
Memo – Introduction of Rights Retention Strategy at NTNU

To:

Copy to:

From: Rector Anne Borg

The Rector introduces a Rights Retention Strategy at NTNU

Decision

In line with the Policy for Open Science at NTNU, NTNU will introduce its own Rights Retention Strategy on 1 October 2022.

Introducing a Rights Retention Strategy at NTNU makes it possible to realize the principles that form the basis for NTNU's open science policy; research and teaching results are made widely available and provide opportunities for collaboration, transparency, verifiability and accessibility.

Background

The Research Council of Norway, the EU and other research funders generally require open access publication of academic articles from projects that they fund. The adoption of the "Policy for Open Science" at NTNU supports this.

In 2018, a coalition of European research funders, including the Research Council of Norway and the European Union, launched the initiative known as Plan S. The aim of Plan S is to ensure that the results of all the research funded by the Coalition are made available immediately. Lifting of embargoes is safeguarded through a Rights Retention Strategy. This states that: (i) Researchers can publish in their journals of choice, (ii) Research is immediately open under a CC BY licence, (iii) researchers retain the right to use and share the author accepted manuscript and (iv) publications reach a wider audience faster. In terms of this strategy, there should be no legal obstacles to open access to full-text versions in repositories, even if a publisher has a different policy and even if a researcher has waived their copyright when the manuscript was submitted.

Introducing a Rights Retention Strategy enables immediate open access to full-text versions of all academic publications without embargo, regardless of the place of publication and the funder. This will help NTNU to achieve its goal of making all publications openly available as quickly as possible.

Researchers retain the rights to distribute and use text and other material they have produced themselves. They can also publish freely where they want. At the same time, they can upload and enable open access to full-text versions of their works in repositories. This takes place without risk to

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Address correspondence to the unit responsible for the case. Include the reference.

the researcher because NTNU assumes legal responsibility. Introducing a Rights Retention Strategy at NTNU makes it possible to provide open access to full-text versions of academic publications in the institutional repository (NTNU Open) without legal risk to the researchers who have authored them, and without the need to inform the publisher about this. Researchers who need to opt out of open access have the right to request exemptions for individual articles.

Discussion by the Research Committee and the Library Council

The University Library's proposal for the Rights Retention Strategy for NTNU was considered by the Library Council on 2 May 2022 and by the Research Committee on 20 May 2022. Both the Library Council and the Research Committee supported the proposal.