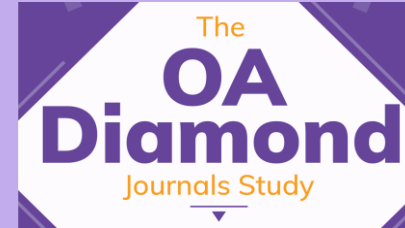


# Moving forward on fair and sustainable open access: the OA diamond journals study



slides available at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/diamond-osct>

Bianca Kramer & Jeroen Bosman, Utrecht University Library  
Open Science Kitchen, OS Community Twente, April 29, 2021



Universiteit Utrecht



@MsPhelps  
[@jeroenbosman](#)



# publishing open access: author choices

type	preprint	non-APC-based gold (diamond)	APC-based gold		green (=self archiving)
article level	green	gold	gold	gold	green
journal level	not applicable	gold	gold	hybrid	not applicable
who?	author	publisher	publisher	publisher	author
where?	preprint archives	>11K diamond open access journals	~5K APC-based open access journals	almost all subscription journals	institutional or subject repository
when?	before/around submission to journal	simultaneous with publication	simultaneous with publication	simultaneous with publication	upon acceptance, but often embargo
cost for author?	none	none	1-5500 USD	~1000-11000 USD	none
fulfill funder req.?	mostly not	always	always	always, but discussed now	often, but often not if embargoed
funding	not applicable	not applicable	sometimes funder or institutional OA-fund	sometimes funder / included in big deals	not applicable
license/copyright	choose CC-license, copyright retained	choose CC-license, often keep copyright	choose CC-license, often keep copyright	often CC in exclusive license for publisher	publisher determined license or no license

# ◆ Why diamond? ◆

**open: open access**

**fair: no reader costs *and* no author costs, globally**

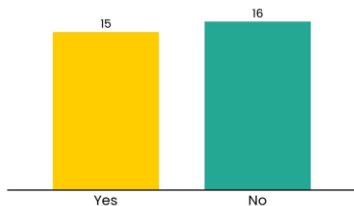
**sustainable: acceptable cost levels**

**and: owned and governed by the research community??**

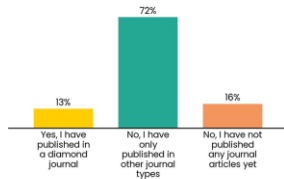
# ◆ A few questions in advance ◆

## Results of a live poll of participants

Do you know any diamond journals?



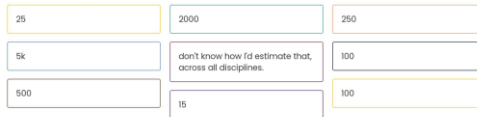
Have you ever published in a diamond open access journal?



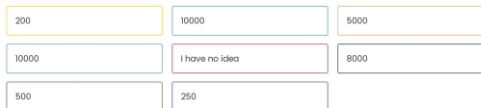
How many diamond journals do you think there are, globally?



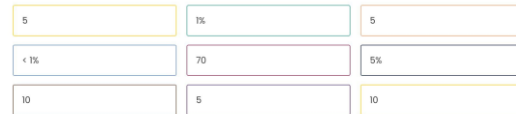
How many diamond journals do you think there are, globally?



How many diamond journals do you think there are, globally?



What % of articles worldwide is published in diamond open access journals?



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# ◆ The call ◆

## Exploring collaborative non-commercial publishing models for Open Access: Apply to perform a study

“Call for an informed study containing an analysis and overview of collaborative non-commercial (aka “Diamond”) publishing journals and platforms.

The objective is to identify ways to support publishing initiatives wishing to implement Diamond business models.”

<https://www.coalition-s.org/exploring-collaborative-non-commercial-publishing-models-for-open-access/>



# ◆ The study consortium ◆



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## Funders



# ◆ Study approaches ◆

## Database analysis

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- ROAD database of open access journals
- Walt Crawford's GOA dataset of open access journals

## Survey

- survey of diamond journals with 95 questions and 1619 valid responses
- multilingual global dissemination with some bias towards Europe and Latin America

## Focus groups and interviews

- 3 English & Spanish focus groups with journals
- 10 interviews with platforms and infrastructures

**Quantitative and qualitative analysis**

# ◆ The report & materials ◆



## Findings

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4558704>



## Recommendations

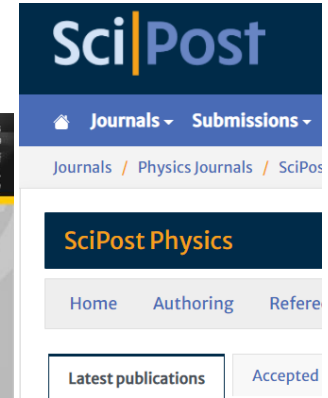
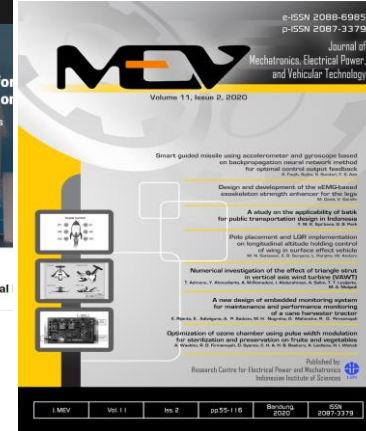
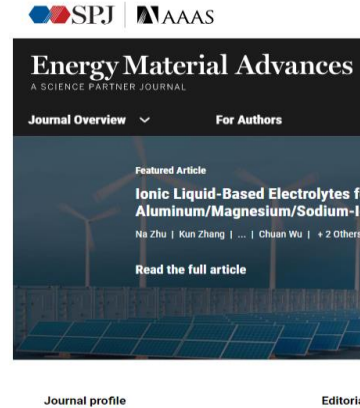
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4562790>



