

# Reorienting scholarly communications from private commodity to public good

## The evolving role of repositories

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Over **150** members  
and partners from around  
the world

## About COAR

COAR is an international association that brings together individual repositories and repository networks in order to build capacity, align policies and practices, and act as a global voice for the repository community.

Main areas of work:

- Innovation
- Interoperability
- Visibility
- Capacity building

# Open Science is becoming mainstream

## but who will benefit?



## Whose agenda?

- Open Science can be defined in different ways by different groups, whose agendas may not always converge
    - Researchers from all disciplines and regions
    - Research funders
    - Research institutions
    - Publishers ...
- How do these different agendas shape outcomes?



# The Impact of the German ‘DEAL’ on Competition in the Academic Publishing Market

## Abstract

The German DEAL agreements between German universities and research institutions on the one side and Springer Nature and Wiley on the other side facilitate easy open access publishing for researchers located in Germany. We use a dataset of all publications in chemistry from 2016 to 2020 and apply a difference-in-differences approach to estimate the impact on eligible scientists’ choice of publication outlet. We find that even in the short period following the conclusion of these DEAL agreements, publication patterns in the field of chemistry have changed, as eligible researchers have increased their publications in Wiley and Springer Nature journals at the cost of other journals. From that two related competition concerns emerge: First, academic libraries may be, at least in the long run, left with fewer funds and incentives to subscribe to non-DEAL journals published by smaller publishers or to fund open access publications in these journals. Secondly, eligible authors may prefer to publish in journals included in the DEAL agreements, thereby giving DEAL journals a competitive advantage over non-DEAL journals in attracting good papers. Given the two-sided market nature of the academic journal market, these effects may both further spur the concentration process in this market.

Haucap, Justus and Haucap, Justus and Moshgbar, Nima and Schmal, Wolfgang Benedikt, The Impact of the German 'DEAL' on Competition in the Academic Publishing Market (2021). CESifo Working Paper No. 8963, Available at SSRN:

<https://ssrn.com/abstract=3815451> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3815451>

Eduardo  
Aguado-López

Arianna Becerril-  
García

May 20th, 2020

# The commercial model of academic publishing underscoring Plan S weakens the existing open access ecosystem in Latin America

11 comments | 57 shares

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*Health emergencies such as those we face today reveal the importance of opening scientific knowledge; something that not-for-profit open access publishing has permanently and organically allowed for a long time. The expansion of Plan S, a research funder led initiative to promote a global transition to open access to scholarly research, to Latin America has led to significant debate about how the policy will impact the existing system of non-commercial open access publication in Latin America. Responding to earlier posts on this subject, **Eduardo Aguado López** and **Arianna Becerril García** argue that introducing Article Processing Charges, whereby academics or their funders pay to publish open access, will inherently degrade existing non-profit*

# The reckoning!

or at least realization

# Recommendations from the ON-Merit Project

- (2) Funders, institutions and researchers should **support alternative publishing models** where those show potential to be more inclusive, including consortial funding models for open publishing infrastructures which support OA publishing **with no author-facing charges**.
- (3) Funders, institutions and researchers should **encourage and support the use and maintenance of sustainable, shared and open source publishing infrastructure**, to reduce costs and promote open standards.
- (4) Institutions and researchers should ensure the **accepted version (or later) of peer-reviewed works are deposited in an open repository**.



# Open Science



## UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

The UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 41st session, in November 2021.

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[UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science](#)

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# cOAlition S confirms the end of its financial support for Open Access publishing under transformative arrangements after 2024

26/01/2023

[Transformative arrangements](#) – including [Transformative Agreements](#) and [Transformative Journals](#) – were developed to encourage subscription journals to transition to full and immediate open access within a defined timeframe (31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, as specified in the [Plan S Implementation Guidance](#)). After careful consideration of the outcomes of transformative arrangements, the leadership of cOAlition S reaffirms that, as a principle, its members will no longer financially support these arrangements after 2024.

Exceptionally, individual cOAlition S funders may still choose to financially participate in Transformative Agreements beyond 2024 as part of their respective national strategies. Such exceptions will be communicated on the cOAlition S website.

Support for Transformative Journals will also cease at the end of 2024. In anticipation of this, no new applications to this programme will be considered after the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.



