



OPEN SCIENCE ICN2 POLICY

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OPEN SCIENCE ICN2 POLICY

ICN2 has a strategic commitment to Open Science, first detailed in its 2020-2024 Strategic Plan. The centre is also signatory of sfDORA since 2021 and a constitutive member of COARA. Since the approval of the first ICN2 Open Science Roadmap in 2019, the centre has been integrating Open Science structural and sustainable actions, which are all framed within the policy found below.

Open Science strategy has been maturing and evolving at ICN2 since 2019, when the first steps were also given in Open Access, with the later incorporation of Open Data in 2023. We are currently working on the development of an Open Code policy, to be incorporated in this document in the upcoming months.

This policy applies to all members of the ICN2 community, including research staff, technical personnel, administrative support, students, visitors, and external collaborators. It covers all outputs of ICN2 research activities, whether digital or physical, published or unpublished, traditional or non-traditional.

Thus, this is a live document, where approved policies remain, but new ones may be added as the Open Science framework of the ICN2 grows and evolves.

OPEN ACCESS

ICN2 researchers must ensure open, free-of-charge access to all peer-reviewed scientific publications. All ICN2 articles should be available via an open access repository immediately after their publication.

- ❖ In accordance with the Law of Science (17/2022), approved at the end of 2022, all researchers from public sector or funded mostly by public funds, and performing research in Spain, should be immediately depositing:
 - The final accepted version of the scientific production in institutional or thematic open access repositories, when disseminating the results of their research through scientific publications.
 - The data associated with it, in institutional or thematic open access repositories, when disseminating the results of their research through scientific publications.
- ❖ The requirement to publish the accepted version of any scientific publication applies to:
 - Publications submitted to the publisher as from 7th September 2022 onwards.
 - Publications where the researcher affected by the Spanish law has a main role in the negotiation with the publisher. When participating in collaborations with organizations not affected by the Spanish law.
- ❖ Requests that articles published in Open Access carry standard licences that favour wide dissemination, distribution and reuse.

ICN2 provides the following tools, for its effective compliance:

- ❖ **Open Access Tool:** ICN2 researchers must ensure that all peer-reviewed scientific publications are available free of charge. All ICN2 articles must be made available via an open access repository immediately after their publication.

This open access tool is designed to facilitate the process to upload the file needed in each case (preprint, postprint or final PDF) in the UAB Repository (DDD). The ICN2 Marketing and



Communication Department, with the support of the Strategy Development team and all the ICN2 Community, will manage the publications you update within this internal tool to make them quickly available through the UAB repository.

- ❖ **DIGITAL.CSIC and DDD UAB repositories:** ICN2 relies on two reference repositories to implement its Open Science policy: DIGITAL.CSIC and Deposit Digital de Documents the institutional repository of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona with which ICN2 has established a formal collaboration agreement for the deposit of its research output.
- ❖ **Documentalist services for guidance and compliance with licensing and publishers':** to ensure appropriate support and compliance with the following policy, ICN2 provides the support of its Documentalist, who offers expert guidance on licensing and publishers' policies.
- ❖ **Persistent identifiers (PIDs) such as DOI, ROR and ORCID** enable the unambiguous identification of publications, institutions and researchers, respectively. Whenever possible, these PIDs should be included to ensure accurate and responsible mapping of ICN2's scientific production to support compliance with this policy.
- ❖ **Institutional ICN2 Current Research Information System (CRIS):** our institutional CRIS, iMarina, provided by Consulting iMarina S.L. and BIST, offer the maintenance of a single, standardized record of the institution's scientific output while also feeding ICN2's Open Access Tool.
- ❖ **ICN2 Protocol for incorporating scientific publications into the institutional repository and reporting:** this protocol defines the database to be used for reporting -namely, the institutional CRIS- and assigns responsibility for its management, while also establishing the requirement for standardized and properly recorded affiliations.