## Survey Dataset

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4553103>

# ◆ Some diamond journals ◆

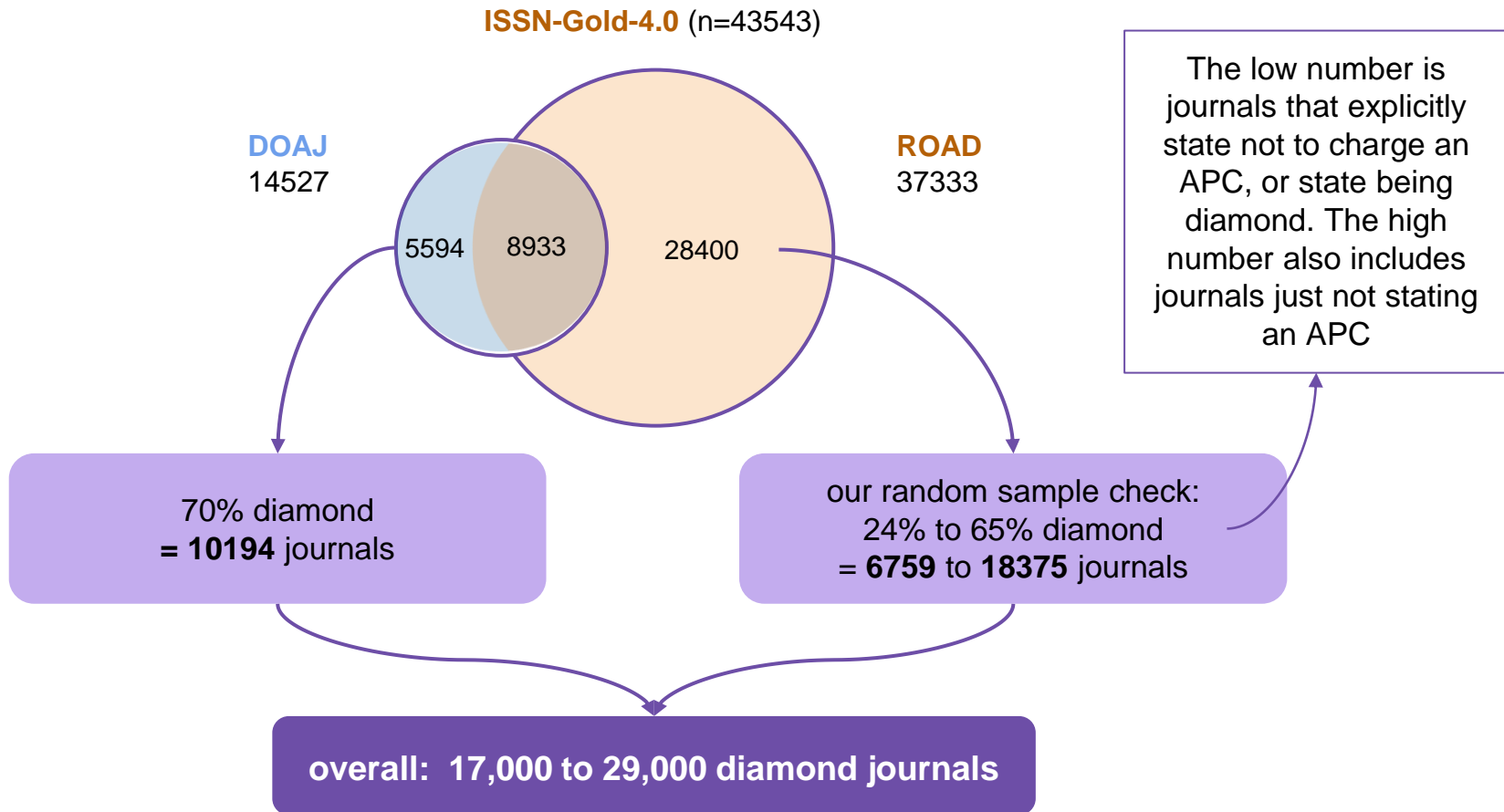


# ◆ Landscape ◆ journals numbers, globally

Scope of definition of 'journal'	Number reported and source
Scholarly journals	104,081 (Elektronische Zeitschriftenbank) 48,970 (Microsoft Academic) 47,116 (MIAR) 38,589 (Scopus)
Active scholarly journals	56,689 (Scilit (Crossref based)) 35,616 (JournalTOCs) 34,779 (EBSCO host) 30,187 (Microsoft Academic) 25,017 (ERA journal list) 24,184 (Scopus) 21,420 (Web of Science)
Active scholarly journals, open access, not all guaranteed peer reviewed	37,333 (ROAD) 17,537 (JournalTOCs) 16,158 (Scilit (Crossref based)) 13,822 (Ullrichs)
Active scholarly journal, open access, peer reviewed	15,581 (DOAJ) 6,299 (Scopus) 4,762 (Web of Science)

Global journal number estimates, checked November 2020. Numbers are as reported at the moment of checking and not for a particular year, except for Scilit where the numbers refer to 2019. Sources: Listed in table.

# ◆ Landscape ◆ diamond journals calculation



# ◆ Finding diamond journals ◆

**DOAJ**

SUPPORTAPPLYQ

SEARCHDOCUMENTATIONABOUTLOGIN

SEARCH

Journals?

All fields

Q

SHARE OR EMBED

11,513 indexed journals

# Refine search results

SEE JOURNALS...

