



University of
Zurich ^{UZH}

OPEN
PLATO

How to Publish for Free: Diamond Open Access in Switzerland

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Lunch & Learn Open Science 2023
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What is Diamond/Platinum Open Access?

Diamond Open Access (or Platinum Open Access) is a publication model in which neither authors nor readers pay any fees.

In addition, this publication model is scholar-led, i.e. control remains in the hands of the scientific community, and it is based on shared values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Pierre Mounier (OPERAS) argues that Diamond Open Access is not a new or alternative model of scholarly publishing. It is how scientists used to publish within and for their communities for the longest time in history.

The industrialisation of scholarly publishing is a product of the second half of the 20th century.



About the PLATO Project

PLATO is a partnership project initiated by six Swiss universities and co-funded by swissuniversities.

Its goal is to further sustainable Diamond Open Access publishing in Switzerland by

- providing an overview of the landscape of Diamond OA journals in Switzerland (PLATO Study)
- devising sustainable funding scenarios for Swiss Platinum/Diamond Open Access journals,
- community building.

Partner Universities:



Universität
Zürich ^{UZH}

u^b

^b
UNIVERSITÄT
BERN



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

unine
Université de Neuchâtel

ETH zürich

z

hdk

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste
Zurich University of the Arts

Overview PLATO Study

Objectives

- Overview of the Diamond OA publishing landscape in Switzerland, its scope, modes of operation, business models and infrastructures
- Identification of challenges and opportunities of Swiss Diamond OA journals

Concept

- March – September 2022
- In collaboration with the Institute for Applied Data Science & Finance, Bern University of Applied Sciences
- Broad definition of Swiss Diamond OA journal (published, hosted or (partially) funded by Swiss institution or member from Switzerland among editorial or advisory board; at least one publication since 2018; existing ISSN)
- Three parts: bibliometric, qualitative (interviews with editors of Swiss Diamond OA journals), and quantitative (survey: authors, editors, publishing/hosting institutions)



Study Report and Data Set (published January 5, 2023):
<https://zenodo.org/communities/plato-ch/>



What are the benefits of Diamond OA for researchers?

- Immediate and full open access without fees for authors and readers
- Copyrights remain with authors (rights retention)
- Possibility of immediately sharing your article, e. g. in institutional repositories
- Scholar-led initiatives without commercial interests – journals as a “service for the scientific community”
- Integration into local research contexts while being internationally visible
- Strengthen the diversity of publication outlets in their field



What are the limitations/challenges of Diamond OA?

- Currently not all disciplines are equally covered: Diamond OA less present in the physical sciences and technology compared to social sciences (45% of Swiss Diamond OA journals) and arts & humanities (24%)
- In Switzerland: Only 60 (28.03%) of 214 Swiss Diamond OA journals are indexed in the Directory of Open Access (DOAJ) which impacts findability
- In certain communities, there are preconceptions that Diamond OA or OA publishing in general is unreliable and variable in quality. But quality doesn't depend on the publishing model and high price doesn't necessarily buy high prestige.
(Corbyn, Z. Price doesn't always buy prestige in open access. *Nature* (2013). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature.2013.12259>)
- Lack of sustainable funding presents a challenge for journals





How to find a Diamond OA journal?



SEARCH DOCUMENTATION ABOUT

SEARCH

Journals ?

All fields

SHARE OR EMBED

12,903 indexed journals

Refine search results

Without article processing charges (APCs) x

SEE JOURNALS...

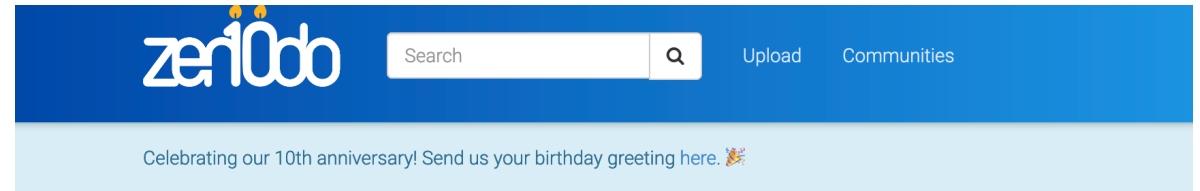
- With a DOAJ Seal
- Without article processing charges (APCs)
- Author retains all rights

Sort by

Added to DOAJ (newest first)

<< First < Prev

www.doaj.org



August 15, 2022

Dataset Open Access

List of Platinum OA Journals in Switzerland

Hahn, Daniela; Hopp, Christian; Pruschak, Gernot

This list provides an overview of the Swiss Platinum Open Access landscape (journals that do not charge fees to either authors or readers). It was established as part of the "Platinum Open Access Funding" (PLATO) project initiated by six Swiss universities (University of Zurich, University of Bern, University of Geneva, University of Neuchâtel, Zurich University of the Arts, ETH Zurich).

More information can be found in the documentation.

[List of Swiss Platinum OA Journals v3.0](#)



25% of Swiss Diamond OA journals
are hosted on institutional platforms

Diamond Open Access Platforms

HOPE – Hauptbibliothek Open Publishing Environment, University of Zurich

BOP – Bern Open Publishing, University of Bern

ETERNA – Open Publishing Plattform, University of Basel

OAP – Open Access Publications, University of Geneva

SOAP2 – Shared Open Publishing Platform, University of Fribourg



How to check the quality and compliance of an open access journal?

- Do I retain the copyrights to my work?
- Does the journal offer informations for authors regarding the type of peer review it uses and submission guidelines?
- Does the journal website contain informations about the editors/publisher and the composition of the editorial board and include a contact?
- Does the journal provide informations on fees and charges? (no fees/amount of APCs/waiver options) Is the cost calculation transparent?
- Does the journal use Creative Commons licensing?
- Does the journal use persistent identifiers (PID)?
- Does the journal have a long-term archiving strategy?
- Does the journal comply to the open access policies of my institution and/or my funding organisation?

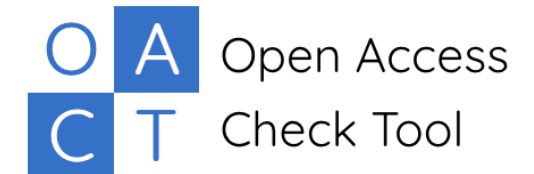
! THINK ✓ CHECK ➤ SUBMIT

Journals

The checklist is a tool that will help you discover what you need to know when assessing whether or not a publisher is suitable for your research.

How can you be sure the journal you are considering is the right journal for your research?

<https://thinkchecksubmit.org>



<https://oact.epfl.ch/>



What are the opportunities of Diamond OA?

Position
Diamond OA as
solid alternative
to APC-based
and other
commercial
publishing

Take back
control over
scholarly
communication

Investment in a
diverse and
sustainable
publishing
ecosystem

Inclusive
publishing
model not
based on
affordability



What can you do to support Diamond OA?

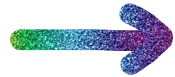


Spread the word:

Tell your colleagues about Diamond Open Access



Insist on transparency



Know your rights



Consider publishing Diamond Open Access



Support non-commercial initiatives



Save the Date

“Acting together for Sustainable Scholar-Led Publishing” National Diamond Open Access Conference

Friday, 8 March 2024
PROGR in Bern



Contact

Project Website: <https://t.uzh.ch/plato>

Zenodo Community: <https://zenodo.org/communities/plato-ch/>

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