# COAR welcomes the Council of EU Conclusions on High-quality, Transparent, Open, Trustworthy and Equitable Scholarly Publishing

“concern that the increasing costs of paywalls for access to scientific publications and for scholarly publishing cause inequalities and are becoming unsustainable”

“ENCOURAGE Member States and the Commission to step up support for the development of aligned institutional and funding policies and strategies regarding not-for-profit open access multi-format scholarly publishing models”.


“invest in and foster interoperable, not-for-profit infrastructures for publishing based on open source software and open standards.



**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

August 25, 2022

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

**FROM:** Dr. Alondra Nelson   
Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director for Science and Society  
Performing the Duties of Director  
Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

**SUBJECT:** Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research

This memorandum provides policy guidance to federal agencies with research and development expenditures on updating their public access policies. In accordance with this memorandum, OSTP recommends that federal agencies, to the extent consistent with applicable law:

# We need a REAL transformation

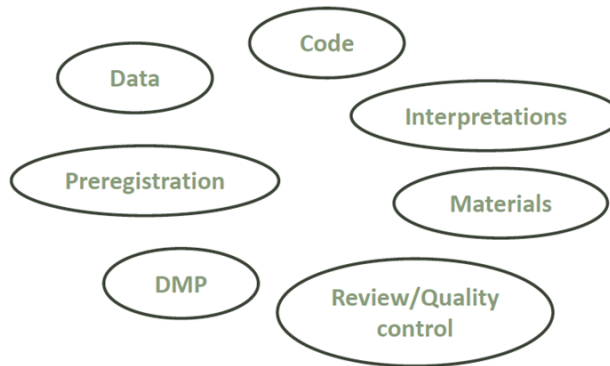


# What do researchers want?

A system of interoperable digital research objects

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- Dynamic, version controlled
- Can be searched and text-mined
- Near-immediate publication
- Different models for post-publication review exist
- Contributorship in diverse roles
- Open to everyone



(Bjoern Brembs, neurobiologist - COAR Annual Meeting 2022)

# The way forward

Two complimentary pathways:

- diamond OA
- OA repositories
  - Strengthen existing repositories
  - Introducing innovation into the ecosystem



# COAR's Vision

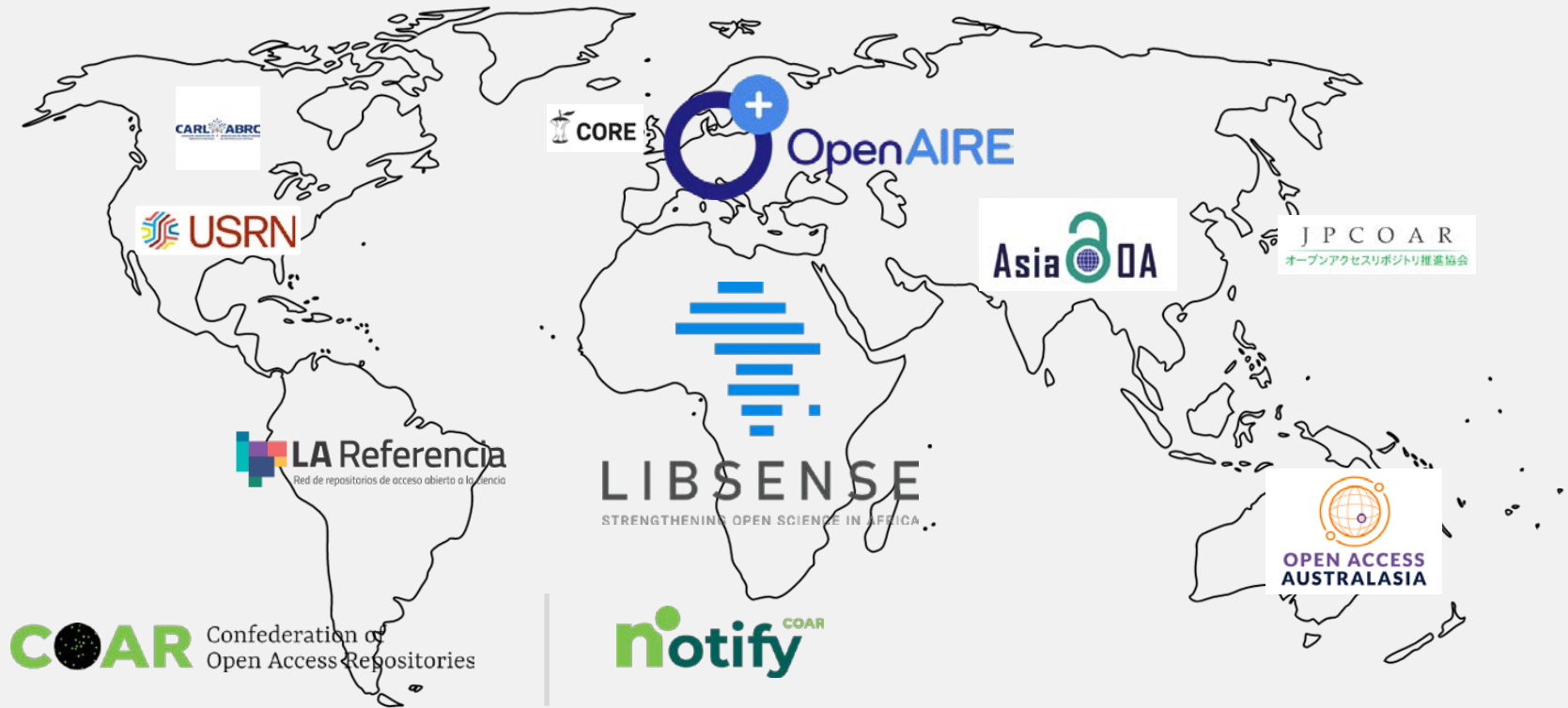
Repositories are the foundation for a distributed, globally networked infrastructure for scholarly communication, on top of which layers of value added services will be deployed, thereby transforming the system, making it more research-centric, open to and supportive of innovation, while also collectively managed by the scholarly community.





