

AMYPAD Deliverable 6.4

Report on public access policies

Publishable Summary

As a large European Consortium aiming to generate substantial amounts of data and research articles, one natural concern of AMYPAD is its open access policies. Open access (OA), in the context of this document, refers to online research outputs that are made free of restrictions on access and of (many) restrictions on use. Therefore, OA can be applied to all forms of research output, including peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed academic journal articles, conference papers, theses, book chapters and monographs, but also source data.

Since data collected in AMYPAD is of a sensitive nature, certain implications of OA policies require careful consideration. In addition, the tight relationship between AMYPAD and EPAD means any decision regarding OA to AMYPAD data needs to be aligned and agreed upon in a joint effort between the two sister projects. As a consequence, this document outlines the possible solutions to ensure OA to AMYPAD research articles and data, and discusses the implications of adopting them.

With respect to OA of research articles, in addition to aiming at publishing in open access journals or paying for the fees to provide open access to certain publications, AMYPAD considers a number of solutions for self-archiving all publications in a repository where it can be accessed for free. Currently, four options are outlined: 1) to build an AMYPAD-only repository or make use of the project's website only, 2) to use an institutional repository, 3) to create a ResearchGate account, and 4) to employ the platform Zenodo. The first and second options were considered sub-optimal due to potentially limited reach. The third and fourth options have further reach and represent platforms where both articles and data can be archived.

Regarding OA to image and related data, four scenarios are considered: 1) peer-to-peer access, 2) online application and review of access requests, 3) online application and direct access, and 4) direct access from online platform. In addition to the challenges of aligning OA policies between AMYPAD and EPAD, this document highlights the importance of considering the applications for which AMYPAD/EPAD data would be considered of value, as well as the implications in terms of finance and work-load that a review process for access to data would entail.

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