

Diamond Open Access Landscape in Croatia

Preliminary DIAMAS Survey Results

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Primary objective of the Horizon Europe project, "Developing Institutional Open Access Publishing Models to Advance Scholarly Communication" (DIAMAS), is to establish a unified European standard for the currently fragmented institutional publishing landscape. This initiative aims to enhance efficiency, quality, and the overall practices of publishing activities and services across the European Research Area (ERA).

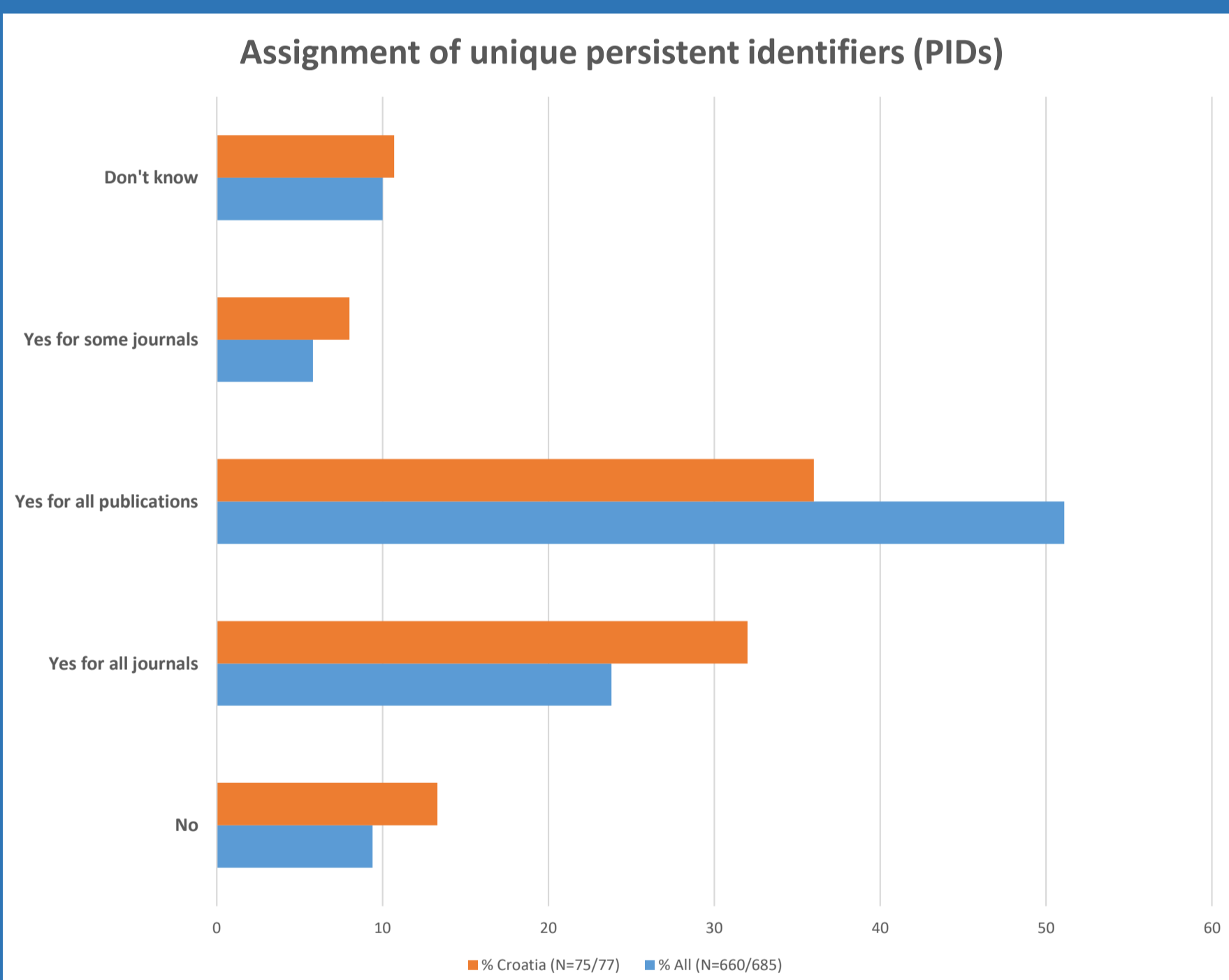
Diamas Survey

The DIAMAS survey targeted 252 Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSPs) in Croatia and achieved a response rate of 77 respondents. Half of Croatian IPSPs are affiliated with universities, faculties, and learned societies. IPSPs in Croatia primarily handle academic journals, academic books, and conference outputs. However, their services extend to encompass other research outputs, media, digital products, and non-academic content. Multilingualism is a notable feature among IPSPs, with 82% practicing multilingual publishing to engage wider audiences.

