OPEN-ACCESS-POLICY

Background

Being able to access published research via Open Access is becoming an increasingly important factor in safeguarding good scientific practice. The publication of research results via Open Access brings a number of benefits, as it increases both the visibility of research and the transparency of its methods while also allowing access to information to the public. In this way, open access helps to accelerate innovation processes and to improve the visibility of research findings. As a member of Leibniz Association, the Herder Institute is committed to a policy of Open Access and actively fosters the emergence of a research culture on-site that is open-access-friendly. We follow the "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities"[1] and the "Open Access Policy of the Leibniz Association 2016-2020"[2] and are committed to supporting our staff, raising their awareness of Open Access and providing opportunities for training. Wherever possible, we also strive to make our publications available via Open Access.

Open Access at the Herder Institute

One of our aims at the Herder Institute is to publish the research findings of our colleagues in accordance with Open Access principles. This can be achieved by either publishing material directly via Open Access or, where legal requirements allow, by making publications available subsequently via repositories. Where research is published directly via Open Access, the Institute recommends publishing under a free user license (currently, for example, the Creative Commons Attribution).

We also feel dedicated to Open Access regarding publications produced by our in-house publisher. The Herder Institute has made all volumes of the Journal for East Central European Studies available online free of charge together with volumes over two years old that have been printed by our in-house publisher.[3]

The Herder Institute also considers micro-publications and research data valuable results of its research. A separate research data policy is in place regarding the latter.[4] Long-term, the Institute is endeavoring to make this data publicly available in the form of Open Access publications.

It is our goal to make materials and data from our inventories, for example metadata and digital content, freely accessible, insofar as the legal parameters and fee structures of the respective country of registration will allow.

At the Herder Institute, we are aware of the importance of open source software development, in particular the development of research infrastructures. Therefore, whenever the demands for sustainability, quality and interoperability make it possible, we continue to find ways of developing research software on an open-source basis.

Implementation at the Herder Institute

As far as conditions and frameworks allow, the Herder Institute therefore aims to publish its research results via Open Access wherever possible. To this end, the Institute supports its staff through the following measures:

Infrastructure

› The Herder Institute is committed to providing the technical infrastructure for Open Access publications in the form of its own repository, which will be linked to the Leibniz Association's repository LeibnizOpen[5] (currently under development).
› The Herder Institute cooperates with external partners in developing subject-specific repositories.
› To ensure that legal frameworks are protected and observed, the Herder Institute is currently devising a series of guidelines around the release of publications via Open Access.

Qualifications and Guidance

The Herder Institute:

❭ is developing an individual advisory service as well as training opportunities in order to raise awareness of Open Access among its staff and junior researchers and to provide them with further education on the subject (for example through the Herder Institute Research Academy, HIRA),

❭ offers guidance to help clarify legal questions and issues related to Open Access publications,

❭ offers guidance around financing options in cases where publication fees are incurred,

❭ offers guidance for researchers around choosing a publication medium (online, print, closed access, open access, hybrid periodicals),

❭ helps in providing an overview for researchers looking to choose an Open Access periodical suitable for their subject matter (and, if necessary, making them aware of untrustworthy or dubious offers),

❭ offers guidance relating to the provision of metadata and digital content via Open Access,

❭ offers guidance relating to Linked Open Data and open source software development.

Quality Management

The Herder Institute carries out quality assurance according to international standards (using a double blind appraisal system) for all academic works published via Open Access, provided these are not otherwise already subject to a quality control procedure. Materials that have been quality assured are clearly identified.

Contact Person for Questions on Open Access at the Herder Institute

The Herder Institute appoints a contact person responsible for implementing the current Open Access policy. A small team is also available to assist with this.

The Herder Institute adheres to the policies and principles outlined in the following documents

❭ Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Science and Humanities[6]

❭ The Open Access Policy of the Leibniz Association 2016-2020[77]

❭ DFG Recommendations "Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice"[88]

❭ The Alliance of Science Organizations: an Appeal for the use of Open Licenses in Science and Research[9]

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[1] Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. http://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner_Erklaerung (27.09.2017).

[2] Open-Access-Policy of the Leibniz Association 2016-2020. http://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/Infrastruktur/Leibniz-Open-Access-Policy.pdf (27.09.2017).

[3] https://www.zfo-online.de/ (28.09.2017).

[4] https://www.herder-institut.de/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/projekt_pdf/HI_Forschungsdatenpolicy.pdf (25.10.2017).

[5] http://www.leibnizopen.de/home/ (26.09.2017).

[6] http://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner-Erklaerung (27.09.2017).

[7] PDF for download https://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/infrastrukturen/open-access/ (27.09.2017).

[8] http://doi.org/10.1002/9783527679188.oth1 (27.09.2017).

[9] http://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/2014/info_wissenschaft_14_68/index.html (27.09.2017).