☐ With a DOAJ Seal

☒ Without article processing charges (APCs)

SUBJECTS

Search 509 subjects

☒ Technology

☐ Bridge engineering

☐ Building construction

☐ Chemical technology

☐ Electrical engineering, Electronics, Nuclear engineering

☐ Engineering (General).

Without article processing charges (APCs) CLEAR ALL

Sort by

Added to DOAJ (oldest first)

Results per page

50

&lt;&lt; First &lt; Prev Page 1 of 231 Next &gt;

DOAJ Seal

Journal of Biomedical Science

Published by BMC in United Kingdom Accepts manuscripts in English

Medicine

Last updated on 14 Feb 2021

[Website](#)

No charges

[CC BY](#) [CC0](#)

## # Refine search results

### SEE JOURNALS...

- ☐ With a DOAJ Seal
- ☒ Without article processing charges (APCs)

### SUBJECTS

Search 509 subjects

#### ☒ Technology

- ☐ Bridge engineering
- ☐ Building construction
- ☐ Chemical technology
- ☐ Electrical engineering, Electronics, Nuclear engineering
- ☐ Engineering (General).

### LANGUAGES

### LICENSES

### PUBLISHERS

### PUBLISHERS' COUNTRIES

### PEER REVIEW TYPES

### DATE ADDED

# ◆ Landscape ◆ APC & diamond articles DOAJ

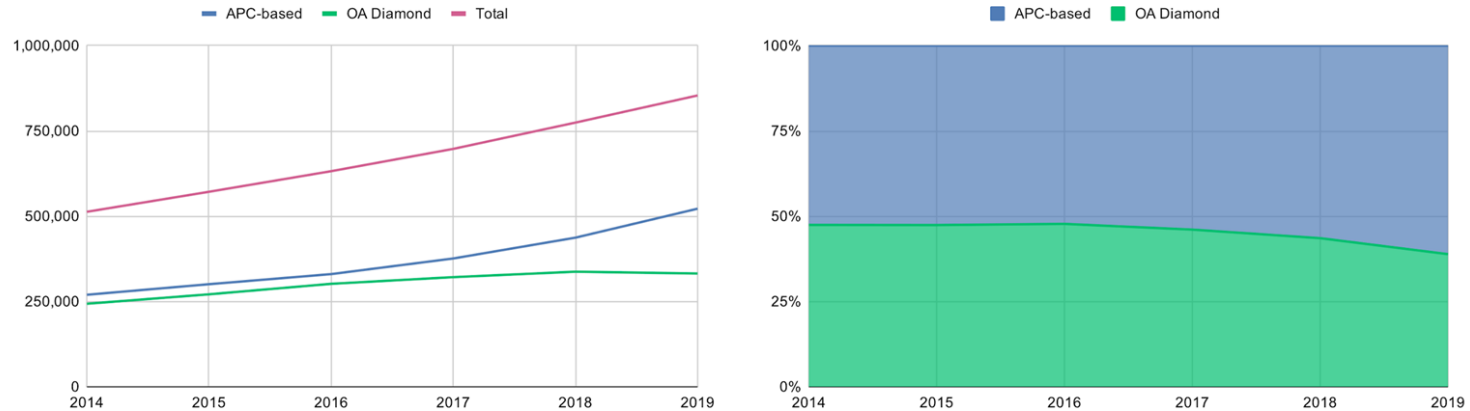
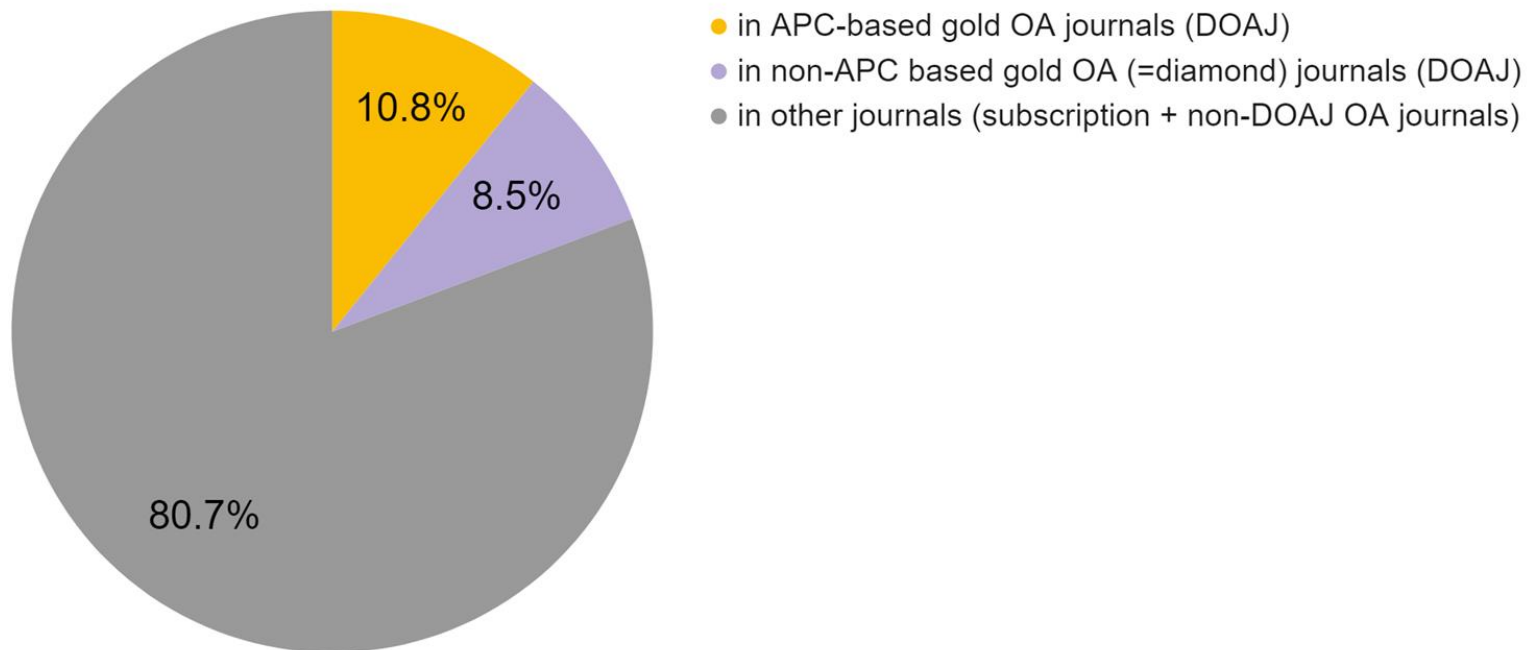


