

# EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION

## Evolution of Scholarly Big Deals and Research Assessment Methodologies for Open Science

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21 Juin 2019

## Outline

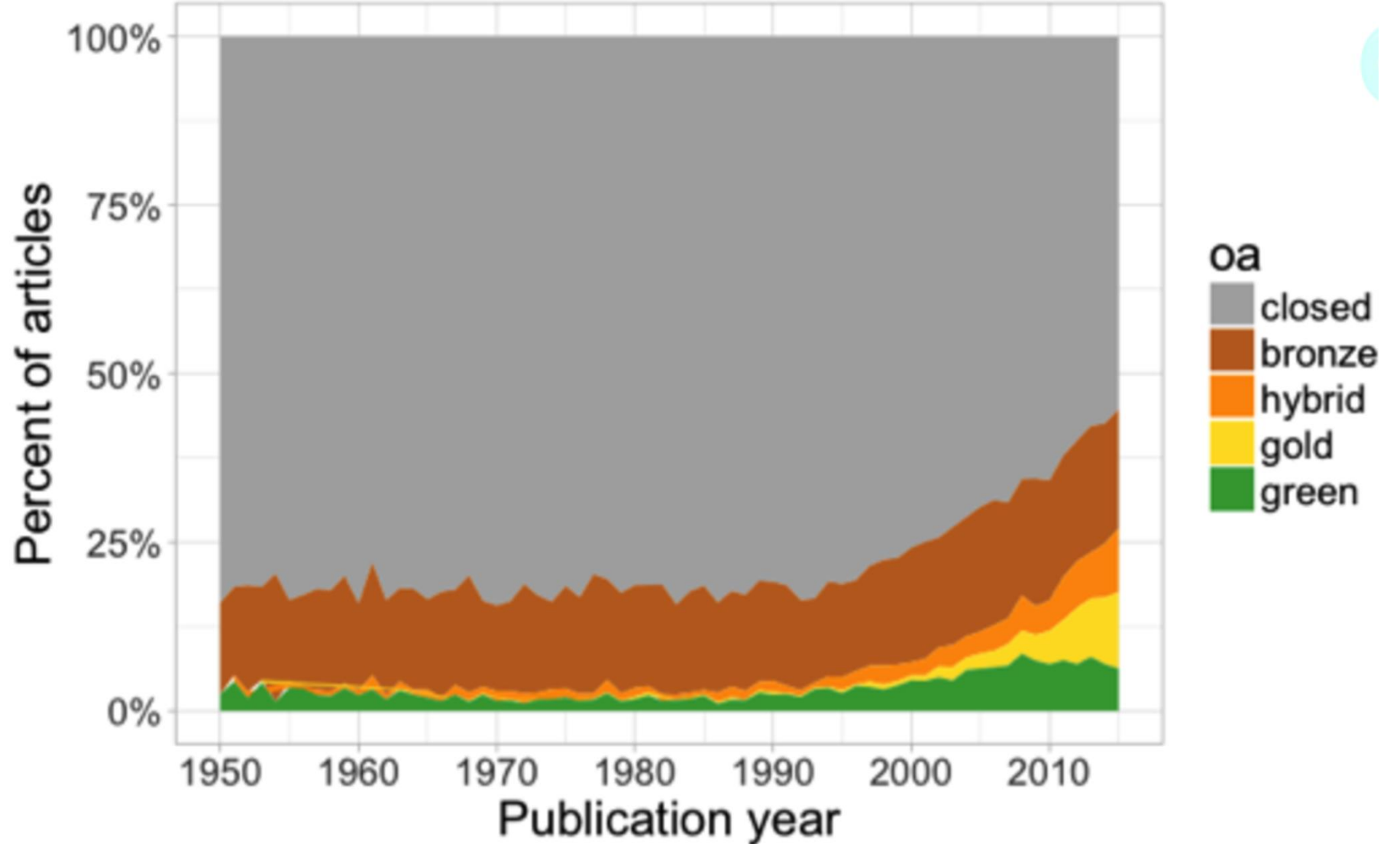
- **Context**
- **EUA Big Deals Survey 2018**
- **The need for an evolution of the Scholarly Research Assessment Methodologies in the context of Open Science**
- **Main messages**

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## Context

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Share of  
Scholar  
Publications  
in Open  
Access is far  
from 100%

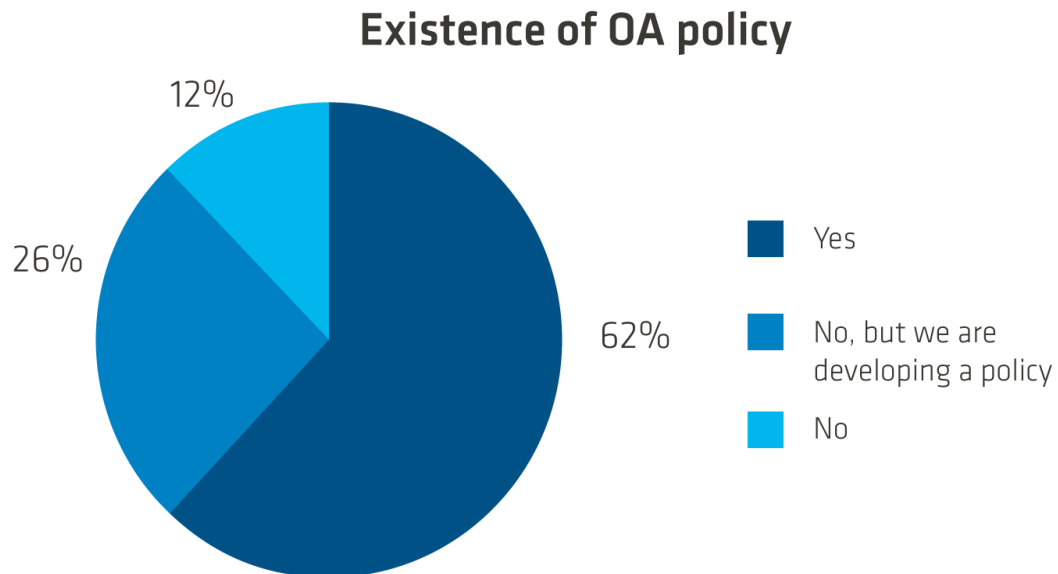


Piwowar, Heather; Priem, Jason; Larivière, Vincent; Alperin, Juan Pablo; Matthias, Lisa; Norlander, Bree; Farley, Ashley; West, Jevin; Haustein, Stefanie (2018-02-13). ["The state of OA: a large-scale analysis of the prevalence and impact of Open Access articles"](#). *PeerJ*. **6**: e4375. [doi:10.7717/peerj.4375](#). [ISSN 2167-8359](#). [PMC 5815332](#). [PMID 29456894](#).

Share of  
Open  
Access  
scholarly  
publications  
is far from  
100%

Estimation OA < 25% of the total of scholarly  
publications

EUA Open Access Survey 2017-2018 :



