



UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA

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Nr. Prot.: [1/404](#)

Data: [11/ 6/ 2025](#)

Based on Article 14 of the status of the University of Prishtina, the Steering Council of the University of Prishtina, in the meeting held on [xx.xx.2025](#), approved:

REGULATION FOR OPEN ACCESS TO RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA

Article 1

Principles of the regulation

1. The University of Prishtina, as the largest public university in Kosovo, alongside the advancement of educational offerings and teaching, aims to functionalize and optimize research infrastructure and research outcomes, as well as to enhance inter-institutional cooperation and include third parties who may benefit from this research infrastructure. Recognizing the importance of research infrastructure as the foundation of scientific research, education, and innovation, and their role in data-driven research, experimental studies, and adequate training, UP aims to increase innovation and research capacities at the national and international level.
2. The University of Prishtina, as a higher education institution, is globally recognized for its professionalism, integrity, quality teaching and research. The mission of UP is based on academic development, scientific and artistic research, and ensuring the quality of higher education through programs of strategic and developmental interest to the Republic of Kosovo.
3. This regulation is based on and implemented in accordance with the following principles:
 - 3.1. Research infrastructure owned by the University of Prishtina shall be utilized to serve the public interest.
 - 3.2. Research infrastructure will be equally available and accessible to academic staff in all faculties within UP, thus eliminating the challenges faced by academic

staff who conducted research activities using infrastructure outside UP, and in some cases, outside the Republic of Kosovo.

3.3.The Regulation on Open Access to Research infrastructure (OARI) enables a more rational use of the budgetary resources of the University of Prishtina, as it will prevent different units within UP from needing to purchase similar research infrastructure that may already exist within UP.

3.4.The OARI Regulation will increase the reliability and overall impact of the research conducted within the University of Prishtina.

4. The OARI Regulation has been drafted based on and in accordance with:
 - 4.1. Survey results - Inventory of Research infrastructure in the Republic of Kosovo.
 - 4.2.Academic Integrity
 - 4.3.The Status of UP
 - 4.4.Code of Ethics
 - 4.5.Regulation on the Establishment and Principles of Functioning of the Institution of UP
 - 4.6.Strategic plan of UP (2022-2025)
 - 4.7.Law No. 06 / L- 049 on Scientific Innovation and the Transfer of Knowledge and Technology
 - 4.8.Law No. 05 / L-047 for Copyrights
 - 4.9.EU Strategies for Open Access to Science Infrastructure
5. The implementation of this regulation is based on the spirit reflected in the above principles.

Article 2

General Provisions

1. This regulation applies to open access to research and development infrastructure (Technical, social and cultural) (further referred as **research infrastructure** or RI) at UP and defines the relationships between the University of Prishtina and the **users** of open access services.
2. The implementation of this regulation is carried out through decisions made by persons responsible for the management of research infrastructure at UP.

Article 3

Purpose of the Regulation

1. The purpose of this regulation is to define the nature of the research infrastructure, its location at UP, access, management, its technical specification, service offered by this infrastructure, provisions for the use of resources, determination of service fees, as well as obligations related to the code of ethics, academic integrity, and intellectual integrity.

2. The purpose of this regulation is clearly reflected and aims to be realized through specific provisions within its structural framework.

Article 4

Definitions & abbreviations

1. The following definitions used in this regulation have the meaning as outlined below:
 - 1.1. **Science Infrastructure (RI)** - the physical structure (science institution, laboratories, legal clinics etc.), instruments, tools and other material and virtual resources, as well as related services, used for conducting modern basic and applied scientific research.
 - 1.2. **Resources** - the research and research infrastructure, researchers working with the infrastructure, and the personnel who provide services within the infrastructure, ensuring its operation, as well as managing its maintenance, development, and usage time.
 - 1.3. **Services** - open access services approved by UP.
 - 1.4. **Users** - a natural or legal person who requires services from the specific infrastructure or seeks access to the infrastructure in order to conduct scientific research.
 - 1.5. **Opening hours of research infrastructure** - working hours of equipment and functioning of the research infrastructure.
 - 1.6. **Principles to open access** - the conditions under which UP grants access to its research infrastructure for use by different groups of users inside and outside the organization.
 - 1.7. **Individual units** - UP units equipped with RI (e.g., laboratory, center, institution or other RI unit).
 - 1.8. **Third parties** - are researchers from universities and other national and international scientific organizations, scientific institutions, clinical centres, commercial organizations, civil society, public institutions, and physical entities who may have access to the use of UP's RI.
2. The abbreviations used in this regulation have the following meaning:
 - 2.1. **RI** - Research infrastructure
 - 2.2. **OARI** - Open access to research infrastructure
 - 2.3. **UP** - University of Prishtina

Article 5

Management of UP's Research infrastructure

1. The RI of UP is managed by UP as a legal entity and consists of entities representing UP units equipped with RI.
2. The management of UP's RI is carried out through persons responsible for RI management, based on this regulation.

