

Mandate of the University of Namur for the open access dissemination of scientific publications and deposit in the institutional repository

The "Open Access" decree of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (FWB) and the Federal Law on Open Access. Art XI.196 §2/1 of the Code of Economic Law (added by art. 29 of the law of July 30, 2018 apply to researchers who have a contractual or statutory link with a scientific or teaching institution whose publications result from research carried out in whole or in part thanks to the financing of public funds emanating totally or partially from the FWB.

The FWB "Open Access" decree came into force at the start of the 2018-2019 academic year, i.e. on September 14, 2018. This decree is based on the principle that disseminating the results of publicly-funded research not only enables the free circulation of knowledge and thus innovation, but also increases the visibility of researchers as well as the accessibility and impact of their work.

It imposes two obligations on all researchers financed at least in part by public funds:

- to deposit in an institutional digital archive, also known as an institutional repository, the full text of publications in scientific journals;
- to give immediate free access to publications, via the UNamur research portal, on the public Internet, with no legal, financial or technical barriers. A 12-month embargo can be requested for humanities and social sciences.

Consequently, the University of Namur REQUIRES

from all its members and all UNamur researchers:

- to register, in the UNamur repository « PURE», a copy in PDF format, of the full final version of each manuscript published in scientific journals and conference proceedings of which they are author, co-author or scientific editor, immediately after the manuscript has accepted for publication and at the latest, when it is published;
- to register, in the UNamur repository « PURE», a copy in PDF format, of the full final version of master thesis and PhD thesis of which they are director or co-director and for which the diploma has been delivered by UNamur, alone or within a "codiplomation";
- to allow, subject to the rights owned by the authors, to the intellectual property from another person or to legitimate reasons such as confidentiality required by the funding agency or from the kind of data, open access to the full final version as soon as possible and at the latest, 6 months after the official date of publication (12 months for publications in humanities);
- to register, in the UNamur repository « PURE», the bibliographic references (metadata)
 of all the publications and scientific communications published as a member of
 UNamur, F.R.S.-FNRS or FWO

These requirements apply to all publications and communications published after January 1st, 2012.

VRR, June 26, 2025 Page 1 sur 2

UNamur as well as F.R.S-FNRS and FWO shall consider, for its researchers and all the researchers financed by F.R.S-FNRS or FWO, only the publications that are registered in the institutional repository « PURE » for their official list of publications, including for the evaluation of files submitted for personal promotion and research funding.

In addition, UNamur – as the other Belgian universities, F.R.S-FNRS and FWO – encourages all its members:

- to keep their author's rights for all their publications related to research financed at least in part by public funding and to grant a non exclusive license to the editors;
- to register all the publications published before January 1st, 2012 in the UNamur repository « PURE», with the pdf file of the final version if possible;
- to consider to submit manuscripts in open access journals.

VRR, June 26, 2025 Page **2** sur **2**