

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION Scientific Publications

Challenges and trends

Prof. Jean-Pierre Finance Chair of the EUA Open Science Expert Group UNICA- Bruxelles

14 September 2018

Scientific Publications: drivers of growth!

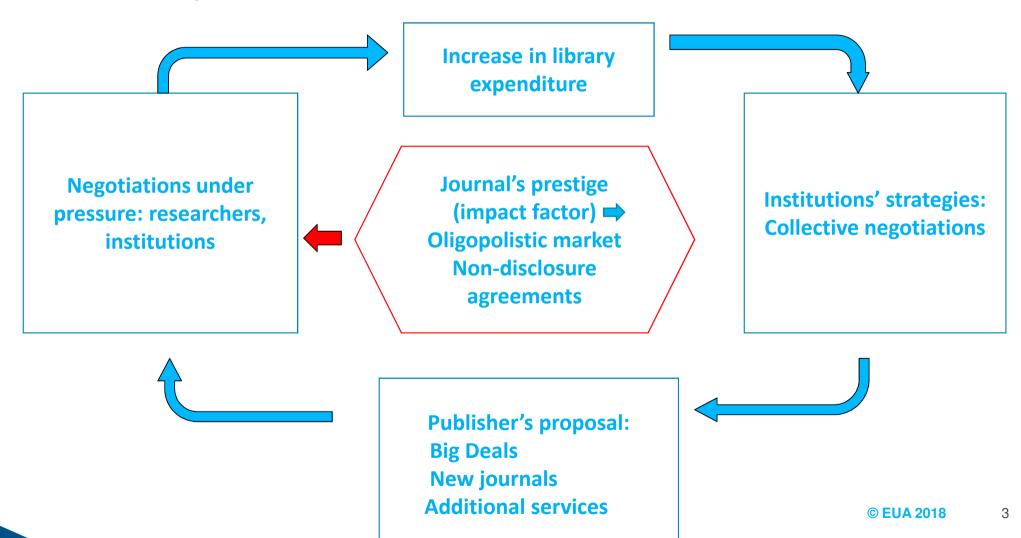


- Increasing number of researchers worldwide
- Multiplication of scientific fields
- The necessity for researchers to publish (scientific purpose, notoriety, career development..)
- Publisher's income profit margin
- Globalization

- Increasing number of scientific journals
- Dramatic increase in expenditure for university libraries
- Increasing need for assessments (projects, researchers, institutions)
- Concentration of major scientificpublishers

Cost vicious cycle





Impact of Open Access and Open Science



- Evolution of research's methods:
 - Direct access to research publications
 - Faster and more direct discussions between researchers
 - More Open fora
 - Increased sharing of data, Text and Data Mining (TDM)
 - Fostering multidisciplinary research
 - Enabling citizen science, participative sciences
- Strengthening awareness in science:
 - Need for sound Research Integrity behavior
 - Opening up to the general public
- Good, but, what is the impact on the costs of publications?

Impact of Open Access and Open Science



- Continue to be under the domination of major publishers:
 - Cost of APC
 - Development of hybrid journals
 - New services that are the result of the possession of large databases of publications, expert reports and tools for processing these data - a critical issue of scientific sovereignty
- A dramatic growth in the number of fake and predatory publishers and journals (Bealls list)
- → Necessity to promote OA and, at the same time, to master the global cost and the quality of the scientific publications

Question: what about the "Plan S"?

How to better master the access costs to publications?



- To master the copyright, particularly through the capacity to publish in open access → need regulations on embargo delay (some countries did it, new EU directive under examination) (EUA expert group)
- Promoting various types of publications (EUA positions) :
 - Green open access, institutional archives and consequence on the laws
 - Use of preprints
 - Development of public publishing platforms

How to better master the access costs to publications?



- Encourage the development of effective competitiveness among journals:
 - Dramatically change the evaluation methods (EUA expert group, work on assessment methods)
 - New and open peer review mechanisms
- Improve the negotiation process:
 - Impose transparency in the agreements
 - Share information between negotiators (EUA HLG on negotiations)
 - Negotiation at national, perhaps at multinational level: role of EUA?
 of UNICA?

EUA's actions for Open Science



- As an Observatory :
 - Monitoring Big deals negotiations: bi-annual survey
 - Monitoring Open Access and Open Science developments
 - At institutional level: annual survey
 - At national, European and international levels
- As a policy stakeholder:
 - Positions on hot topics (EU directive on copyrights, OSPP, EU Plan S, ..)
- As a representative of universities:
 - Proposals for revisiting the research assessment methods
 - Proposals for open research data



Thank you for your attention

Prof. Jean-Pierre Finance Chair of the EUA Open Science Expert Group







