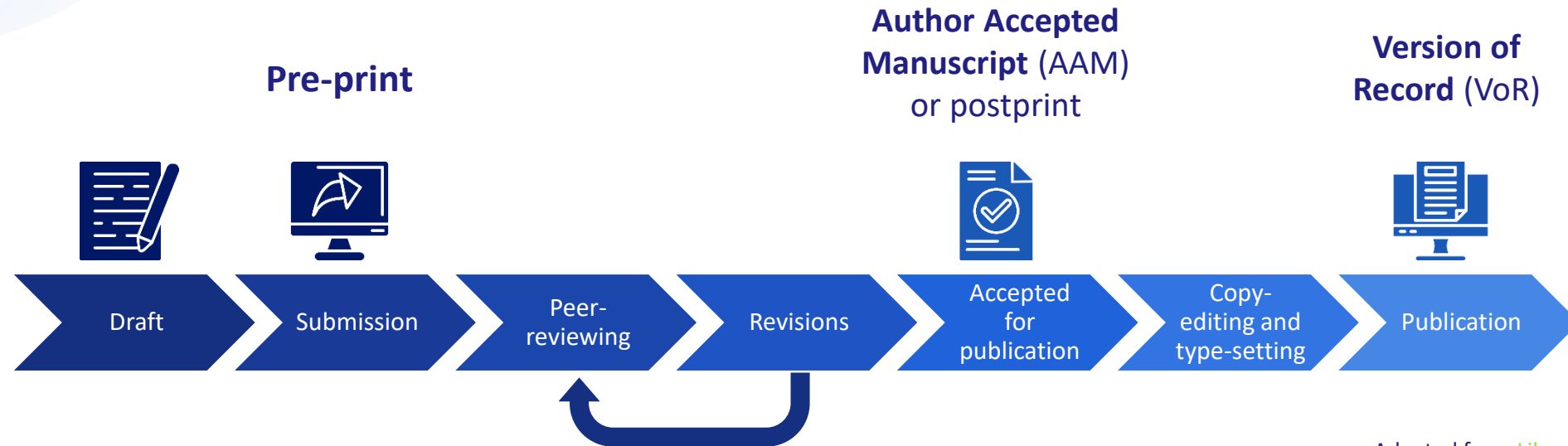
Rights Retention Strategy

“For the purpose of Open Access, the author has applied a CC BY public copyright licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission.”

- To assert ownership, the author – as the intellectual creator and original copyright holder – applies a CC BY licence to the AAM
- Delivering publication services does not entitle publishers to ownership of the AAM, which remains the intellectual property of the author. Publication services should be paid for, but not with ownership of the AAM (from cOAlition S)

<https://www.coalition-s.org/rights-retention-strategy/>

AAM vs VoR



Adapted from [Library of Curtin University](#)
Icons from [manshagraphics](#) on Flaticon

Requirements for research data

Requirements

- Must manage the digital research data in line with the **FAIR principles**
- **Data Management Plan (DMP)** is required by M6; updated mid-project and at end of project
- **Deposit (meta)data as soon as possible** after production/generation or after processing and quality controls
- Deposit data in a **trusted repository** and make them **open as soon as possible** (deadlines set in DMP), following the “as open as possible, as closed as necessary” (open by default) principles
- Data closed if necessary, but **metadata must be FAIR and under CCO**
- Open licence, preferentially CC-BY or CC0 licence
- Detailed information about research outputs or tools/instruments needed to re-use or validate the data (e.g. data, software, algorithms, protocols, models, workflows, electronic notebooks)