OPEN DATA

ICN2 researchers must ensure open, free-of-charge access to the research data associated with their scientific publications, whenever possible and in compliance with legal, ethical and contractual restrictions. Research data should be made available through trusted institutional or thematic repositories following the FAIR principles—Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

- ❖ In accordance with the new Law of Science (17/2022), all researchers from the public sector or funded mostly by public funds, and performing research in Spain, must immediately deposit the research data associated with their scientific publications in institutional or thematic open access repositories, simultaneously with the dissemination of their results.

This national requirement is aligned with the European Union's Open Science mandate under Horizon Europe, where open access to research data and responsible Research Data Management are legal obligations for all funded projects, including the preparation of a Data Management Plan, the deposit of data in trusted repositories and their availability under the principle of "as open as possible, as closed as necessary".

Funding agencies at European level also require that datasets underlying publications follow the FAIR principles and be made openly accessible, accompanied by persistent identifiers, rich metadata and clear licensing terms to ensure findability, interoperability and reuse.

- ❖ ICN2 researchers must ensure that the data associated with the final accepted version of the scientific production will be in institutional or thematic open access repositories when disseminating the results of their research through scientific publications.
- ❖ Datasets made available in Open Access must carry standard licences that favour wide dissemination, distribution, and reuse, in accordance with national and European Open Data requirements.
- ❖ The requirement to deposit research data applies to:



- Publications submitted to the publisher as from 7th September 2022 onwards, according to the Spanish Law of Science's obligation to deposit both the accepted version of the publication and the associated data in institutional or thematic repositories.
- Publications where the researcher affected by the Spanish law plays a main role in the negotiation with the publisher, including in collaborations with organisations not bound by this legislation.
- Projects funded under Horizon Europe or other agencies requiring Open Science compliance, where open access to research data is mandatory and data must be deposited in trusted repositories following FAIR standards and using persistent identifiers.

ICN2 provides the following tools, for its effective compliance:

- ❖ **CORA.RDR Institutional Data Repository:** ICN2 uses CORA.RDR as its institutional repository for research data. CORA.RDR enables researchers to publish datasets in a FAIR-compliant manner, providing persistent identifiers (DOIs), standardized metadata, versioning, and long-term preservation consistent with European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) guidelines.
- ❖ **Research Data Management Support:** ICN2 offers dedicated assistance for Research Data Management (RDM), including guidance on preparing Data Management Plans (DMPs), uploading datasets to CORA.RDR, and adopting FAIR and good-practice standards.
- ❖ **Data Management Plan (DMP) Template and Training:** ICN2 provides a dedicated institutional DMP template adapted for research and innovation projects, together with training materials and instructional videos. These resources help researchers comply with the requirements of Spanish law, Horizon Europe, and other funding agencies, all of which mandate responsible data management and, when possible, open access to underlying research data.
- ❖ **ICN2 Data Architecture Framework:** ICN2 supports research groups in organizing, documenting and preserving their data through a structured approach involving:
 - Analysis of the group's research context;
 - Standardised data organization and version control;
 - Metadata creation and documentation;
 - Long-term curation, preservation and repository deposit.

RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

ICN2 will continue implementing its CoARA Work Plan 2024–2028, including the identification of unrecorded contributions, revision of evaluation procedures, adoption of narrative-based CV formats and the development of new evaluation criteria aligned with Open Science principles.

- ❖ The ICN2 requires that research assessment across the institution align with the principles endorsed by DORA and CoARA.
- ❖ ICN2 requires that evaluation processes rely primarily on qualitative assessment supported by responsible quantitative indicators.
- ❖ ICN2 requests that all research outputs—including datasets, software, protocols, open educational resources, leadership activities, mentorship and societal engagement—be recognised as valid research contributions.

ICN2 provides the following tools, for its effective compliance:

- ❖ ICN2 will ensure transparency, training and communication regarding evaluation reforms and will periodically review these practices in light of evidence and institutional needs.

