

Helmholtz Open Science Policy

Implementing the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

The Helmholtz Association is the largest research organization in Germany. At Helmholtz, more than 45,000 employees work together at 18 Research Centers to solve the grand challenges of our time. Since 2005, the Helmholtz Open Science Office has been promoting the development of open science within the community. The Helmholtz Open Science Policy from 2022 creates the framework for all open science activities. At its core, open science at Helmholtz focuses on the open access to scientific publications, open research data, and open research software. Additionally, the Helmholtz Open Science Office is dedicated to reforming conditions and frameworks for science to thrive, such as advancing research evaluation practices and establishing a copyright system that is supportive of open scientific research.

Overview

The Helmholtz Assembly of Members adopted the Open Science Policy in September 2022. This policy stipulates that scholarly articles, research data, and research software be published openly. Open science thus becomes the standard for publication practices at Helmholtz.

The Policy is organized into three sections:

- Strategic Positioning
- Monitoring
- Implementation and Common Requirements

Strategic Positioning

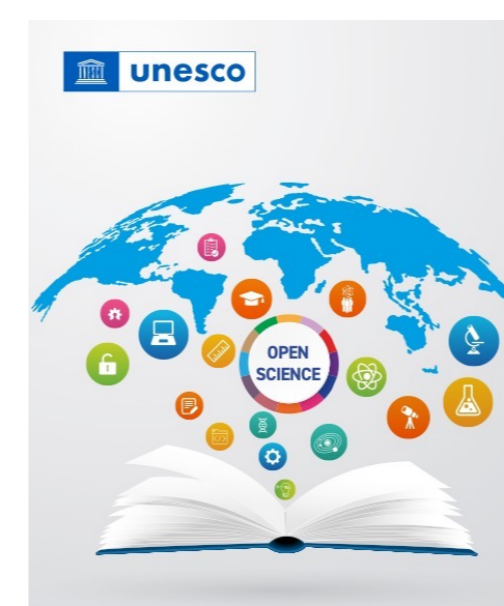


Figure 1: The UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 41st session, in November 2021.

In line with the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science and the role of open science in national, European, and international science policies, Helmholtz commits itself to open science, following the principles of:

- Openness
- Transparency
- Quality assurance
- Cross-linking (FAIR, PIDs)
- Sustainability

Monitoring

Annual Open Science Report to the Helmholtz Assembly of Members report the status of open-science-related activities in an aggregated manner: the current focus is placed on text publications, research data, and research software. Future expansions plan include additional objectives and priorities to promote open science further.

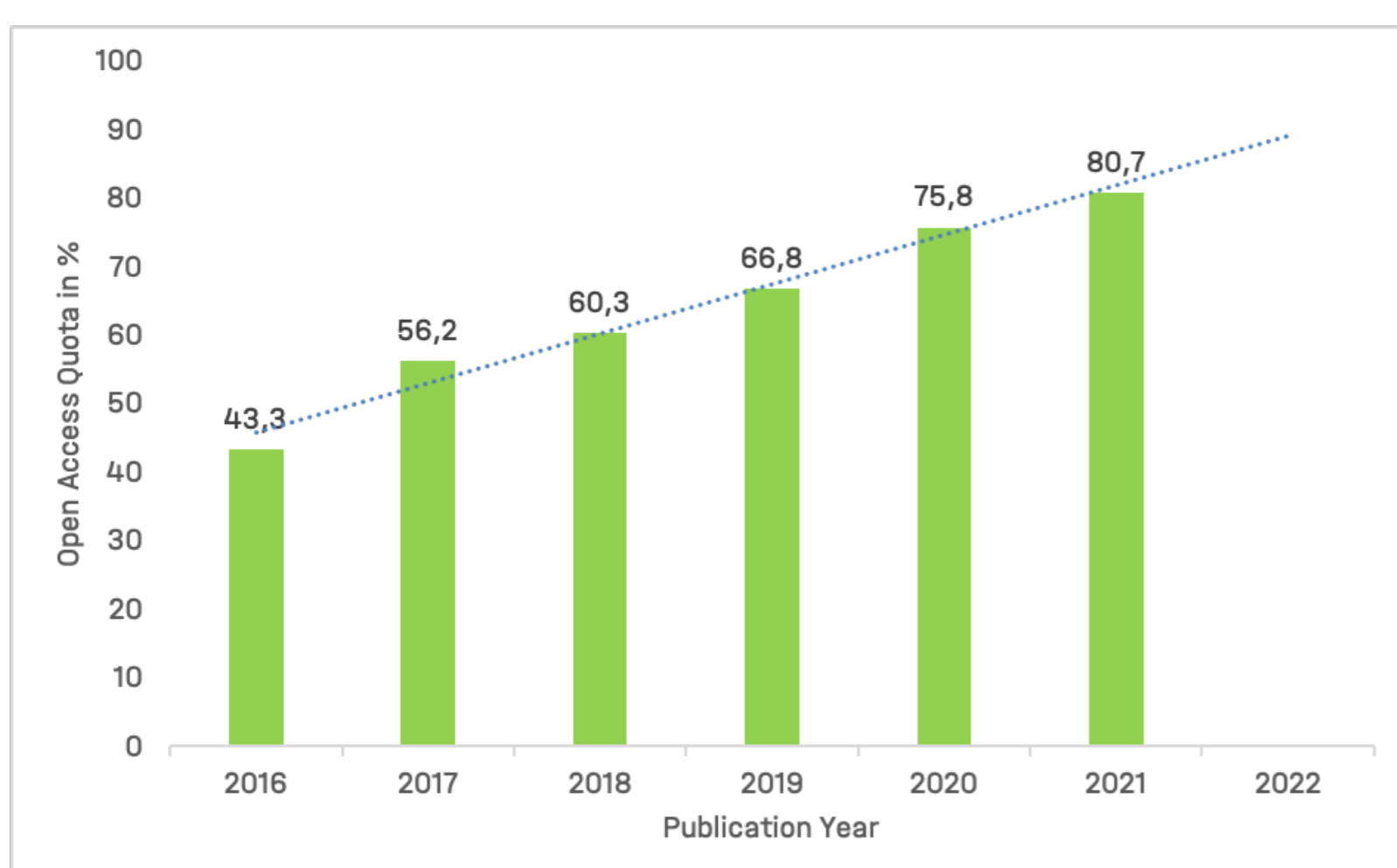


Figure 2: Open Access share of publications from the Helmholtz Association (green) with linear trend (blue dotted) for the publication years 2016 to 2022.

Implementation and Common Requirements

- Accordance with FAIR Principles.
- Principle "as open as possible, as closed as necessary".
- Use of suitable persistent identifiers (e.g., DOI, ORCID iD, ROR ID).
- Metadata: Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC0) or equivalent.

Concerning open access publications:

- Creative Commons Attribution International Public License (CC BY) or equivalent.
- Immediate Gold OA or Green OA at the latest 12 months after publication.

Concerning open research data:

- Use of the data management plan (DMP) tool, Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC0) or equivalent.

Concerning open research software:

- Program code openly accessible in a repository.

Networking, Dialogue & Projects

- The Open Science Office is closely networked with all 18 Helmholtz Centers, as well as partner organizations and other open science-related initiatives at the national, European, and global levels.
- The Helmholtz Open Science Office offers a broad range of Open Science Services for the Helmholtz members.
- The Helmholtz Open Science Office is partner in the following projects: open-access.network, re3data COREF, PID Network Germany, Transform2Open.

Contact

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Further Information on the [Helmholtz Open Science Policy](#)

