



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH

Good practice examples from Estonia

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Access to scientific information



Introduction: governmental position

- Research publications should be made digitally available. Open Access should be made a prerequisite for research using public funding.
- Policies should be aligned on EU level. In order to fully realise the potential of OA, repositories should be visible beyond national borders.
- Open Data developments are to be supported, but the investments in infrastructure have to be weighed, and OD has to have clear added value.
- OA should not be taken into account in career evaluation.



Introduction: national research system

RD&I strategy ‘Knowledge-based Estonia 2014-2020’:
Encourage open access to public-financed research results and research data. /.../ ensure access to the most important research databases.

Personal and institutional research funding:
Self-archiving is mandatory (Green OA), but **article processing charges (APC)** are also eligible costs.



What are the means

- Subscriptions (publishers, databases)
- Relevant infrastructure
 - **Core facilities** (0,5 M€) managed by the R&D institutions.
 - **Estonian Research Infrastructures Roadmap.** About half of the roadmap objects somehow reinforcing if not OA/OD, then Open Science.
 - **Scientific collections** (840 000 €).
 - **Estonian Research Information System (ETIS).**



No general national policy document, but there is a layer of openness going through the R&D system.

Estonian Research Council:
Draft policy recommendations, work in progress.



Good practice 1: flexibility

- The researcher gets to choose the way of dissemination.
- It's not about Gold or Green – it's about ACCESS.
- That kind of flexibility has provided good balance between access and the high level of research.
- Also, in evaluation Journal Impact Factor is not taken into account.



Good practice 2: ETIS (national CRIS)

- Estonian Research Information System.
- A central information system, that also works as a **Green OA repository**.
- Also includes applications for research funding, the evaluation process, the information about the ongoing and past projects, researcher CVs.
- All the national research-related information findable in one place.



Good practice 3: Investments in infrastructure

- Access to electronic scientific information.
- Scientific collections: physical and e-infrastructure.
- E-infrastructure.
- Digitalisation.
- Specific types of data: language resources (corpus data, software etc).

Creating possibilities and removing barriers. Having a clear estimation of what is the need or the added value.





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Thank you!

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