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# Big Deals Survey 2018

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## Key information

**Data collection: August-November 2018**

**Respondents:**

**31 Consortia negotiating on behalf of the university sector and other higher education and research performers**

**Focus: Periodicals**

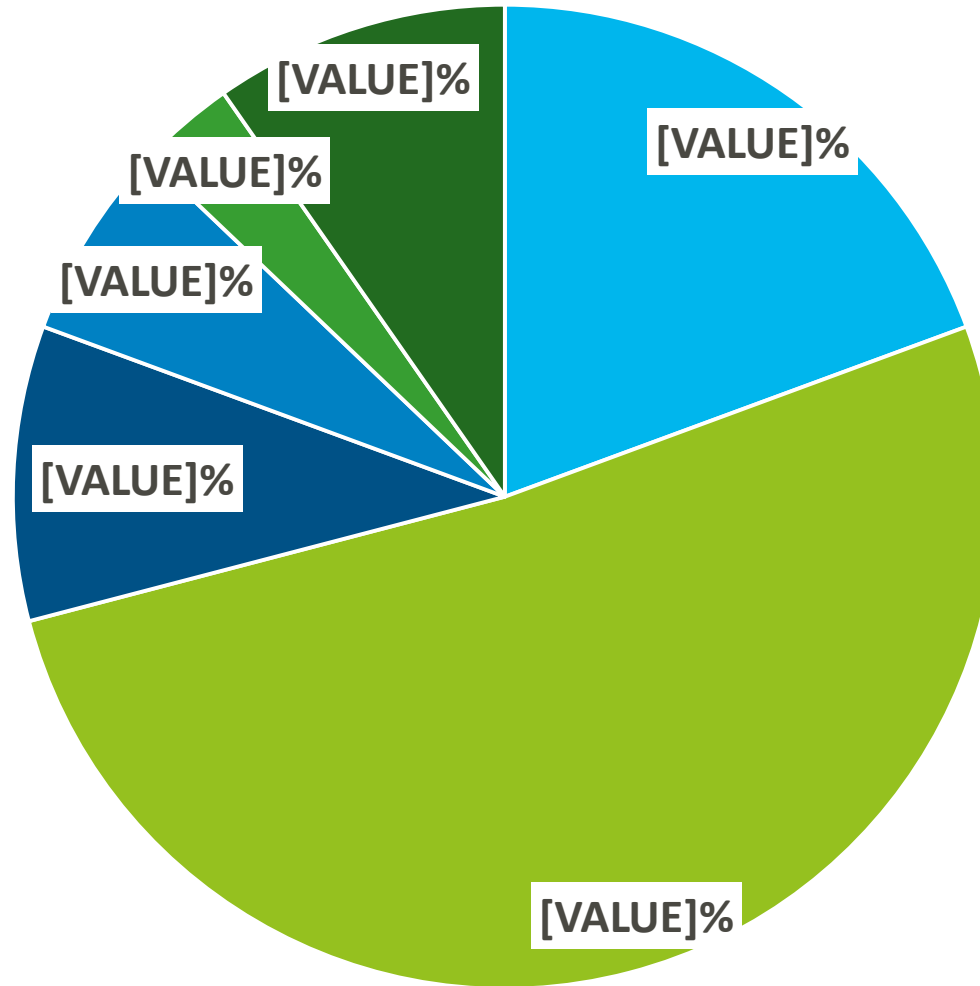
**5 major publishers (Elsevier, SpringerNature, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, American Chemical Society)**

**Data analysed in aggregated fashion**

**Most data refers to big deal contracts ongoing in 2017 or 2018**

# Organisations at national level involved in negotiating big deals

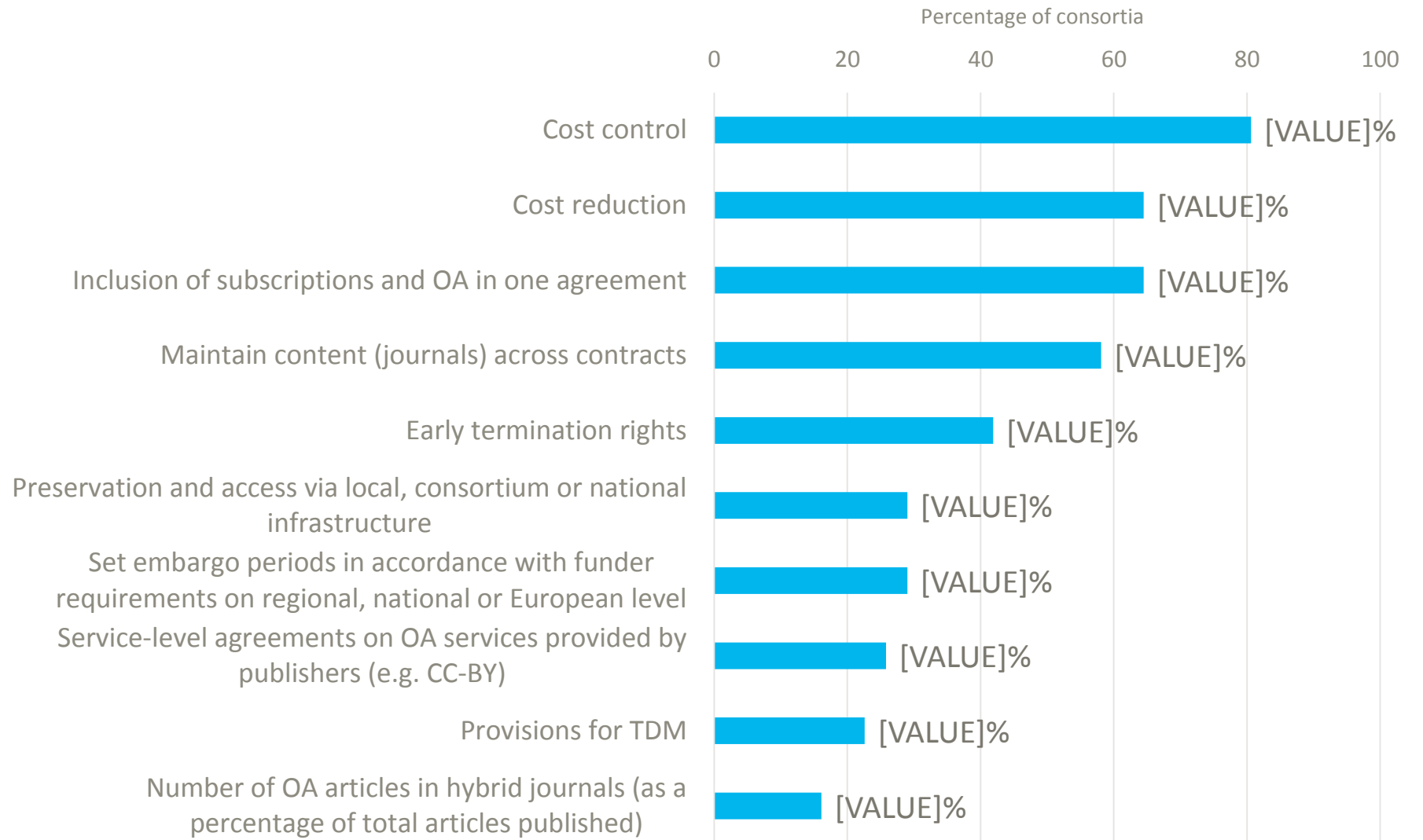
n= 31/31



- Consortia of universities and other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- Consortia of universities and other HEIs, plus other organisations
- Consortia of libraries
- Only the national library
- Only the government
- Other