Figure 10. DOAJ article numbers from 2014-2019 by open access model, absolute (left) and as shares of DOAJ total (right). Source: GOA(5)

# ◆ Landscape ◆ diamond articles share of total

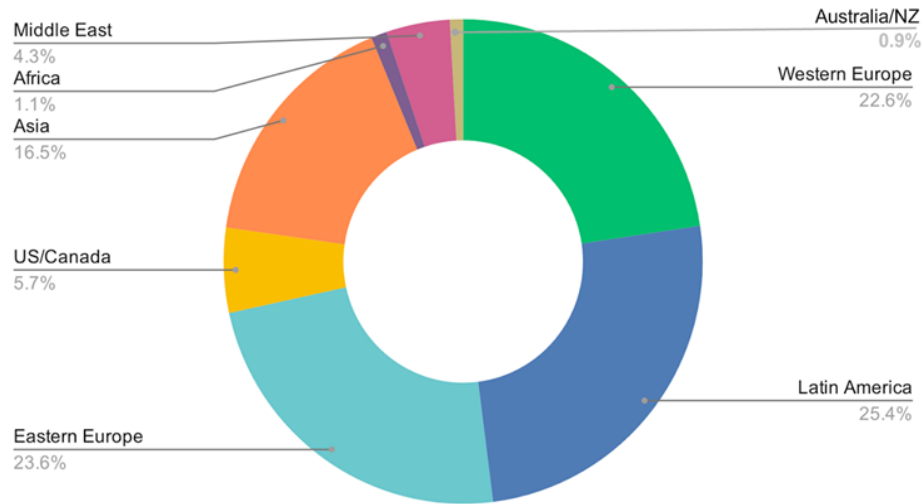
## ➤ 1.1.3 How many articles are published by OA diamond journals in total?

Global article numbers by journal type, based on DOAJ counts and total article numbers in Dimensions and LENS, 2017-2019



# ◆ Landscape ◆ publisher locations

DOAJ - OA diamond journals (n=11,064)



DOAJ - APC-based journals (n=4,132)

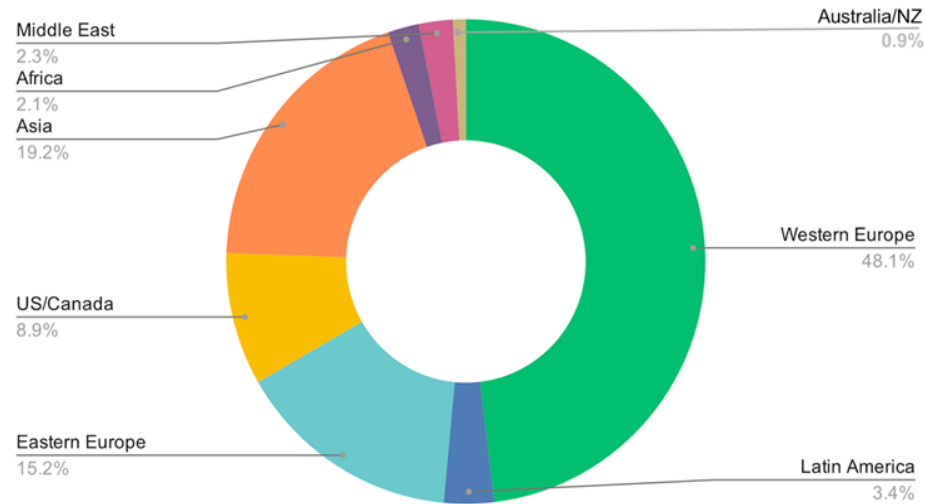
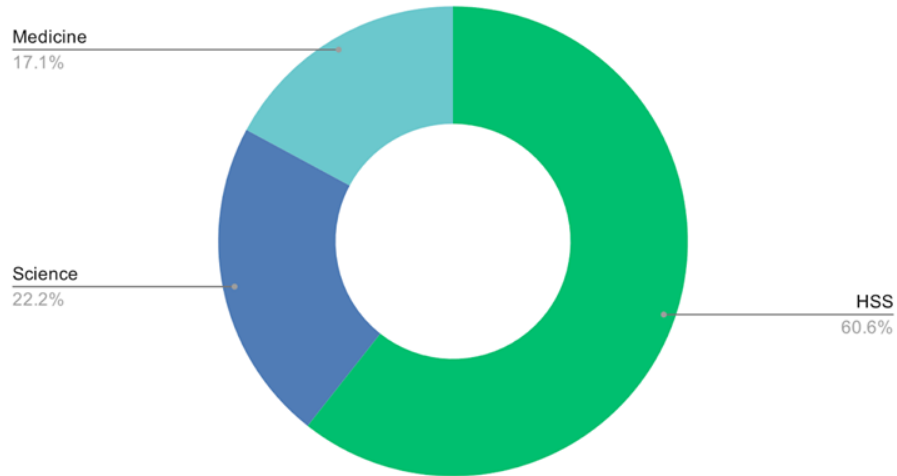


