



Open Access Policy of TU Darmstadt¹

Technical University of Darmstadt (TU Darmstadt) is committed to the principles of freedom of research and teaching as well as to the principles of open science. TU Darmstadt advocates open research and teaching as well as sharing the research results of its scientists with society at large. While taking into account specific characteristics of various fields of research and relevant quality criteria, all publications and research data meant for publication including research results originating from TU Darmstadt shall, therefore, be made accessible and reusable under an open licence and preferably without restrictions.

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To emphasise this objective, TU Darmstadt has signed the “Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities”² and supports initiatives that implement and/or promote this Berlin Declaration. As an important factor in successful and innovative teaching and research, the Executive Board and the Senate of TU Darmstadt maintain that its affiliates should be able to publish their research results freely and in open access formats and have free and unrestricted access to the results of their research.

Specifically, they promote that

1. **Primary publication** takes place under a free licence, preferably a Creative Commons Licence (CC BY);
2. Affiliates of TU Darmstadt make use of their legal **right to secondary publishing** and that all publications are made available via repositories (TUprints in particular) either at the same time or deferred;
3. When entering a **contract with a publishing house**, only simple, non-exclusive licences are granted;
4. The **open access fees** are limited to the rates stated by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG: German Research Foundation);

¹ Translation of the official German text “[Open-Access-Policy der TU Darmstadt](#)” from 29th August 2019.

² <https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berliner-Erklaerung>

5. **Research data** intended for publication or supporting such publications are published under free licences and open standards whenever possible; refer to “Guidelines on Digital Research Data at TU Darmstadt”³;
6. Affiliates of TU Darmstadt are more involved than before in the **reviewing, editing and publishing** of open access publications;
7. Procedures for **quality assurance and measuring scholarly impact** are used or established which are based on open access publishing and which promote the role of open access in gaining scientific reputation;
8. **Digital teaching materials** (such as recordings etc.) are made available via repositories (such as OpenLearnWare) after careful examination in compliance with Open Educational Resources (OER) under a Creative Commons Licence.

The Executive Board will promote open access intensively, set up an incentive system for open access publishing and advise and support affiliates of TU Darmstadt comprehensively regarding open access. Scientists at TU Darmstadt shall be put in the position to exercise their vested right to free publishing, unrestricted by obsolete subscription and reputation-based models. Thus, their publications will receive maximum exposure and excellent conditions for reception based on strict scientific quality requirements and the respective current state of technology. By doing so, the Executive Board also supports a higher visibility of research results and a stronger integration of its scientists and researchers on a national and international level. According to the respective general conditions and characteristics of various fields of research, the Executive Board will create sustainable, customised and ongoing measures for implementing open access and develop tailored programmes to support and advise affiliates of TU Darmstadt.

The present policy is evaluated and modified regularly based on the latest developments regarding open access and open science.

³ https://www.intern.tu-darmstadt.de/media/daa_responsives_design/03_forschung_medien/forschungsfoerderung_2/gute_wiss_praxis/Leitlinien_Forschungsdaten_2015.en.pdf