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## **OPEN SCIENCE POLICY OF THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

This document establishes the principles and guidelines for the implementation of open science at the Faculty of Education of the **Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek** (hereinafter: the Faculty). It is based on the Open Science Policy of the European Union, the principles of the international organization UNESCO, and the European University Association's Agenda for Open Science 2025. It builds upon the Initiative for the Croatian Open Science Cloud and is aligned with the Open Science Policy of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek and the Croatian Open Science Plan.

Open science encompasses free and unrestricted access to scientific information, including scientific publications, research data, software, and other research outputs.

The aim of open science is to increase the visibility, accessibility, and reproducibility of scientific research, as well as to promote interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation, and the dissemination of knowledge within and beyond the academic community.

Through this Open Science Policy, the Faculty of Education seeks to increase the visibility and impact of publications and other research outputs produced by the Faculty's staff, thereby enhancing their application in education, economic development, and social progress.

This policy also aims to ensure equality and fairness in access to knowledge, as well as diversity and inclusiveness in knowledge creation.

The Faculty of Education and Educational Sciences promotes openness and accessibility of scientific information in accordance with the **FAIR** and **CARE** principles and guided by UNESCO's recommendations on open science:

- **Quality and integrity**, which include respect for the principles of academic freedom and human rights, and support for high-quality research.
- **Collective benefit**, whereby open science as a global public good should belong to humanity and enable its progress. Science should be inclusive, sustainable, and fair in both opportunities and capacities for development.
- **Principles of equity**, whereby open science should play a significant role in ensuring equality and fairness among researchers from developing and developed countries.
- **Diversity and inclusiveness**, whereby open science embraces the diversity of knowledge, practices, working methods, languages, research outcomes, and research objectives.

The Faculty encourages researchers and teachers to familiarize themselves with the principles of open science and to introduce students to these principles during the teaching process, as well as to follow them in their own work.

The Faculty encourages researchers and teachers to provide open access to the publications they produce and to publications issued by the Faculty, while respecting the publishers' copyright policies.

This can be achieved by:

- **Publishing in the diamond open access model**, where researchers do not bear publication costs and users have free access to published papers.
- **Publishing through green open access**, which involves archiving scientific papers in digital repositories, primarily in Digital Academic Archives and Repositories (hereinafter: DABAR), unless the agreement transferring part of the copyright to the publisher explicitly prohibits it. Papers may be published in this way as preprint or postprint versions or as the final publisher's version.

- **Publishing through gold open access**, whereby scientific journals charge a one-time fee (article publication charges – APC) for publishing a peer-reviewed article, which is then freely available via the publisher’s website. Researchers are required to consider the reputation of such journals and avoid those for which there is a reasonable suspicion that they are predatory and do not meet international standards of quality in scientific publishing.

Open access to publications should be enabled immediately after publication, except in cases where restrictions exist due to the protection of intellectual property or contractual obligations.

All publications should be licensed through open licenses that allow free downloading, sharing, and use while respecting the authors’ copyright.

The use of **Creative Commons licenses** (e.g., **CC BY**) is recommended, as they enable maximum visibility and reuse of research results. Metadata on publications should be available under the **CC0 (Creative Commons Zero)** license, which allows complete waiver of copyright and maximum interoperability, reuse, adaptation, and distribution without restrictions, thereby increasing the visibility and accessibility of scientific results.

The Faculty encourages its employees to enter bibliographic data for all their publications, at the latest at the time of publication, into the open system **CroRIS-CROSBI**, and encourages them to regularly update the data in their CroRIS-CROSBI profiles, including links to original documents whenever possible.

Academic staff involved in scientific research are recommended to develop a **Research Data Management Plan** according to the **FAIR principles** (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), which ensure that data can be found, accessed, interoperated with, and reused.

Research data generated within scientific research projects and shared in open access should be publicly available and stored in repositories that support the FAIR principles. This means that research data should be **findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable** in accordance with European open science strategies.

**DABAR** is used as the primary infrastructure for storing and sharing research data in accordance with best practices and technological standards.

The Faculty encourages the publication and sharing of educational content in open access. Educational materials created by teachers, including presentations, video materials, and other digital tools, should be available to the wider public through the institutional repository.

All educational materials should be licensed through open licenses such as **Creative Commons (CC BY)**, which allow free sharing, adaptation, and use of content while respecting the authors' rights. The Faculty encourages the use of the most open licenses to enable the greatest possible availability and reuse of educational resources.

The Faculty provides the technical infrastructure for storing and sharing open educational content through the institutional repository.

The Faculty will organize educational programs for teachers, students, and researchers in order to raise awareness of open science and improve the skills required for the implementation of its principles. The Faculty will provide advice and support regarding the technical, legal, and ethical aspects of open science, including proper storage and sharing of data, protection of privacy, and intellectual property.

Cooperation with similar initiatives at other universities and research institutions in Croatia and abroad will be encouraged in order to exchange experiences, resources, tools, and methodologies, and to strengthen capacities for open science.

The Faculty will regularly monitor the progress and effectiveness of the implementation of open science within the institution, provide feedback, and recommend adjustments to strategies, infrastructure, and open science policies in order to ensure continuity and alignment with international initiatives.

Training programs for researchers and students will also be developed and organized in order to raise awareness of open science and enhance the skills required for implementing its principles. The Faculty will provide advice and support regarding technical, legal, and ethical issues related to open science, including proper data storage and sharing, as well as the protection of privacy and intellectual property.

Dean

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