How to live up to the CoRC?

Adherence to the IGDORE Code of Research Conduct (CoRC) is the responsibility of all researchers affiliated with IGDORE, whether they work individually or in groups. The present document aims to guide current and prospective affiliates on how to live up to the requirements and recommendations highlighted in the CoRC. We currently provide specific advice about each point in the IGDORE CoRC that we require researchers to adhere to, and may add additional advice about the points we encourage adherence with in future. IGDORE researchers who are found not to comply with a required point may have their affiliation cancelled by the Global Board; adherence with the encouraged points will be considered by the Board when evaluating such cases. Compliance with both the required and encouraged parts of the CoRC will be considered when assessing new applications from prospective affiliates. Additional advice on how to prospective affiliates can demonstrate a commitment to Open Science practices is provided in the last section of the document.

Advice on how to comply with the points that IGDORE researchers are required to adhere to

- make their research articles openly available;
   This can be achieved in a number of ways:
   1. You can publish Open Access articles; consult the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) to find appropriate journals for your research field and information about the publication fees and licensing options the journals use. The majority of journals listed in the DOAJ follow a Diamond Open Access model and do not charge authors a fee to publish Open Access articles. The directory also includes Gold Open Access options where the publisher requires payment of an Article Processing Charge.
   2. You can publish with the Green Open Access model, also known as self-archiving: this means you can deposit a free copy of your research article in a chosen repository. You can follow two routes (either one of the two, or both):

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1 Here and in the CoRC, ‘openly’ is used to indicate both publicly and freely.
2 Be aware that some Gold Open Access journals are considered predatory and charge publication fees without performing the quality control (i.e. peer-review) and editorial services that academic journals are typically expected to provide. IGDORE researchers are encouraged not to publish in predatory journals. It can be difficult to tell the difference between predatory journals and legitimate publishers (e.g. you can find a list of journals that falsely claim to be indexed in the DOAJ here), and we recommend using Think. Check. Submit. to identify trusted journals when deciding where to submit your research.
a. upload a **preprint** of your research manuscript (before peer-review) on a **preprint server or a repository** (e.g.: arXiv, bioRxiv, OSF Preprints, Preprints, SocArXiv Papers)

b. upload the peer-reviewed version of your manuscript, before it goes to the final editing and typesetting from the journal (this is called a **postprint**) to a repository

If you are unsure if the journal you have chosen for your research allows for Green Open Access publication, you can consult the Sherpa Romeo webpage, which lists publishers’ policies, licences they use, and possible embargoes. In some cases, you may wish to retroactively make your article Green Open Access (i.e., after it has been published in a closed-access journal). This can be achieved by depositing a pre- or postprint of the article on Zenodo\(^3\), which allows the preprint to use the same DOI and publication date as the original article.

- **upon request, promptly provide data and other information needed for independent verification of any publication in which they are included as authors;**

  IGDORE strongly supports transparent research practices, where data and materials are shared for independent verification and research reproducibility, when possible. We expect our researchers to be committed to this way of conducting and publishing their research and, in particular, if the data are not deposited at the time of publication, we expect them to reply to reasonable data requests promptly and positively. In cases where IGDORE affiliates do not have access to the original dataset, we expect them to provide assistance with obtaining the data from the relevant co-author(s). The IGDORE Global Board can mediate these requests if necessary (we will not tolerate Open Data Bingo excuses as there are many as there are many reasonable responses).

- **not fabricate, falsify or suppress evidence; the selective omission of research results is reported and justified;**

  Most definitions of research misconduct include falsification and fabrication (and also plagiarism) and we expect that all researchers are aware that these malpractices are unacceptable. Falsification includes selectively omitting data that was collected but does not support the researcher’s conclusions, the omission of any data from a study (including the removal of outliers) should be described in the publication, and all data points should be included in publicly

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\(^3\) Using Zenodo (or another repository) is preferable to hosting a copy of the article on your personal website, as the former facilitates better indexing by search engines, the unpaywall extension, and similar. Posting copies of articles on academic social media (e.g. Research Gate or academia.edu) is typically not considered to be Open Access.
shared datasets. The suppression of evidence extends beyond falsification and includes situations where researchers choose not to publish entire studies because they do not support a preferred outcome (such as a lab’s previous findings, a private funders interests, a social or political viewpoint, or even the dogma of a field). IGDORE researchers are encouraged to publish each study they conduct and, in particular, efforts should be made to disseminate findings that challenge existing paradigms or expectations.

