

# Digital Preservation Policies

- [Motivation](#)
- [Policy resources](#)
  - [Institutional sources](#)
  - [Community sources](#)
  - [Other sources](#)
- [Policy spectrum](#)
- [Machine-actionable policies](#)
- [Call for contributions](#)

## Motivation

A high-level policy that defines an organization's commitment to digital preservation is an essential component of an effective and sustainable program. Developing an explicit digital preservation policy is a requirement for complying with prevailing community standards and practice (e.g., the [TRAC requirements](#), the procedural accountability requirement of a [trusted digital repository](#), but not every organization should have to develop their policy from scratch.

## Policy resources

Here's a proposed [model](#) document for an organization's digital preservation policy framework to use as a starting point and some examples of digital preservation policies that have been developed by organizations:

- [Columbia University Library](#)
- [Cornell University Library](#)
- [FCLA Digital Archive \(FDA\) Policy Guide](#)
- [Georgia Archives](#)
- [Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research \(ICPSR\)](#)
- [Library and Archives of Canada](#)
- [National Library of Australia](#)
- [North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources](#)
- [UK Data Archive](#)

### Institutional sources

And some digital preservation strategies developed by organizations:

- [British Library](#)
- [National Library of Wales](#)

### Community sources

And some other community sources pertaining to digital preservation policies:

- JISC-sponsored report on [digital preservation policies](#)
- Erpanet [policy tool](#)

### Other sources

And other policy-related sources:

- [Policy-making for Research Data in repositories: A Guide](#)
- [OpenDOAR Policies Tool](#)

## Policy spectrum

One consideration in reviewing community documentation is that the term policy is used in a variety of ways and might reflect one of several levels, as illustrated in the following diagram (McGovern 2008):



using varying approaches:

- [PLEDGE](#) (these results use the REI [policy language](#) and are in part reflected in [iRODS](#))
- [PLANETS](#) (using the OCL - Object Constraint Language - in developing a preservation planning policy engine)

## Call for contributions

Please add to these resources and/or share your own policies.