

A Survey of Open Science Attitudes and Practices among Estonian Scientists

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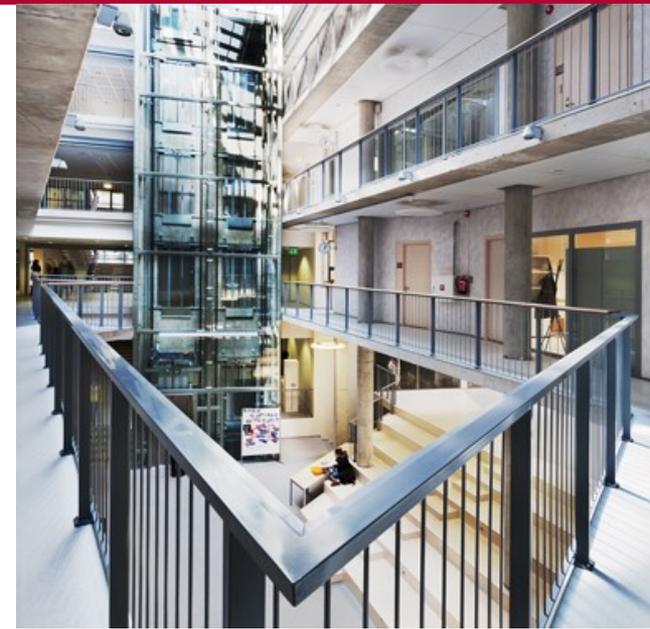
20.04.2017



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The survey

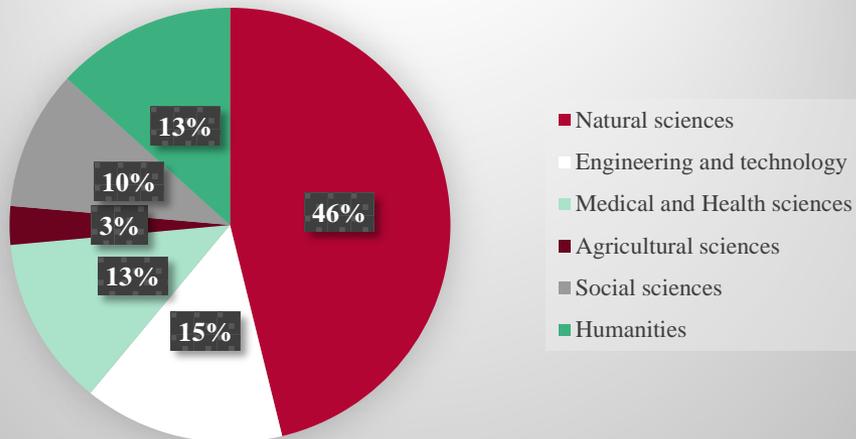
- Commissioned by the Estonian Ministry of Education and Science and the Estonian Research Council, collaboration with Estonian Academy of Sciences
- Explores the attitudes and current practices of Estonian researchers concerning **open research data** and **open-access publishing**
- A web-based questionnaire in March and April 2017
- 671 respondents



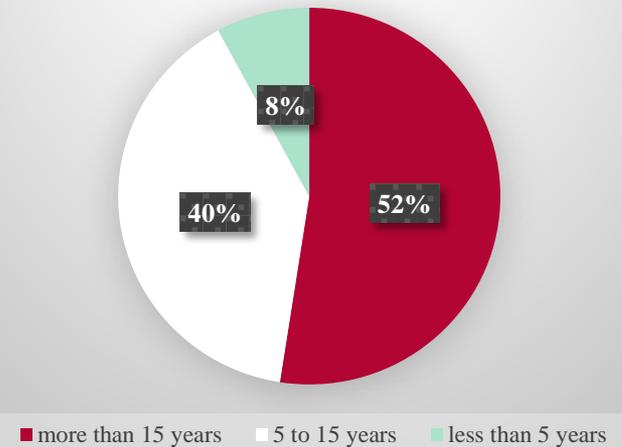
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The respondents

