

THE ROAD TO OPEN ACCESS

THE JOURNEY IS AS IMPORTANT
AS THE DESTINATION

Europe's knowledge sector greatly enhances Europe's economic performance and its capacity to compete on the global stage. The sector provides a continual contribution to solving complex real-world problems whilst improving openness and encouraging investment. The future of research will be defined by our ability to foster wider collaboration and engagement, whilst capitalising on the sector's underlying infrastructure, talent and expertise.

The continued growth of Open Access will significantly augment the discoverability and impact of fundamental research. Publisher contributions to OA stand to considerably boost the dissemination of literature, whilst safeguarding the quality, integrity and preservation of the scholarly record.

Publishers are working collaboratively across the scholarly sector to transform the aspirations for full Open Access into a reality. Perspectives on how to achieve this transition are not uniform and similarly there is not an internationally agreed consensus around the implementation of practical solutions.

In order for Europe to take full advantage of the wide benefits of a fully Open Access world, we need to recognise that the journey is as important as the destination.

OUR DESTINATION IS THE SAME AS YOURS – A FULLY OPEN ACCESS WORLD

HELP US ENSURE A SMOOTH JOURNEY

As publishers our mission is to empower researchers to make their work as widely available as possible with quality and integrity. We continually strive to support a more open environment to ensure that research is read, validated, critiqued and built upon



THE RIGHT DIRECTION FOR RESEARCHER

Whilst research undergoes a fundamental transformation in how published information is conducted, disseminated, used and consumed, it is vital that researchers maintain their freedom to publish in the publication outlet of their choice. This ensures their work reaches the widest possible audience and has the greatest impact.



VARIABLE SPEEDS FOR IMMEDIATE ACCESS

Research disciplines vary greatly in their practices. There are fundamental differences to readership, article types, publication fees and funding across the science, technology, medical, arts, humanities and social sciences fields. This presents divergent needs for immediate access with some disciplines requiring faster access to the growing body of knowledge, and others seeing article usage over a much longer timeframe. A 'variable speed' approach to immediate access would strike a balance which supports the validation, publication and dissemination of high quality research whilst recognising the inherent differences across research disciplines.



HYBRID ENGINES

Hybrid journals enable authors who wish to publish Open Access, due to funder requirements or other motivations, to continue to select the journals of their choice. These journals enable researchers to have the greatest potential to advance their fields whilst continuing to advance the transition to Open Access. Articles published in hybrid journals not only benefit from the wide dissemination enabled by Open Access, they also receive high levels of citation and downloads.



FUELLING RESEARCH OUTCOMES

Post-grant funding to enable researchers to cover the cost of Open Access APCs is vital, as many articles are published after a project has formally ended. Mechanisms which set aside a percentage of funding for publication would ensure that all research outcomes continue to be communicated, and that researchers retain clear information about how to obtain adequate funding for both their work, and for Gold OA publication, both during and after their projects completion.



ACCURATE NAVIGATION

By maintaining a flexible approach we can ensure that researchers are able to quickly and easily navigate the wide variety of publication routes available to them.



RESEARCHERS IN THE DRIVING SEAT

Researchers are the core of research. Publishers continually invest, innovate and evolve their services to ensure that they meet researchers' needs. We actively support scholarship through the development of new models of Open Access, Open Data, research metrics and a wide variety of initiatives which enhance collaboration, inclusiveness and transparency.