German Consortium for Publishing in Open Access Journals

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- **Project goal:**
  Create prerequisites for the large-scale open access transformation in Germany

- **Working Package 4:**
  Analysing financial flows, shaping financial models, and consultation with funders
Proposal

German Consortium for Publishing in Open Access Journals

- Inspired by SCOAP³
- Targeting German corresponding authors
- Financing publications in open-access journals, particularly of genuine open-access publishers
Current Situation for APC-based OA journals in Germany

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<th>Agreements / funds</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
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<td>Publication funds at about half of the universities, mostly DFG-funded</td>
<td>Price cap at EUR 2,000 incl. VAT</td>
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<td>Publish-and-read agreement between Wiley and project DEAL since 2019</td>
<td>All OA journals with 20% discount on list-price APCs</td>
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<td>Memorandum of understanding between Springer Nature and project DEAL to sign a publish-and-read agreement in 2019</td>
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<td>Individual payments by researchers</td>
<td>No regulation, no monitoring</td>
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Publish and Read Agreements (PAR)

- Publishing is without costs and administrative burden for authors
- Resources for PAR agreements come mainly from library acquisition budgets
- No strict price caps
- No restrictions on OA journals
- Huge coverage (potentially about 700 Universities and research institutions)

Conditions every OA publisher would dream of!
Further Developments in Germany

- Efforts to negotiate transformative agreements with other big publishers
- Max Planck Society already has transformative agreements with several publishers
- From 2020 researches can easily comply with OA mandates of research funders by publishing OA in Springer Nature or Wiley OA or hybrid journals without using own funds
- DFG-funding of publication funds is running out

Big threat for genuine OA publishers!
What should genuine OA publishers do?

- Strive for a deal with a national OA agreement!
- Reach out for library acquisition funds!

What should libraries do?

- Anchor funding of open-access publishing associated with APCs in their institutions!
- Transform library acquisition funds from subscriptions to OA funding!
How to?

- Libraries constitute a “German Consortium for Publishing in Open Access Journals”
- Coverage: about 5,000 articles per year
- Tender procedure
- Closed-envelope bids from publishers for their open-access journals, containing
  - APCs levels
  - Service levels
- Tenders of publishers offering best value for money are accepted → 3-years contracts
Timeline

2019

- Development of the concept
- Discussion with established consortia

2020

- Member acquisition for the consortium
- Establishing the OA consortium

2021

- Tender procedure
- In operation
Questions?

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