## Main points of concern for HE and research institutions in the negotiation process



## Total annual expenditure on big deals

**For all subscriptions to electronic resources (including periodicals, databases, e-books) by national consortia:**

**Total (30 European countries) = ~ 1 025 253 055 EUR (estimate 2018, 3.5% yearly increase)**

*This is a conservative figure not including:*

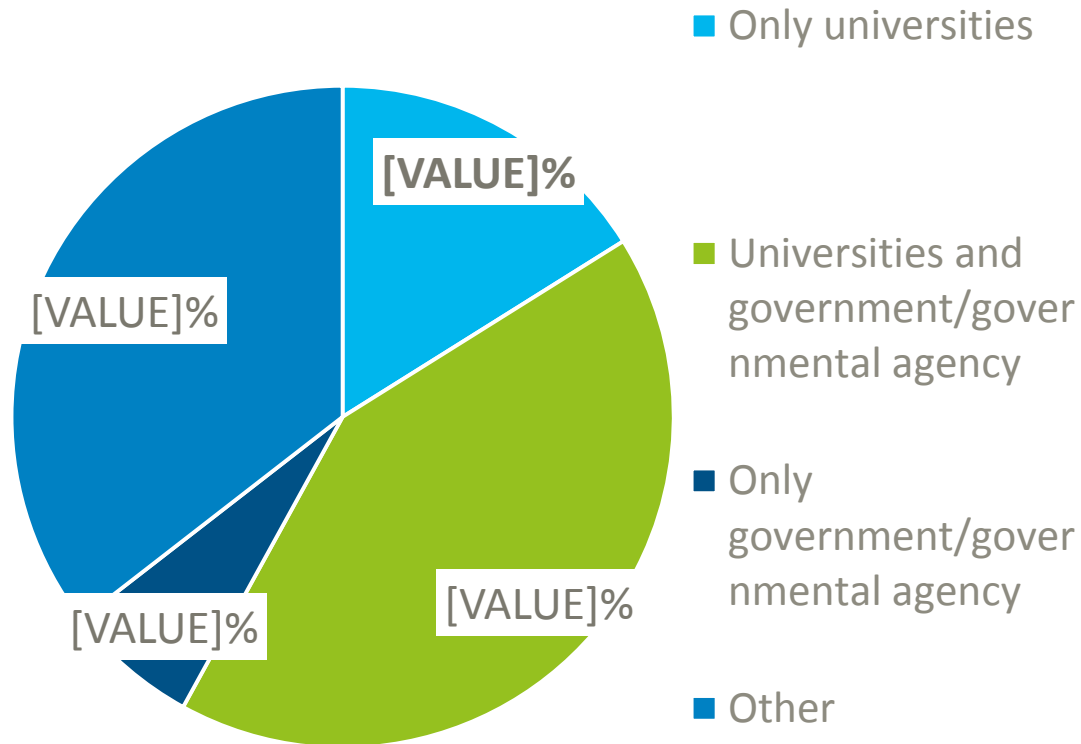
- *Article Processing Charges (APCs)*
- *Consortia other than those participating in the Survey*
- *Individual institutional contracts with publishers*

**For periodicals only in the surveyed consortia:**

**Total (31 consortia, representing 30 European countries) = ~ 726 350 945 EUR (average yearly increase 3.6%)**

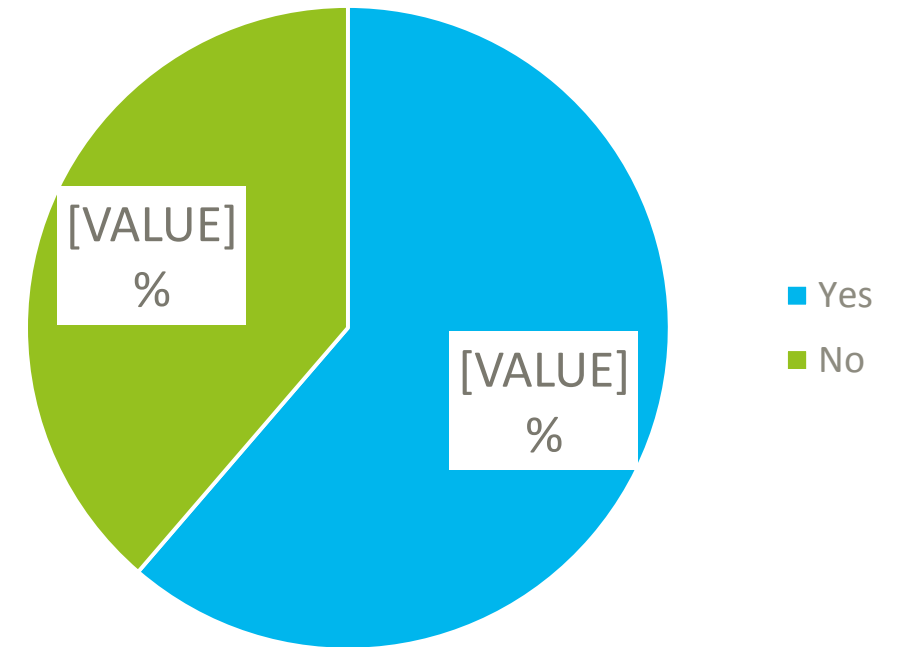
**Proportion of costs covered by universities in the consortia = 519 973 578 EUR (~72%)**

### Origin of funds for big deals



n= 31/31

### Publicly available information on expenditure on electronic documentary resources



n= 31/31

Is there a national Open Access strategy or policy?

<b>Yes</b>	68%
<b>No</b>	32%

Do current big deal contracts include specific provisions for OA?

	Provisions for OA	
	Currently (%)	In the future (%)
<b>No</b>	<b>55</b>	0
Yes, only for green OA	10	10
Yes, only for gold OA	7	10
Yes, for both green and gold OA	13	<b>64</b>
Other	16	16

## Inclusion of APCs and subscriptions in the same contractual framework

	APCs and subscriptions in same contract	
	Currently (%)	In the future (%)
<b>Yes</b>	19	<b>65</b>
<b>No (subscriptions and APCs in different contracts)</b>	<b>55</b>	7
<b>Other</b>	26	3
<b>Not yet decided</b>		<b>26</b>

*When APCs and subscriptions are included in the same contract*

**Is there any provision or policy to prevent ‘double dipping’?**

<b>Yes</b>	67%
<b>No</b>	33%

n= 6/6

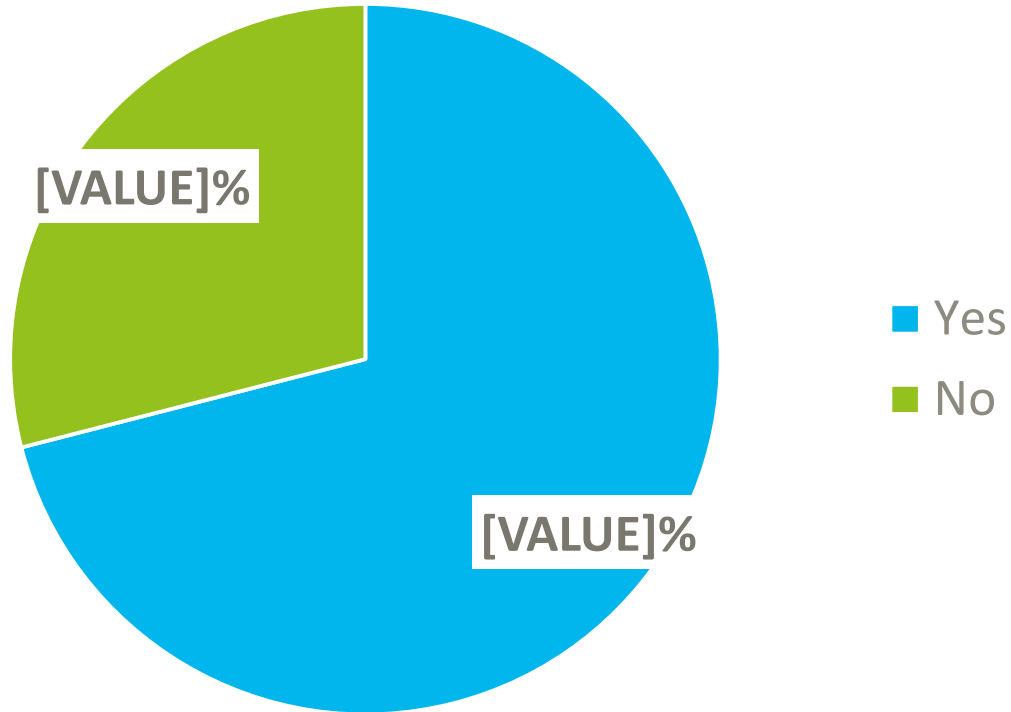
*When APCs and subscriptions are **not** included in the same contract*

