Open Access International

The international publishing market

Open Access is considered a very fair model for the dissemination of research results (and knowledge in general) in the form of articles or monographs. All over the world, everyone gets free access to knowledge without being turned away by a so-called paywall. In view of the global North-South (information) divide and in the context of the Covid19 pandemic, many see it almost as a moral obligation to ensure that scientific articles can be read freely in Open Access. In contrast to the print-only subscriptions of past decades, the supply of information in the digital age is no longer dependent (exclusively) on the financial resources of the respective institutions, which had and still have to purchase access to scientific research results for their researchers in the form of subscriptions. The old model of subscription journals has recently come under increasing pressure, also thanks to new types of "Publish&Read" models from various publishers.

The sustainability of a publication system that cedes the results of publicly funded research to publishers – only so that public institutions have to buy them back again by means of subscriptions – is questionable. For researchers, digital services (e.g. collaborative online tools, social networks, blogs, etc.) meanwhile offer a variety of alternatives to the established, sometimes rather sluggish traditional information channels. However, in order to effectively promote Open Access, the implementation and permanent maintenance of the necessary technological infrastructure is indispensable. Renting a server to set up a repository or an OA journal, for example, using open source software is considerably cheaper than subscribing to a journal. However, hardly any researchers have enough time in their everyday university life to actually make use of these possibilities. This is where research infrastructures come into play: universities with their computer centres and libraries. These institutions not only advise their researchers on OA issues or manage publication funds to provide financial support for OA publishing. They also often offer services such as their own repositories. The aim of these activities is to ensure the sustainable supply of information to researchers and, at the same time, to make the financing of the publication system more transparent and fairer.

Global publishing market

Todays publishing market

7,6 Billion Euro
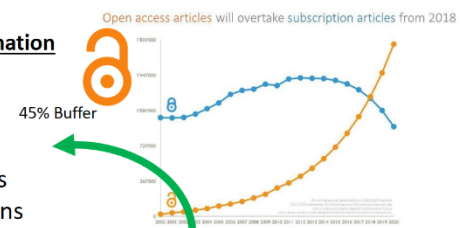Global expenses for Subscriptions
Untere Grenze von Marktbeobachtern wie Simba und PNB Paribas,

2 Million
Number of scientific articles
STM Report 2014 (2015), Web of Science
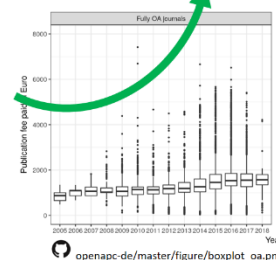
3800 Euro
Expenses per publication

Open Access transformation

45% Buffer

Open access articles will overtake subscription articles from 2018

4 Billion Euro
Global expenses for OA-Publications

2 Million
Number of scientific articles

2000 Euro
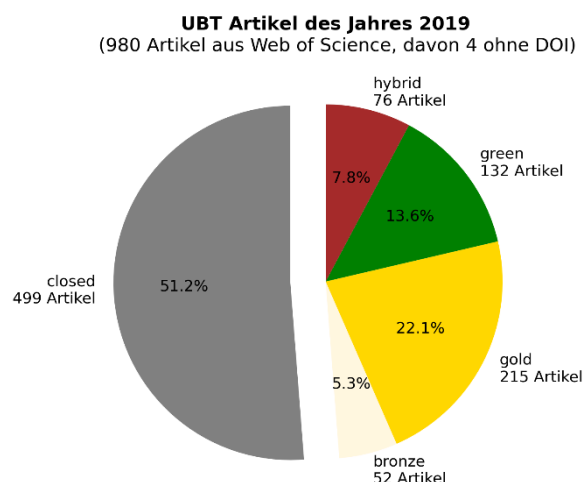ØAPC per publication

openapc-de/master/figure/boxplot_oa.png

1 Translated and modified from Schimmer, R.,Geschuhn, K. K., & Vogler, A. (2015). Disrupting the subscription journals' business model for the necessary large-scale transformation to open access. doi:10.17617/1.3

How does the research community embrace Open Access?

