

## ICELANDIC FUNDER MANDATE AND REVISED LAW FOR PUBLICLY SUPPORTED RESEARCH IN ICELAND

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Two important changes took place regarding open access (OA) in Iceland in January 2013. The first was the amendment of the law on public support for scientific research, adding a new article about open access. The second was an open access mandate from the largest public funding agency in the country, Rannís - the Icelandic Centre for Research.

### **Amendment of the law of public support for scientific research**

The parliament of Iceland (*Alþingi*) approved in December 2012 a bill amending the law on public support for scientific research no. 3/2003. The law took effect in January 2013. A new article was added about open access. The change is as follows:

"The results of research funded by grants from the funds that come under this Act shall be published in open access and made accessible to everyone, unless otherwise agreed. Beneficiaries shall in all his research papers resulting from the funds, state the name of the grantor.

### **Icelandic funder mandate**

Scientific publications based on projects, funded entirely or partially by the Rannís, must be published in open access. This to ensure that the public has access to results of publicly funded scientific projects in Iceland.

This mandate extends to all peer-reviewed articles. Projects that have received grants from Rannís prior to January 2013 are not subject to the requirement of open access publishing, even though Rannís encourages all researchers to publish in open access.

Rannís rules for open access are as follows:

Rannís encourages scientists to publish their works in journals that are fully released for public access, providing immediate open access to all their articles. If a decision is made to publish research findings in journals that are not open access, the mandate may be met by publishing in open searchable, digital repositories along with the publication in a traditional subscription journal. The final manuscript after peer review shall be returned to the repository immediately after the article has been accepted for publication. This applies even if the journal demands a waiting period prior to open access, after which the article will be opened automatically when the waiting period expires. Rannís allows an embargo period for up to 12 months after publishing in the journal.

Grantees can apply for the funding from the [Rannís publishing fund](http://www.rannis.is/funding/publication-fund/) (<http://www.rannis.is/funding/publication-fund/>) to cover a part of the publication cost.

Icelandic law January 2013. (2013). **The law of public support for scientific research.** February 26 2013 from <http://www.althingi.is/lagas/nuna/2003003.html>  
RANNÍS. (2013) Open access. February 26 2013 from <http://rannis.is/sjodir/opinn-adgangur/>



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