Lib4RI

Lib4RI-
UPDATE
#32

December 2023

Elsevier and Taylor & Francis: no agreement for 2024 yet

December 2023 marks the end of the first Read & Publish agreements with Elsevier as well as with Taylor & Francis. These agreements provide reading access to the journal portfolio of the two publishers and enable Open Access (OA) publishing for researchers affiliated with the 4RIs across the majority of their gold and hybrid journals. Entering 2024 without an agreement will restrict access to articles as well as stop free OA publishing for researchers in Switzerland.

Swissuniversities, the representative body of Swiss Higher Education Institutions, is in charge of the Swiss negotiations with Elsevier for a new "Big Deal". These negotiations are guided by the negotiation mandate formulated earlier this year, cf. "Big Deal Negotiations: Aims and Governance". Despite the diligent efforts of the negotiation team to secure an agreement, Elsevier's offers did not meet the minimum requirements. Swissuniversities has now decided to enter into a "no deal" state and has made preparations for a situation without an agreement. The negotiation team will nevertheless continue their negotiations with Elsevier.

Similarly, the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries has assessed that Taylor & Francis' current proposal does not align with the national transformative approach. Their negotiators will continue to work on an acceptable Read and Publish agreement with Taylor & Francis, but it is likely that a deal cannot be finalised before the end of the year.

A contractless situation will have implications for both reading access and publishing OA in the Elsevier and Taylor & Francis journal portfolios.

Reading options for Elsevier and Taylor & Francis journals

Publishers usually grant a grace period. Hence, it is not expected that reading access will be disabled on 1 January 2024.

However, once Elsevier and Taylor & Francis disable access, our users will only be able to access content of journal articles published until the end of 2023, for which Lib4RI has acquired Post-Cancellation Access rights. We have selected the most essential journal titles based on usage. If you require access to further articles, please refer to swissuniversities' factsheet "How to get the article" through alternative channels – or simply ask us.

Publishing Open Access in Elsevier's journals

Articles submitted to journals published by Elsevier after 31.12.2023 will no longer be eligible for Open Access funding through Lib4RI. Please also note that all articles submitted before the end of 2023 remain eligible for publishing OA through the current agreement.

Researchers can still publish closed access in hybrid OA journals. While OA is optionally available upon payment of a publication fee (Article Processing Charges or APC), Lib4RI strongly encourages authors not to pay any APCs and instead to make use of the right to publish their accepted manuscripts OA in DORA. This usually involves an embargo period of 12 - 24 months. However, this embargo period can be avoided if you publish the accepted manuscript on your personal webpage; see the detailed instructions here.

Publishing Open Access in Taylor & Francis' hybrid journals

Articles accepted for publication in hybrid journals published by Taylor & Francis will no longer be eligible for OA funding through Lib4RI in 2024.

Researchers can still publish closed access in these journals. Please make sure to submit your accepted manuscripts to DORA where they will be published OA after a defined embargo period.

Recommendation: do not pay APCs for Elsevier and Taylor & Francis

We would further like to discourage researchers from paying any APCs until the national negotiations are completed. APCs are a source of revenue that undermines the Swiss negotiation power. According to the regulations of the Gold OA fund, we will not be able to pay any APCs for articles in Elsevier OA journals from our OA fund until the conclusion of the negotiations.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during these negotiations. Our top priority remains to secure access to essential resources for your research and to enable OA publishing. Switzerland needs to secure fair and sustainable agreements with scientific publishers in order to move into the future together. We therefore welcome swissuniversities' persistency in negotiating a more acceptable deal.

For more details and frequently asked questions, please refer to the information provided by swissuniversities (Elsevier) and the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries (Taylor & Francis).

Library News

Towards an open, scholar-led communication ecosystem: new cOAlition S proposal

cOAlition S recently published a proposal to transform the scientific publishing landscape. It envisions a community-based scholarly communication system in which all versions of an article and its associated peer-review reports are openly available from the start, without authors facing any charges. Furthermore, it advocates that authors, rather than publishers, decide when and where to publish their work. Read more here.