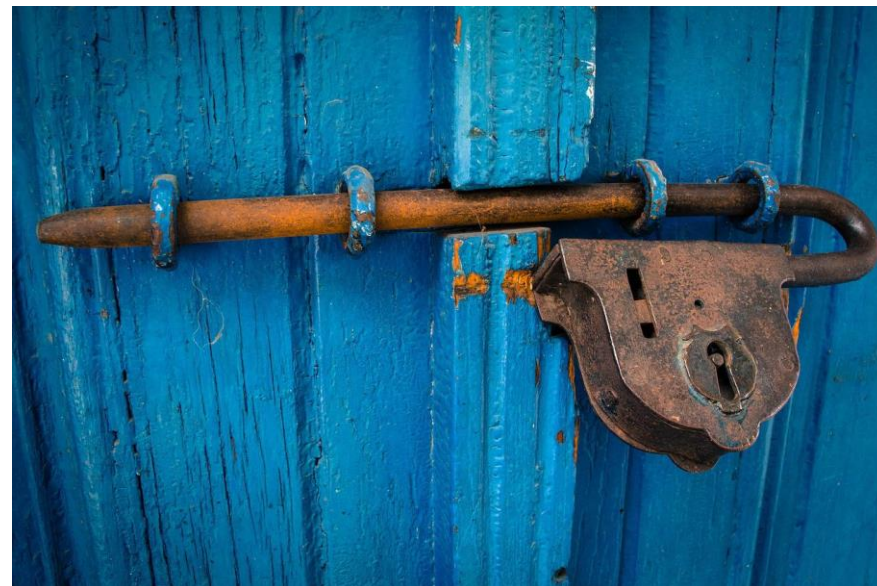


Examples of metadata

author(s) name,
author(s) ORCID, DOI,
licence, language,
journal, title, etc.

Valid justification for not opening the data

- Commercially valuable data if it would undermine its exploitation or other results (e.g. endanger trade secrets ('soft' IP)), or make IP protection of results more difficult
- Data protection/privacy rules of sensitive and/or personal data
- Security rules for projects dealing with strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security of the EU



Trusted repositories

- Certified repositories (e.g. CoreTrustSeal, nesto Seal DIN31644, ISO16363)
- Disciplinary and domain repositories commonly used and endorsed by the international research communities
- General-purpose (e.g. Zenodo) or institutional repositories that present the essential characteristics of trusted repositories:
 - services, mechanisms and provisions in place to secure the accuracy, integrity, authenticity and access of contents
 - use of PIDs
 - machine-actionable, standardised and detailed metadata (including provenance and licencing)