**Are there any monitoring systems in place to collect data on the funds spent on APCs?**

<b>Yes</b>	31%
<b>No</b>	69%

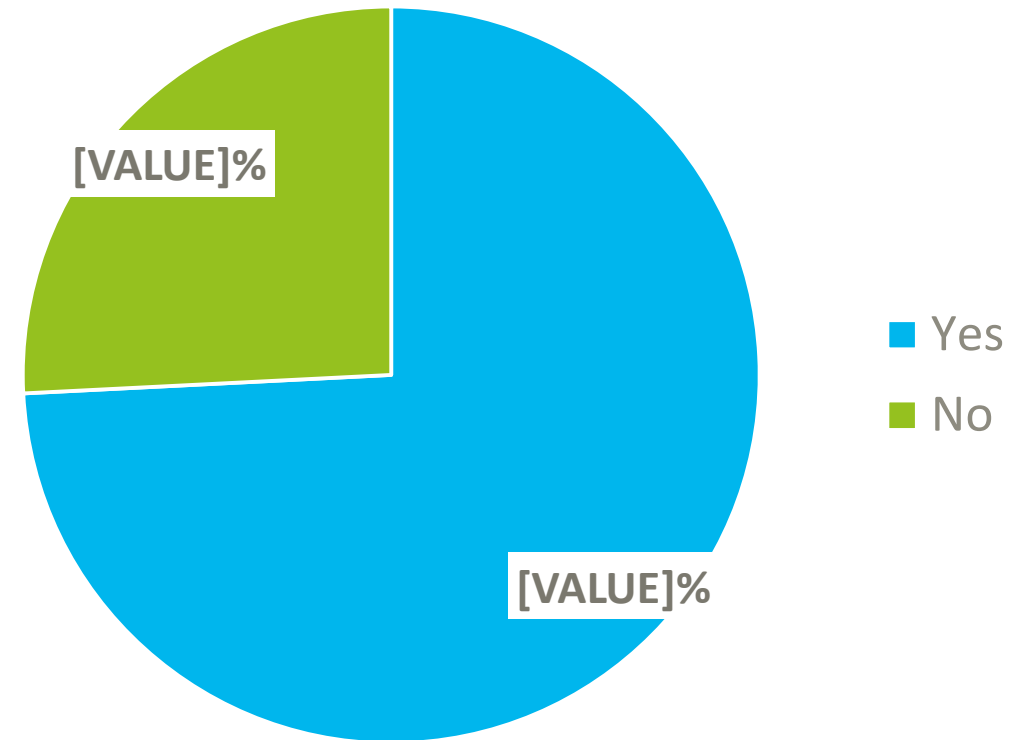
n= 16/17

### Laws facilitating the transparency of contracts



n= 31/31

### Existence of Freedom of Information laws

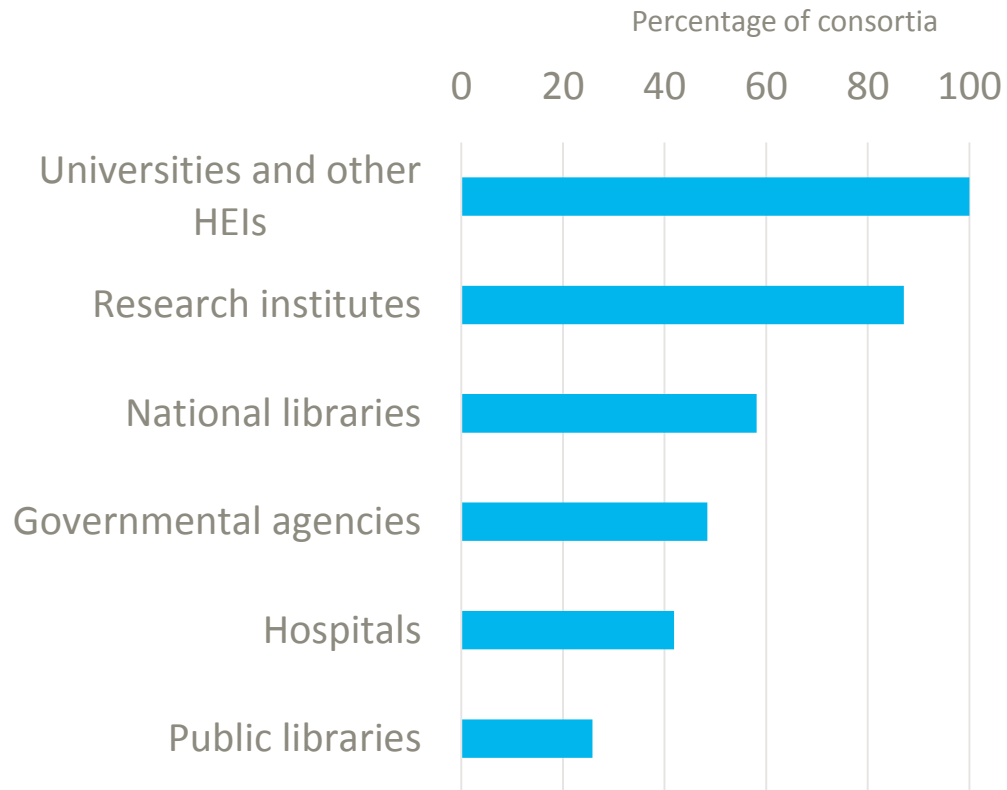


n= 31/31

# The consortia

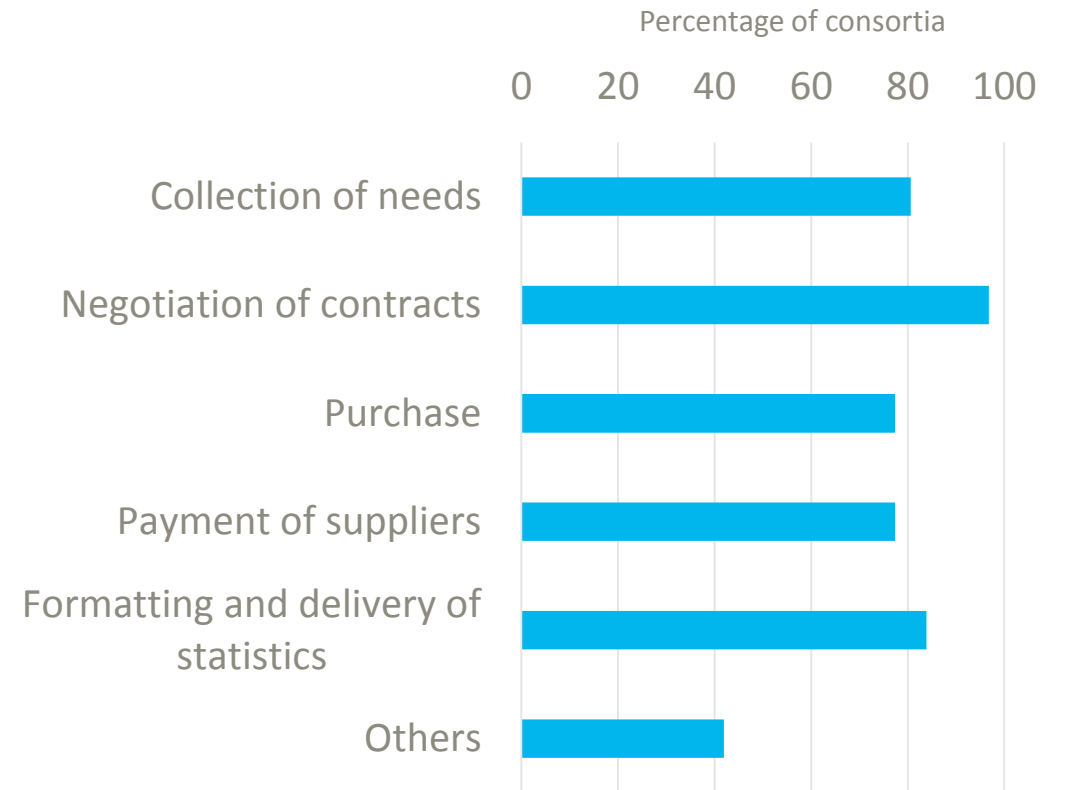


## Representative scope



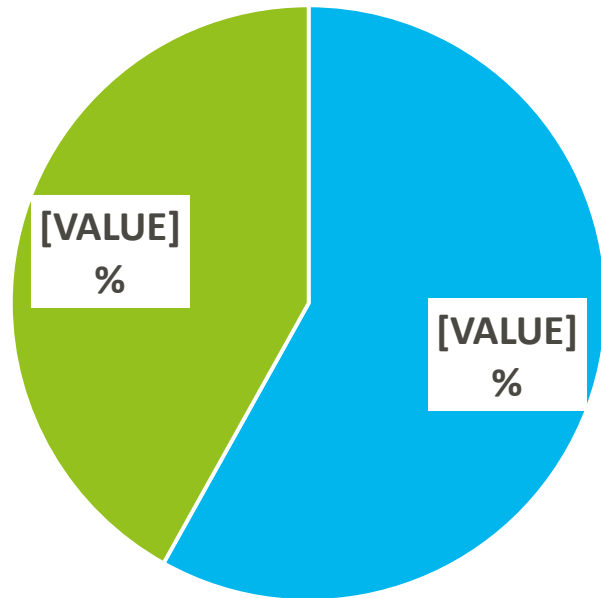
n= 31/31. Multiple-choice question

## Functions of the consortium



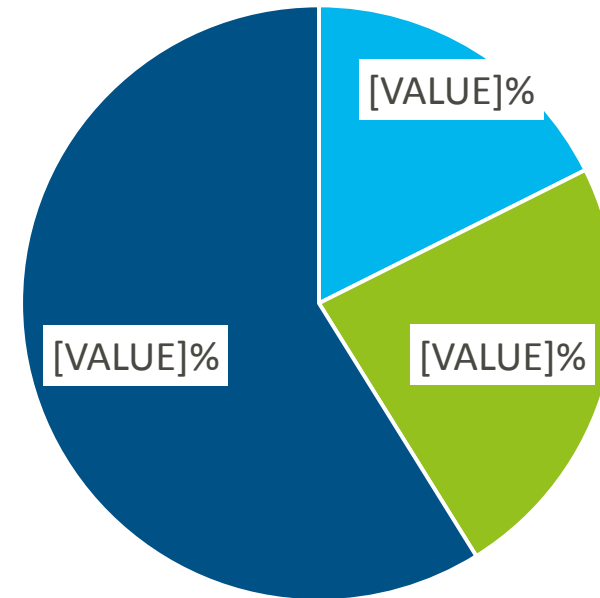
n= 31/31. Multiple-choice question

## University leadership role in the negotiation of big deals



n= 31/31

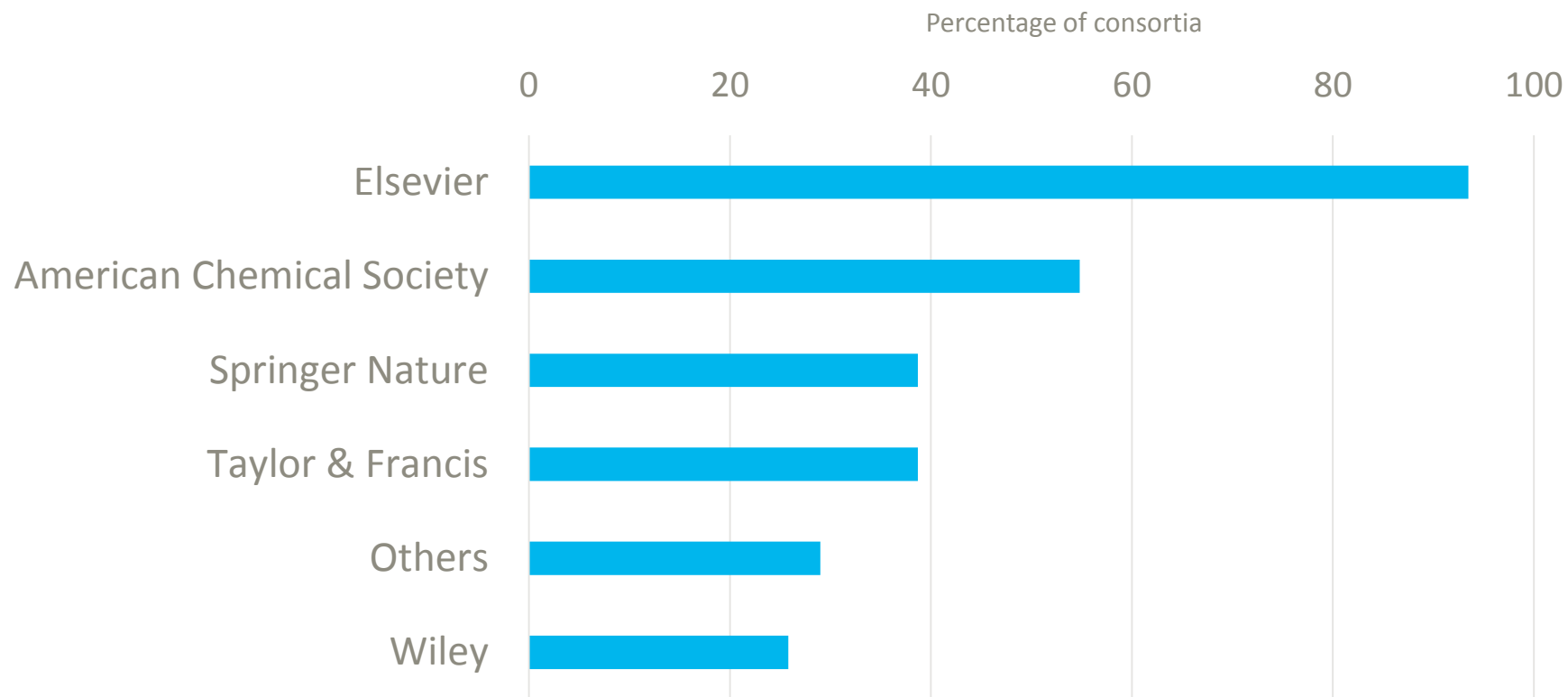
## The university leadership has a role:



n= 17/18

Other includes: negotiation only for some publishers; defining strategy.

## Most challenging publishers



n= 31/31. Multiple-choice question

# Periodicals

## Cell Press (Elsevier)

**Number of big deal contracts reported = 12**

**Total annual spend = 9 671 307 EUR (9 consortia)**

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.64 – 3.12 EUR (data for 6 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

Only 1 consortium provided data = 4 893 EUR

- **APC spend (per year)**

No data provided

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 3% - 5% (data for 6 consortia)

**Number of big deal contracts reported = 30**

**Total annual spend = 246 316 270 EUR (27 consortia)**

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.79 – 2.68 EUR (data for 14 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

Range between 1608 EUR - 3 613 EUR (data for 7 consortia)

- **APC spend (per year)**

Range between 14 088 EUR - 5 071 000 EUR (data for 5 consortia)

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 1.5% - 5% (data for 23 consortia)