Figure 11. Journals by location of publisher. All regions are based on the assignment of Walt Crawford in GOA(5). Source: DOAJ, GOA(5)

# ◆ Landscape ◆ journals x discipline

DOAJ - OA diamond journals (n=9,848) from GOA(5)



DOAJ - APC-based journals (n=4,090) from GOA(5)

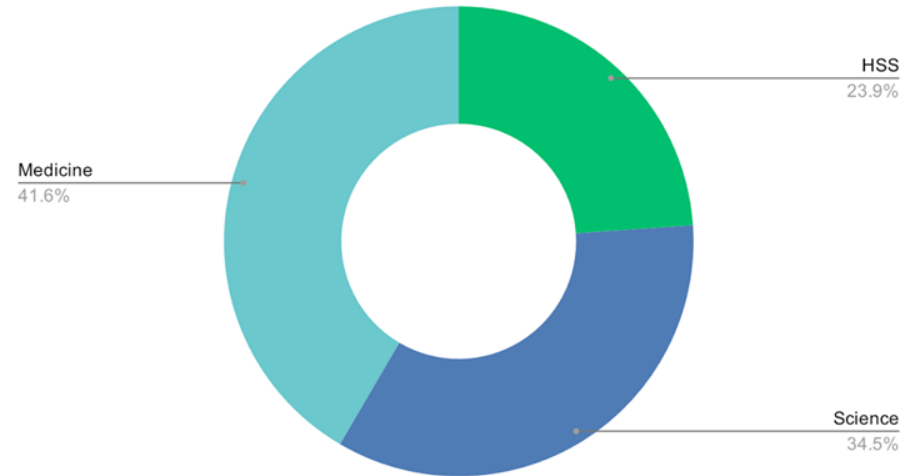
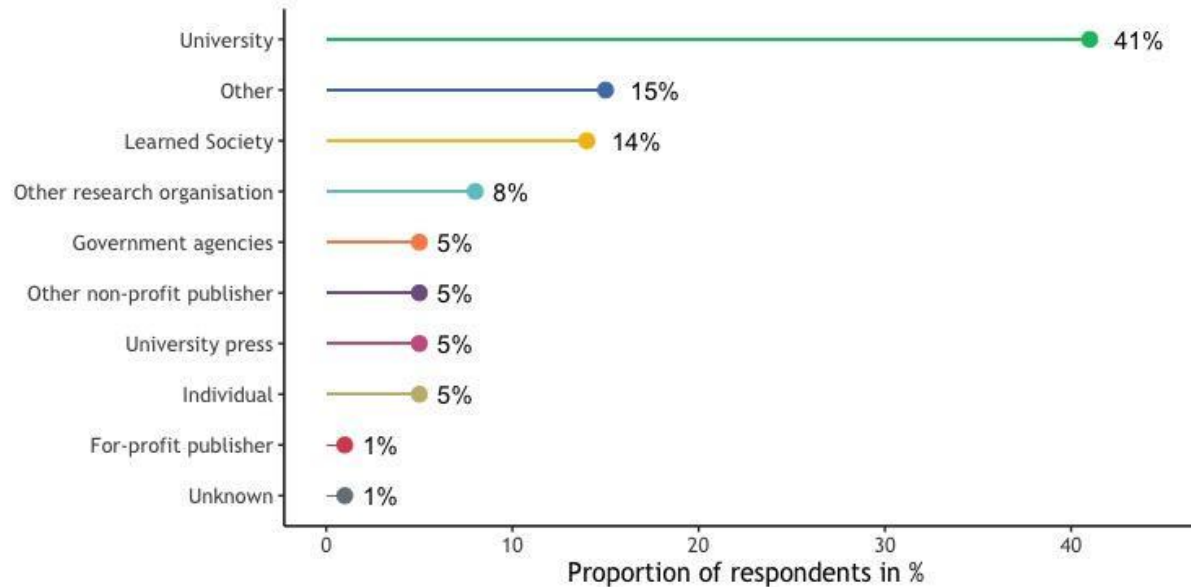


Figure 13. Journals by discipline. Note: Disciplines are based on the assignment of Walt Crawford in GOA(5). Source: DOAJ, GOA(5)