Creative Commons

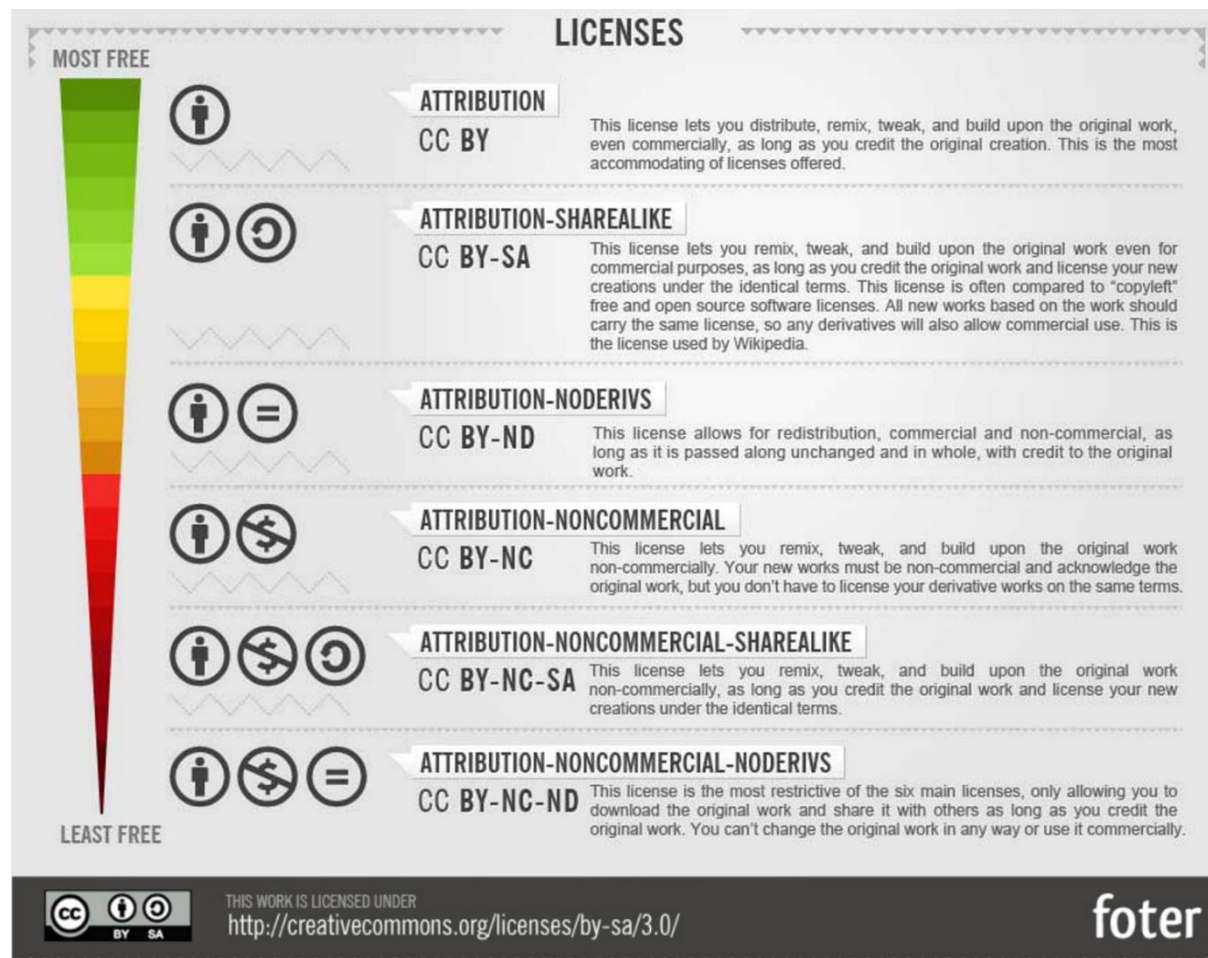
- Removes ambiguity over what others can and cannot do with your work
- You keep (certain) rights, but you grant certain reuses without them needing to contact you
- Universally recognisable and juridically sound (you can still claim copyright infringements)



You can share, adapt for any purpose, no attribution is required (it is similar to 'Public Domain' but is an actual licence)



You can share, adapt for any purpose as long as you **credit the author**



Data Management Plan

A formal ‘living’ document

- Formal document that specifies how research data will be handled both during and after a research project.
- It identifies key actions and strategies to ensure that research data are of a high quality, safe, sustainable and – where possible – accessible and reusable.
- There are no absolute right answers
- But be clear, specific and detailed...
- And justify decisions
- The DMP is to prove to the funder that the researcher has taken time to reflect on what to do, that consideration has been given and the approach seems reasonable
- And that your data is “As open as possible, as closed as necessary” (FAIR principles)



Venkataraman, S. (2018, November). RDM, Open Research and DMP presentations and associated files. Zenodo, CC-BY 4.0 <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1489929>

Findable

- Persistent identifier (e.g. DOI)
- Rich metadata
- Searchable and discoverable online

Accessible

- Deposited on a trusted repository (e.g. Zenodo)
- Data can be restricted and still FAIR – “as open as possible, as closed as necessary”



FAIR

Reusable

- Well documented (e.g. README files), including provenance and tools/instruments needed to reproduce the results
- Clear licence (e.g. CC BY 4.0, CC0)

