HAL, open archive built in common to share and disseminate scientific knowledge

HAL’s mission is to share internationally and to archive scientific publications, of all disciplines, emanating from French or foreign research, public or private. Breaking with the enclosure of knowledge, HAL allows the free circulation of knowledge through rapid, transparent and complete dissemination of research results and open access to scientists as well as to the whole of civil society. By guaranteeing long-term access and preservation, HAL is also an open and sustainable instrument of scientific sovereignty.

HAL’s operating model is deeply original. It is based on the principles of openness, sharing and pooling. HAL is at the heart of a large community of scientists, universities, research organisations, laboratories, libraries and funding agencies.

It is a common good collectively built, enriched and used for the opening up of publications, their visibility and their preservation. It is also a lever for institutional policies in favour of open science. Each and everyone collaborates to the feeding and the quality of HAL which diffuses today more than one million scientific documents. Its growth is continuous with the stated ambition of being the open archive for French scientific production. The Centre for Direct Scientific Communication (CCSD) ensures its development, coherence and availability. It supports and trains HAL users, whether they are scientists or institutions.

Because it is a source of trust, the quality of the national open archive is a central issue. It mobilises all the partners, the CCSD and institutions, by moderating submissions before they are put online, institutional affiliation of authors and alignment with national and international reference data and identifiers.

HAL is integrated to a portfolio of services or overlay services: the publication of reviews (Episciences), the organisation of scientific events (Sciencesconf), the HAL CV, the link between publications and the projects that finance them or the creation of collections. All these services aim to offer the knowledge ecosystem, and thus scientists and their institutions, the capacity to enrich the open archive and to promote the use of this common good. With the Portal offer, HAL proposes a service on which school policies are based. In 2022, there are 133 institutional portals and over 8,000 collections.

Steering Committee and Orientation Committee of the CCSD, HAL Partners Assembly — June 2022
Portals and collections are customisable web interfaces that make it possible to promote the scientific production of an institution, a laboratory, a learned society, and to give visibility to an event or a scientific project. The portfolio of services is evolving and is based on a strong dialogue between the CCSD and its communities.

HAL is also part of a global ecosystem and relies on formats and standards in line with the FAIR principles. There are many interactions and collaborations with other platforms, software and services developed in the framework of open science:

- Software Heritage for the promotion of source codes and softwares;
- recherche.data.gouv, the national federated platform for research data to link data and publications;
- large international servers (arXiv, REPEC, PMC, Zenodo);
- the main repositories and identifier systems (ORCID, RNSR, ROR, data.gouv.fr, crossRef, OpenAire, idRef).

One of the decisive challenges is to consolidate existing interconnections and to develop new ones. This networking is a source of value and efficiency for HAL and its partners and is fully in line with the orientations of the National Plans for Open Science since 2018.

**Creation of HAL**

HAL is labelled as a research infrastructure.

**PNSO 1**

The first National Plan for Open Science (PNSO) identifies HAL as the French national open archive.

**2018**

The Steering Committee of Open Science validates a shared governance and a sustainable funding model.

**PNSO 2**

The second National Plan for Open Science confirms the central role of HAL in the opening publications of and the creation of an ecosystem linking publications, data and codes.

**2021**

HAL+ bringing together the HAL, Episciences and Sciencesconf platforms, is labelled as a research infrastructure.

** Governance**

HAL Partners Assembly brings together the institutions (universities, research organisations, Grandes Ecoles) that have a HAL portal and contribute financially to the development of the platform. It meets at least once a year; its members take part in the working groups and reflection groups set up by the CCSD; webinars and exchange sessions organised by the CCSD contribute to its animation.

The Assembly aims not only to share information and good practices, but also to identify and feed back the needs of its members to the Steering Committee. The Assembly appoints representatives to this committee taking into account the different status of the institutions (university, organisation, school).

The Orientation Committee associates the Steering Committee (representatives of the CCSD’s supervisory bodies, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, France Universités and the CCSD’s management), the elected members of the HAL Partners Assembly, a representative of Episciences and the President of the International Scientific Council. Its missions are to propose scientific and technical orientations for the CCSD and HAL in particular, and to federate the needs of the users of the various CCSD platforms and to prioritise them.

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