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## TU-NET Joint Statement on Open Research

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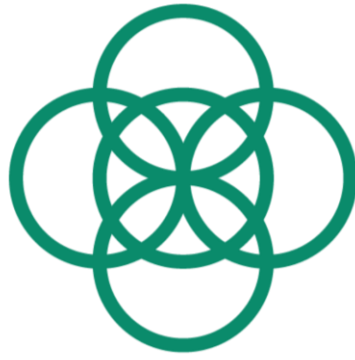


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**TU-NET**

TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY  
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### **TU-NET Joint Statement on Open Research**

Open Research practices have the power to transform the way knowledge is created and applied, in a way that benefits both academia and society. We assert that fully applying the principles of openness, collaboration, and accessibility to the research process is key to achieving optimum research outcomes and will more effectively catalyse regional economic and social development.

Our conviction stems from the understanding that an inclusive approach to research, embracing open practices at all stages in the research cycle increases efficiency, fosters research integrity, and promotes higher quality, more reproducible, more reusable research.

We acknowledge that research outputs are diverse, including but not limited to research results, data, methodologies, software, and creative outcomes like exhibitions and performances. Our intention is to make our research outputs as open as they can be while acknowledging legitimate reasons for certain data to remain confidential, including intellectual property, privacy, and security. As such, our approach to openness is guided by the principle 'As Open as Possible, as Closed as Necessary' in line with the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable & Reusable) principles.<sup>1</sup>

Contributions to research are just as diverse as its outputs. With this in mind, we understand that the ways we measure research performance must be more diverse and should reward behaviours congruent with a culture of openness in research. Employing transparent and equitable indicators for research evaluation will foster a shift in career progression norms, reinforcing the fact that research is a team effort.

We recognise that information and communications technology has been the main enabler of Open Research practice and we appreciate the critical role that evolving supranational open research information infrastructures will continue to play as a basis for future innovations in research practice.

Open Research holds the promise of fostering a more engaged public. By pledging to make our findings openly accessible, we aim to inform and influence various domains – from policymaking and business strategies to educational material and beyond. This open approach positions our research as an active contributor to societal development and progress.

So, in accordance with our distinct mission to address regional social and economic development, we actively commit ourselves to developing and maintaining a coherent approach to openness in research.

We will support this in the following ways:

1. We will adopt a range of agreed responsible research performance indicators, that are equitable, transparent, universal and in compliance with the principles of research integrity. We will underscore this commitment by supporting the principles of the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment<sup>2</sup> and other related frameworks.

2. We will make all our research outputs publicly and freely available without delay or embargo to their availability to other researchers, educators, businesses, public sector entities, and citizens.
  - 2.1 Exceptions to the rule can be made, where there are legitimate intellectual property, privacy, and national security concerns.
  - 2.2 We will enhance the dissemination of scholarly outputs by integrating the open access repositories of the TU-NET members under a common portal.<sup>3</sup>
  - 2.3 We support the right to read, download, copy, distribute, search, mine, link, index, or perform any other lawful activity - with appropriate acknowledgement of the work's creator - under a Creative Commons licence.
  - 2.4 We will prioritise support for green Open Access by striving to make all of our research outputs, including FAIR data, available in Open Access repositories/outputs at the point of presentation.
  - 2.5 We support the implementation of Plan S in appropriate Open Access Journals.<sup>4</sup>
  - 2.6 With due respect for academic freedom, we encourage the adoption of innovative forms of publishing, particularly the adoption and support of the Diamond Open Access publishing model.<sup>5</sup>
3. We will adhere to and support, where possible, open technological standards and infrastructures.<sup>6</sup>
  - 3.1 By adhering to open standards, and ensuring that data remain FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable) we will ensure that our research data should be accessible without the need to rely on proprietary/closed technologies – enabling their reuse far into the future.
4. We will publish comprehensive data on our institutional research performance on a common, integrated venue.
  - 4.1 We will agree on what should be measured and how it should be measured.
5. We will incorporate Open Research into our curricula, equipping our students with the necessary skills and training in Open Research to thrive in this evolving environment.
6. We will develop shared Open Educational Resource (OER) policy, facilitate the creation and dissemination of OERs, and provide equal support to both creators and users of OERs.

By embodying these beliefs and commitments, TU-NET aspires to be at the forefront of the Open Research movement, creating a more transparent, collaborative, and impactful research environment.

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Fair Guiding Principles, (2016), <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/>
- <sup>2</sup> CoARA, (July 2022), <https://coara.eu/agreement/the-agreement-full-text/>
- <sup>3</sup> TU-NET OpenAIRE portal <https://tunet.openaire.eu/>
- <sup>4</sup> Plan S, (2018), <https://www.coalition-s.org/about/>
- <sup>5</sup> Science Europe, <https://www.scienceurope.org/our-priorities/open-access/diamond-open-access/>
- <sup>6</sup> Bilder G, Lin J, Neylon C, (2020), The Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure. <https://doi.org/10.24343/C34W2H>