# 1. Strengthening repositories

# COAR works with individual repositories and repository networks to advance our vision



# Working Together to Strengthen the European Repository Network

# Survey of European Repositories

February - March 2023 / 394 Responses

- Repositories are considered **very sustainable, not-for-profit infrastructures**
- Collectively, European repositories contain **100s of millions of items**
- Repositories play a key role in preserving and disseminating **non-English language content and other diverse types of materials** (critical for bibliodiversity)
- Staffing levels at repositories are **relatively low** (average 2 full time employees)
- **Managing technical changes (upgrading software) and retaining skilled personnel** is challenging for many

# 2. Introducing innovation

# The COAR Notify Initiative

The aim of the project is to develop and accelerate community adoption of a standard, interoperable, and decentralised approach to linking research outputs hosted in the distributed network of repositories with resources from external services such as overlay-journals and open peer review services, using linked data notifications.



# Facilitating communications across repository and review service

REPOSITORY



Preprint

Link to Review



COAR NOTIFY PROTOCOL

*Request Review*

*Acknowledge Request*

*Announce Review*

REVIEW SERVICE



Review

Link to Preprint



# COAR Notify uses established technologies

## Linked Date Notifications

*Linked Data Notifications (LDN) [3] is a W3C Recommendation that describes a communications protocol based on HTTP, URI, and RDF on how servers (receivers) can receive messages pushed to them by applications (senders), as well as how other applications (consumers) may retrieve those messages. Any web resource (like a HTML page) can advertise a receiving endpoint (inbox) for notification messages ...*

## Activity Streams (format)

*Activity Streams is an open format specification for activity stream protocols, which are used to syndicate activities taken in social web applications and services, similar to those in Facebook's, Instagram's, and Twitter's.[1] The standard provides a general way to represent activities ...*





# Arcadia funding

In July 2022, COAR was awarded **US\$4 million** to help accelerate the development and adoption of COAR Notify from Arcadia, a charitable foundation that works to protect nature, preserve cultural heritage and promote open access to knowledge.



# First phase implementation partners

Workshopping  
scenarios and use cases



Preparing  
implementation plans



Technical  
development underway



# The Global Knowledge Commons (data, code, articles, preprints, etc.)



# Thanks & Questions

For more information, please visit [www.coar-repositories.org/notify](http://www.coar-repositories.org/notify)  
or contact us at [kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org](mailto:kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org)