## Science Direct Freedom Collection (Elsevier)

**Springer  
(excl. Nature)**

**Number of big deal contracts reported = 31**

**Total annual spend = 59 726 813 (28 consortia)**

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.27 – 4.16 EUR (data for 17 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

range between 500 EUR – 2 808 EUR (data for 7 consortia)

- **APC spend (per year)**

range between 77 500 EUR – 9 800 000 EUR (data for 4 consortia)

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 0% - 10.7% [second highest 5.5%] (data for 23 consortia)

## Nature

**Number of big deal contracts reported = 20**

**Total annual spend = 11 969 154** (data for 16 consortia)

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.8 EUR – 9.5 EUR (data for 9 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

Only 1 consortia provided data = 3613 EUR

- **APC spend (per year)**

N/A

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 2% - 5.5% (data for 13 consortia)



**Number of big deal contracts reported = 23**

**Total annual spend = 32 156 200** (data for 22 consortia)

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.69 – 7.34 EUR (data for 15 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

range between 897 EUR – 2 150 EUR (data for 6 consortia)

- **APC spend (per year)**

range between 2 150 EUR – 3 194 089 EUR (data for 4 consortia)

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 2% - 5.5% (17 consortia)

## Taylor & Francis

## Wiley

**Number of big deal contracts reported = 29**

**Total annual spend = 74 892 781** (data for 26 consortia)

- **Cost per download (per year)**

range between 0.4 EUR – 6.5 EUR (data for 17 consortia)

- **Price per article (per year)**

range between 1 650 EUR – 3 826 EUR (data for 6 consortia)