- **acknowledge and respect authorship, and properly attribute the work of others;**
  
  Plagiarism is considered to be research misconduct. Plagiarism is not limited to directly copying text: see the Oxford University Press for a short overview of several types of plagiarism, and the Office of Research Integrity for a detailed guide to ethical writing. All individuals who have made a substantial intellectual contribution to research should be listed as an author on publications (i.e. avoid ghost authors). Including a description of each individual author’s contribution to the publication is recommended (e.g. using the Contributor Roles Taxonomy [CRediT])

- **only claim authorship if they have made a genuine contribution;**
  
  Do not ask to be an author, or accept others as authors, on publications where you (or they) have not made an intellectual contribution (e.g. avoid guest/gift authors). We recommend referring to the Vancouver Recommendation for authorship in cases of where it is unclear about who should be included as an author on a publication (referring to CRediT may also be helpful).

- **carry out peer-review tasks seriously and make assessments solely on scientific grounds;**
  
  Be a good peer-reviewer and write an appropriate review report (junior researchers may benefit from reading field-specific guides). Decline reviews where you have a conflict of interest.

- **report interests that may potentially conflict with the independence of research activities;**
  
  Competing interests can be financial or non-financial. Any interests that could reduce the researcher's objectivity or lead to bias in their decision-making should be disclosed when communicating the research.
• **adhere to the ethical codes for research activities in which human subjects and animals are involved;**

Research subjects must be protected, and any harms should be balanced against the benefit the research is expected to provide. It is the responsibility of researchers to know the regulations for ethical review requirements in the country where their research is conducted and apply for ethical review if it is necessary for their work to comply with national legislation. IGDORE researchers who conduct research in Sweden can submit an application for ethical review to the Swedish Ethical Approval Authority for research on human subjects, or to the Swedish Board of Agriculture for animal experiments (approval can only be granted for research conducted on human subjects/animals in Sweden that requires ethical review under Swedish law; note that applications must be written in Swedish). Researchers working in other countries may be able to apply for ethical review with local ethics committees.

• **avoid or limit risks arising from their research.**

Beyond considering any risks directly posed to subjects by participating in research (covered by the preceding point), researchers are expected to limit, or preferably avoid, foreseeable risks to society from scientific and technological developments resulting from their work. Promptly reporting the development of such risks to a competent authority is recommended. If in doubt, or the risk is not within the scope of an existing authority, researchers should consult ethical advisory bodies or signal the need for ethical advice about the concerns.
Advice for prospective affiliates

We will consider researchers following some or all of the practices below to be demonstrating a commitment to IGDORE's CoRC.

- publish your research open access (consult the Directory of Open Access Journals)
- upload pre/postprints on specialized servers (e.g., bioRxiv, OSF preprints, preprints.org, or similar repositories)
- upload and responsibly share data sets on indexed repositories (e.g., Dataverse, Dryad, figshare, OSF, Zenodo)
- upload and share software and analysis code (e.g., on GitLab)
- upload and share research materials – e.g., experimental stimuli, questionnaires, or hardware schematics – on indexed repositories (e.g., Dataverse, Dryad, figshare, OSF, Zenodo)
- preregistration (e.g., OSF Registries, EU Clinical Trials Register, AsPredicted)
- registered reports accepted at Stage I or Stage II
- transparent reporting and owning up to errors (e.g., retroactive disclosure, or loss-of-confidence statements)
- upload and share open educational materials (e.g., publicly available course slides, contributions to MOOCs, contributions to The Turing Way)
- engage the public and/or service users in the research and educational process (e.g., science communication, citizen science projects, living labs)
- engage in open peer review, pre- or post-publication (e.g., PubPeer)

For deposition of preprints, datasets, presentations, posters, and other research objects that in general do not belong to a specific data repository, you can use the IGDORE community page on Zenodo.

This list is not exhaustive, and we will consider other practices that contribute to transparent and engaged scholarship. Kathawalla, Silverstein and Syed (2021) provides an introductory guide that may be helpful for researchers unfamiliar with Open Science.

Suggestions for additions or changes can be made on this thread at the On Science and Academia Forum.

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