



# Open-Access-Policy of the Cluster of Excellence “Hearing4all”

(adopted by the Cluster Board of the Cluster of Excellence “Hearing4all” on March, 19<sup>th</sup> 2024)

## Scope

This policy applies to all subprojects of the Cluster of Excellence “Hearing4all” - hereinafter referred to as “Hearing4all”. It extends the corresponding guidelines of the participating universities Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg [1], Hannover Medical School [2] and the Leibniz University of Hannover [3] respectively. Where conflicting guidelines are provided by the participating universities, the more specific guidelines shall apply.

The Open Access policy supplements the Research-Data-Policy of Hearing4all [4] in the respective applicable version.

## Preamble

Hearing4all is characterized by top-level university research at the three participating universities with a high degree of interdisciplinarity and internationality. The basis for this research is direct and free access to scientific information. Therefore, Hearing4all advocates and supports the demand for open access to scientific knowledge as laid down in the “Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities” [5] of October 2003. In this way, Hearing4all is helping to ensure that research results are available for the greatest possible benefit to science, industry and society. Open Access increases the visibility of scientific or scholarly work as well as scientific publications.

## Principles

1. Hearing4all respects the freedom of research and teaching which also includes the choice of publication channels. Discipline-specific conventions as well as the rights of publishers are to be respected.
2. Hearing4all encourages its members to publish their scientific publications as an Open Access publication (golden open access) under a free license.
3. Hearing4all encourages its members to self-archive an electronic copy of all scientific publications on the universities open access repositories (green open access) whenever legally possible.
4. Hearing4all encourages its members to retain the right to further use of their works when concluding publishing agreements and to transfer only simple rights of use.

## References

- [1] Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, "Open Access Policy of the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg," 2015. [Online]. Available: <https://uol.de/en/bis/research-publishing/open-access-publishing/open-access-policy>. [Accessed 1 February 2024].

- [2] Medizinischen Hochschule Hannover, "Open-Access-Policy der Medizinischen Hochschule Hannover," 2018. [Online]. Available: [https://www.mhh.de/fileadmin/mhh/bibliothek/pdf/Open-Access-Policy\\_MHH.pdf](https://www.mhh.de/fileadmin/mhh/bibliothek/pdf/Open-Access-Policy_MHH.pdf). [Accessed 1 February 2024].
- [3] Leibniz University Hannover, "Open Access Policy at Leibniz University Hannover," 2022. [Online]. Available: <https://www.uni-hannover.de/en/universitaet/profil/leitbild-und-strategien/forschung/open-science/open-access/open-access-policy>. [Accessed 1 February 2024].
- [4] Cluster of Excellence Hearing4all, "Research Data Policy of the Cluster of Excellence Hearing4all," March 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://hearing4all.de/wp-content/uploads/policies/H4a-Research-Data-Policy.pdf>. [Accessed 16 April 2024].
- [5] "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities," 2003. [Online]. Available: <https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration>. [Accessed 1 February 2024].