Major renovation of Lib4RI WSL Birmensdorf

The library at WSL will be renovated from Monday, 4 December 2023, until the end of February 2024. The collection was relocated and the reading room can be used to a restricted extend only. Lib4RI will be there for you during the renovation albeit with some limited services. Read more here.

AI & LLM tools: recordings available now

Lib4RI organised two lectures on AI tools & LLMs in academia which were both met with wide interest and sparked interesting discussions. The slides and recordings of the talks are now available within the four Research Institutes. You can find them here.

Matthias Egger on Open Access: recording available

Matthias Egger's inspiring talk with the title "Open access: the good, the bad and the ugly?" at WSL attracted many interested researchers and elicited a vivid discussion among the participants.The slides and video of the talk are available within the four Research Institutes! You can find them here.
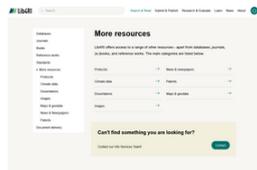
Open Library Badge

We are committed to Openness. And our commitment is now certified! Just in time for Open Access Week in October, Lib4RI was awarded the "Open Library Badge". Read more here.

Upcycling old books

Most of the resources our users want today are digital since they can be accessed from anywhere at any time: e-books, e-journals, online databases. So, what do we do with the physical materials that have become obsolete? We upcycle them and give them a new life as a wall! Read more here.

Did you know...?

Source: lib4ri.ch

...you have access to climate data, images, maps and more through Lib4RI?

We have compiled an extensive list of resources for our researchers including climate data, images, maps, geodata and much more. Some of them are only available withing the four Research Institutes as they are tied to a license for our users. Browse our resources here.

Beyond the Library

Open Access / SNSF stops funding OA articles in special issues

More and more articles are published in special issues. This large increase and inconsistent processes have led to some negative developments. From February 2024, the SNSF will no longer fund Open Access articles in special issues. Read more in the SNSF statement.

Open Access / Regulatory Framework

In March 2022, the Open Science Programme launched the call for tenders Regulatory Framework which foresaw a comprehensive legal analysis focusing mainly on an alternative approach for a secondary publication right. The project was successfully concluded in October 2023 after a year's work. A final report contains analyses and proposals for legal solutions concerning secondary publication rights and the OA as a regulatory challenge. Read the final report here.

Open Data / Open government data

At its meeting of 29 November 2023, the Federal Council approved the new 2024-2027 master plan for Open Government Data (OGD) in Switzerland. It follows on from the 2019-2023 strategy for open access data in Switzerland. This master plan defines activities in this field up to 2027. Read more on the website of the Federal Statistical Office.

Research data / Joint statement

STM, DataCite and Crossref have announced an updated joint statement on research data. Most stakeholders across the spectrum of researchers, funders, librarians and publishers agree about the benefits of making research data available and findable for reuse by others. Still, research data sharing is not yet a self-evident step in the research lifecycle. They believe that scholarly communication infrastructure has improved enough as to bring about widespread change and

Open Access / Deal with Elsevier in Germany

Five years after unsuccessful deal negotiation between German science organisations and Elsevier, a transformative Open Access agreement was reached for Germany. Read more on open-access.network.

Funding / Horizon Europe

Some in Switzerland had feared the country might have to wait years to associate. But with the European Commission opening exploratory talks yesterday, there are now hopes for a deal next year. Read more on Science Business.

that momentum is building for collective action. Read more on datacite.org.

Open Data / National ORD Prize

The award ceremony for the National ORD Prize will take place on 6 December 2023 at the Grande Société de Berne. The prize honors innovative practices in the field of Open Research Data. Few tickets are still available.

AI / US Copyright Office on AI

The US Copyright Office issued a notice of inquiry and request for comments entitled "Artificial Intelligence and Copyright." Over 9,000 responses were filed. The Scholoarly Kitchen published a selection of questions and answers from Clearance Center's (CCC's) own response. Read more on The Scholarly Kitchen.

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