

Experience worldwide has shown that it is not sufficient to establish institutional repositories so that they are successful. For many reasons (lack of time, questions about copyright, ignorance or reduced sensitivity to the issue, etc.. The deposit rate, or self-archiving, "spontaneous" by researchers is often reduced.

It is estimated that the rate of spontaneous self-archiving is between 10% and 20%, and that may rise to 30% to 40% with promotional activities, awareness and encouragement.

To further increase the deposit of its scientific work in their repositories, institutions should establish policies, generally designated mandates, requiring and mandating self-archiving publications of its members. That is the way a growing number of institutions around the world, including the various faculties of MIT and Harvard University have been doing.

Today they are known more than 250 open access mandates, either research institutions or bodies responsible for funding. Also in Portugal only in 2010, have a policy with mandatory nature in the following institutions:

[Polytechnic Institute of Bragança](#)

[Open University](#)

[University of Coimbra](#)

[University of Minho \(updating the previous policy\)](#)

In order to support the formulation and implementation of open access in the institutions, the RCAAP project created a "[Open Access Policies Kit](#)", based on analysis and adaptation of good practice nationally and internationally. In this kit, institutions interested in promoting the

success of their repositories and visibility of its scientific activity may find implementation plans and policy models for open access.