



RUB

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

OPEN ACCESS

A short Introduction

Carla Hansmann (University Library), 04.11.2025



UNIVERSITÄTSBIBLIOTHEK
BOCHUM

Agenda

- **Open Access**

- Why is it so important and what advantages does it offer me as a researcher?

- **Ways to publish Open Access and funding opportunities at RUB**

- Which possibilities do I have to publish OA?
 - What does OA cost? How can OA be financed?

- **Finding and evaluating OA publication venues**

- **Copyright and publishing contracts**

Your experiences

- What experience have you already had with Open Access?
 - Do you use Open Access publications?
 - Have you already published Open Access?



Open Access



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BOCHUM

Open Access (OA) – Definition



- Free, unrestricted and irrevocable access to reusable scientific publications on the Internet
- **Berlin Declaration:**

*“The author(s) and right holder(s) of such contributions grant(s) to all users a **free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access** to, and a license **to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose**, subject to proper attribution of authorship [...]”*

Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, 2003.

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Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, 2003.

Open Access Publishing

When I publish Open Access....

... I contribute to free, open and transparent science - **Open Science.**

... I ensure that **access to scientific research is enhanced** and **scientific discourse is accelerated.**

... I ensure that my research can be **verified transparently.**

... I create the conditions for enabling the **transfer of science to society** - this promotes science-led opinion-forming.

... I fulfill the **requirements of third party funders** worldwide.

Open Access – Advantages



Good supply of information



Higher visibility and more citations



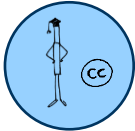
Fair and transparent use of taxes



Good findability and permanent access



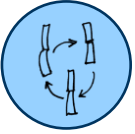
Free and fast access to scientific information



Authors retain their rights



New methods, new knowledge



Easy collaboration and networking



Efficient research and innovation



Policies of third party funders and institutions



Graphic translated and altered, adapted from Brinken, Helene. 10 Gründe für Open Access. open-access.network. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4643859> (CC BY 4.0 International)

Political Statements

- Recommendation on Open Science ([UNESCO](#) (2021))
- Open Access is part of multiple funding requirements ([EU](#), [DFG](#), [BMBF](#))
- "[Open Access Publication Funding](#)" (DFG funding programme)
- Transformative agreements with publishers, e.g. [DEAL](#) in Germany
- [German Council of Science and Humanities](#) (2022): Open Access shall be standard
- German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (2025): Leopoldina [discussion paper](#) on the direct funding and evaluation of scientific journals

Open Access – Challenges

German National Academy of Sciences **Leopoldina** (2025): Leopoldina [discussion paper](#) on the direct funding and evaluation of scientific journals

- According to the authors, the publication of scientific journals is currently dominated by a handful of **profit-oriented publishers**
- As funding for science and academic libraries is a public task, **publishers' profits ultimately come from public finances.**
- **Monopoly structures** lacking sufficient market controls have arisen, which have made scientific publication much more expensive without adding scientific value.

In order to correct this trend, according to the authors, **scientific publication should be funded and monitored in the same way as research itself.**

RUB's Commitment to Open Access



- 2013:

- Signing the Berlin Declaration
- Resolution in support of Open Access

- 2014:

- DFG-funded publication fund at the University Library
- Open Journal Systems RUB
- Open Monograph Press RUB

- 2022:

- RUB Open Science-Policy (OER, OA, Open Data)
- RUB Open Science AG

- 2024:

- Publication fund for books at the University Library (+ DFG-funded publication fund for DFG-books since 2025)

Ways to publish Open Access and funding opportunities at RUB

Open Access – Types & Financing

- **Article / Book Processing Charges (APC/BPC)**

- vary greatly depending on journal/publisher and type

Payment for publication is typically made by the authors' institutions or funding bodies, who pay an Article Processing Charge (APC) when the research is accepted. APCs vary from title to title, starting from €2,390 in *Scientific Reports* to €10,690 in *Nature*.

Source: <https://www.nature.com/nature-portfolio/open-access>
© Springer Nature Limited (accessed 4th September 2025)

A Type Articles	B Type Articles	C Type Articles	D Type Articles
CHF 3,150	CHF 1,950	CHF 450	0

Source: <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/neuroscience/for-authors/publishing-fees>
© Frontiers Media S.A. (accessed 4th September 2025)

Open Access – Types & Financing

- **Article / Book Processing Charges (APC/BPC)**
 - vary greatly depending on journal/publisher and type

The Book Processing Charge lies between 5,100 and 7,500 € per title, depending on the number of pages. This includes all standard services for the realisation of an OA publication. In addition, transcript usually produces a print edition (small print run or print on demand) at no extra cost; the costs incurred for this are financed exclusively through sales revenue.

