

# How to Publish Your Doctoral Thesis at KIT

KIT LIBRARY





## Basic Principles

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According to the doctoral regulations of the KIT departments, publication of a doctoral thesis is part of the doctoral examination procedure.

- The doctoral thesis must be published within one year of the oral examination.
- You will find an overview of the various publication options in the doctoral regulations:  
➔ <http://www.khys.kit.edu/english/doctoral-regulations.php>
- To publish your doctoral thesis, you usually need a permission to publish from your department. The dean's office in charge will inform you of the exact procedure.
- Read more: ➔ <https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/english/doctoral-theses-kit.php>

## KITopen Publication in KITopen

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KITopen is the central repository of KIT. It publishes all types of KIT research results in a freely accessible and exclusively electronic form (Open Access). The advantages are:

- Fast publication of the doctoral thesis.
- Free-of-charge availability worldwide in accordance with the Open Access principles.
- Assignment of a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) via which the doctoral thesis can be permanently addressed and quoted.
- You can publish your doctoral thesis with free licenses (Open Content Licenses), such as Creative Commons.
- There is no need to submit printed copies to the KIT Library. According to the doctoral regulations, the number and form of submission of copies for the department, institute, and reviewer are unaffected by this.
- Read more: ➔ <https://publikationen.bibliothek.kit.edu/kitopen/login/>



Scientific  
Publishing

## Publishing with KIT Scientific Publishing

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Publication with KIT Scientific Publishing (KSP) is subject to a fee. In addition to the printed copies, it includes an electronic publication of the doctoral thesis in KITopen. The advantages are:

- Free-of-charge availability worldwide in accordance with the Open Access principles.
- The printed copies (Print on Demand) are distributed worldwide through the international book trade.
- Assignment of ISBN and Digital Object Identifier (DOI). These make your doctoral thesis permanently addressable and citable.
- All KSP books are provided with the Creative Commons License „CC BY-SA“.
- There is no need to submit printed copies to the KIT Library. According to the doctoral regulations, the number and form of submission of copies for the department, institute, and reviewer are unaffected by this.
- Read more: ➔ <https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/english/ksp-request-publication.php>



## Further Possibilities of Publication

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You can also have your thesis published outside the KIT, either by an external publisher or by having it printed and bound at a print shop of your choice. Read more:

➔ <https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/english/doctoral-theses-kit.php>



## Cumulative/Publication-based Doctoral Thesis

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If your doctoral thesis consists of articles that have been submitted for publication or have already been published, you should check the following:

- Do the co-authors agree with the publication in the doctoral thesis?
- Do the terms of use of the publishers to whom you have submitted your articles permit reuse in the doctoral thesis?
- Which version may be used (preprint, postprint, publisher's version)?
- Is it necessary to observe a blocking period?
- Can a free license be used? (If you have assigned rights of use to the publisher, this is usually only possible with the publisher's consent.)

Please consult your publishing contract for details. The SHERPA/RoMEO list also provides an overview of the various publishing policies. Read more: ➔ <https://sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php>

In general, it is advisable to secure the rights for an Open Access publication in advance. If necessary, the right to a second publication can also be obtained at a later date.



## Legal Information

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### RIGHTS OF USE

- As an author, you generally own all rights to your works. Via a publishing contract or comparable transfer of rights, you assign so-called exploitation rights or rights of use to the publisher.
- Usually, the publisher demands exclusive rights to your work from you; a second publication via KITopen hence is only possible with the consent of the publisher.
- In order to ensure the subsequent publication of your works as part of your doctoral thesis, you should secure the necessary rights when transferring the rights to the publisher.
- If you publish via KITopen or KIT Scientific Publishing, you grant the KIT Library a permanent simple right of use, so that further publication channels will be open to you. Read more: ➔ <https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/english/legal-information.php> (in German)

### QUOTATION RIGHT / IMAGE COPYRIGHT

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- If you want to publish your own images and graphics, it is advisable to use Open Content Licenses in order to avoid legal uncertainties during subsequent use. With the corresponding licenses, you can publish your images and graphics in the KITopen repository.



## Publishing with a Publication Embargo

Only for electronic doctoral theses!

If the doctoral thesis may only be published after a time delay due to a patent application or publication in a journal, you can make an application for a publication embargo\*. The metadata of the doctoral thesis will be published in KITopen immediately, the corresponding full text only after expiration of the embargo period. As a rule, the doctoral certificate will be issued immediately despite the non-disclosure note. \*Application form: [https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/downloads/PDF/Sperrfrist-Dissertation\\_en.pdf](https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/downloads/PDF/Sperrfrist-Dissertation_en.pdf)

## Research Data

Doctoral research data of all disciplines and data types can also be published free of charge in the KITopen repository. All research data is stored securely for a period of at least 10 years, receives a DOI, and is provided with a free license.

The research data can be uploaded together with the doctoral thesis or earlier / later directly via KITopen.



## Advice and Information

### • Electronic Doctoral Theses:

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Email: KITopen-Diss@bibliothek.kit.edu

### • Printed Doctoral Theses:

Ms. M. Kastner, Phone +49 721 608-43126  
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### • KIT Scientific Publishing:

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## Editor

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