

Encouraging OA-publishers to do a better job. How DOAJ tries to help out!

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- Founded 2003 at Lund University – launched May 2003 with 300 journals
- Funded by initial one-off grants - membership and sponsor funding model introduced 2006.
- A lot has happened since then:
- Declarations, institution and funder open access policies and mandates, OA-publication funds, “innovative” and unethical companies enter the academic publishing market etc.

- Help is needed!
- Authors and their advisors want tools to choose proper publishing channels
- Funders want to be able to judge which publishing channels comply with their requirements
- Managers of OA-publication funds wants guidance for selecting eligible publishing channels for supporting APC-payments
- In short: Where can I find the proper OA-journals and transparent information about their practice?

- Situation 2010/2011:
- Increasing expectations as OA gets momentum.
- As OA matures demands from funders and libraries increase and become more differentiated and advanced.
- Requirements for a service like DOAJ increase
- Becomes difficult for a single university to be responsible for a global service.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES FOR OPEN ACCESS

www.is4oa.org



Founded by
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INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES FOR OPEN ACCESS

**A not-for-profit Community Interest Company
(C.I.C.), registered in the United Kingdom.**

- IS4OA took over DOAJ January 1st 2013.
- We said we would:
 - Respond to demands and expectations by **developing new tighter criteria** for inclusion
 - **Reengineer the editorial back office work**
 - **Invite “associate editors”** to contribute to evaluation of journals to be listed

Why tighter criteria?

- To promote best practice.
- To create better opportunities for funders, universities, libraries and authors to **determine** whether a journal lives up to reasonable standards
- To provide much more granular information about the journals - **transparency**
- Enable the community to **monitor compliance**
- Addressing the issue of **questionable** publishers not living up to reasonable standards both in terms of **services** and of **business behavior**.

Reasonable standards?

- When looking for reasonable standards we discovered that others were trying to do the same thing.
- We entered discussions with COPE, OASPA and WAME and drafted the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing
- <http://doaj.org/bestpractice>

- COPE, OASPA, WAME & DOAJ:

Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing

Introduction

The Committee on Publication Ethics, the Directory of Open Access Journals, the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association, and the World Association of Medical Editors are scholarly organizations that have seen an increase in the number of membership applications from both legitimate and non-legitimate publishers and journals. Our organizations have collaborated in an effort to identify principles of transparency and best practice that set apart legitimate journals and publishers from non-legitimate ones and to clarify that these principles form part of the criteria on which membership applications will be evaluated.

These criteria are largely derived from those developed by the Directory of Open Access Journals. Note that additional membership criteria may also be used by each of the scholarly organizations. The organizations intend to share information in order to develop lists of legitimate journals and publishers. We do not intend to develop or publish a list of publishers or journals that failed to demonstrate they met the criteria for transparency and best practice.

This is a work in progress and we welcome feedback on the general principles and the specific criteria. Background on the organizations is below.

The Principles

1. **Peer review process**
2. **Governing Body**
3. **Editorial team/contact**
4. **Author fees**
5. **Copyright**
6. **Identification of and dealing with allegations of research misconduct**
7. **Ownership and management**
8. **Web site.**
9. **Name of journal**
10. **Conflicts of interest**
11. **Access**
12. **Revenue sources**
13. **Advertising**
14. **Publishing schedule**
15. **Archiving**
16. **Direct marketing**

- The new application form:
- <http://doaj.org/application/new>

DOAJ Journal Application Form

All the information provided will help our Editorial Team with their assessment, to help them make an informed decision based on the information that you provide.

If you know a journal that should be in DOAJ, please contact the publisher and ask them to complete this form.

BEFORE YOU START, please remember that **all** the content of the journal you are applying about **must** be available **immediately** upon publication.

Basic Journal Information

1) Journal Title *

2) URL *

3) Alternative Title

4) Journal ISSN (print version) *

Only provide the print ISSN if your journal has one, otherwise leave this field blank. Write the ISSN with the hyphen "-" e.g. 1234-4321.

5) Journal ISSN (online version) *

Write the EISSN with the hyphen "-" e.g. 1234-4321.

6) Publisher *

Quality and Transparency of the Editorial Process

34) What is the URL for the Editorial Board page? *

The journal must have either an editor or an editorial board with at least 5 clearly identifiable members and affiliation information. We may ask for affiliation information and email addresses as part of our checks.

35) Please select the review process for papers *

36) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

This field is optional if you have selected "None" above.

