

THE FNRS : organization

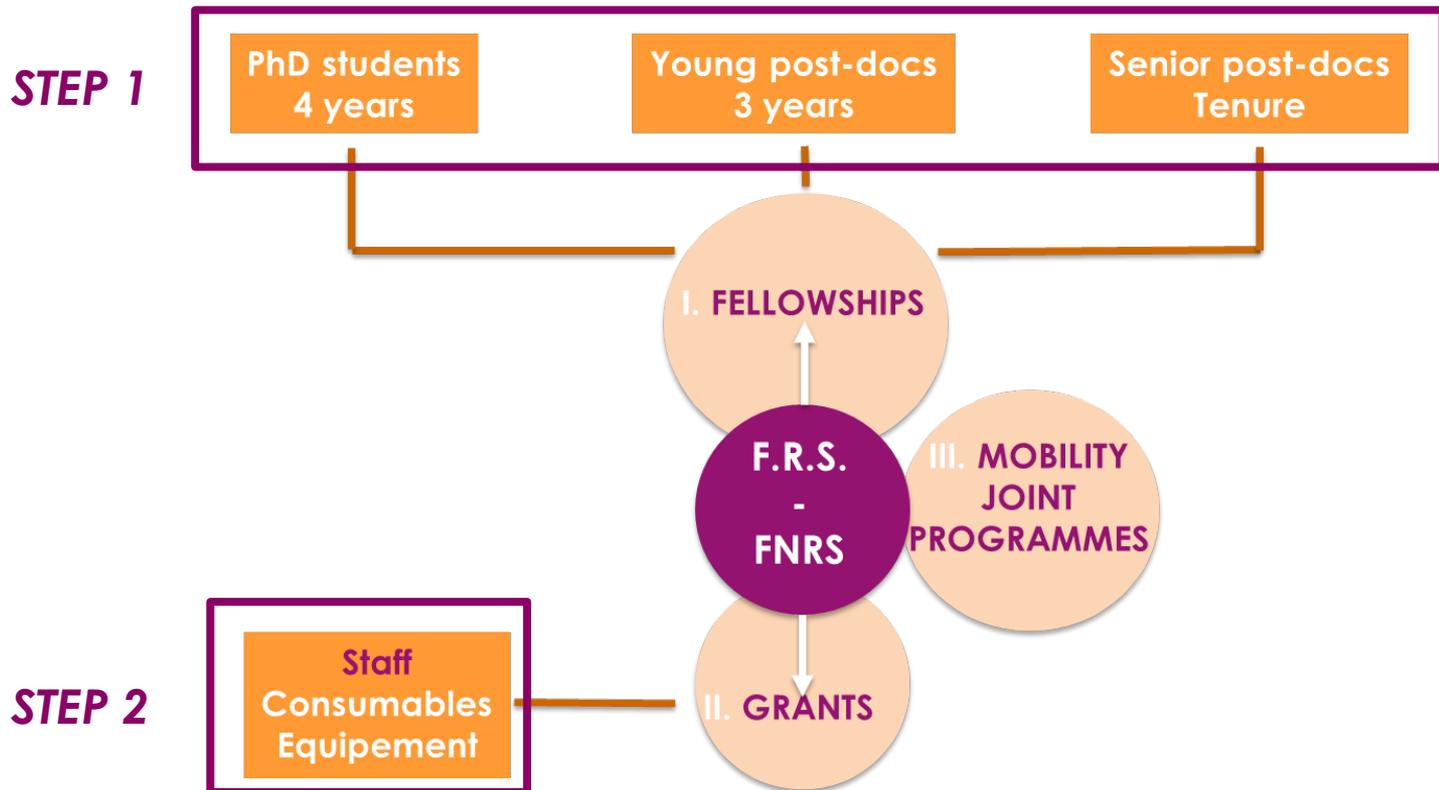


- Public interest **Foundation** since 1928
(~1990: FNRS → F.R.S.-FNRS + FWO Vlaanderen)
- **Mission:** to support basic research in the universities of **WBF** (*just like ERC*) → **key player in basic research** in WBF
- **Freedom** for research:
 - ⇒ bottom-up process, all scientific fields
 - ⇒ scientific excellence → international experts and panels for funding decisions (evaluation procedure at the level of international standards)
 - ⇒ label of quality, scientific prizes
- Annual **budget:** ~170 M€ (90% public funding)
- **Funding instruments:** fellowships, grants, international cooperation
- Employer of ~**2.300 researchers** (from PhD to tenure) hosted in one of the 6 univ

THE FNRS OA POLICY: implementation

STEP 1: 16 Dec 2011, decision of the FNRS governing board: submission of lists of publications from institutional repositories for **candidates for FNRS fellowships** (recommendation in 2012, required in 2013)

STEP 2: 7 Dec. 2012, decision of the FNRS governing board: extension of rule 1 to **candidates promoters of grants (CDR, PDR, EQP, MIS)**



THE FNRS OA POLICY: implementation

➤ **25 April 2013**: final adoption of the **Regulation** on the implementation of the policy of "free access" to scientific publications resulting from FNRS funding (*implementation on 1 October 2013*)

⇒ outputs resulting from research projects carried by **FNRS researchers** must be self-archived in their host institution's repository (from 2008)

⇒ outputs resulting from **research projects (CDR, PDR, EQP, MIS) funded by the FNRS** must be self-archived in their host institution's repository

accessible no more than 6 months after the publication (12 months in SSH)