Interoperable

- Open and/or standardised file formats

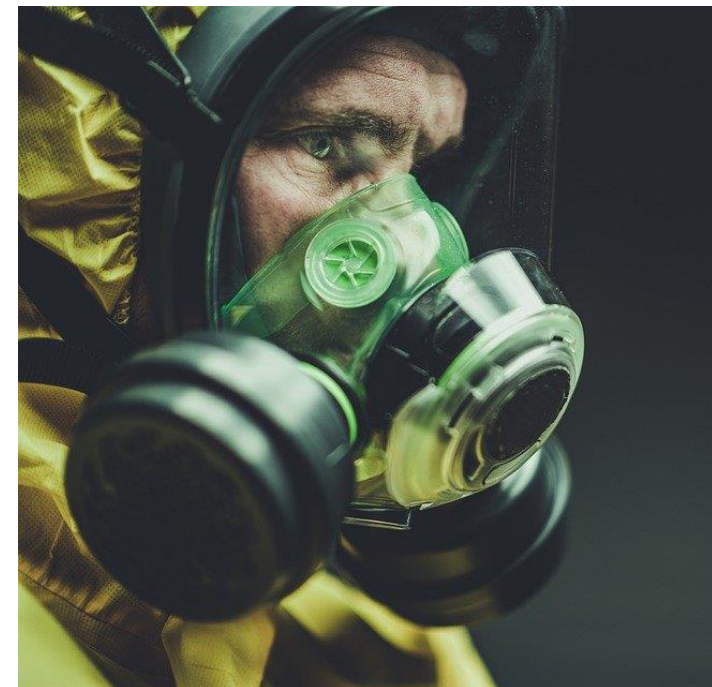
Requirements for specific cases

Validation of findings

- Restricted or closed data might need to be made available through agreements with relevant confidentiality provisions

Public emergencies

- Can be triggered by the request of the granting authority
- Immediate OA is extended beyond publications to any research outputs – as soon as feasible and in CC BY or CC0
- DMP provided with the proposal or before grant signature
- In case of conflict of legitimate interests for openness, beneficiaries must grant non-exclusive licences to legal entities that need the research to address the emergency (this provision applies up to 4 years after the end of the action)



Reporting and monitoring

Reporting-Monitoring

- Extensive reporting of Open Science practices:
 - Structured reporting of requirements regarding OA
 - Free-text reporting of encouraged Open Science practices
- Monitoring by project officers and reviewers in periodic reviews
- Monitoring of the FP through Key Impact Pathways (KIPs)



Alea López de San Román, 'Open Science in Horizon Europe, CC-BY 4.0
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4681073>

Horizon Europe grant proposals

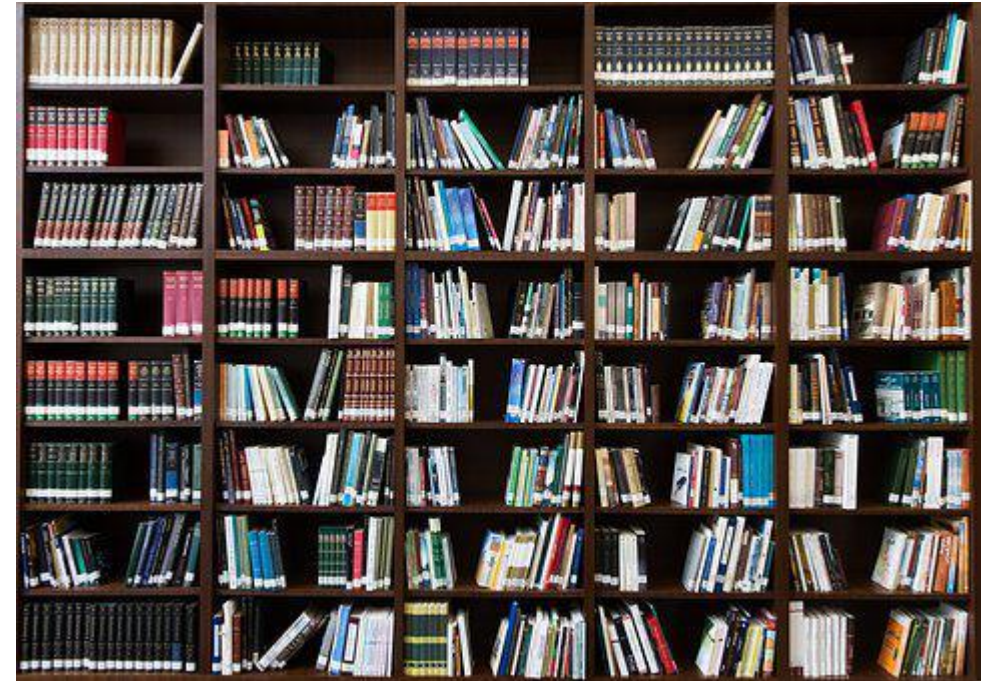
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Open Science parts