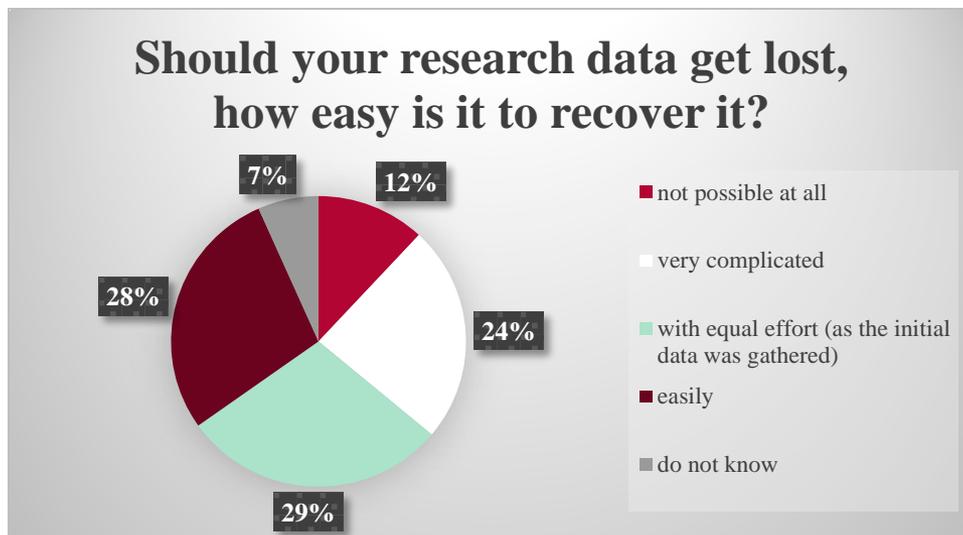
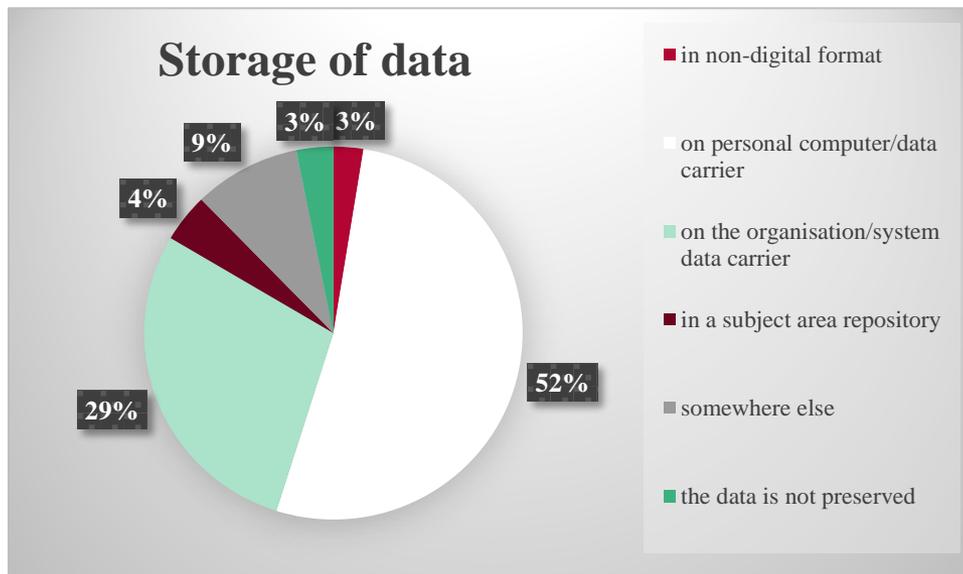
Scientific fields



Involvement in research



Research Data - storage

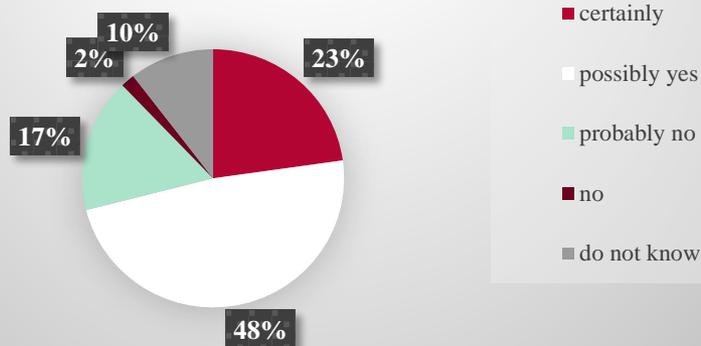


- *The majority is happy with the current set-up.*
- *Storage on personal devices associated with risk of losing data, lack of space and problems with sharing data.*
- *Call for a central repository to enable sharing research data.*