3. The Vice-Rector for science, the coordinator of the Office for Sponsored Projects and Research, the dean of academic units, the directors of institutes, and the coordinators of clinics are responsible for managing the implementations of the regulation.
4. For the purpose of managing UP's RI, the manager / head of the laboratory / centre / institute or another RI unit is responsible for:
 - 4.1. Fulfilling obligations toward internal users;
 - 4.2. Fulfilling contractual obligations toward third parties;
 - 4.3. Monitoring and maintenance of the RI;
 - 4.4. Decisions on fees, identification, and training of users;
 - 4.5. Reporting on work activities related to the use of UP's RI.
5. The assistant / engineer / laboratory technician is responsible for supporting and maintaining the RI; recording access to the RI and keeping of equipment and services.
6. The user of the RI, during the period of RI use, is responsible for any damage caused to the RI. Responsibility for any potential damage is determined by the contract or the decision regarding the use of the RI.

Article 6
Users of the UP's Research infrastructure

1. Services from UP's RI are offered to internal and external users.
2. Internal users are students, researchers, and academic staff at various stages of employment at UP, including mobility and contractual relationships, while external users are third parties, as defined by this regulation.
3. Persons responsible for managing UP's RI must require internal and external users to demonstrate that they have the knowledge and skills necessary to use the RI.
4. When internal users do not have the knowledge and skills required for the professional use of the equipment, appropriate training must be provided by the responsible persons. The need for training is assessed by the person responsible for managing the specific RI.

Article 7
Access to UP's Research infrastructure

1. The IS is accessible to users in accordance with the established procedures and the operating hours of the research infrastructure.
2. The person responsible for managing the RI, in accordance with this regulation, determines and approves the operating hours of the research infrastructure, including the allocation of time period, with the aim of maximizing experimental time.
3. Individual RI units are responsible for determining their scope of activities and operating hours for external users, under clear, transparent, and fair conditions.

4. Procedures for accessing the RI may vary depending on the type of RI. The application, negotiation, contract and decisions for access to the RI must be clear and justified by the person responsible for managing the RI, in accordance with this regulation.
5. Requests for access to the RI are addressed to the person responsible for managing the RI. Priority in reviewing access requests is given to those related to state interest. Other requests are accommodated according to the operating horse of the RI.
6. In the case of any disagreement regarding the procedures for using the RI, the decision is made by the Vice-Rector for science, taking into account the state interest and the best interest of UP.

Article 8

Determination of fees for Services of UP's Research infrastructure

1. Access to the RI for internal users is free of charge, while for external users it is subject to a fee. All conditions related to the use of the RI must be transparent and publicly available.
2. The pricing of RI services is determined based on the type of the user - internal or external / commercial or non-commercial - taking into account the duration of equipment use, human resources, consumable materials, and other materials required for carrying out the work, as well as other possible expenses. All specifics of this matter must be defined in the usage agreement.
3. The prices of RI services are publicly announced. Prices are reviewed considering changes in economic conditions, maintenance costs, administrative costs, and other costs related to RI activities.
4. The prices for access to the RI are determined by the responsible persons, in accordance with this regulation, and approved by the Steering Council.

Article 9

Academic Integrity in Relation to Research infrastructure and the Protection of Intellectual Property

1. The Regulation on Open Access to Research infrastructure is implemented in compliance with the Code of Ethics and the Academic Integrity Regulations in force at UP.
2. The ownership and management of intellectual property created at UP, as well as confidential obligations, are regulated by UP's rules and by Law No. 05/L-047 on Copyright.
3. In the case of research conducted by external users, all intellectual property produced by the external user during the period of open access shall be the intellectual property of the external users, unless otherwise specified.
4. In the case of research conducted by external users, all matters of intellectual property ownership shall be specified in the contract/agreement signed for this specific access to RI.
5. In the case of research conducted by internal users, the method of publication of open-access results may be discussed, in accordance with the principles to open science.

Article 10
Current Research infrastructure of UP

1. Part of this regulation will also include a table through which UP has recorded the current research infrastructure. Furthermore, the list of research infrastructure will be published on UP's webRIte.
2. In the case that UP identifies an RI for which there are no trained internal users, measures must be taken to appoint a responsible person and to provide appropriate training for the use of the respective RI.

Article 11
Approval and Amendment

1. This regulation enters into force upon approval by the Steering Council of UP.
2. This regulation may be updated and amended as needed, following the same approval procedures.

Altin Sahiti

Chairman of the Steering Council of the University of Prishtine,