

Open Science Strategy of the Prague University of Economics and Business (Declaration)

The aim of the Open Science Strategy of the Prague University of Economics and Business (*Vysoká škola ekonomická v Praze, VŠE*) is to create a conceptual framework for Open Science, to initiate a systemic change at VŠE, to set priorities and to create the necessary capacity to implement the principles of Open Science at VŠE. By implementing these principles in their own research, researchers at VŠE can contribute to the implementation of Open Science in the Czech Republic and internationally.

VŠE promotes Open Access (OA) in its research activities, which means free, immediate, unrestricted and permanent online access to research results for every user. This is intended to lead to a rapid and barrier-free exchange of research results and the possibility to reuse, mine and disseminate them. In doing so, VŠE builds on the key policy statements of the **Budapest Initiative** (2002), the **Bethesda Declaration** (2003) and the **Berlin Declaration** (2003), which it signed in 2012 and therefore became the second university in the Czech Republic to sign up to the ideas of open access.

At the same time, VŠE reflects the contemporary development according to which the results of research can include not only traditional publication formats, which are mainly peer-reviewed articles, monographs, book chapters and contributions to proceedings, but also research data. In line with the revised **EU Commission Recommendation 2018/790** on access to and preservation of research information of 25 April 2018 and the **European University Association's Open Science Agenda 2025** (2022), VŠE will promote open access to scientific publications and research data management according to the FAIR principles. Following **UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Science** (2022), with this document, VŠE responds to this global trend in science, which helps to increase the quality and transparency of research and brings scientific progress and more effective communication in science. Finally, it is imperative that VŠE responds flexibly to the evolving requirements of research funders, namely the European Commission's rules for the Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation (H2020, Horizon Europe, FP10, etc.), but also the rules of

national funders (GAČR, TAČR), so as not to restrict the development and support of quality research carried out at VŠE.

Promoting Open Science at the University of Economics

VŠE subscribes to the principles of open science, which can be divided into two main areas: open access to scientific publications and research data management. VŠE plans to implement these principles in its research activities to minimize the administrative requirements for its researchers, and therefore this implementation will be accompanied by the institutionalization of support in these areas and the development of appropriate infrastructure.

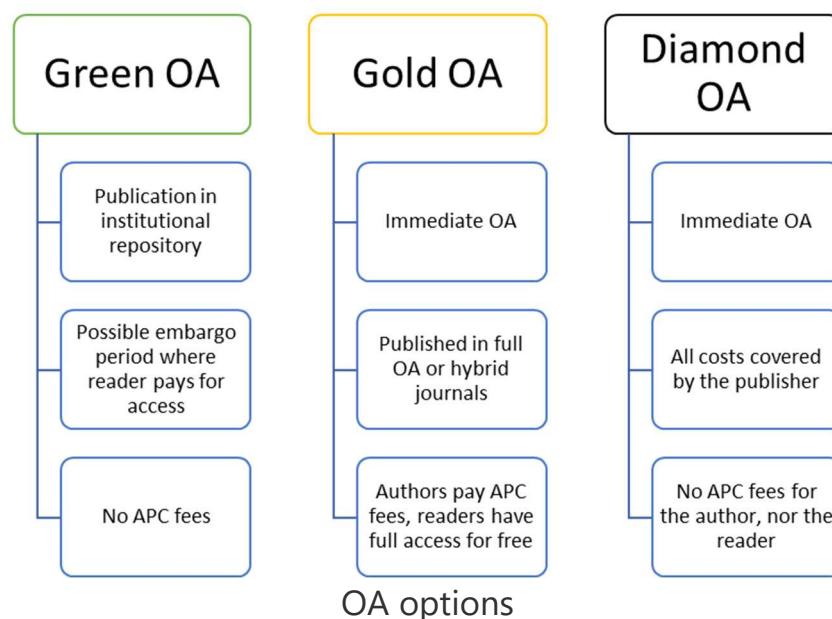
VŠE will advocate for:

- open access to scientific publications,
- research data management according to FAIR principles,
- and central support for all faculties in applying the principles of open science.

1. Open access to scientific publications

1.1 Summary of options for open access to peer-reviewed publications

All modes of open publishing known as the green, gold and diamond pathways are supported at VŠE.



1.2 Publishing with a publisher

Various types of scientific outputs are produced at VŠE. These are most often research articles in peer-reviewed journals, contributions in proceedings and monographs. **Researchers at VŠE are encouraged to consider publishing their scientific outputs in open access mode in high quality peer-reviewed journals or publishing houses.** The benefit of such a decision is primarily to increase the availability of research results to the research community and wider public, but also to obtain wider feedback and acclaim for the published results.

If publishing in open mode with a publisher is linked to the payment of APC fees (Article Processing Charge), then this is the so-called "golden path" of Open Access. In this case, VŠE recommends that grant applications for research projects include these costs in their budgets. In some cases, it may be possible to obtain waivers of APC fees based on transformation agreements that VŠE has with certain publishers through the CzechELib National Centre for the Purchase of Electronic Resources, if available in a given calendar year.