- **APC spend (per year)**

range between 51 900 – 4 475 464 EUR (data for 4 consortia)

- **Annual % increase**

Range between 1.75% - 9% (data for 20 consortia)

## American Chemical Society

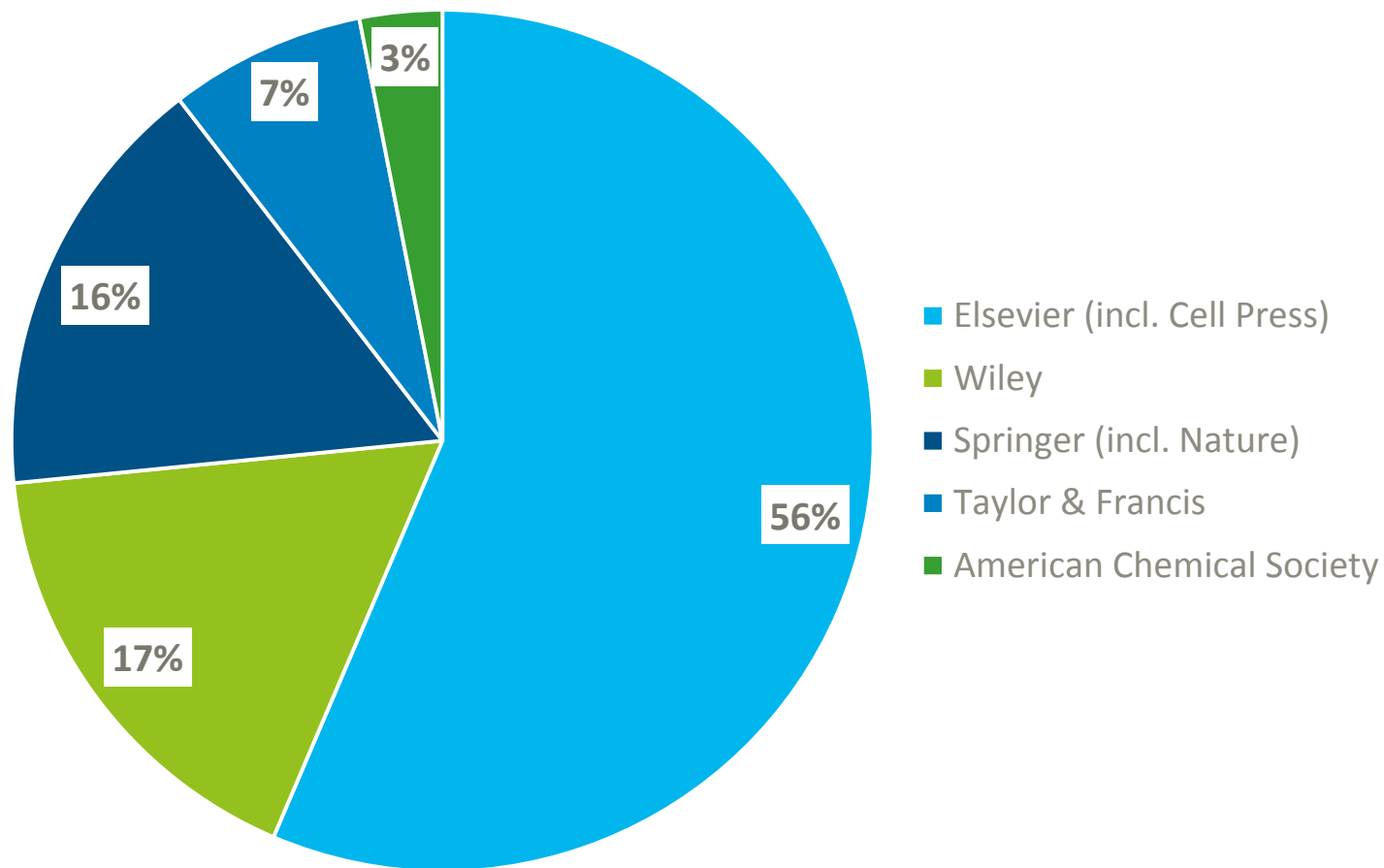
**Number of big deal contracts reported = 23**

**Total annual spend = 13 629 033** (data for 21 consortia)

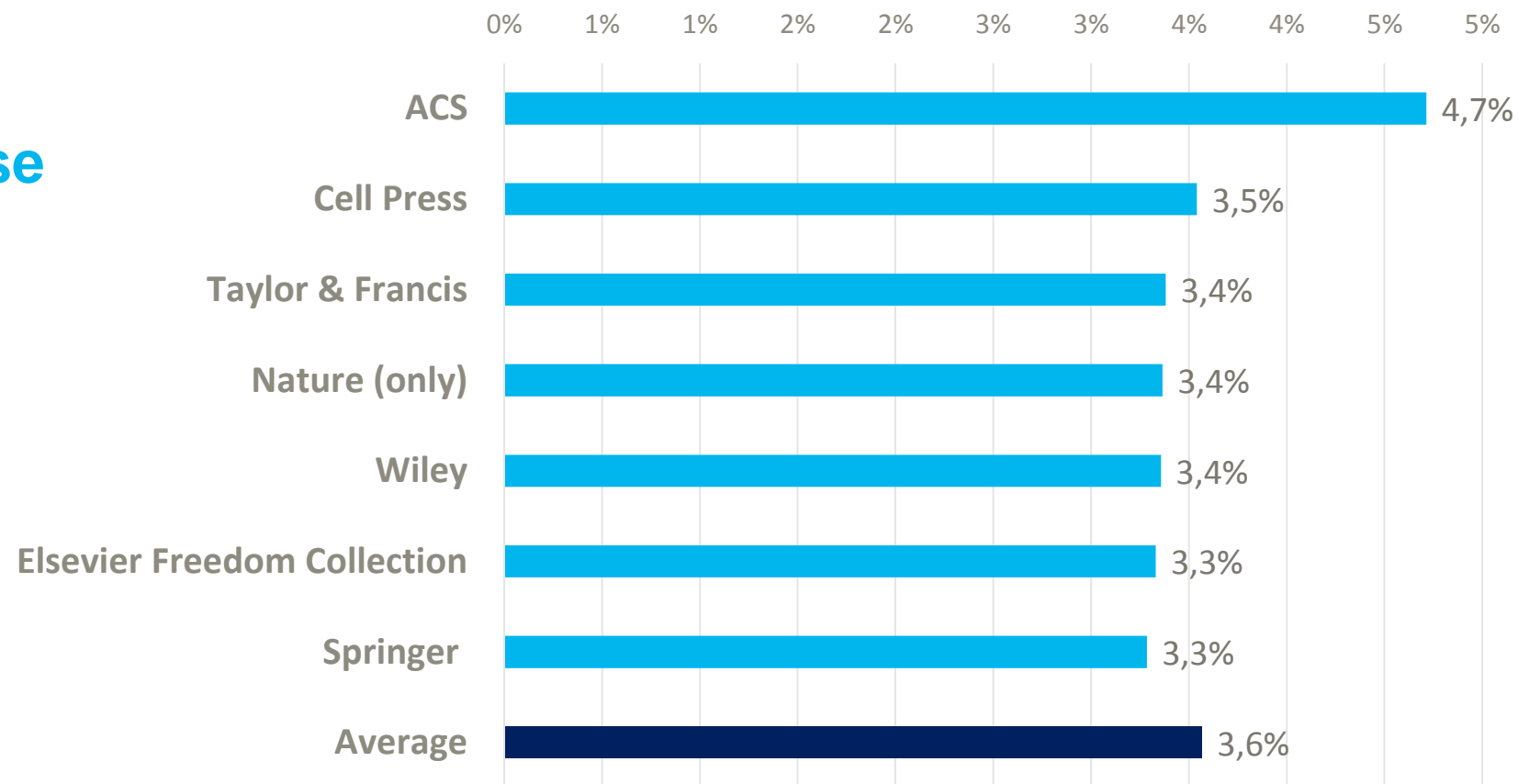
- **Cost per download (per year)**  
range between 0.72 EUR – 5.11 EUR (data for 13 consortia)
- **Price per article (per year)**  
range between 1 648 EUR – 5 734 EUR (data for 3 consortia)
- **APC spend (per year)**  
range between 5 000 EUR – 15 000 EUR (data for 2 consortia)
- **Annual % increase**  
Range between 2% - 8.5% (data for 12 consortia)