The Open Access transformation has progressed more slowly in recent decades than hoped for at the turn of the millennium. Almost 20 years after the "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities", however, there currently seems to be a turning point: Looking at the progression of the two curves (development forecast from 2012) for "closed access" (blue) and open access (gold) in the top right corner of the "Global publication market" graph, it can be seen that as of 2018, every second publication worldwide should have been available in open access.
The University of Bayreuth is following this trend. An analysis of the publication data of Bayreuth researchers for 2019 has shown that only 51.2 % of the articles are still behind a paywall. This proportion will continue to decrease over time - thanks to the possibilities of a second publication (e.g. on EPub Bayreuth) after the embargo period of articles in subscription journals has expired.

UBT Artikel des Jahres 2019
(980 Artikel aus Web of Science, davon 4 ohne DOI)

hybrid
76 Artikel
7.8%

green
132 Artikel
13.6%

gold
215 Artikel
22.1%

bronze
52 Artikel
5.3%

closed
499 Artikel
51.2%

Open Access and Open Data in Ukraine.

Within the framework of the Learnopolis.net project, an exchange between libraries of the University of Bayreuth and the National Ivan Franko University in Lviv took place in 2019, focusing in particular on the topic of Open Access. In 2020, the library in Lviv will take part in the International Open Access Week for the first time. Reason enough to take a look about 1,000 km further east into Ukraine.

In Ukraine, the Open Access is codified as law. In 2007, Open Access was already addressed in the "Basic Principles for the Development of the Information Society in Ukraine 2007-2015". According to these principles, all state-funded research should be publicly accessible.
Open Access repositories in Ukraine are largely developed by academic institutions and state research organisations. Since 2007, more than a hundred OA repositories have been created (source: Register of Open Access Repositories) and the number of institutions with OA projects is growing year by year.

To date, the DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals https://doaj.org) lists 355 Ukrainian Gold Open Access journals for researchers and students. This is one of the highest concentrations of Open Access journals in any country in Europe. Furthermore, there is a central search and retrieval system for all Ukrainian OA journals and repositories (http://oai.org.ua/), which was co-developed in Lviv.

Since March 2020, the search engine and citation database OPEN UKRAINIAN CITATION INDEX has been integrated into the Unpaywall database (https://unpaywall.org). More than 25.5 million scientific publications are now available to researchers in Open Access.

Open Access at the library of the National Ivan Franko University in Lviv.

Since 2008, the National Ivan Franko University of Lviv and its Scientific Library have been actively participating in the development of Open Access. Early projects in this field include the two institutional repositories "ANTHROPOS" for the humanities and "EUREKA" for the natural sciences. A joint repository is currently being developed on the basis of the dSPACE platform, which will be open to all researchers at the university.

The university press of the National Ivan Franko University in Lviv publishes over 40 journals and publication series, which are freely accessible in Open Journal Systems (http://publications.lnu.edu.ua/). All dissertations and postdoctoral theses are also published on the university's website (https://www.lnu.edu.ua/research/scientific-council-on-thesis-defence/dissertations-defended-at-the-university/).

The Scientific Library has participated in a number of projects related to Open Access/Open Science, including:
- LIBRARIA – digital archive to journals which have been published on the territory of Ukraine (https://libraria.ua)

- ■ Urban Media Archive (Center for Urban History of East Central Europe) – digitized cartographic collection of the library (https://uma.lvivcenter.org/uk/maps?collections%5B91%5D=135&places%5B92%5D=99)
- ■ RISM – International catalogue of musical manuscripts with digital copies of the library (http://www.rism.info/index.php?id=31&L=0)
- ■ Electronic archive of the Ukrainian liberation movement (http://avr.org.ua/ under construction)
- ■ Lviv 100 years ago – a joint project with the City Council of Lviv, where historical daily news from the life in the city of 100 years ago are published.

Where is additional/further information on Open Access?

Basic and further information about Open Access publishing can be accessed via the website of the University Library.

For questions on the topic, please contact the Open Access Support Team of the Bayreuth University Library:
oa@uni-bayreuth.de