

Rights Retention at King's College London

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About King's College London

- Founded in 1829, with roots going back to 13th century
- 40,000 students / 10,000 staff / £1.2B turnover
- 5 campuses in Central and South London
- Member of the Russell Group of research-intensive UK universities
- Teaching and research in most subjects

Pathway at King's

- Started discussions with College Research Committee and Vice President for Research early in 2022
- Advice from Human Resources, University Secretary and legal counsel; more specialist advice from external legal advisors
- Produced an options paper for College Research Committee with a clear recommendation to adopt Rights Retention
- New [Research Publications Policy](#) approved, and live from March 2023
- Written to the top 100 publishers
- Still ongoing comms and engagement with our research community. FAQs [here](#).



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Research Publications Policy

Policy to formalize the university's commitment to the publications by King's researchers, including the drive to comply with research funder mandates regarding open access.

Downloads

[↓ Research Publications Policy \(270KB pdf\)](#)

Relevant links

What does the policy say?

- Confirms that King's waives certain rights to enable publication
- King's asserts a non-exclusive, irrevocable, worldwide licence to make works openly available
- Researchers are aware of their responsibilities as a result of any Funder requirements

What went well?

- Getting the PVC-R on board early
- UK context – we were moving in the same direction as our peer group
- Focus on how this helps, but be clear about risk
- Keeping the message simple





Next steps

- Consider whether or not to extend to books and book chapter
- UKRI (main UK research funder) is requiring these to be OA
- Particular challenges around OA books that need consideration
- Authors have to want to publish OA

Any questions?

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