## Overview of costs by publisher

**Total reported = 440 805 816 EUR  
(data for 28 countries)**



## Average annual increase by publisher



## If things would not change ... Projected costs for Periodicals by 2021 for Elsevier, Springer, Wiley, ACS, Taylor and Francis

**Current annual spend with 5 big publishers: 440 805 816 EUR (28 countries)**

**Projected costs for 5 big publishers over 3 years (fixed annual increase 3.6%): 1 370 595 759 EUR**

**Projected costs for 5 big publishers over full contract duration: 1 421 791 077 EUR**

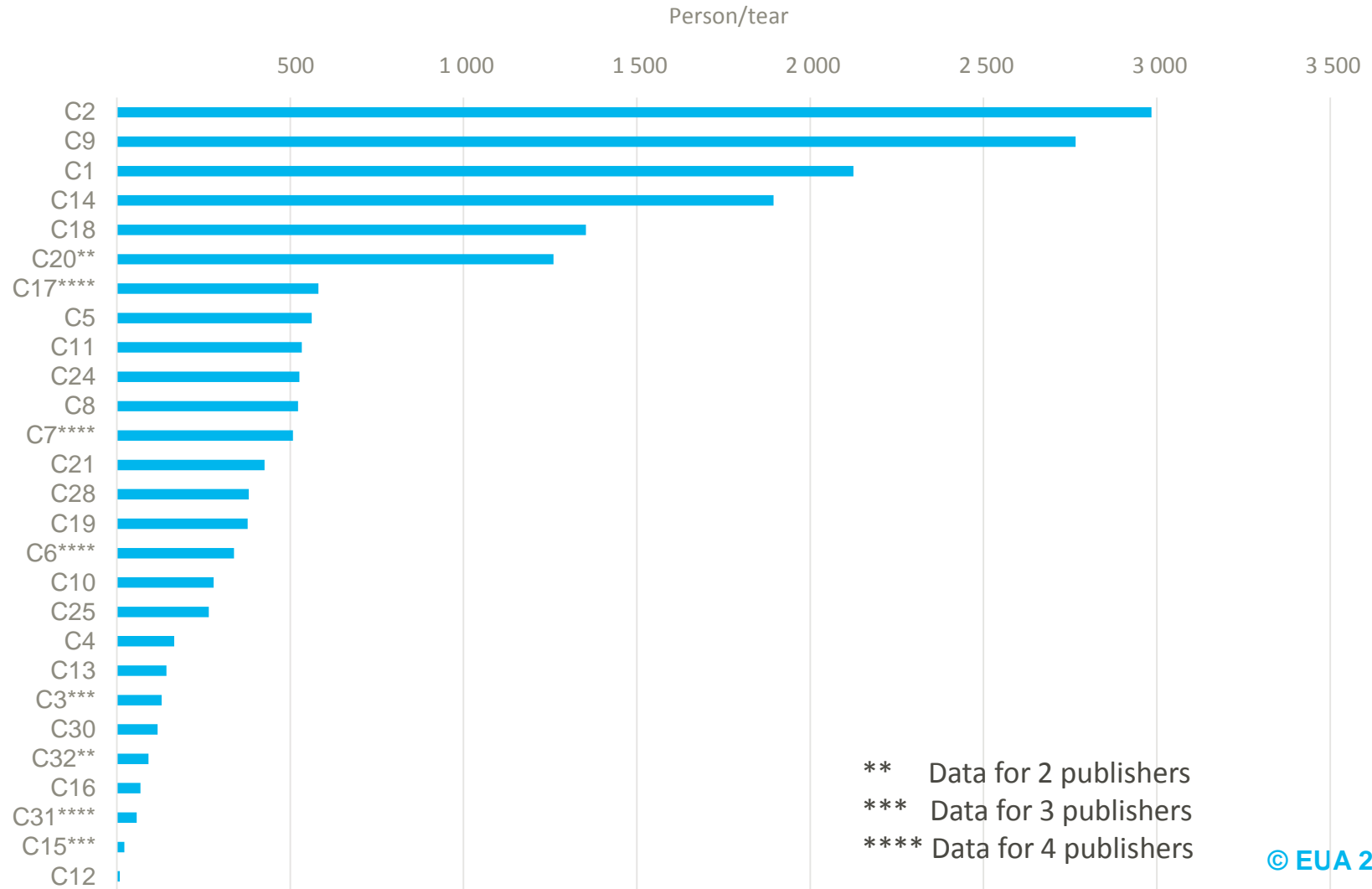
# Country comparison

# Relationship between amount spent on 5 big publishers (year) and GDP per capita

**Calculation:** Annual spend on 5 big publishers / GDP per capita

**Interpretation:** the result represents the number of people that need to work for one year (peson/year), given a certain GDP per capita, in order to reach the same monetary value as the cost with the 5 big publishers in that country.

*GDP per capita: source Eurostat (data from 2017)*



\*\* Data for 2 publishers  
 \*\*\* Data for 3 publishers  
 \*\*\*\* Data for 4 publishers



## Main conclusions

- **University leadership** seems to be more involved in big deals (strategy and/or negotiation), but still major differences across countries
- Different level of **knowledge on the total spent** on big deals and other related publication costs (APCs) across countries
- Most contracts do not have provisions on OA (currently)
- Many countries want to **combine subscriptions and APCs** in the same contract; other countries think this is not yet advantageous for their situation
- **APC monitoring** is very variable and, in general, feeble
- **Metrics** vary widely by country (e.g. cost per article)
- Stark variations in big deal costs across countries, and also by GDP (per capita) level

# The need for an evolution of the Scholarly Research Assessment Methodologies in the context of Open Science

**#ResearchAssessment**  
**#OpenScience**

21 Juin 2019

Two main  
challenges for  
the future of  
scholarly  
publications

**Accelerate Open Access (OA) to  
publications and make OA the main  
model**

**Control publication costs both for  
publishing and reading**

## Open Science: key objectives and conditions

### Key objectives:

- **Sharing of research-generated knowledge**
- **Quality of research and research ethics and integrity**
- **Transparency of the research process and outcomes publication**
- **Easy and affordable accessibility to research publications and data**

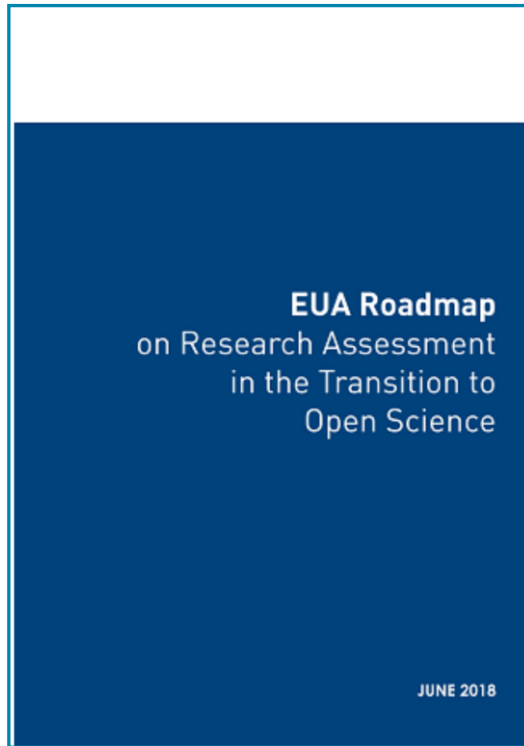
### Conditions:

- **Investment in Open Access business models (cost of publications)**
- **Investment in e-infrastructure (deposit and access – FAIR principles)**
- **Policies fostering Open Access to research publications and data**
- **Researchers motivation and careers**

Constraints for  
Open Science:  
Limited  
engagement of  
a large part of  
researchers for  
many reasons

**Necessary (although not sufficient) conditions to make  
Open Science a reality**

- **Clarification of legal issues concerning sharing and reuse of publications and data – copyright regulation**
- **Original authorship respect – ethical considerations**
- **Reputation and research career progression – linked to research assessment and outputs**



Source:

EUA (2018) [EUA Roadmap on Research Assessment in the Transition to Open Science](#)

## The dominance of the journal impact factor leads to two main problems:

1. the quality of an article produced by researchers is not evaluated directly, rather through a proxy, i.e., the reputation of the journal it is published in;
2. this situation reinforces the dominant position of commercial academic publishers and disproportionately adds to their power in shaping the way research is funded and conducted.