# ◆ Dynamics ◆ ownership



*Figure 1 in chapter Dynamics: Who owns the journal in the survey? (Q34)*

# ◆ Sustainability ◆ funding sources

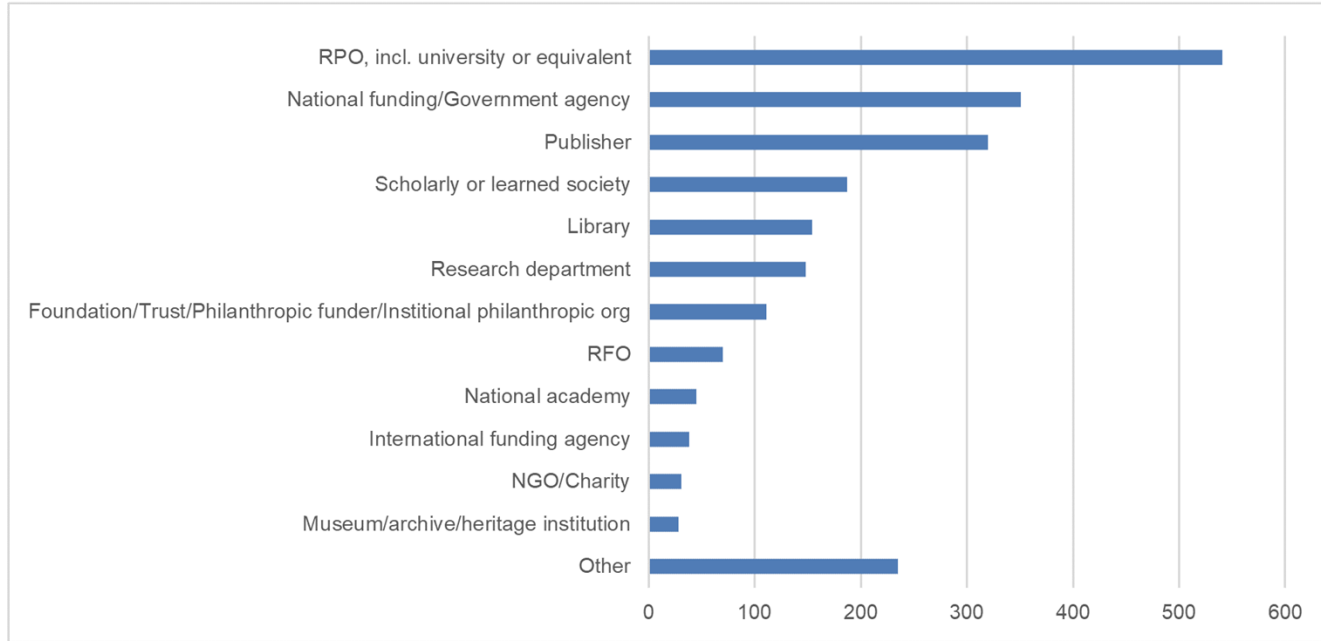


Figure 14. Who has funded the journal over the last two years? (n=1,421); survey Q61

# ◆ Sustainability ◆ funding mechanisms

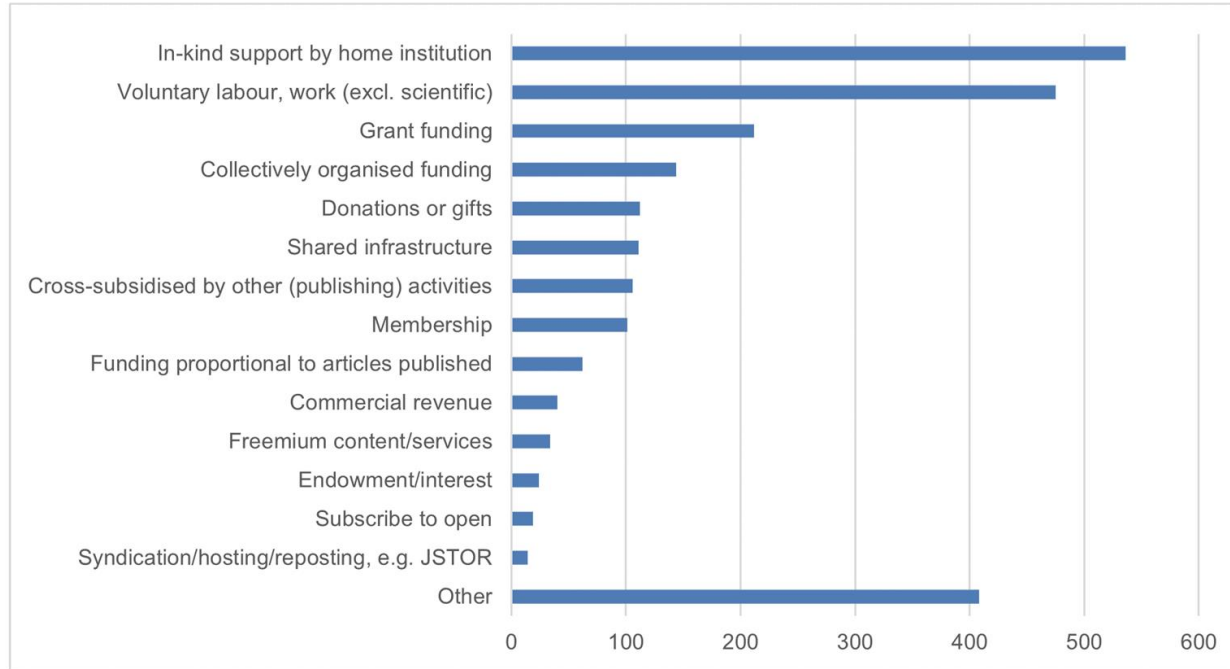


Figure 15. Funding mechanisms (n=1,408); survey Q62

# ◆ Sustainability ◆ costs

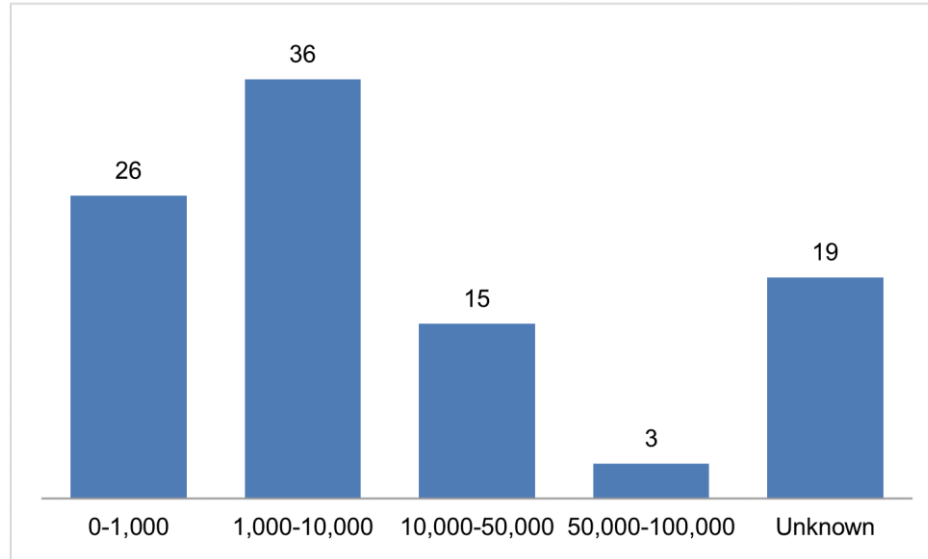


Figure 1. Previous year annual costs (US\$/€) of journals, percentage (n=1,370); survey Q66