Croatia's Commitment to Open Access

In Croatia, the academic publishing landscape is significantly shaped by universities and learned societies, staunch proponents of the non-profit model and early adopters of open access (OA). The country's preference for not resorting to "article processing charges" reflects strong support for the diamond OA model. While a comprehensive national OA/OS policy is still in progress in Croatia, support for OA exists through different national laws and strategies. The government mandates OA and inclusion in the HRČAK portal for subsidized journals. 64% of respondents reference some form of OA/OS policy, indicating the integration of OA principles into scholarly publishing practices.

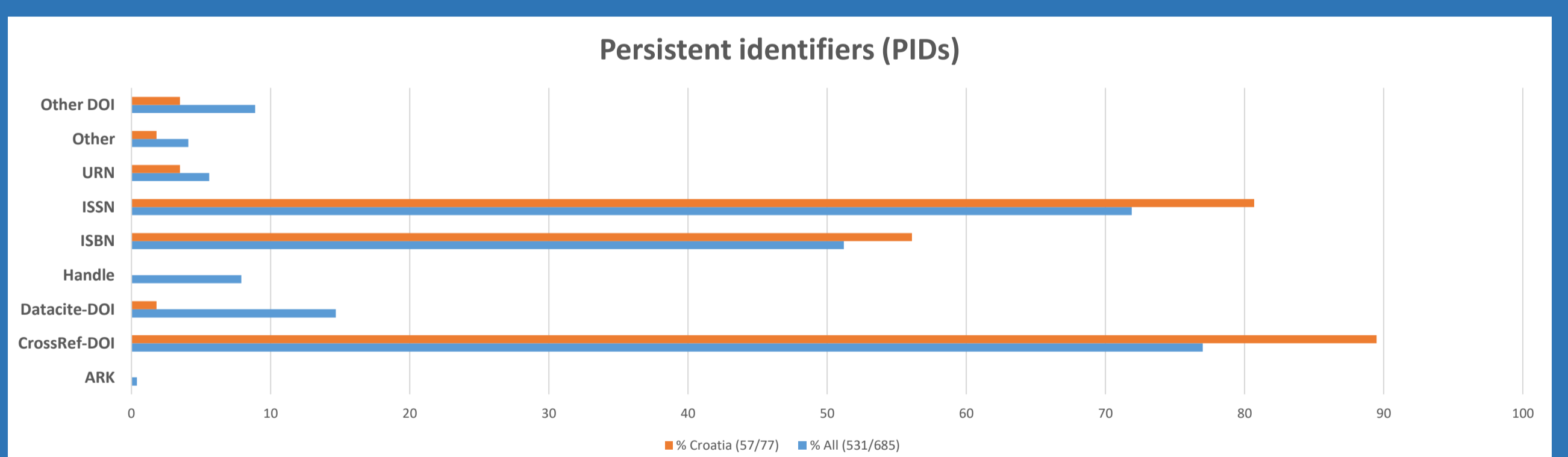
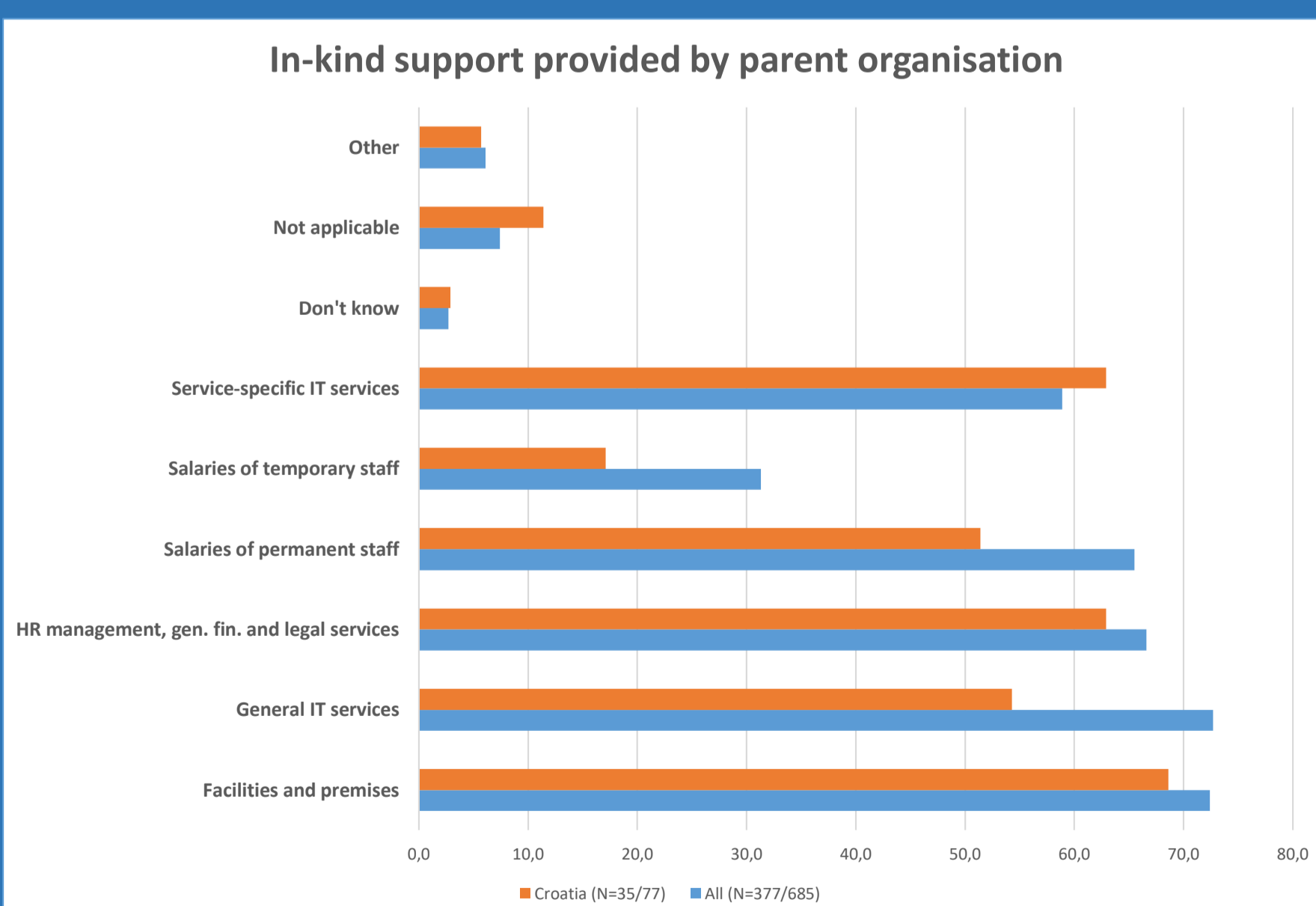
Croatian	3
English	11
Croatian - English	26
+German	24
+Serbian	9
+French	8
+Slovenian	8
+Italian	7
+Russian	4
+Bosnian	3
+Spanish, Czech, Hungarian	1
One language	14
Two languages	26
Three languages	3
Four languages	12
Five languages	12



Editorial Quality, Technical Services

IPSPs actively participate in editorial management, with 71% involved in editorial board recruitment and other aspects. Although the usage of CrossRef DOIs is a prevalent practice among Croatian IPSPs, it is also visible that not all of IPSPs assign PIDs (or at least, they do not assign them to all of the published content).

IPSPs predominantly offer editorial services voluntarily or as in-kind contributions. In contrast, production and IT services are mostly outsourced. Technical challenges arise from financial constraints, lack of human resources, expertise, and technical limitations.



Visibility, Metrics

Croatian IPSPs aspire to have their journals indexed in WoSCC and Scopus databases. Other indexes such as DOAJ, DOAB, ERIH PLUS, PubMed, Google Scholar and OAPEN are also considered. While 44% of IPSPs are content with their current indexing status, some face challenges in meeting technical participation criteria.

In summary

DIAMAS survey illuminates the intricate landscape of scholarly publishing in Croatia, revealing its commitment to diamond open access while highlighting challenges and opportunities for improvement.



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