

# Plan S & Rights Retention

*Helping researchers retain their rights  
and share their work Open Access*



*How will the Rights Retention Strategy benefit cOAlition S funded researchers?*

# **Uncover The Benefits**

- Researchers can publish in their journal of choice, including subscription journals, and continue to meet their cOAlition S Organisation's Open Access requirements.
- Researchers retain their right to use their Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) as they please including sharing within academic networks, and with whomever they choose under CC BY conditions.
- Depositing the AAM in a repository allows cOAlition S funded publications to reach a much wider audience more quickly.

## *What is the cOAlition S Rights Retention Strategy?*

- The *Rights Retention Strategy* enables researchers to continue publishing in journals of their choice while fulfilling the cOAlition S mandate to publish with immediate Open Access.
- cOAlition S Organisations now require that **at least the AAM** of all peer reviewed scholarly publications reporting on original research supported in whole or in part by their funding **are published with a CC BY licence and with no embargo**.
- Publishers have been notified of the strategy and invited to amend their policies to expressly allow immediate Open Access to accepted manuscripts under a CC BY licence. This notice, and the researcher's instruction to the publisher in (1) below, take legal precedence over any later copyright or licensing agreement that researchers may sign with a publisher. It helps researchers keep sufficient intellectual ownership and the rights to share their work, and allows them to comply with their funder's policies.

## *Why has cOAlition S developed the Rights Retention Strategy?*

- To ensure that cOAlition S funded researchers continue to have the freedom to publish in as wide a variety of journals as possible, including subscription journals.
- To ensure that at least the AAM of cOAlition S funded research articles is immediately available Open Access in a repository at the moment of publication, with zero embargo under a CC BY licence.
- To enable researchers to comply with their funder's Open Access requirements when seeking to publish in subscription journals that fail to provide a Plan S compliant route to make the Version of Record (VoR) available in Open Access.



# What should researchers do?

*Funded researchers – and especially those who wish to publish in subscription or 'hybrid' mixed Open Access journals – should do the following two things:*

**1. Researchers funded by cOAlition S Organisations** must inform the publisher of their journal of choice that the AAM (or the VoR) resulting from their submission carries a CC BY public copyright licence. This can best be achieved by using (a variant of) the following language in either the submission letter or the acknowledgements section, or both:

*"This research was funded, in whole or in part, by [Organisation Name, Grant #]. A CC BY or equivalent licence is applied to [the AAM / the VoR] arising from this submission, in accordance with the grant's open access conditions".*

**2. On publication, all funded researchers will immediately make a copy of the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) – or, if possible, the Version of Record (VoR) – available** in any Open Access repository of their choice. Many universities and funders already offer such repository services.

In case of any disagreement with a publisher, researchers should contact their cOAlition S Organisation.



## More information



- Please use the Journal Checker Tool [in development] to see how your journal of choice offers compliance with your Open Access mandate.
- You should **read and follow the requirements set out in your grant agreement** and in the relevant cOAlition S Organisation's Open Access policy. Each Organisation's exact formulation for the language to be used upon submission may slightly differ.
- In addition, you should carefully read and edit any publishing or copyright transfer agreement (CTA) document with the publisher **before** you sign it.
- If you need help, and you are a member of a university, your librarian may be able to offer advice about the copyright and licensing of your work.
- Information about Creative Commons licences is available on the [Creative Commons website](#).
- Also see the [cOAlition S website](#) for **more details on the Rights Retention Strategy** & the [implementation roadmap](#).



## Abbreviations

- **AAM (Author Accepted Manuscript):** the version of a submission that is accepted for publication by the editor, including all changes made during the peer review process.
- **CC BY: Creative Commons** Attribution licence that allows users to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format, even for commercial use, as long as attribution is given to the creator and any changes are indicated.
- **CTA: Copyright Transfer Agreement** that formally assigns copyright from author to publisher.
- **VoR (Version of Record):** the version of a journal article that has been made available by a publisher by formally and exclusively declaring the article "published".

# Plan S & Rights Retention

#RetainYourRights

[www.coalition-s.org/rights-retention-strategy](http://www.coalition-s.org/rights-retention-strategy)

Helping researchers  
retain their rights  
and share their work  
Open Access

Example where the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) is shared CC BY



## Funder agreement

- At least the AAMs of all peer reviewed publications are published with a CC BY licence and no embargo



## Owned by the author

- Upon submission, the author informs the publisher that the AAM arising from this submission is licensed CC BY in accordance with the grant's open access conditions
- Acceptance following peer review
- Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM)  
Upon publication, the author immediately deposits the AAM in an Open Access repository (zero embargo, CC BY licence)



## Managed by the publisher

- Licence to Publish
- Version of Record (VoR)

cOAlition S

Hosted by the European Science Foundation  
[info@coalition-s.org](mailto:info@coalition-s.org) ● [www.coalition-s.org](http://www.coalition-s.org)



Plan S

Making full and immediate Open Access a reality

## Contact us



### cOAlition S

Hosted by the European Science Foundation

1, Quai Lezay-Marnésia  
67080 Strasbourg, France  
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 71 00  
Fax: +33 (0)3 88 37 05 32

[info@coalition-s.org](mailto:info@coalition-s.org)  
[www.coalition-s.org](http://www.coalition-s.org)

 @cOAlitionS\_OA

#RetainYourRights