⇒ funded researchers who wish to publish directly in an OA format (**gold road**) can claim the costs of the publication to a limit of **500 EUR per article** (only for journals not listed in the Beall's list)

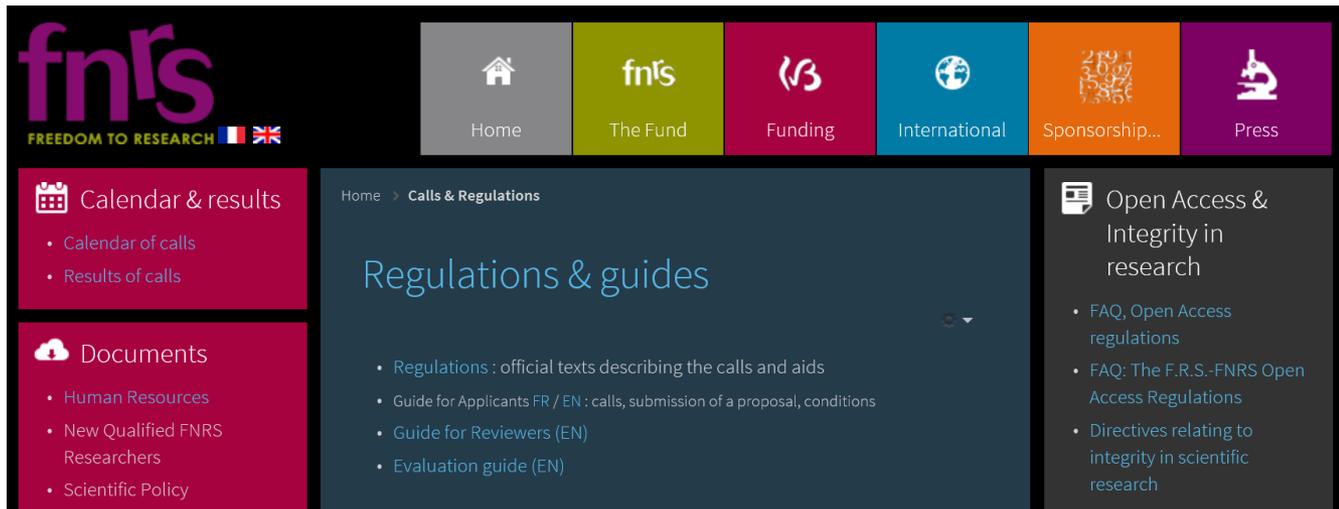
⇒ cost for **hybrid journals** are not eligible

Research-funded results: any peer-reviewed journal article, conference proceedings, participation in symposiums, seminars, which have been subject₃ to scientific publications

THE OA FNRS POLICY: implementation

Communication to researchers and promoters

→ On FNRS WEB site (May 2013)



The screenshot shows the FNRS website homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, The Fund, Funding, International, Sponsorship..., and Press. The main content area is titled 'Regulations & guides' and lists several resources:

- Regulations : official texts describing the calls and aids
- Guide for Applicants FR / EN : calls, submission of a proposal, conditions
- Guide for Reviewers (EN)
- Evaluation guide (EN)

On the right side, there is a section for 'Open Access & Integrity in research' with the following links:

- FAQ, Open Access regulations
- FAQ: The F.R.S.-FNRS Open Access Regulations
- Directives relating to integrity in scientific research

On the left side, there are two sidebars: 'Calendar & results' (with links to Calendar of calls and Results of calls) and 'Documents' (with links to Human Resources, New Qualified FNRS Researchers, and Scientific Policy).

a FAQ section for a full understanding of these new regulations

→ In a e-Newsletter (May 2013)



The screenshot shows the header of the FNRS e-Newsletter. It features the FNRS logo and the tagline 'LA LIBERTÉ DE CHERCHER'. The date is 'NewsLetter 3 - mai 2013'. Below the header is a navigation bar with six colored buttons: Appels à financement (green), Prix & Mécénat (orange), Nouvelles du F.R.S.-FNRS (pink), International (blue), Actu de la Recherche (purple), and Chercheurs F.R.S.-FNRS (light blue).

→ In the granting mails to candidates and promoters (from Oct. 2013)

FNRS OA POLICY : some pending questions

➤ **Green road:** (national?) **mandates** are needed to make it clear that the authors must deposit their research results in their host institution's repository (*a matter of sticks and carrots...*)

➤ **Open Access Journals** (gold):

- ⇒ OAJ are less established than subscription journals and many are not being tracked for IF (*not measured as strong? but young researchers often judged on the reputation of the journals in which they publish...*) → OA journals still have to mature:
- ⇒ Most of the OA journals listed in the DOAJ do not use any kind of CC license for free distribution of the work
- ⇒ Doubts about quality (*peer review; lack of prestige vs lack of quality*)
- ⇒ Publication fees: a fair price?

THE FNRS : OA actions

- ▶ Active member of **PASTEUR4OA** (<http://www.pasteur4oa.eu/>): to develop and/or reinforce OA strategies and policies at the national level and facilitate their coordination among all MS

15 partners

- ▶ Financial support to **DARIAH** (ESFRI Digital Research Humanities)

- ▶ Financial support to **SCOAP3** (CERN - *partnership of thousands of libraries, key funding agencies and research centers in more than 40 countries*) → key journals in the field of HEP converted to OA at no cost for authors, publishers centrally payed for the costs involved in providing OA, publishers in turn reduce subscription fees to all customers (in a way commensurate to their scientific output)

- ▶ To be done: **Harvesting of the WBF repositories**