Source: <https://www.transcript-verlag.de/kosten-finanzierung>
© transcript (accessed 4th September 2025)

Q. What are the publication charges for Taylor & Francis Books Open Access titles?

Prices for a standard full HSS Monograph start from £10,000+ / €12,000 / \$12,500+(USD), plus applicable taxes, and from £5,000+ / €6,000+ / \$6,250+(USD) for a standard HSS Shortform (books between 25-50,000 words).

Source: https://www.routledge.com/our-products/open-access-books/publishing-oa-books/book-publication-charges?srsltid=AfmBOooDmunOMk_K9exEfThzuxKa_Q-j7ZwUQa8K2XyAjPkQI58ZqztE
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Open Access – Types & Financing



Gold OA



Green OA



Hybrid OA



Diamond OA

Bronze, Grey, Black, Blue ...

Open Access – Types & Financing



Gold OA

First publication
fully OA journal / OA
book, **publication fee**



Hybrid OA

First publication
single OA articles in
subscription journals,
publication fee

Open Access – Types & Financing

- **Funding at your institution**

- OA journal article publication fund
- OA monographs publication funds
- OA publisher agreements



- **External/third party funding**

- Check for publication allocations

Publication Fund for Journal Articles

Funding for publications in Gold OA journals

- Funding amount: **2.000 € (gross) per article** (DFG / Rectorate/University Library)
- Own contribution: additional costs (exceeding 2.000 €)
- Central invoice processing via the University Library
- Additional costs are billed annually in arrears per faculty / institute / clinic

➡ *More information and application:*
<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/oa/apply.html.en>



Monographs Publication Funds

Funds for Open Access books:

- Open Access monographs and collective works
- Two funding lines:
 - **RUB fund: max. 4.500 € (gross)** per book
 - **DFG fund: 5.000 € (gross)** per book from DFG projects
- Costs for direct Open Access publication, no printing costs

➡ *More information and application:*
<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/oa/monofund.html.en>



Publisher Agreements

Journals & Books

- OA without additional costs
- free articles
- discounts on APCs

➔ *More information:*
<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/oa/agreements.html.en>



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DEAL

Contracts with Wiley, Springer und Elsevier (2024-2028)

National Publish & Read contracts, negotiated on behalf of the HRK

Hybrid Journals (Hybrid OA):

- Read: access to nearly all content
- Publish: All articles (RUB CA) are published OA, costs per article > „Paper Charge Model“

Gold Journals (Gold OA)

- Discounts; costs will be invoiced to the authors; funding application possible

➡ *More information:* <https://deal-operations.de>

Open Access – Types & Financing



Green OA

Secondary publication
in a **repository** (discipline
specific or institutional)

- generally **later** available (embargo period)
- **free of charge**
- check copyright (see [Sherpa Services](#))
- German secondary publication rights §38 Abs. 4 UrhG



Repository of the RUB

Open Access – Types & Financing



Diamond OA

first publication
fully OA journal / OA book,
no publication fee

- functionally the same as Gold OA
- no publication charge
- sometimes consortial financing models will „free up“ a journal or package



Open Journal Systems (OJS)

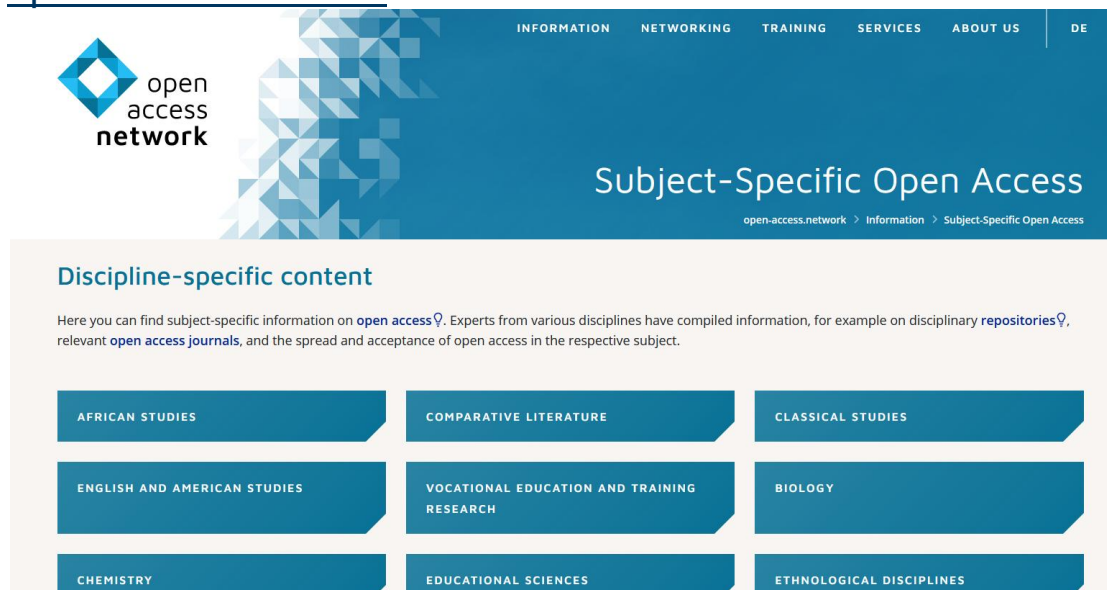
Open Monograph Press (OMP)