A negative phenomenon that accompanies the transition of journals to open access on the basis of APC fees is the predatory journals and publishers who reduce or completely abandon the level of scholarship in order to make a profit. VŠE recommends avoiding publishing with these types of publishers, who threaten the scholarly reputation of both individuals and the institution. Publication of scientific texts in the open mode in journals, conference proceedings, collective monographs, etc. entails the necessity of signing a contract with the publisher, which includes the establishment of licensing conditions for the publication of the work. **When concluding licensing agreements with a publisher, VŠE recommends choosing to publish under Creative Commons public licenses,** or to have a so-called *postprint* (sometimes also Author Accepted Manuscripts, AAM, a version of the article after peer review before final publishing editing). These outputs can then be published in an institutional repository and implement the so-called "green path" of open access.

You can check the license terms of a given publisher using [Sherpa Romeo's](#) online tool.

1.3. The Repository at VŠE

The repository is used to collect, process, store and make available information about published research results. VŠE provides archiving of publications of its employees through the institutional repository operated by the Centre for Information and Library Services (CIKS). The aim of VŠE is to increase the availability of scientific publications in the VŠE repository.

The VŠE repository provides metadata descriptions of the stored publications, information about licensing conditions and allows you to set up access for a selected group of users (either internally or in open access mode). In addition, it is integrated with persistent identifiers:

1) Digital Object Identifier (DOI), which is a unique identifier of a digital object accessible through digital networks (e.g., a scholarly article on the Web) that uniquely identifies digital objects on the Internet.

2) The Open Researcher and Contributor Identifier (ORCID), which uniquely identifies and links researchers to their publications. In 2018, VŠE has already fully integrated ORCID into its repository. This integration collects verified IDs and attaches ORCID record association data to them. According to the current regulation on **the Use of Scientific Identifiers at the VŠE (PR 1/2019)**, all authors reporting publications and other outputs to the RIV database must set up an ORCID.

It is the responsibility of authors at VŠE to submit the outputs of their creative activity to the repository in a timely manner and in accordance with the mode in which the output was published.

The Institutional Repository at VŠE is registered in the [Directory of Open Access Repositories](#) (also known as open DOAR) and as such complies with the standards of open science for the storage of publication outputs and for the providers of funding for research and development.

1.4 Journals published at VŠE

VŠE publishes twelve specialized journals, eight of which are open access. The most important of these are *Political Economy*, *Prague Economic Papers* and *Central European Business Review*, which are indexed in the

Web of Science and Scopus databases. VŠE will monitor trends in the publishing of this type of journals and the sustainability of the open publishing model in relation to the quality and relevance of the journals published. This model, in which journal publishing is not paid for by APC fees or subscriptions, is referred to as the "diamond road" of open access.

2. Research data management according to FAIR principles

2.1. FAIR Data

Research data is information that is collected or generated in course of research or innovation's development. Its collection, storage, analysis, and sharing are key to scientific progress and innovation. The form, nature, and storage of research data can be varied and depends on the focus of the specific research. It can be the results of experiments, measurements, observations resulting from fieldwork, survey results, interview records and photographs collected for the purpose of research, and more.

The aim of VŠE is to develop support for the management of research data according to FAIR principles so that these data are

- **easily traceable** (*Findable*),
- **accessible** (*Accessible*),
- **Interoperable** (*Interoperable*)
- **and that the data can be reused by other users** (*Reusable*).

VŠE will strive to make access to this data as open as possible while maintaining the necessary restrictions, following the principle of "open as possible, closed only as necessary". At the same time, it will provide support to all in setting up access to the data, considering its sensitivity with regard to the protection of personal data and the protection of legitimate intellectual property interests.

2.2 Data Management Plan (DMP)

Managing research data according to FAIR principles means including data management planning in the scientific practice and research cycle. **VŠE provides support and consultation in the preparation of Data Management Plans (DMP), which also become a mandatory part of**

grant applications or reports on the implementation of implemented projects.

2.3. Trusted repository

VŠE reflects the challenges of archiving, processing and making research data available in trusted data repositories. **For the storage of research data, VŠE recommends the use of a subject or universal repository for research data that has been certified or meets trust criteria.** These parameters can be verified in the [Re3data.org](https://re3data.org) registry.

The European **Open Science Cloud** (EOSC) initiative has been launched in the context of demands for research data infrastructure, with the ambition to create a multidisciplinary environment for publishing, searching, and reusing research data. VŠE participates in the EOSC working groups in the Czech Republic, monitors the development of the initiative and envisages the implementation of EOSC in the research environment in the Czech Republic.

3. Central support for open science

For the successful implementation of the principles of open science at the VŠE, it is important to provide systematic support at several levels:

- **direct support** (consultations),
- **training and information support** (training, seminars, web support: videos, manuals, etc.),
- **and institutional support** (infrastructure, guidelines for open science at VŠE, policy, cooperation with national and international actors).

This support is intended for everyone at VŠE, especially for researchers at all stages of their career, but also for the staff of the Research Office, the Project Office, or data stewards in research and development projects, as well as for journal editors.

VŠE plans to institutionalize this support and to establish a position of Open Science Coordinator.

Final provisions

Applying the principles of open science will undoubtedly bring many positive impacts, especially a more transparent and auditable research process. VŠE will continue to monitor the situation in the field of open science and reflect the trends that open access in scientific activity brings. It will seek targeted communication with open science actors, particularly at national level, and promote cooperation with expert working groups focused on this issue.