

# Publishing Open Access

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## What?

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Cf. the *Berlin Declaration* [1] formulated and signed by representatives of the Max-Planck Society in the *Harnack Haus* in Berlin on October 22nd, 2003.

## How?

With established publishers:

**Open Access Options** Most publishers offer an Open Access option in most of their journals

- Open access upon publication of the selected article
- Problem: double dipping – the author’s institution may pay double: for the open access option and the subscription

Not supported by the MPG in general. There are, however, special agreements with the publisher, e.g., with Springer [2].

**The Green Route** The publication becomes/can be made Open Access

- after an embargo period
- as a preprint
- or even postprint on a institutional server.

Often publishers permit to host the peer-reviewed and typeset version on a personal homepage [3].

With Open Access publishers:

**In Open Access Journals** The article is published in a journal that is completely Open Access.

- The journal is financed through APCs (Article Processing Charges) or institutions or grants.
- There are several programs that pay for such APCs and
- most OA journals have APC waiver programs.

Often these journals offer alternative review processes like open review or post publication review.

Or without publishers:

**Open Repositories** This is publication without the classical peer-reviewing process

- on ArXiv, bioRxiv, Zenodo, etc.,
- or on institutional preprint servers.
- Citations are possible and aggregators like *google scholar* list them.

There are efforts for making, e.g. ArXiv, *reviewable* – post-publication peer-review and commenting.

## Why?



Figure 1: CC-BY: Danny Kingsley & Sarah Brown

## Because

- Journal subscription costs are immense – as of now – Euro: >7.6b/>200m/>10m (worldwide/Germany/MPG) – and growing.
- Only a small fraction of the population has access to scientific findings.

## Why not?

If you go for (full) Open Access keep in mind:

- It is a new approach to publishing.
- In academia, still a lot depends on a classical publication record.

## Tell me more!

Links for further reading:

- [1] The *Berlin Declaration*  
<https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration>
- [2] The *Max Planck Digital Library*  
<https://www.mpdl.mpg.de/en/> – support and information on Open Access publishing within the Max Planck Society.
- [3] *SHERPA/RoMEO*  
<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php> – journal specific information on the Green Route and Open Access options.
- [4] *Why Open Research*  
<http://whyopenresearch.org/> – Information on Open Access by Open Access activists.
- [5] The *STM Report*  
<http://www.markwareconsulting.com/the-stm-report/> – An overview report on scholarly and scientific publishing.