

OPEN SCIENCE POLICY

FUNDACIÓ INSTITUT DE RECERCA EN ENERGIA DE
CATALUNYA



Shaping Energy for a Sustainable Future

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OPEN SCIENCE POLICY

Document history

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Contents

Article 1. Preamble	4
Article 2. Jurisdiction	4
Article 3. Rights, Responsibilities, and Duties	4
Article 4. Open Access to Publications	6
Article 5. Open Access to Research Data	6
Article 6. Open Science and Citizen Science	7
Article 7. Infrastructure	7
Article 8. Research Assessment and Evaluation	7
Article 9. Training	8
Article 10. Open Science Working Group	8
Article 11. Miscellaneous	8
References	9

Article 1. Preamble

1. **IREC** commits to the advancement of science and the wide dissemination of knowledge to the benefit of society by adopting practices on open, reproducible and responsible research.
2. **IREC** recognizes 'openness' as a fundamental guiding principle and is committed to promoting this ethos through the adoption of Open Science practices. These include ensuring Open Access to publications and research outputs, adhering to FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) principles for responsible research output management, and advancing research assessment and evaluation methods.
3. **IREC** recognizes "openness" as one of its guiding principles and commits to promoting it by – among others – encouraging and supporting research processes and tools that encourage collaboration, enabling new working models and new social relationships, stimulating the dissemination of knowledge and the accessibility and re-usability of research outputs, encouraging open access to publications and data and building the necessary infrastructure, skills, rewards and incentives to support open science.
4. This means Open Science is intended to become the guiding principle. For this to happen, Open Science practices and values need to be embedded in the organization of **IREC** and its processes. This Policy formulates expectations and recommendations and provides guidance on the implementation of Open Science practices. With this policy, **IREC** creates the necessary conditions to be able to integrate the practices and values of an open academic culture into its structure and its processes. The aim is to establish Open Science as the norm.
5. To support these commitments, **IREC** will promote education on Open Science topics and encourage the research community to adopt additional Open Science practices and tools. To explain and disseminate Open Science efforts **IREC** will develop an Open Science virtual space. This virtual space will be a public access point of all the documentation and initiatives carried out to promote the implementation of open science.
6. The legal framework that articulates Open Science in Spain, and that **IREC** must comply with, includes the Ley 14/2011, de 1 de junio, de la Ciencia, la Tecnología y la Innovación, and the regional level the LLEI 9/2022, del 21 de desembre, de la Ciència.

Article 2. Jurisdiction

The Policy applies to all researchers active at **IREC**.

Article 3. Rights, Responsibilities, and Duties

3.1 **IREC** is responsible for:

1. Supporting and empowering the transition to Open Access/Open Science through education, training and awareness-raising actions targeting researchers and other employees, along with the provision of the necessary infrastructure and funding to support this transition. Acquisition of Open Science and related skills should form an integral part of professional training and career development offered to researchers.
2. The Institutional Open Access Repository for publications is Zenodo IREC Community (<https://zenodo.org/communities/irec/>), and for datasets CORA.RDR Repository by CSUC, unless other system repositories are provided by CERCA, the Research and Universities Department or equivalent.
3. Mandating the use of persistent identifiers (like DOIs, ORCID or others).

4. Maintaining a Research Data Management structure, responsible for all data related matters, including – but not limited to – issues and support to the researchers related to the development of Data Management Plans (DMPs) and compliance with national and European laws, data curation and stewardship -ensuring that research data is handled in alignment with FAIR principles-, and selecting usage rights.
5. Developing and providing mechanisms and services for the storage, safekeeping, registration, deposition and sharing of data and other records, according to the FAIR principles, as well as their long-term preservation, and providing appropriate guidance to researchers, including DMP templates.
6. Embedding Open Science practices in recruitment, research assessment and evaluation criteria beyond the provision of open access to publications and data, like participation in citizen science projects, experimentation with open peer review or the use of Open Educational Resources (OER).
7. Monitoring policy compliance by comparing the content of the repository with information gathered from indexing services and through data on the use (access and downloads) per publication/ department/unit/ institute, etc.
8. Ensuring the compliance of the institution's repository and other research infrastructures with certification requirements in relation to FAIR data principles and EOSC technical specifications.
9. Having IPR and data protection policies in place to support Open Science.
10. Developing an Open Licensing policy mandating a coherent and comprehensive set of licenses for releasing content and data.
11. Ensuring that acquisition of Open Science and related skills is an integral part of professional training and career development offered to researchers.

3.2 Researchers are responsible for:

1. Managing publications, data and educational resources in adherence with the principles and requirements expressed in this Policy.
2. Registering new research projects at the proposal stage at **IREC** appropriate service in order to ensure that they are provided with the appropriate institutional support.
3. Complying with the organizational, regulatory, institutional, and other contractual and legal requirements related to the production, curation, deposit, management, and distribution of publications and data in case there is no other agreement with third parties taking precedence.
4. Ensuring that the principles governing the handling of data (in adherence with the present Policy and funders' mandates) are included in a Data Management Plan (DMP).
5. Compiling a DMP for every research activity they are coordinating, with the support of the Research Data Management team from the Corporate Development and Technology Transfer (KTT) department.
6. Choosing the appropriate type of licensing for their research outputs with the support of the Research Data Management team from KTT, considering any potential exploitation interests, such patent protection, prior to opening access to any research outputs...