- PART A – Application form
 - List 5 publications, widely-used datasets, softwares, goods, services or any other achievements relevant to the call
- PART B – Project proposal – technical description
 - Under ‘Excellence’ – ‘1.2 Methodology’ (Open Science, RDM and management of other research outputs)
 - Under ‘Impact’ – ‘2.2 Measures to maximise impact’ (dissemination, exploitation and communication)
 - Under ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’ – ‘3.1 Work plan and resources’ and ‘3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole’

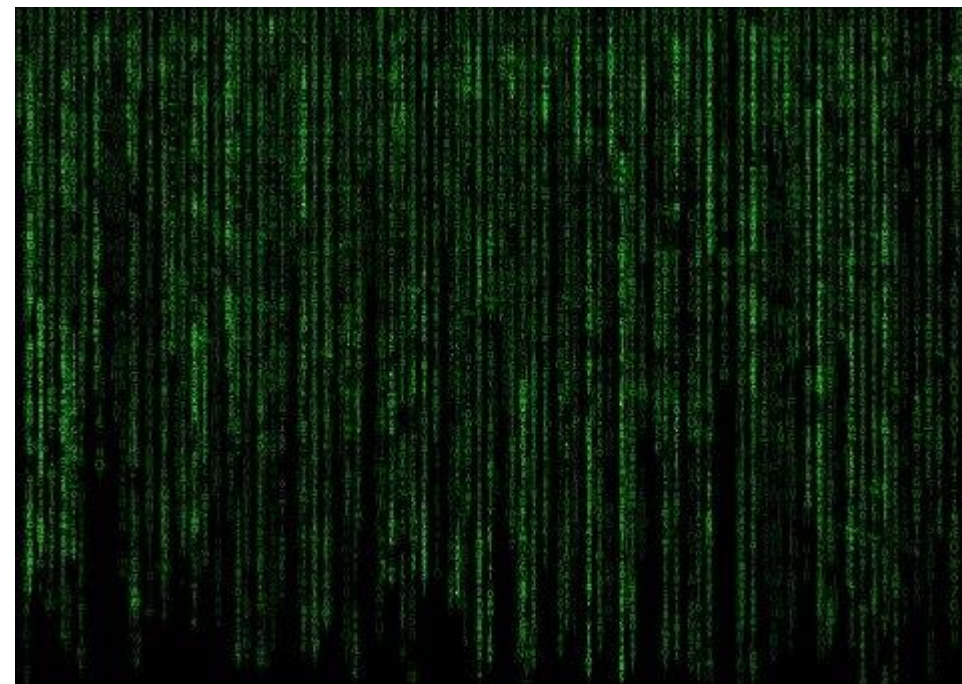
Publications

- Your publications cited should be in OA
- Your publications cited will only be evaluated qualitatively (i.e. the Impact Factor is irrelevant)
- Give insights in where you are hoping to publish (e.g. Open Research Europe, full OA journals)



Data

- Your data listed should be FAIR, on a repository and the PID provided
- An official DMP is not needed but the grant proposal does include aspects very similar to a DMP (e.g type and size of data, PIDs, IPR, interoperability, licences, curation, responsibilities)
- Distinct WP on ‘project management’ that must include the DMP as a deliverable



Other aspects eligible in the budget

- “engagement of citizens, civil society and end-users” – citizen science and participation in crowdsourcing activities
- Data curation costs
- Article Processing Charges (hybrid journals not eligible)



Writing tips

- Be as specific as possible
- Don't let the project officer dig for information
- You do not need to explain what Open Access, FAIR data, Open Science, etc. mean. Focus on what concretely you will do



