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Open Access Policy of the University of Bern

The University of Bern supports open access as defined in the Berlin Declaration on *Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities*, which it signed in 2007, and declares open access as one of its strategic objectives. Its Open Access Policy is congruent with the Open Access Guidelines issued by the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS), the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW), and it affects neither the free choice of publication form nor freedom of research. The University resolves the following guidelines:

1. The University of Bern requires its scientists to archive a complete version of all reviewed and published academic papers and the corresponding bibliographic data in the institutional repository of the University of Bern. There the academic papers will be made accessible to the public on an open access basis provided that there are no legal obstacles.
2. The University of Bern encourages its scientists to publish the results of their research in open access journals where suitable journals exist.
3. From reporting year 2014, research evaluation and the academic reports of the University of Bern will be based on the institutional repository of the University of Bern.

The University of Bern is supporting the implementation of these Guidelines by creating an institutional repository which allows scientists at the university to archive their publications and the associated metadata.

Notes on practical implementation:

- With respect to publishing houses, researchers reserve the right to make their publications openly accessible in the repository of the University of Bern – after a waiting period where appropriate.
- If this option is not available, the bibliographic data of the publications will be archived with a full text which will be protected in the repository against public access.