Need help, advice, or information?
ULiège Library puts several tools and documents at your disposal to guide you through the process of publication and distribution of your work. Visit lib.uliege.be to find tutorials, videos and information pages, or contact the ORBi team or your reference library’s team.

The University of Liège fully subscribes to the values of Open Access and Open Science and has been pursuing an active policy of open access to scientific literature for more than 10 years.

Thanks to its pioneer stance and actions – including the “ULiège mandate”, an international reference and precursor to the “Open Access Decree” voted by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation in 2018 – the University of Liège has long been one of the leaders in the Open Access movement and has granted its scientific community incredible visibility.

Alongside this committed policy, the Liège University libraries have developed a series of Open Access platforms.
OPEN ACCESS IN BELGIUM

Belgium is a world leader in the field of Open Access. Almost all Belgian universities have an institutional archive and many have adopted a policy making submission to their archive mandatory. In 2018, Belgium has implemented two major legislative developments supporting Open Access and open archives:

- **The Open Access Decree**: The Parliament of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation has passed a decree stating that all the scientific articles subsidised by public funds must be submitted to an institutional repository. According to the Open Access Decree, all evaluations must only take into consideration the articles that have been submitted to a repository.

- **The amendment of the Belgian copyright law**: following a recent modification of the Belgian law regarding authors’ rights and copyright, the authors of scientific articles financed by public funds are now allowed to retain the right to make their work immediately available in open access, even if the publisher’s contract is more restrictive.

OPEN ACCESS AT ULIÈGE

- **ORBi (Open Repository and Bibliography)** is an institutional repository aimed at collecting, protecting and diffusing the scientific publications of ULiège members. Only publications and communications added to ORBi can be taken into account for the internal evaluations (ULiège mandate).

- **MatheO (Master Thesis Online)** is a portal which allows users to consult master theses submitted by ULiège students. Not only does this portal replace the storage of hard copies, thus solving the problem of perpetual conservation, but it also grants a much wider accessibility and visibility to the students’ dissertations and theses.

- **PoPuPS (Portail de Publication de Périodiques Scientifiques)** is a platform which grants visibility to journals published by ULiège members. It allows research dissemination and distribution without incurring any cost to either the reader or the author.

- **DONum (Dépôt d’Objets Numérisés)** is a project dedicated to the distribution of scientific, patrimonial, or cultural collections digitised by ULiège.

OPEN ACCESS ARCHIVING: GREEN OA

Guaranteeing a wide distribution and increased visibility of your scientific writing.

Open Access archiving is called “Green OA”. It consists in registering in an open archive (like ORBi) a copy of documents already published elsewhere, either by a commercial publisher or in Gold Open Access. Today, 80 % of publishers allow submission to an open archive, with or without conditions.

Green OA guarantees a centralised and lasting preservation of the documents produced by an institution, and it can be combined with the Gold OA. It comes with many advantages: speed, the absolute freedom to publish anywhere, increased visibility, higher accessibility – including for non-native OA publications –, the possibility to disseminate unpublished documents (theses, reports, conference and symposium speeches) and the opportunity to process data anew (activity report, list of publications, diffusion on social media, etc.).

OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING: GOLD OA

Be at the cutting edge of scientific publishing.

Gold OA means the publication will natively be in open access, directly accessible and free of charge to readers. Normally, the author retains all rights and copyright, and can specify allowed use of the publication with a potential licence (Creative Commons licences).

In most cases, OA journals and publishers are subsidised by research funds and institutions. Sadly, some (30%) require that the author pay the Article Processing Charge (APC), which can be extortionate. Some commercial publishers also require the payment of APC additionally to the continued payment of subscriptions (hybrid journals).

Regarding scientific quality, the selection and reviewing processes (peer reviewing) are identical to the models of classic publishing, except for predatory journals which fraudulently imitate authentic publications, but do not ensure any peer reviewing.

DOAJ.org includes more than 10 000 open access peer-reviewed quality journals.