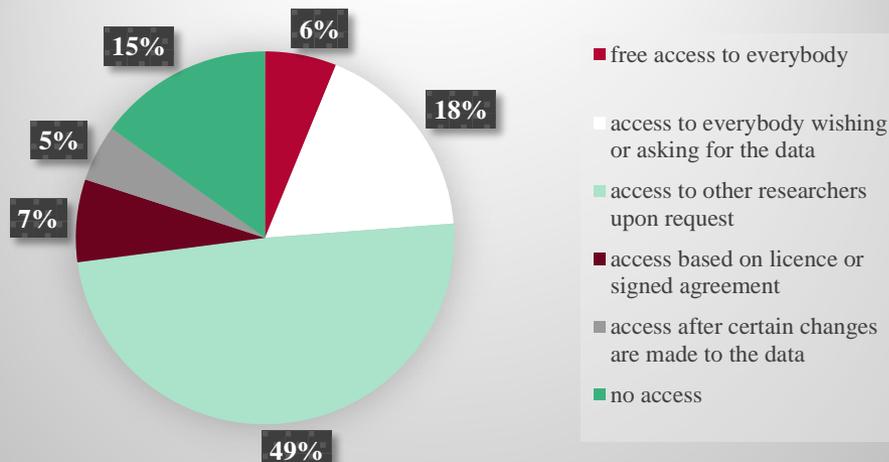


Research Data – access and sharing

Could others be interested in your data?



Availability of data

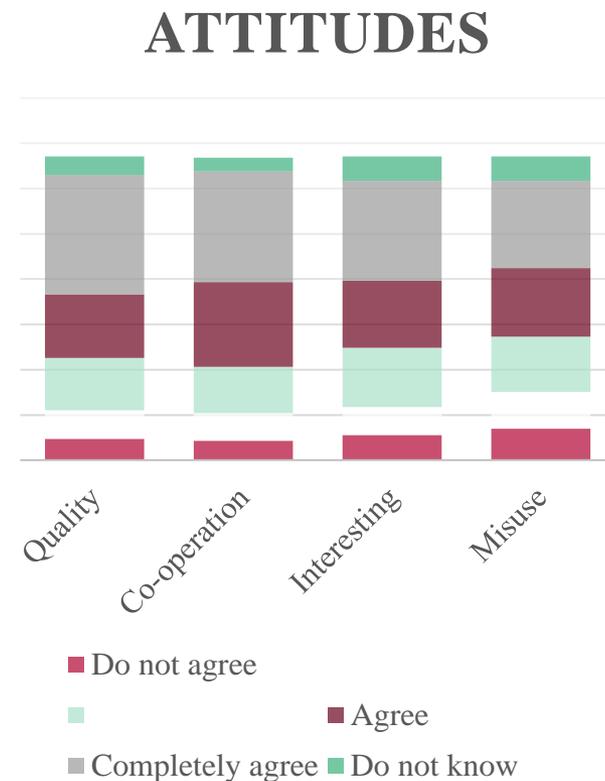


- *Reasons for no access: endangering research goals, protection of personal data, technical reasons*
- *17% have not shared their data (within last 3 years)*
- *20% have not used data of others (within last 3 years)*