Article 4. Open Access to Publications

IREC:

1. Requires researchers to make available to the Research Data Manager from KTT a machine-readable electronic copy of the full text (published article or final peer-reviewed manuscript), as well as the related metadata before, at the same time or after publication. The Research Data Manager will deposit the publication in the institutional repository. Researchers are held responsible for timely providing all the necessary data for the deposit of their publications in the institutional repository. This step also applies in the case of open access publishing (“Gold Open Access”).
2. In the case of “Green Open Access”, **IREC** requires the full text of all publications referred to above to be made immediately and publicly available¹ under a standard open licence (CC-BY or equivalent, CC-BY-ND/NC for longer text formats is allowed). For monographs, deposit remains mandatory, but access could be closed. Deposit process via KTT is the same for all kinds of publications.
3. Requires the metadata of the publication to be made openly accessible in the case of ‘closed’ publications with the aim to increase their visibility. Metadata should be licensed under CC0 or equivalent, in line with FAIR principles (i.e. Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable).
4. Requires researchers to retain ownership of copyright and licence to publishers only those rights necessary for publication. Authors (or their organisations) must ensure Open Access to the Author Accepted Manuscripts (AAMs) or the Version of Record (VoR) of research articles, at the time of publication. All research articles must be made available under a Creative Commons Attribution CC BY licence or equivalent or, by exception, a Creative Commons Attribution, NoDerivatives CC BY-ND licence, or equivalent. Grant a CC BY Licence to all future Author Accepted Manuscripts (AAMs).
5. Encourages researchers to deposit in the institutional repository publications authored prior to the date of effect of the current policy and make them openly accessible whenever possible.

Article 5. Open Access to Research Data

IREC

1. Is developing a Research Data Management Policy, that will be the general framework for the management of the research data produced by **IREC**, aligned with Open Science principles, to make its research data as open as possible and as closed as necessary, following FAIR principles.
2. Requires researchers to make available to the Research Data Manager, who will be responsible of their deposit in the designed repository, the data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications. Data should be provided with persistent identifiers and must be linked with publications where possible.

¹ If immediate deposit is not possible, a 6-month embargo in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) or 12 for publications in the social sciences and humanities is allowed.

3. Commits to data and services being handled according to [open and FAIR principles](#) (i.e. Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable). Data should also be traceable and whenever possible available for subsequent use.
4. **IREC** follows the principle “as open as possible as closed as necessary”. If data cannot be open due to legal, privacy or other concerns (for example sensitive data or personal data) this should be clearly explained. Metadata ensuring that data are findable should be provided in all instances.
5. Requires researchers to submit a DMP to the appropriate service for every research activity they are involved in.
6. Requires researchers to define usage rights through the assignment of appropriate licenses, with the support of KTT.
7. The final research data derived from both international and national research projects that have been resulting with public funded, and provided that this is stipulated in the call for proposals or the governing program or plan, shall be deposited and made publicly available through the CORA Research Data Repository (<https://dataverse.csuc.cat/>) or equivalent.
8. Except in cases where access to data must be restricted for reasons of confidentiality, security, privacy, or third-party agreements, published data will be made openly accessible, meaning it will carry a license that allows for broad reuse, such as the CC0 or CC BY licenses from Creative Commons.

Article 6. Open Science and Citizen Science

IREC actively encourages the uptake of Open Science practices (beyond open access to publications and data) such as the involvement in citizen science projects, open peer review, the use and creation of open educational resources, the release of data and content under open and standard open licenses, etc., and tracks their uptake. **IREC** supports [citizen science projects](#) as a means to rethink the knowledge production and circulation models inside and outside the research community.

Citizen science is both an aim and enabler of open science, referring to the ability of the public to understand science and engage with scientists, through more open communication in the form of blogs and social media.

Article 7. Infrastructure

1. Ensuring that the **IREC Repository** meets trusted quality standards (OpenAIRE compatible, meeting FAIR principles, has a transparent repository policy) and are linked with EOSC.
2. Ensuring that the **IREC Repository** is registered in appropriate registries and is interoperable through the OpenAIRE Guidelines.

Article 8. Research Assessment and Evaluation

IREC commits to:

1. Following and implementing the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and the agreement of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) principles to improve the ways in which researchers and the outputs of research are evaluated.
2. Developing in cooperation with funding agencies, institutional departments and other appropriate units a framework for research assessment and evaluation that incentivizes research quality and Open Science behaviours and practices. Such systems should take into consideration disciplinary differences and their impact on researchers at different career stages.
3. Setting up reward mechanisms for researchers using Open Science practices (e.g. sharing provisional results through open platforms, using open software and other tools, participation in open collaborative projects (citizen science), sharing data, etc.); adopt open science metrics and ‘responsible metrics’, along with ways of rewarding the full diversity of outputs and of recording the broader social impact of research (‘next generation metrics’).

Article 9. Training

1. The Corporate Development and Technology Transfer department, in cooperation with any other appropriate department (such as legal services, project management staff, RDM experts) commits to developing training courses to facilitate the adoption of open science and equip researchers and other support staff with the necessary skills and expertise. Such training courses should include skills necessary for open access publishing, FAIR and open data and data management, research integrity, reproducibility and [open science](#).

Article 10. Open Science Working Group

To discuss, propose and follow up initiatives related with Open Science, IREC has created a Working Group for Open Science. The Working Group is responsible for supporting and establishing an Open Science culture and strategy at IREC, and following-up its progress and implementation.

Article 11. Miscellaneous

11.1. Compliance with the governing law

IREC shall, in the shortest possible time span, amend the provisions stated in this regulation to adapt it to any possible modification of the governing law.

11.2. Entry into force and validity

This regulation shall entry into force the day after its approval by IREC’s Board of Trustees.

References

This policy is an adaptation to IREC particularities of the Model Policy on Open Science of OpenAire:
<https://www.openaire.eu/model-policy-on-open-science-for-research-performingorganisations>