

## Open Access Policy of the Hochschule für Technik Stuttgart (HFT Stuttgart)

The Hochschule für Technik Stuttgart (Stuttgart University of Applied Sciences) sees itself as a climate-literate, resilient and connected university. Providing transparent access to scientific information and actively promoting the transfer of knowledge and technology into practice are central components of our self-image. We are committed to technical and social progress, with a special focus on sustainable development as well as environmental and climate protection. Interdisciplinary, practical and skills-oriented teaching, including close cooperation with companies and organizations, distinguishes HFT Stuttgart. Together with partners from research, economy, municipalities and politics, we research, prototypically implement and transfer innovative concepts for the sustainable, energy-efficient and resource-friendly design of resilient living environments to society.

As a publicly funded university, HFT Stuttgart is committed to making the results of its research and practice available to the public free of charge. Knowledge transfer plays a key role. To reduce obstacles to the adoption and subsequent use of published results, HFT Stuttgart aims to ensure that publications by its members are freely available via Open Access.

Open Access (OA) refers to digital scientific information and publications being made available to the public worldwide, free of charge and without technical restrictions, via the Internet. Full texts can be read, copied, distributed, printed and processed without restriction. They can be searched, referenced and used in any other legal way. The rights of the authors are safeguarded by correct attribution of authorship. Accordingly, OA publications achieve widespread dissemination through general accessibility and availability, as they are easy to find and highly visible via search engines. They promote interdisciplinary and international collaboration.

The HFT Stuttgart supports the science policy demand of Open Access based on [the Berlin Declaration of 2003](#). For this reason, HFT Stuttgart strongly demands and promotes barrier-free access to scientific knowledge and supports its authors to publish Open Access, as long as no legal framework or agreements oppose. All members of the university are recommended to reserve further exploitation rights for publication and archiving for free use when publishing in restricted-access publications and to refrain from assigning exclusive rights of use to single publishers.

The Open Access Policy of HFT Stuttgart is an urgent recommendation by the head of university without restricting freedom of research and teaching with the free choice of publication channels.

The university library is the point of contact for all questions relating to Open Access. It works in close cooperation with the Vice Rector for Research and Digitization and the Institute for Applied Research (IAF).