



Open Science Policy – Programme Johannes Amos Comenius

For research project funding under the Programme Johannes Amos Comenius (P JAC) managed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, it is mandatory to implement the Open Science principles, i.e. an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge. To ensure efficient and practical collaboration in applying Open Science principles, it is essential that the dissemination of project results and data aligns with the principle: “as open as possible, as closed as necessary.”

These principles apply to all projects financed from calls that support research and development activities – namely to the calls listed below:

- Nr. 02_22_008 – „State-of-the-art Research” (“Špičkový výzkum”)
- Nr. 02_23_025 – „Social and Human Sciences – the Individual and Humanity facing global challenges of today” (“Společenské a humanitní vědy – člověk a lidstvo v globálních výzvách současnosti”)
- Nr. 02_23_020 – „Cross-sectoral cooperation” („Mezisektorová spolupráce“)
- Nr. 02_23_021 – „Cross-sectoral cooperation for ITIs” („Mezisektorová spolupráce pro ITI“)

In accordance with the principles, the applicant/beneficiary is required to ensure, in particular:

- a) the integration of **systemic measures for managing future project results (including the handling of intellectual property rights) and their potential dissemination** already within the partnership agreement or partnership principles, with due regard to the application of the principle “as open as possible, as closed as necessary”;
- b) **open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications** resulting from research funded under the project;
- c) **research data management in accordance with the FAIR principles** and open access to such data.

Ad b) above - Open Access to Peer-Reviewed Scientific Publications

1. The beneficiary is required to ensure **open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications** related to the research results of the project, if such publications arise. In particular, the beneficiary must:
 - deposit a machine-readable electronic version of either the final published version (Version of Record, VoR) or the final peer-reviewed manuscript (i.e. the version incorporating changes from the peer review process known as Author Accepted Manuscript, AAM) in a trusted repository without undue delay following the date of publication (*i.e. as soon as technically possible*). *The publication date refers to the date of digital publication by the publisher;*
 - ensure immediate open access (*i.e. permanent unrestricted free online access without embargo*) to the deposited publication, under the terms of the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International License (CC BY 4.0), *allowing the reuse*



of the publication. In case the publisher does not allow the CC BY license, a more restrictive license may be accepted as an exception, provided this is proven by the beneficiary. Nevertheless, the beneficiary/authors must retain sufficient intellectual property rights, i.e. when entering into a (licensing) contract/agreement with the publishers, authors/institutions must not transfer the intellectual property rights (economic rights) to the publisher, but they should only grant it the license necessary for publication of the work, thereby preserving the ability to make the publication available under a public Creative Commons license; in case of monographs and other long-form texts, the license may exclude commercial uses and derivative works (i.e. following licenses may be accepted: CC BY-NC 4.0, CC BY-ND 4.0, CC BY-NC-ND 4.0);

- provide information (i.e. references) for any additional research outputs, tools and instruments needed to validate the findings of the peer-reviewed publication as part of the metadata of the record in the trusted repository.
2. The beneficiary (or author/s) is required to **retain sufficient intellectual property rights (i.e. copyright, economic rights)** to comply with the open access requirements.
 3. **Metadata of deposited publications** must be publicly available and machine-readable, in accordance with the FAIR principles and the General Recommendations for Metadata Description (see: <https://doi.org/10.48813/yt6w-6h15>).

Article Processing Charges (APCs) for open access publishing of peer-reviewed scientific publications are considered eligible cost.

Ad c above) Research Data Management

1. The beneficiary is required to **ensure the management of research data** collected or generated during the project in a responsible manner, in line with the FAIR principles, especially through the following measures:
 - Establishment and regular updating of a Data Management Plan (DMP) created in accordance with the FAIR principles. *The DMP should follow the structure of the Horizon Europe template (see: <https://doi.org/10.48813/sstg-4g21>), covering seven key areas. Each key area in the Data Management Plan template includes guiding questions facilitating the preparation and continuous updating of the DMP. The DMP must address all seven areas, though not every question must be explicitly answered if not applicable. However, this must be further explained in the DMP. It is recommended to use proper digital tools, such as the [Data Stewardship Wizard \(DSW\)](#), that automatically generates the DMP in required format.*
 - Timely deposition of research data, especially those connected to peer-reviewed publications, into a trusted repository, as outlined in the DMP. *This includes data necessary to validate published results, data related to other research outputs including non-publication research outputs, or data not linked to specific outputs but potentially useful beyond the project. That means it is not required to publish all data produced or collected within the project. The decision whether to deposit raw or processed data depends on disciplinary norms, context, and type of data.*



- Ensuring open access to deposited research data, in line with the DMP, preferably under the latest version of the Creative Commons Attribution International license (CC BY 4.0) or equivalent. Open access must follow the principle “*as open as possible, as closed as necessary*”, taking into account privacy, personal data protection, confidentiality, legitimate interests, third-party intellectual property rights, national security, or other justified interests and limitations. If open access is not provided (to some or all data), this must be justified in the DMP, and the justification must be regularly revised.
 - Providing information (i.e. references) about any additional research outputs, tools, and instruments needed to reuse or validate the research data, as part of the metadata of the record in trusted repository (unless legitimate reasons for restriction apply).
2. **Metadata of deposited research data** must be publicly available (to the extent permitted by legitimate interests or restrictions) and machine-readable, in line with the FAIR principles and the General Recommendations for Metadata Description (see: <https://doi.org/10.48813/yt6w-6h15>).

Recommended (Non-Mandatory) Open Science Practices

Applicants/beneficiaries are encouraged to adopt additional Open Science practices and principles, such as:

1. early and open sharing of preliminary research results, e.g. through preregistration, registered reports, or the publication of preprints;
2. management of research outputs beyond peer-reviewed publications and research data, such as software, models, algorithms, workflows, open lab notebooks, etc.;
3. participation in open peer review, (i.e. publishing in journals or on platforms that support transparent peer review processes);
4. involvement of relevant knowledge actors (such as citizens, end users, academia, industry, public authorities, and non-profit organizations) in the co-creation of research agendas.