Open Scholarship at the University of Melbourne

Repository Open Access

Open Access Publications, Part 3

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# Introduction

Hello and welcome to part three of our video series on open access publications.

In this video, we're going to look at how research outputs can be made open access in repositories, including the University of Melbourne's institutional repository, [Minerva Access](https://minerva.unimelb.edu.au/).

In our first video in this series, we introduced open access and considered the scholarly publishing landscape as it exists today.

In our second video, we explored publisher open access. In this pathway, research is published open access by a fully open access or hybrid publisher, often with the payment of an open access publishing fee or the use of an institutional open access publishing agreement.

We're now going to turn our attention to the free pathway to open access for journal articles, conference papers, and book chapters that end up behind a paywall.

We call this repository open access, although it's also known as "green" open access, author self-archiving, and open access deposit. It typically allows the Author Accepted Manuscript of an article, paper, or chapter to be made open access in a repository, usually after an embargo.

# Versions of Scholarly Publications

Let's first clarify what we mean by the Author Accepted Manuscript, or AAM, by looking at the typical publication process for a journal article, paper, book, or book chapter.

First we have the submitted manuscript, the version originally submitted to the editor or publisher. This version can usually be shared on a preprint server, and indeed it may already be available as a preprint prior to submission.

Assuming the manuscript is not rejected at any point, it goes through editorial review, peer review, and revisions, and perhaps multiple revision cycles, before being formally accepted for publication.

The Author Accepted Manuscript is the final version produced by the author (or authors) before the publisher undertakes their typesetting, formatting and copy editing to produce a proof. It's this version of your peer-reviewed research that you can usually make open access in a repository.

The proof, on the other hand, usually cannot be shared in a repository or elsewhere - it cannot substitute for the accepted manuscript.

The same is true of the final published paper, the publisher's PDF. In most cases, it can only be shared in a repository if the publication itself is open access and uses a Creative Commons licence.

# Repositories

There are a lot of open access repositories out there that can be used to share the accepted manuscripts of scholarly publications.

Prominent general or multidisciplinary repositories include Zenodo and SSRN, but subject-specific repositories are also highly used. You may have come across PubMed, for example, a key repository for medical research.

You can also search a wide range of open access repositories in OpenDOAR, the Directory of Open Access Repositories.

University of Melbourne researchers are expected to deposit their accepted manuscripts in our institutional repository, Minerva Access, or a reputable subject repository.

# Minerva Access

The Minerva Access repository contains over 100,000 records of University research outputs and saw over 2 million downloads last year.

Records are discoverable through Google and Google Scholar, and most of the repository's traffic comes from these sources.

Importantly, when accepted manuscripts are deposited with Minerva Access, the repository team ensures compliance with publisher policies and copyright law.

# Publisher policies

Most paywalled scholarly journals allow Author Accepted Manuscripts to be made open access in an institutional repository such as Minerva Access. Many academic book publishers likewise allow the accepted manuscript of one chapter, or the author's own chapter in an edited volume, to be made open in such a repository.

In most cases, embargo periods will apply to the manuscript and will range from 6 to 36 months, with 12- or 24-month embargoes being the most common.

It's worth noting that most publishers do not allow peer reviewed versions of publications - that is, accepted manuscripts or published PDFs - to be shared on commercial scholarly networking sites like ResearchGate or Academia.edu. That is, unless of course they were published as open access. Then, depending on the Creative Commons licence used, they could potentially be shared openly on such platforms.

There are a few ways you can check publishers' open access sharing policies and determine what embargo periods would apply.

Whether it's a journal or book publisher, their policies can usually be found on their website. Sometimes it will be called an open access or green open access policy, or sometimes a sharing or self-archiving policy.

If you've already published the article, paper, book, or book chapter in question, you should have a copy of your signed author agreement. This will usually detail your rights when it comes to sharing and making the work publicly available in a repository.

Often the easiest way to check the open access policy of a journal, though, is through the [Sherpa Romeo](https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo) database. When you view a journal's record in Sherpa Romeo, you'll see a list of publisher policies relating to different versions of an article. Look for the highest listed policy that allows deposit in an institutional repository (or whatever kind of repository you'd like to use) and does not involve costs or have additional requirements that can't be met. The Sherpa Romeo record will specify the embargo period, and may also note a specific license or other condition that should be met when sharing.

But remember, when publications are deposited to Minerva Access, our repository team does all of this checking for you before making any documents public. They will determine and manage the embargo period, and will apply the required licences. If needed, they will clarify sharing policies with the publisher, and they will email you if a different version of the paper is required.

Unlike when you upload documents to other repositories or scholarly networking sites, where the onus is on you to check copyright and publisher policies, you don't have to worry about any of those things when depositing with Minerva Access.

# [How to Deposit Your Research](https://minerva.unimelb.edu.au/deposit)

For University of Melbourne researchers, there are three ways you can deposit your research in Minerva Access. Which option you choose is entirely up to you.

First, you could use the Service Now request form, which you'll find on the [Research Gateway](https://gateway.research.unimelb.edu.au/resources/outputs/research-outputs-support).

Alternatively, you could just send an email to the Research Outputs team directly, at [research-outputs@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:research-outputs@unimelb.edu.au). Be sure to include your accepted manuscripts, or details of your manuscripts' open access locations, along with the publication details.

Finally, if you're familiar with [Elements](https://minerva-elements.unimelb.edu.au/login.html), the University's research outputs management platform, you can deposit directly in there. Just head to your research outputs list, then browse or search for your desired publication, and click the deposit button.

# Example manuscript in Minerva Access: [“Observed Relationships Between Sudden Stratospheric Warmings and European Climate Extremes”](http://hdl.handle.net/11343/286789)

Let's end with a quick look at an example of an open access accepted manuscript in Minerva Access.

The record is clearly marked as open access, and the version available for download (the accepted version) is clearly identified.

A persistent handle URL is also provided for easy linking to the record.

A full citation is provided to the final article, along with the DOI link.

And having a PDF available for download also enables direct downloads from the Melbourne authors' Find an Expert Profiles.

# Outro

That brings us to the end of this video, the final instalment in our three-part series on open access publications.

If you'd like to find out more about open access repositories, you can visit our [Open Research guide](https://unimelb.libguides.com/openresearch/) or [Open Scholarship website](https://library.unimelb.edu.au/open-scholarship/).

And if you have any questions, please feel free to contact your faculty or subject liaison librarian, or reach out to the Scholarly Communications team.

# Contact a librarian

For enquiries relating to open scholarship, including open access, open research, and open educational resources (OERs), please email your discipline's [Liaison Librarians](https://library.unimelb.edu.au/liaison), or arrange a time to [consult a librarian](https://unimelb.service-now.com/student?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=6398b1e1dbc763c00032cae43a961971&category_id=2768ae9d4fae22807861a90f0310c7f0).

Alternatively, you can [contact the library](https://library.unimelb.edu.au/contact_the_library) by emailing [library-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:library-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au).