

We discuss the role of CRUI and of its dedicated bodies in the development of Open Access and Open Science in Italy. Strategies of contract negotiation and management, confrontation with publishers and other counterparts, policies of Open Science development, community cooperation and commitment, monitoring and future developments are briefly presented and discussed.

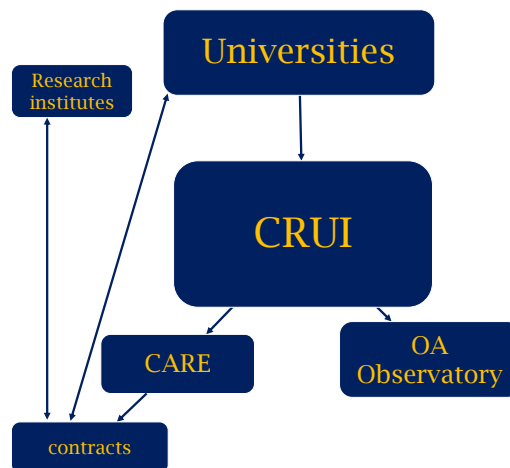
CRUI and its governing structures

CRUI, the Conference of Italian University Rectors, associates most of the Italian academic system.

CRUI promotes - through its Commission for University Libraries - the dissemination of Open Access to scientific information, as well as the development and cooperation of libraries, essential infrastructures for research, teaching, learning, knowledge transfer and the protection of cultural heritage. Within the Commission, two important units operate:

- The **CARE Group** organizes and manages, on behalf of the Universities, the negotiations with the publishers and/or producers of "electronic bibliographic resources". CARE's activities involve nearly 100 institutions, including Universities and research institutions. Since 2011, it has conducted important negotiations with most of the international publishers and has set itself as reference point for the Academic Library system and for many Italian research institutions. Since 2020, CARE has been engaged in the negotiation of transformative contracts.
- The **Open Science Observatory**, established in 2020, collects data and information relating to ongoing initiatives in Europe and in the world, the actual practices of Open Science in Italian Universities and research institutions, the costs that Universities and research institutions bear for publications, in particular of articles (APC) and monographs in Open Access.

In Italy, most of the digital resource system obeys a **circular model**: Institutions bear the costs themselves.



Transformative Agreements: State of the art and engagement rules (strategy)

As of June 2023:

- 10 active TAs
- 3 TAs close to signature
- 3 more TAs expected by the end of 2023

rules of engagement

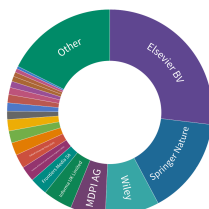
OLD

- Cost neutrality
- Massive OA publishing
- Cost sharing and equity

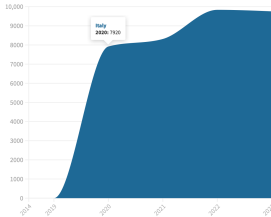
NEW AND IMPROVED

- **Unlimited publishing**
- **Limitations on article type**
- **Best conditions for intellectual property (CC-BY)**

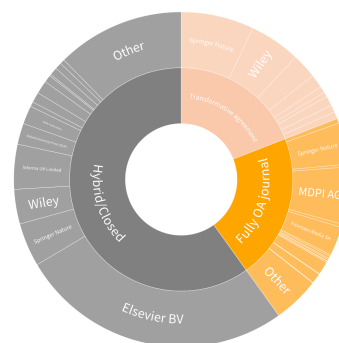
The total Italian market



TA articles/year



TA market share

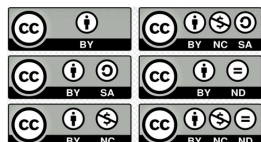
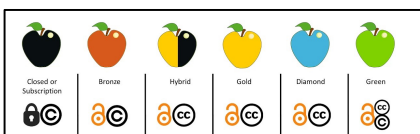


source: ESAC

Politics for the future

Transformative agreements. Simplification

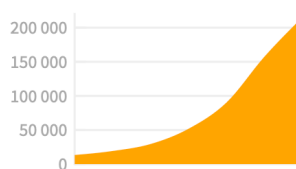
- Publishers try to get the maximum profit by fragmenting the options
- What about: Do we really need gold, green, diamond, so many colours and species?
- What about property rights? Do we really need all these symbols?



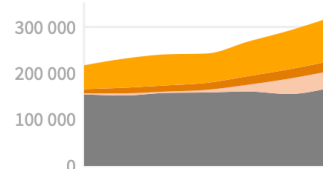
Beyond TAs

- About 25 years ago "native gold" publishers did not exist
- Today they own a large share of the market. **They cannot be ignored**
- New market and economic models are **inevitable**

MDPI AG



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source: ESAC