Research data - attitudes

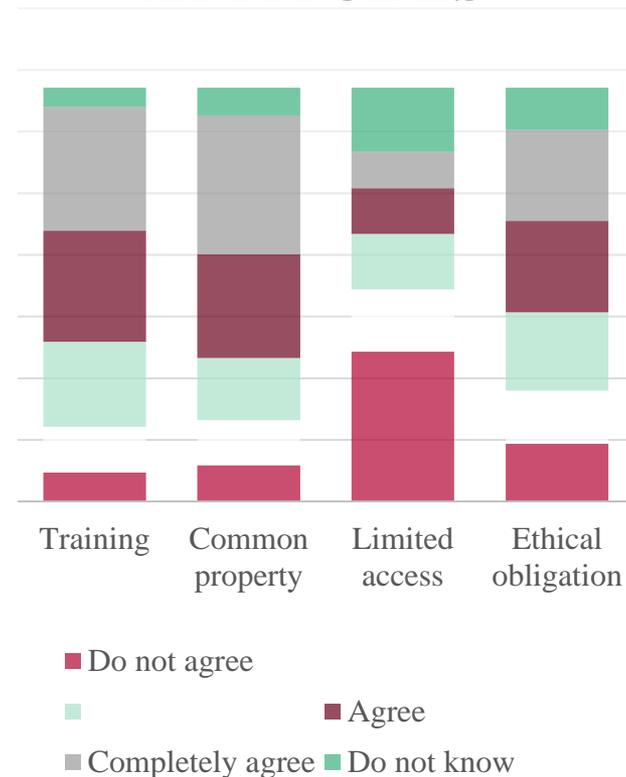
- *open access to research data helps to improve the quality of science - 3.58*
- *open access to research data helps to create greater scientific collaboration – 3.66*
- *open access to research data makes researching more interesting – 3.38*
- *open access to research data increases the risk of misappropriation – 3.23*



Research data - attitudes

- *open access to research data improves possibilities to train students and new researchers – 3.48*
- *research data accumulated from tax-payers' money should be common property – 3.44*
- *limited access to research data has prevented me to answer my research questions – 1.95*
- *guaranteeing access to data is an obligation deriving from research ethics – 2.95*

ATTITUDES

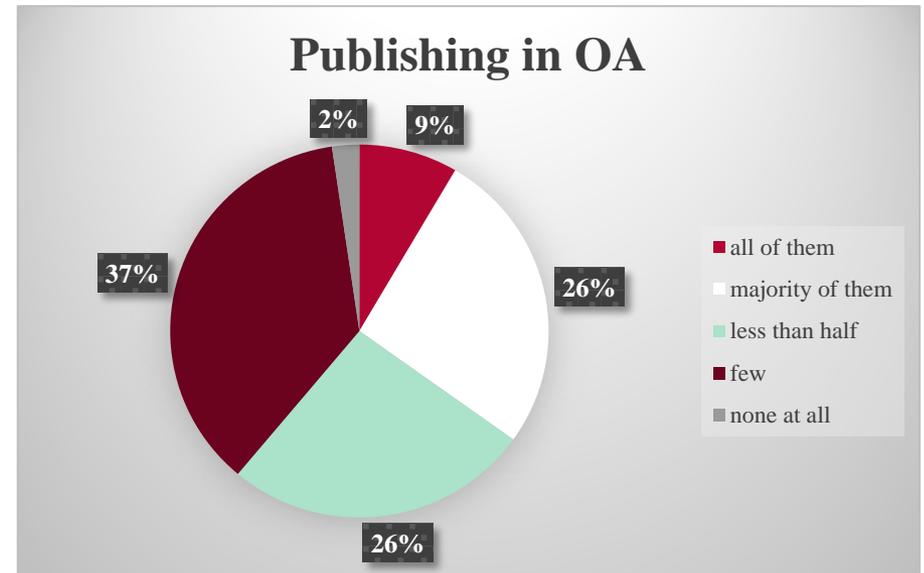
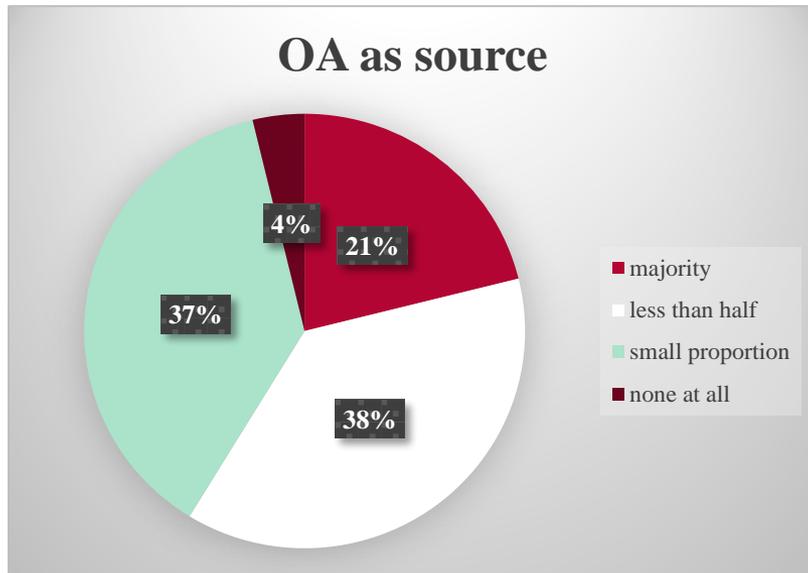