Special cases

ERC

- No explicit evaluation or requirement to describe Open Science practices; but if included, will (implicitly) positively affect assessment of ‘scientific excellence’
- ERC projects do not have scientific work packages or deliverables.
- But now requires a “Research Data Management” WP, with “Data Management Plan” as the one deliverable (type “R – Document, report” with due data M6)

[ERC DMP template](#)



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

MSCA

- Underlying principles: Open Science, Responsible Research & Innovation
- Award criteria will consider the “soundness of the proposed methodology” (**‘Excellence’ criteria** weighing 50% of the evaluation) which must consider “the quality of Open Science practices”
- **Training activities** and **Career Development Plan** must address key transferable skills “fostering the culture of Open Science, innovation and entrepreneurship” and prepare to the increase in “research collaboration and information-sharing” (e.g. collaborative tools, OA, open data, FAIR data, public engagement, citizen science)



MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

Horizon Europe Open Science recommended practices

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Evaluation

- Mandatory Open Science practices – score will be lowered for not sufficiently addressing them unless duly justified
- Recommended Open Science practices – **no impact on score** if not addressed but score will be increased if sufficiently addressed
- Open Science practices listed in the template for proposals (section Excellence > Methodology) but is a non-exhaustive list



Open Science practices

What?	How?	Mandatory in all calls/recommended
Early and open sharing of research	Preregistration, registered reports, preprints, etc.	Recommended
Research output management	Data management plan (DMP)	Mandatory
Measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs	Information on outputs/tools/instruments and access to data/results for validation of publications	Mandatory
Open access to research outputs through deposition in trusted repositories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open access to publications Open access to data Open access to software, models, algorithms, workflows etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory for peer-reviewed publications Mandatory for research data but with exceptions ('as open as possible...') Recommended for other research outputs
Participation in open peer-review	Publishing in open peer-reviewed journals or platforms	Recommended
Involving all relevant knowledge actors	Involvement of citizens, civil society and end-users in co-creation of content (e.g. crowd-sourcing, etc.)	Recommended

- Open science practices listed in the template for proposals (section excellence>methodology)
- Non-exhaustive list
- Mandatory in all calls: Model Grant Agreement or call requirement; all the rest recommended



Pre-registration

- Quantitative evaluation of research outputs has pushed towards less responsible research practices and the replication crisis (e.g. data dredging/p-hacking, cherry picking, HARKing [Hypothesising after the results are known])
- Pre-registration = “practice of publishing the plan for a study, including research questions/hypotheses, research design, data analysis before the data has been collected or examined” ([FORRT](#))
- Some research domains have standard procedures in place; e.g. pre-registration of clinical trials, check ECRIN: <https://ecrin.org/>

<https://www.cos.io/initiatives/prereg>

Nosek et al. (2018). The preregistration revolution.

<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1708274114>



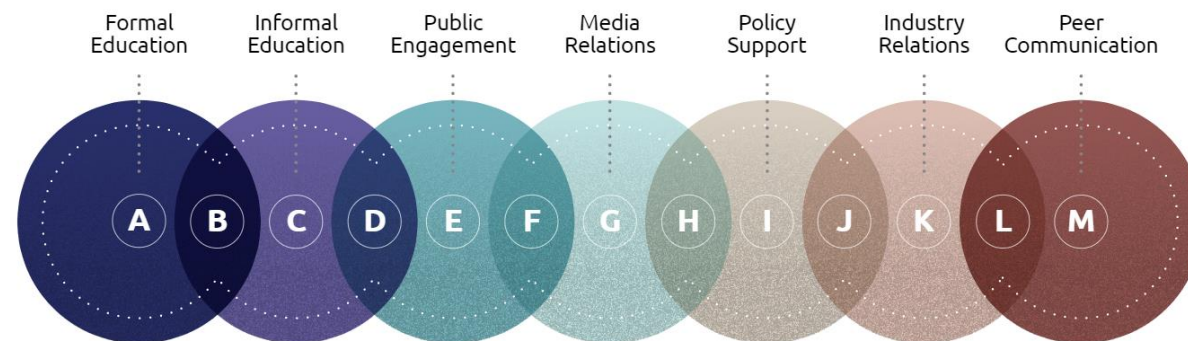
Pre-prints

- Traditional scholarly publishing is usually time-consuming and slow
- Preprints allow authors to share their results ahead of peer-reviewing on preprint servers
- Faster dissemination and broader access to research outputs, opportunities for early feedback
- Visible outputs for early-career researchers, can increase employability