Finding and evaluating OA publication venues

Open Access in my discipline

Where do I find discipline-specific information?

- open-access.network



The screenshot shows the homepage of the open-access.network website. The header is blue with the logo on the left and a navigation menu on the right. The main content area is white with a blue header section titled 'Subject-Specific Open Access'. Below this, there is a section titled 'Discipline-specific content' with a paragraph of text. At the bottom, there is a grid of nine blue buttons, each representing a different discipline.

open access network

INFORMATION NETWORKING TRAINING SERVICES ABOUT US DE

Subject-Specific Open Access

[open-access.network](#) > [Information](#) > [Subject-Specific Open Access](#)

Discipline-specific content

Here you can find subject-specific information on [open access](#). Experts from various disciplines have compiled information, for example on disciplinary [repositories](#), relevant [open access journals](#), and the spread and acceptance of open access in the respective subject.

AFRICAN STUDIES	COMPARATIVE LITERATURE	CLASSICAL STUDIES
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING RESEARCH	BIOLOGY
CHEMISTRY	EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES	ETHNOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES



open-access.network. <https://open-access.network/informieren/open-access-in-fachdisziplinen> (CC BY 4.0 International)

Open Access in my discipline

FID BAUdigital (Specialised Information Service)



THE FID BAU ▾ RESEARCH NETWORKING PUBLISHING CONTACT

Scientific Information without Barriers

We support the free sharing of research results and help researchers to publish their papers in the sense of Open Access. The FID BAUdigital continuously identifies subject-specific requirements for scientific publishing in civil engineering, architecture and urban studies and develops measures and service offerings to support Open Access publications in these disciplines.

Guidings and Trainings

We regularly offer subject-specific training and information events for researchers in civil engineering, architecture and urban studies. Dates can be found on our homepage. In addition, we offer individual consultations and cooperate with for topic-specific events at your institutions. Simply contact us.

Our information, guidings and trainings cover the following topics, among others:

- Ways to **promote Open Access**
- Opportunities to publish **conference papers** and **non-textual research output**
- **Self-archiving** options (Green Open Access)
- Identifying high-quality, subject-specific **Open Access journals**
- Awareness raising on **Predatory Publishing**
- Use of free **licensing models** such as Creative Commons
- Workflows for checking the **copyright of re-used data**, e.g. image material
- Benefits of **persistent identifiers** for digital objects, authors, and organizations (e.g., DOI, ORCID, ROR)

Specifics of Publishing

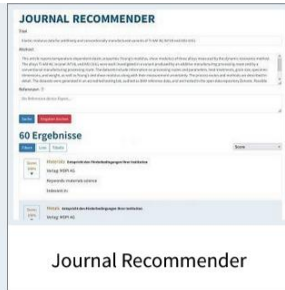
The FID BAUdigital conducted a survey on the topic of "Open Access and Research Data Management" in 2021 to identify the publication practices and needs of its communities. These findings have been qualitatively supplemented in focus group workshops and through guided interviews. You can find some of the results here:

- [Under Construction: Open Access und Forschungsdaten in Bauingenieurwesen, Architektur und Urbanistik](#)
- [Open Access zur Norm machen? Ein kontroverser Austausch in den Technik- und Ingenieurwissenschaften](#)
- [„Einfach machen!“ – Open Access in den Ingenieurwissenschaften](#)

Source: <https://www.fid-bau.de/en/publishing/publication-services>
© BAUdigital (accessed 4th September 2025)

Open Access in my discipline

FID Materials Science (Specialised Information Service)



Der **Journal Recommender** hilft Ihnen dabei, geeignete Open-Access-Journale für Ihre Publikation zu finden, indem semantische und bibliometrische Methoden eingesetzt werden. Das Werkzeug basiert auf den Ergebnissen des BISON-Projekts.