Research data – barriers for sharing

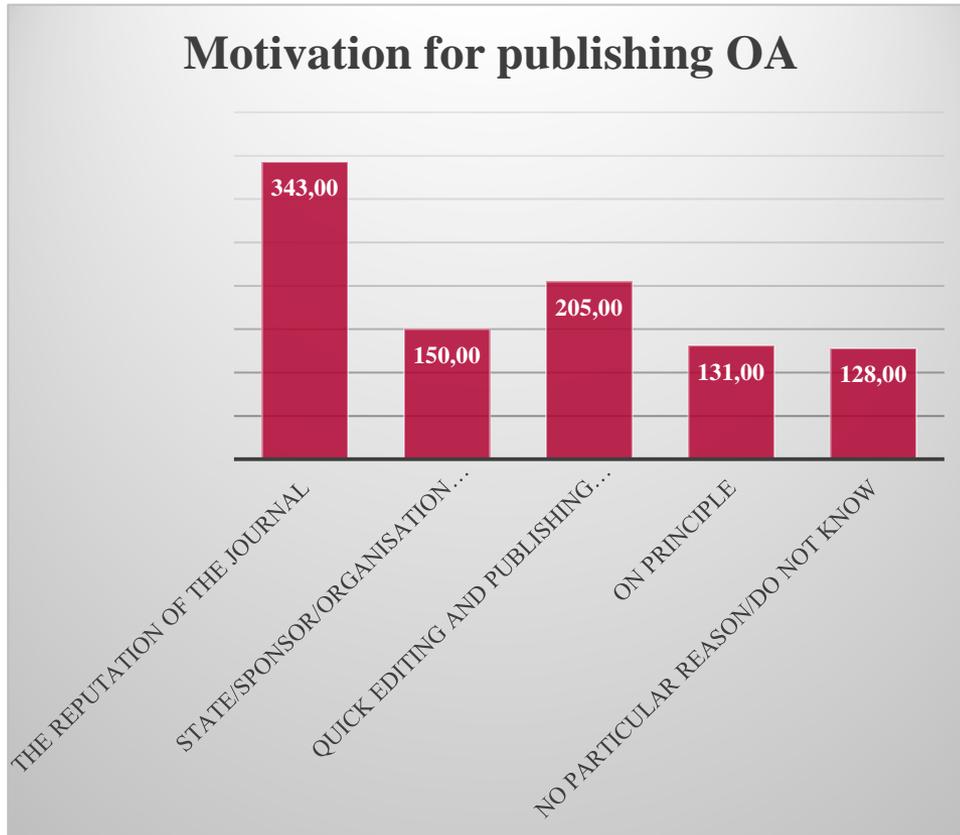
- *Efforts related to systematisation and formatting of the data, metadata description*
- *Lack of suitable public database*
- *Risk of misuse: misinterpretation, plagiarism*
- *Competition*
- *Contains personal data*



Open Access - prevalence



Open Access - motivation



Barriers:

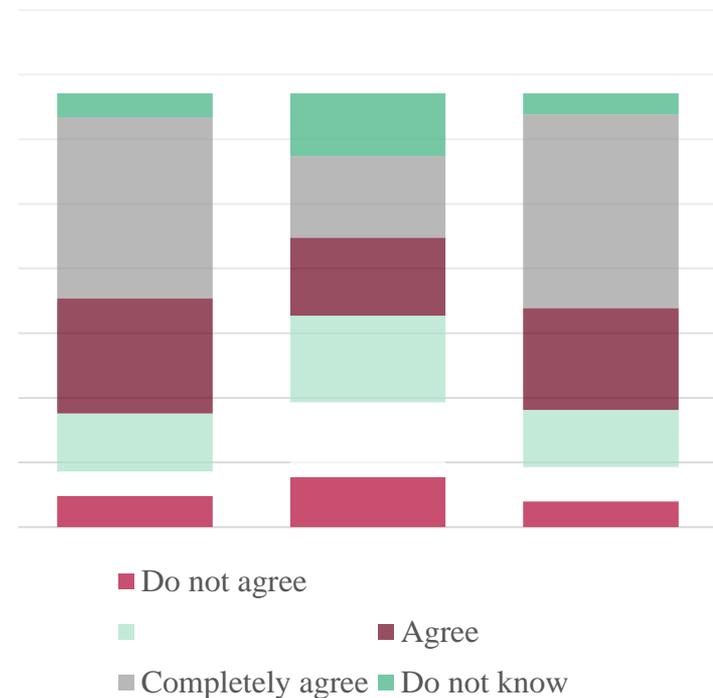
- *Money*
- *Reputation/quality*
- *Prevalence of OA journals*



Open Access - statements

- *all scientific articles should be open Access – 3.73*
- *the quality of open access scientific publications is as high as the other scientific publications -2.72*
- *open access to all articles helps to improve the quality of science and education – 3.78*

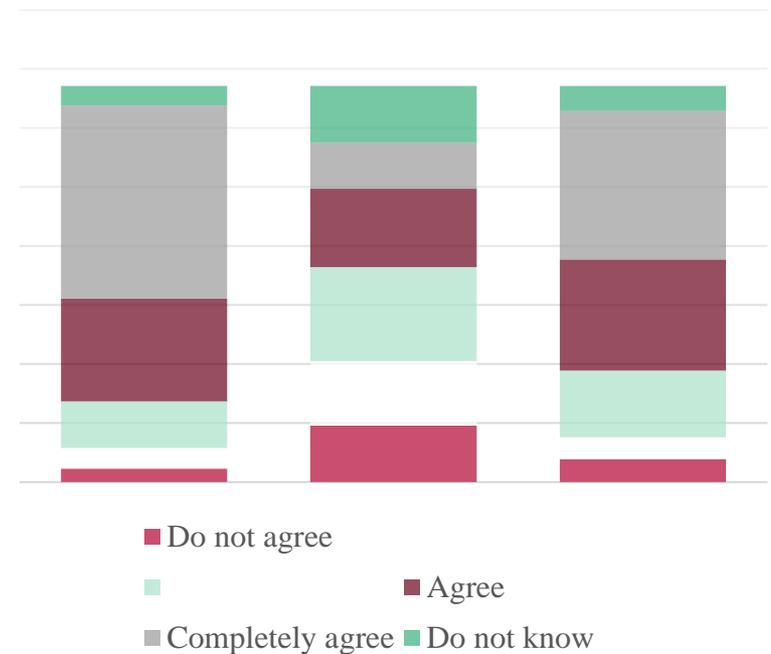
ATTITUDES



Open Access - statements

- *the obligation of the authors to cover publishing costs promotes inequality in publishing – 3.97*
- *open access journals promote publishing of junk science – 2.55*
- *the demand of state/sponsor that the results of scientific work should be open access is the correct path – 3.67*

ATTITUDES



Relevance of open science to other societal groups

- *Do you consider that open access to data or scientific articles is necessary to other groups in society? If yes then for whom (politicians, civil servants, journalists, etc.) and why?*
- *Full spectrum of opinions*
- *Doubts: too technical, no interest, risk of misinterpretation*



What's next?

- *Focus group interviews among stakeholders*
- *Roadmap for open science in Estonia*
- *Perspective of potential users*



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