Public engagement

- Open and inclusive research and innovation includes society that can be listened to, awarded relevant input and influence during all stages of the research process ([RRI Tools](#)) – public engagement contributes to the democratisation of science
- Increases scientific literacy of the public, improves societal relevance of science, increases the support and uptake of research
- E.g. [European Researchers' Night](#), [Science is Wonderful](#), public talks, talks in schools or cultural centres, popular science books, social media, documentaries, TV shows, school activities, art/science projects

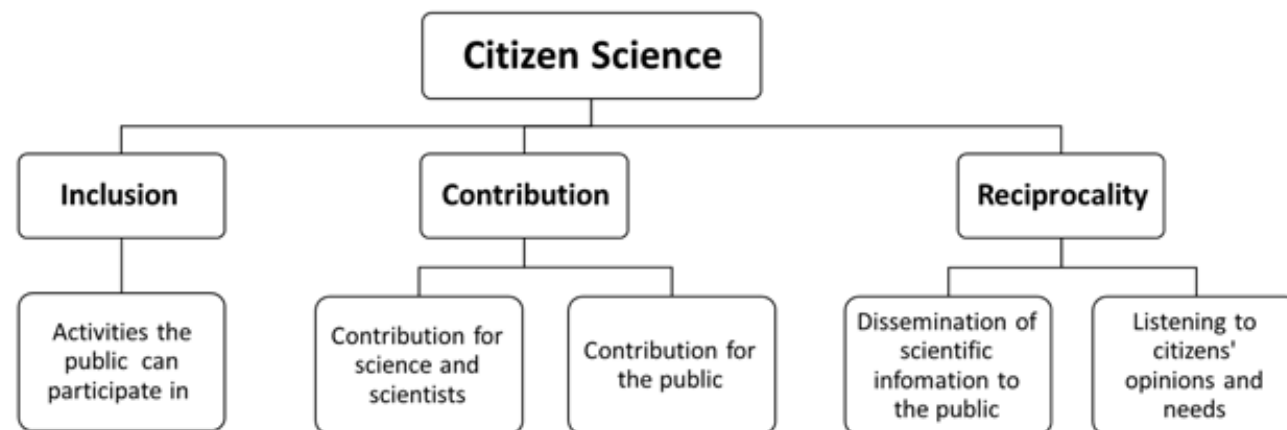


Pompea & Russo (2020). The role of astronomers in the astronomy education ecosystem. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2011.11350>



Citizen Science

- Projects that actively involve the general public, in any of the stages of research, acting as collaborators, contributors or project leaders ([FORRT](#))
- Increases scientific literacy of the public, empowers citizens with scientific approaches, improves societal relevance of science, increases the support and uptake of research, explores new pathways for participatory governance
- [European Citizen Science Association](#), [EU Citizen Science platform](#)
- E.g. [Zooniverse](#), [School Network Alerts Citizens analysing seismograms](#), in video games (e.g. [Borderlands 3](#))... and many more



Golumbic et al. (2017). CC-BY 4.0. <http://doi.org/10.5334/cstp.53>

Tips

Overall tips

- Design an Open Science strategy for your project.
- Include specific provisions in the Consortium Agreement about where publications and data will be deposited and who is responsible for doing this. Who will make sure that all outputs have been deposited in the appropriate repositories?
- Implement your Open Science strategy, report at reviews and provide updates.
- Keep track of issues, discuss the solutions.



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THANKS

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