Erfahren Sie mehr über [Konsortien und Projekte mit Bezug zur Materialwissenschaft und Werkstofftechnik](#)

Eine strukturierte Auflistung von Links zu Themen wie Open Access, Forschungsdatenrepositorien und relevanten Konferenzen finden Sie auf [unserer Ratgeberseite](#).



Source: <https://www.materials-science.info/#c3>
© FID Materials Science (accessed 4th September 2025)

Challenge – Predatory Publisher!

Definition:

- Publishers that offer publications with false statements and promises (e.g. impact factor) and often without peer review process
 - the OA model is being abused

Consequences:

- Undermining and damaging the integrity of science
- Undermining the credibility of scientists



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<https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

! Think

Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal or publisher? Is it the right journal or book for your work?

✓ Check

Use our check list to assess the journal or publisher.

➤ Submit

Only if you can answer 'yes' to the questions on our check list.



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Open Access journals

Where to find them and how to decide ...

- [DOAJ](#)
- [oa.finder](#)
- [B!SON](#)
- [Think.Check.Submit.](#)
- [Sherpa Services](#) (Sherpa Romeo, Sherpa Juliet, ...)
- [Journal Checker Tool](#)
- Citation index ([WoS](#), [Scopus](#))



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Open Access books

Where to find them and how to decide ...

- **DOAB**
- **PRISM**
- **oa.finder**
- **Think.Check.Submit.**
- **OAPEN OA Books Toolkit**
- **AuROA contract generator** + AuROA service catalog for scientific open access publications
- Publisher websites



DOAB. <https://www.doabooks.org/>
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Copyright and publishing contracts

Creative Commons (CC) Licenses

Why should you use a CC License?

- Normal German copyright does not cover OA needs
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- Creative Commons Licenses grant readers rights beyond that
- ...while authors keep the exploitation rights!

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Keep your rights!

- Keeping your exploitation rights is a staple of Open Access
- This should include only granting non-exclusive rights to publishers
- Check your contracts!

Open Access – Copyright

Example: Elsevier Sample Subscription Agreement

- *Each author assigns to the Owner [Journal Owner] the **copyright in the Article** [...] This assignment of rights includes but is not limited to the **exclusive right to publish, reproduce, display, distribute and otherwise use the Article**, or any part of the Article, in print, electronic and all other media (whether now known or later developed), in any form, in all languages, throughout the world, for the full term of copyright, and the right to license others to exercise all rights assigned herein and to prepare derivative works, effective when the Article is accepted for publication.*
- *In addition, **each author retains or is hereby granted the rights to use and share the Article** for the following scholarly purposes: [...] Publicly share the **Accepted Manuscript** after the embargo period, attaching a CC BY-NC-ND end user license: o via non-commercial hosting platforms (such as the author's institutional repository);*

Open Access – Copyright

Example: Elsevier Sample CC BY-NC Agreement

- *"Each **author retains their copyright** in the Article. Except for the license of the Article as set out below, this License Agreement does not transfer any rights in patents, trademarks or other intellectual property rights to Journal Owner. Journal Owner shall publish and distribute the Article with an appropriate copyright notice."*
- *„ Each author hereby grants to Journal Owner the following rights, effective from the date on which the Article is accepted for publication: a) **the non-exclusive right to publish, reproduce, display, distribute and otherwise use the Article**, or any part of the Article, for any purpose [...] the **exclusive right to license third parties** to exercise all or any of the rights granted herein for **commercial purposes** [...]"*

Open Access – Copyright

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- **“Each author retains the right to re-use the Article for their own commercial and non-commercial purposes, as well as to create derivative works, without permission from Journal Owner or payment to Journal Owner.“**
- **“Each author hereby grants to Journal Owner the following rights, effective from the date on which the Article is accepted for publication: a) **the non-exclusive right** to publish, reproduce, display, distribute [...]**”

Source for all three sample agreements: <https://beta.elsevier.com/about/policies-and-standards/copyright?trial=true#4-find-out-more> © Elsevier (accessed 4th September 2025)

Any questions?



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Open Access Monographs

Funding and financing:

oa@rub.de

Publication Services:

publish-oa@rub.de

<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/oa>



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Thank you! Your Open Access Team



Feedback: <https://partici.fi/37581542>



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