# ◆ Sustainability ◆ est. per article cost x size

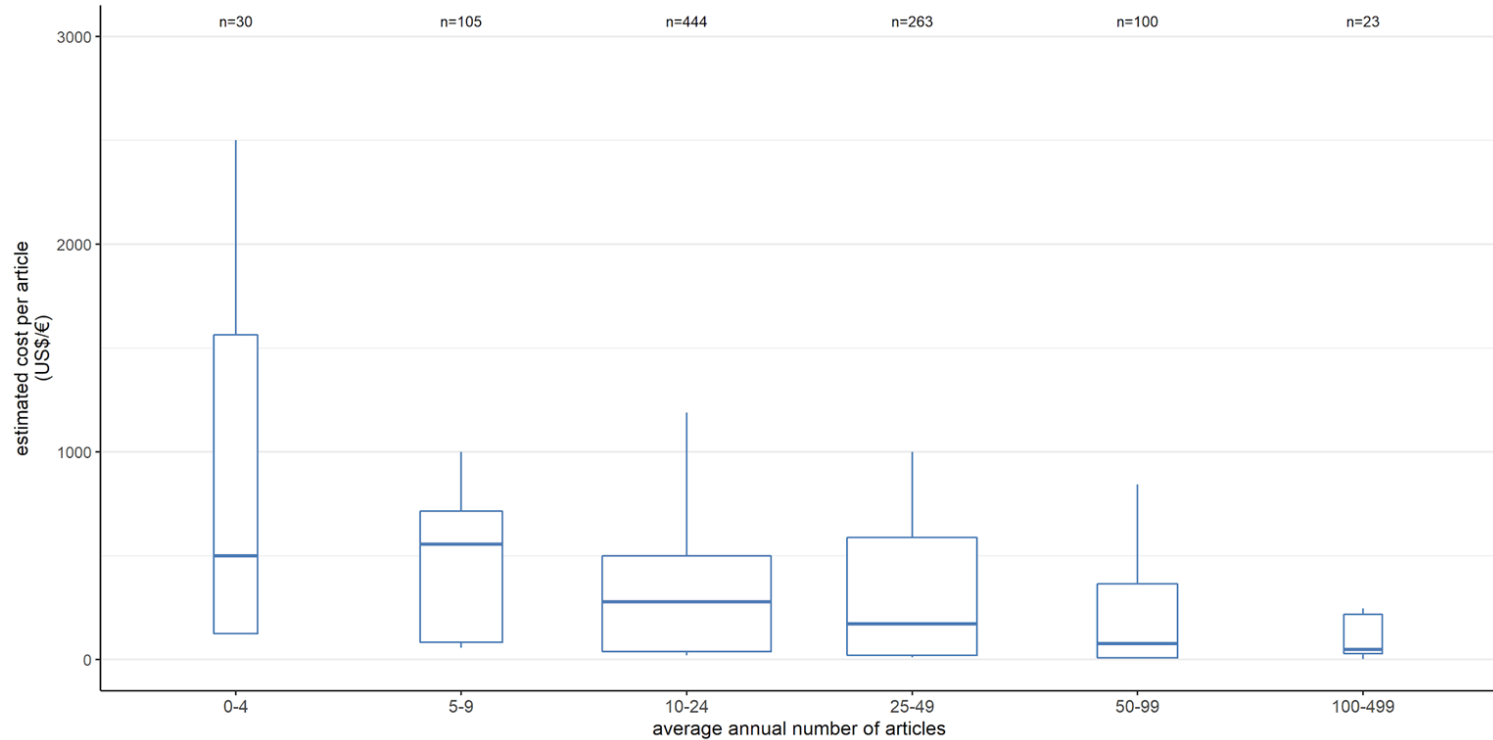


Figure 5. Distribution of estimated cost per article for diamond OA journals by journal size

