Slovenia’s Open Access Efforts

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Slovenian ERA Roadmap

Framework and legal backgrounds

2015
National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020
Actuarial plan for the implementation of the national strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020
Slovenian strategy for strengthening the European Research Area 2016-2020

2017
Requirements of Slovenian Rectors Conference

2018
Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency ARIS (88% discount on APCs, 1 member)

2023
Resolution on the Slovenian Open Access and Innovation Strategy 2018-2023

Conclusions and future challenges:

1. Open Access is not a one-size-fits-all approach. It requires a tailored strategy that takes into account the specific needs and circumstances of individual institutions.
2. There is a need for more OA agreements with OA publishers (PloS, MDPI, BMC, Springer), as well as with the largest OA journals (PloS, MDPI, BMC, Springer).
3. There is a need for more OA processors to be included in the OA / Open Access list.
4. The OA / Open Access policy should be aligned with the OA / Open Access principles and All OA / Open Access agreements should be signed.

Policy

Fully aligned with H2020 policy:
• mandatory open access to all peer-reviewed articles, strongly recommended for all journals (AA journal introduction) and monographs,
• depositing the publisher’s version (VoR), alternatively, the accepted manuscript (AAM), with non-CC BY licenses for STM and non-CC BY licenses for SSH journals,
• authors are encouraged to retain copyright and allow re-use under CC BY or equivalent.

Adoption of Plan S principles:
• financial support for OA publishing under transformative agreements and transformative journals.

Funding

Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency – ARIS:
• central independent public funding organization for Slovenian national research programmes,
• framework for scientific research evaluation (Slovenian Current Research Information System – SICRIS)
• provides financial and strategic support for open science.

Library consortia (academic and research institutions) and transformative agreements

ECT consortium (Central Technical Library at the University of Ljubljana)

2001
1st real-only agreement (1 member)

2002
1st offset agreement (6 members)

2016
1st offset agreement (5 offset journals, 1 member)

2019
1st transformative agreement (6 members, 40 journals)

2023
3 rd transformative agreements (6 members, 50 journals)

2 transformative agreements (15 members, 100 journals)

3rd offset agreement (15 members, 100 journals)

Library consortia are obliged to ensure the transparency of license agreements with publishers and a cost-neutral OA transition (free agreement for hybrid & publishing - EkA model).

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Fully aligned with Horizon Europe (ERC and MSCA):
• outputs from research with ≥ 50% public funding,
• mandatory open access to all peer-reviewed scientific publications and research data, strongly recommended for other research results,
• outputs from research financed by the European Framework Programme (FP1, FP2, FP3, FP4, FP5, FP6, FP7, FP8, FP9) are not eligible under transformative agreements and transformative journals,
• APCs for OA in hybrid journals are not eligible under transformative agreements and transformative journals.

There is a need for more TAs (middle and small publishers).

• Data management according to FAIR principles and mandatory RDM plan,
• metadata available under CC0 or CC BY,
• re-use under CC BY or equivalent.

A two-year transition period:
1. in justified cases, researchers may publish subscription journals and provide OA by depositing AAM in repositories, with non-CC BY licenses for STM and CC BY licenses for SSH journals.
2. Researchers may continue to encourage OA through subscription journals under certain conditions:
   • the journal is on the eligible list within TA,
   • the available amount of APC vouchers ran out,
   • the corresponding author is not affiliated to a consortium or TA member organization,
   • the journal is not part of TA.

Structure diagram of Slovenian open access infrastructure

• a national approach to building open science infrastructure and OA digital objects,
• national PID service, national big data archive and other services,
• interoperability compliant.

Conclusions and future challenges:

1. The objectives of the national strategy 2015-2020 were not fully accomplished, but a strong move toward OA has been made!
2. TA, TAs have significant impact on the share of publications in OA.
3. There is a need for more OA agreements with OA publishers (PloS, MDPI, BMC, Springer).