

Frequently Asked Questions: Short Scientific Work

- **What is Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act?**

Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, commonly known as the Taverne Amendment, grants the author of any short scientific work that is fully or partly financed by Dutch public funds the right to make this work freely available to the public, following 'a reasonable term' after its publication. The amendment is supposed to supersede any agreement made between the author and the publisher. This means that you have the right to make your closed articles openly available in our university repository following a reasonable period of time, determined at 6 months, after its first publication.
- **Which short scientific works are eligible?**

Articles, conference papers, and chapters in edited collections are eligible.
- **What are the benefits of using Article 25fa (Taverne Amendment) to make my short scientific works open access?**

By making your publications openly available in the TU Delft Repository more people can read your work and build upon it, thus increasing the visibility and impact of your research.
- **How does it work?**

Our library team will check our research information system for any of your short scientific works (articles, conference papers and book chapters) published from January 1, 2022 onwards, that are currently not publicly available. We will change the status of those documents and push them into the repository, with a six month embargo. If the research information system cannot find the full text version of your work, we may ask you to supply a copy.
- **Am I infringing on any copyrights/breaking copyright laws?**

No, sharing of your work is based on Article 25af of the Dutch Copyrights Act, of which the most important ones are: The final published version of an article will be made freely available in the university repository six months after the first (usually online) publication.
- **What should I do if a publisher/conference organizer complains or asks questions about this?**

When your publications in the repository are open based on Article 25fa and your publisher approaches you with questions or a request to remove access to your publication please contact the library. You have the guarantee that TU Delft will determine what steps to take and how to respond to the publisher. If necessary, Legal Services of the TU Delft will take action. You can forward the correspondence from the publisher to library@tudelft.nl.
- **Can I share my work published before 2022?**

If there are specific pieces of work published before 2022 that you would like to make open (e.g. conference papers where the original proceedings website is no longer accessible), please email library@tudelft.nl with your request for further discussions.
- **Which version of my short scientific work will be made open access?**

This will be the published version, since this is the one that has been 'made public'. This will increase the chance of correct citations, and it means that the library can simply include the work in the repository regardless of whether the author has access to the published version (especially if they are a co-author). This makes it easier for authors to share work without the need to take additional administrative steps.

- **What if I mostly publish books?**
Only book chapters in an edited collection are seen as short scientific works. These chapters can be made open. Books are not eligible.
- **Can my work be shared if the publisher has established an embargo period longer than six months?**
Article 25fa overrules any requirements a publisher may have, contractual or otherwise. If this applies prior to the end of the embargo period, you may share the work sooner.
- **Do I have to be the first author or corresponding author of the work to make my short scientific work open?**
No, there is no need for that. The regulations apply to the TU Delft author of a publication, so it doesn't matter if you are the corresponding author, the first author, or a co-author.
- **Do I need permission from my co-authors to make my publications openly available?**
No. Since this is your personal right, you don't need permission from your co-authors.
- **What if I am co-author of an article published by multiple TU Delft authors and I want to use the opt-out option?**
Since it is a personal right to make use of Article 25fa, the article will be placed in the repository in accordance with this right, unless all TU authors involved wish to opt-out.
- **Can I opt-out specific works?**
Yes! You can opt out for one or more publications by filling out the opt-out form.
- **How does the application of Article 25fa relate to Plan S? Does it make my work Plan S, or other funders' open access mandate, compliant?**
No - Plan S requires scientific publications to be published in compliant open access journals or platforms from 2021 onwards, with a license for re-use and without an embargo period. This short scientific work regulation makes your short scientific works openly available after six months without a license for re-use, so opening your publications this way does not meet the requirements of Plan S.
- **Can I share my work published before I was employed by TU Delft?**
No. TU Delft Repository only accepts short scientific works in which you are affiliated with TU Delft.
- **What happens when I leave the TU Delft?**
The publications that you produced during your employment at the TU Delft will remain in the repository (Pure). After you have left, your researcher profile will no longer be visible in the TU Delft Research Portal, but your publications in the repository will be. You can still link to them from other sites.
- **What if I am no longer employed by TU Delft, but publications with my TU Delft affiliation are still published?**
These publications will be treated in accordance with Article 25fa and placed in the repository. If a publisher approaches you with questions or a request to remove access to your publication, please contact the library. As a former employee, you still have the guarantee that TU Delft will take over the question/request from the publisher. If necessary, Legal Services of TU Delft will take action. You can forward the correspondence from the publisher to library@tudelft.nl.