# ◆ Sustainability ◆ main takeaways

Wide diversity of  
funding models

Dependency on  
narrow funding  
streams

Strong dependance  
on volunteering

over 60%  
< 10k euro

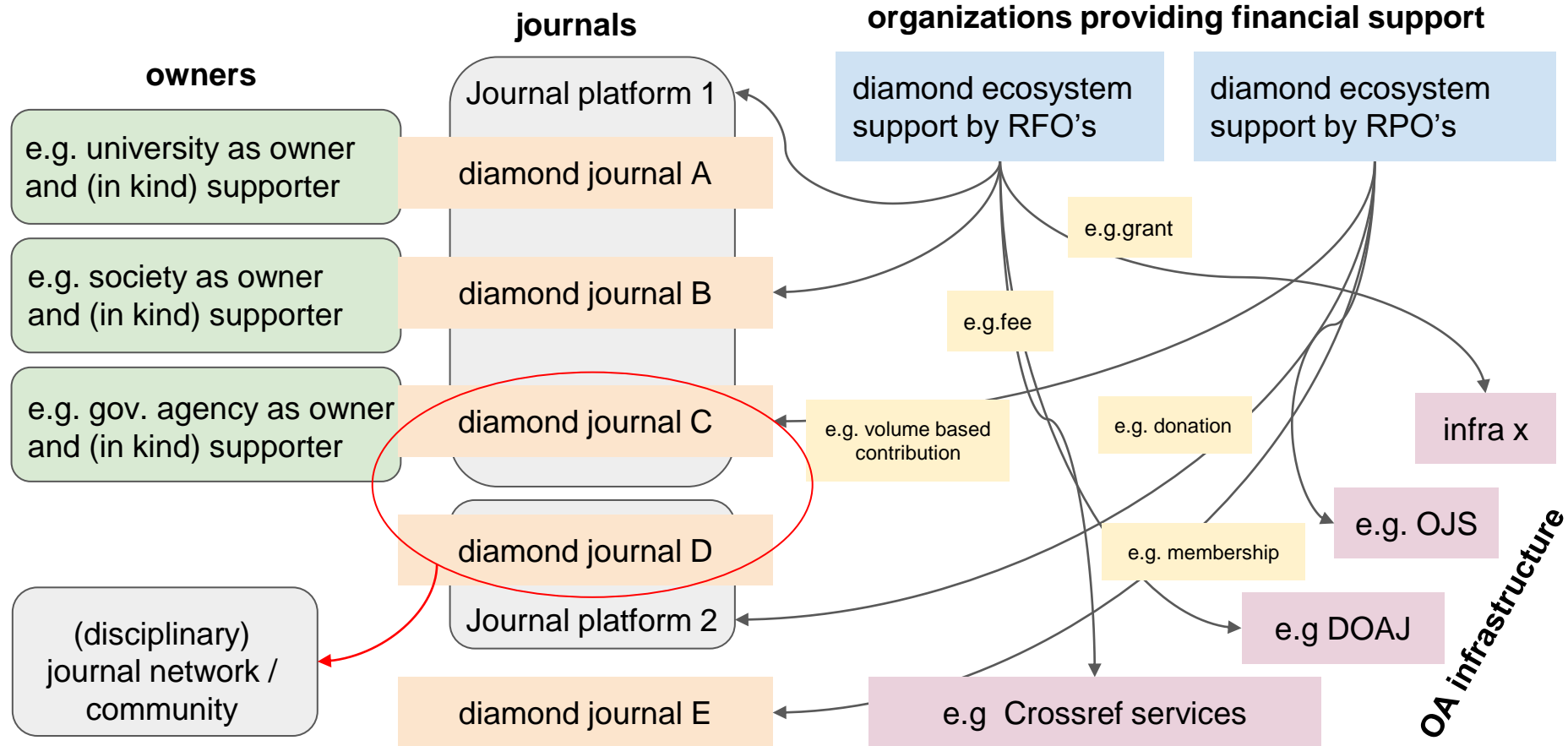
70% run on  
1-2 FTE

40% break-even and  
25% operate at a loss

## ◆ Recommendation: Invest in the future

- Invest in both operations and development (e.g. through **development funding**)
- Help journals **meet industry standards**, and **develop shared services or infrastructure**
- Thereby help provide a **viable alternative** to the current system, supporting **diversity** and encouraging **academic independence**, and **innovation**

# ◆ OA diamond ecosystem ◆



# ◆ Diamond in Dutch OA-policies ◆

## **openjournals.nl**

- Platform for Dutch diamond journals, by KNAW, NWO & OPUS foundation

## **NWO open science infrastructure support**

- o.a. €300K for openjournals.nl

## **UvA diamond open access fund**

- €100K annually for journal in which UvA authors published and for diamond initiatives from UvA

## **diamond as route in VSNU 100% OA study**

- Diamond OA is recognised as important for realizing 100% open access in recent study commissioned by the VSNU

# ◆ Potential (funding) solutions ◆

## **Proportional funding:**

Institutions pay proportional to how much they publish roughly

## **Subscribe to open (S2O):**

Journal does not charge as long as enough libraries maintain a subscription

## **Platform/infra funding:**

Institutions or funders pay for infrastructure or fixed/variable cost of a full diamond platform

## **Dedicated platforms:**

Funder or institution creates a publication platform for their own authors

## **Recognize / reward editorial work:**

Institutions reward editing work as regular research tasks

**Move away from journal-based metrics like IF**

**Maintain volunteer and in-kind contributions**

# ◆ What do *you* think? ◆

Results of a live poll of participants

## What would you like to see your library, university or funder do to support diamond open access?



Yes

Show diamond journals in the Journal Finder

pay for infrastructure (web hosting) costs

ideally? a diamond mega-journal (cross-disciplinary)

Launch an own Diamond journal

Keep an up-to-date list of Diamond journals. Offer ways to start your own Diamond journal?

More transparency, support, information in journal finder, covering for possible cost

Offer a platform and Development money also for communicatie and pr

Create more awareness

## What would you like to see your library, university or funder do to support diamond open access?



pay for infrastructure, actively support diamond journals, change the R&R so that we publish less (focus on quality and openness)

Support quality assessment of (diamond and other) journals so I know where I can publish and where I would be among bad work.

help in dissemination

## How would you describe diamond journals to first year students?



the future of academic publishing

made by scholars, made for scholars

Open-access free-for-all journal.

The ideal world, but not something they should consider right now

it's fair

These are journals that provide free publishing and free reading

Community driven journal which tries to take back control of publishing/accessing fees and encourage sharing

It's like toll highways (APC) vs. tax-paid highways (diamond) :-)

Free Access !

## How would you describe diamond journals to first year students?



The best option between two others, being for-profit publishers and predatory journals.

FAIR Science

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slides available at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/diamond-osct>

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