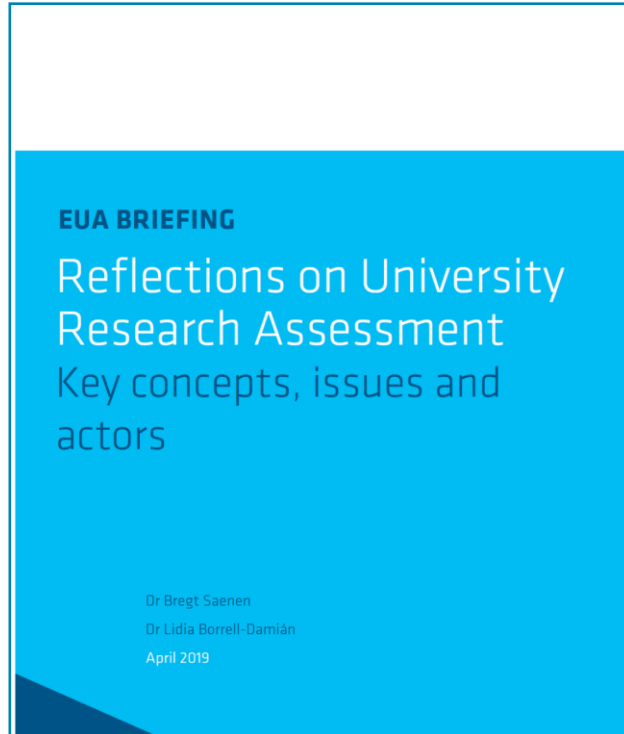
## EUA commitment

Raise awareness and support universities in the improvement of research assessment approaches that focus on research quality, potential and future impact, and that take into account Open Science practices.

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# Main messages

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## Researchers, universities and other research performing organisations, research funders and policymakers are revisiting their approaches to research assessment:

- Current approaches related to negative trends in academia
- Discussion about the current state and future direction of scholarly research, as well as technical discussions
- Involving a wide variety of actors, highlighting the need for a concerted approach

Source:

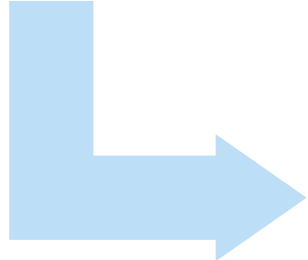
EUA (2019) [Reflections on University Research Assessment: Key concepts, issues and actors](#)



A systemic overview is necessary for an update of the Scholarly Research system

Gather and share information

- Briefing on key concepts, issues and actors (Apr-19)
- University survey (deadline: 25-May)
- Big Deals Survey Report 2018
- Open Access Survey Results 2018



Engage in dialogue

- Workshop on researchers' careers (14-May, Brussels)
- Dialogue with other actors, e.g. Science Europe, Open Science Policy Platform
- Partner in VSNU Event (15 November 2019)



Develop policy and good practice recommendations

- Joint statement EUA-Science Europe
- Policy/Political Positions
- Support to university leadership: rectors and vice-rectors, deans, heads of laboratory, etc.

More information:

Briefing: <http://bit.ly/EUARAbriefing>

Survey: <http://bit.ly/EUA2019RASurvey>

Workshop: [http://bit.ly/EUA\\_RAworkshopT](http://bit.ly/EUA_RAworkshopT)

# Study on Read & Publish Agreements

21 June 2019

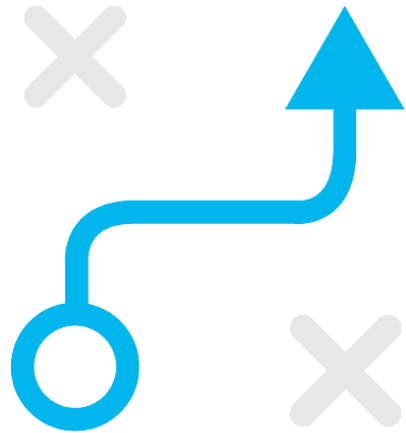
# Context: Recent Transformative agreements

Publisher	Country (consortium)
ACS	Netherlands (VSNU-UKB), Germany (MPDL), Slovenia (Slovenian consortium)
Elsevier	Netherlands (VSNU-UKB), Norway (Unit)
Springer Nature	Germany (MPDL), Netherlands (VSNU-UKB), Hungary (EISZ)
Taylor & Francis	Germany (MPDL), Austria (KEMOE/FWF), Sweden (Bibsam Consortium), Netherlands (VSNU-UKB)
Wiley	Austria (KEMOE/FWF), Netherlands (VSNU-UKB), Hungary (EISZ), Norway (Unit)

Full list available at <https://esac-initiative.org/about/transformative-agreements/agreement-registry/>

**Achieved by consortia with active engagement of high-level university leadership**

## Objectives



- **To support negotiating consortia in defining contract conditions that best suit the needs of their researchers**
- **Open new scenarios/routes towards Open Access**
- **To create a set of scenarios that describe how the To analyse most desirable features of agreements between university consortia and/or funders and publishers that**
  - **offer the best value for money,**
  - **avoid unintended consequences and**
  - **provide the least risk with respect to academic research and to the taxpayer**
- **Inform further dialogue between universities, research centers and with stakeholders in EU and worldwide, also in the context of Plan S**

## Supporting organisations

Austria - Universities Austria (UNIKO)  
Belgium - Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad (VLIR)  
Czech Republic - CzechELib  
Denmark - Denmarks Electronic Research Library (DEFF)  
EUA – European University Association  
Finland - Universities Finland (UNIFI)  
France - Consortium Couperin  
Iceland - University of Iceland  
Ireland - Irish Research eLibrary (IReL)  
Italy - Italian Rectors' Conference (CRUI)  
Lithuania - Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference  
Luxembourg - University of Luxembourg & National Library of Luxembourg  
Netherlands - Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU)  
Norway - Direktoratet for IKT og fellestjenester i høyere utdanning og forskning  
Portugal - Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT)  
Romania - National Council of Rectors (CNR)  
Slovakia - Slovak Rectors' Conference  
Slovenia - University of Nova Gorica on behalf of Slovenian Rectors Conference  
Spain – CRUE Spanish Universities  
Sweden - National Library of Sweden  
Switzerland – swissuniversities  
Turkey - Higher Education Council (YÖK)  
United Kingdom - Universities UK  
Poland - University of Warsaw on behalf of KRASP

## Summary: Actions Enabling Effective Open Science systems

More information:

Briefing: <http://bit.ly/EUARAbriefing>

Survey: <http://bit.ly/EUA2019RASurvey>

Workshop: [http://bit.ly/EUA\\_RAworkshopT](http://bit.ly/EUA_RAworkshopT)

- **Mobilisation of**
  - researchers
  - universities, research performing organisations, research funding agencies**to encourage the diversification of the publishing models**
- **Transformation of scholarly research assessment methodologies**
- **Governance and Policies:** institutional, national, supranational (e.g. Plan S, OA 2020 Initiative), assessment of costs of research systems
- **Investment in e-infrastructure**
- **Novel ‘transformative’ agreements with large scholarly publishers, e.g. Publish&Read Contracts and**
- **Common framework big deal negotiations**

# Merci de votre attention