37) What is the URL for the journal's Aims & Scope *

Capture a Rectangul

New Criteria

- Have inspired and were inspired by the Principles....
- Was drafted in consultation with the DOAJ Advisory Board and discussed heavily in the community.
- Are way more detailed – the existing criteria was merely 6 questions, now publishers have to respond to 52 questions!
- Is a compromise
- Will have to be updated in 2-3 years.

- The purpose is
 - to motivate and encourage publishers to be much more transparent
 - Not to stigmatize but rather push them in the right direction.
- An issue here is the global nature of the DOAJ
 - covering all subjects, more than 50 languages and journals published in more than 130 countries.

New criteria

- New tighter criteria deal with:
- **“Quality”**
- **“Openness”**
- **“The delivery” or “Technical quality”**
- They are much more detailed
- Publishers will have to do more to be included

The must haves!

- Journals must have:
 - An Open Access statement
 - Comply with the BOAI definition
 - A peer-review process, and tell us what kind of process
 - An editor/editorial board with clearly identifiable members
 - Licensing and copyright information
 - Aims and scope
 - Published a least 5 articles to qualify

They must tell us!

- Journals must tell us whether they have:
 - Charges, what kind, how much, waiver policy etc.
 - Archiving, if yes, with which organization
 - Persistent identifiers, if yes, which
 - Usage statistics
 - In what formats content is provided
 - Screening for plagiarism
 - Average number of weeks btw. submission and publishing

They must also tell us!

- Journals must also tell us whether they have:
 - Machine readable CC-license info displayed
 - Which CC-license is used
 - If no cc-license is used, then specify the permissions
 - A deposit policy, if yes where this is registered
 - A policy that allows authors to hold the copyright without restrictions
 - A policy that allows the authors to retain the publishing rights

- **QUALITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF THE EDITORIAL PROCESS**
- The journal must have an editor or an editorial board, all members must be easily identified
- Specification of the review process
 - Editorial review, Peer review., Blind peer review, Double blind peer review, **Open Peer Review**, Other
- Statements about aims & scope clearly visible
- Instructions to authors shall be available and easily located
- Screening for plagiarism?
- Time from submission to publication

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35) Please select the review process for papers *

36) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

This field is optional if you have selected "None" above.

Specify what kind of review process is applied: Editorial review, Peer Review, Blind Peer Review, Double Blind Peer Review, Open Peer Review

- Openness, Reuse & Remixing rights, Licensing, Copyrights and Permissions!

How Open is the Journal?

Please remember that **all** the content of the journal you are applying about **must** be available **immediately** upon publication.

42) What is the URL for the journal's Open Access statement? *

Licenses reuse/remix

45) Does the journal allow reuse and remixing of its content, in accordance with a CC license? *

- CC-BY
- CC-BY-NC
- CC-BY-NC-ND
- CC-BY-ND
- CC-BY-SA
- No
- Other

For more information go to
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

46) Which of the following does the content require? (Tick all that apply.)

- Attribution
- No Commercial Usage
- No Derivatives
- Share Alike

47) Enter the URL on your site where your license terms are stated

47) Enter the URL on your site
where your license terms are
stated

48) Does the journal allow readers
to 'read, download, copy,
distribute, print, search, or link to
the full texts' of its articles? *

- Yes
- No

From the [Budapest Open Access Initiative's definition of Open Access](#)

Copyright and Permissions

50) Does the journal allow the author(s) to hold the copyright without restrictions? *

Yes

No

Other

51) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

52) Will the journal allow the author(s) to retain publishing rights without restrictions? *

Yes

No

Other

- Archiving is important – too many OA-journals do not have an archiving arrangement

23) What digital archiving policy does the journal use? *

- No policy in place
- LOCKSS
- CLOCKSS
- Portico
- PMC/Europe PMC/PMC Canada
- A national library
- Other

Select all that apply. Institutional archives and publishers' own online archives are not valid

24) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

This field is optional if you have only selected "No policy in place" above

25) Does the journal allow anyone to crawl the full-text of the journal? *

- Yes
- No

Permanent Identifiers (DOIs)

- From a survey we did 2013:
- Has your journal(s) implemented DOIs:
- Yes: 35%
- No: 55%
- Don't know: 10%

26) Which article identifiers does
the journal use? *

- None
- DOI
- Handles
- ARK
- Other

Plagiarism etc

39) Does the journal have a policy of screening for plagiarism? *

- Yes
 No

If "No" proceed to question below

40) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

41) What is the average number of weeks between submission and publication? *

Deposit policy

49) With which deposit policy directory does the journal have a registered deposit policy? *

- None
- Sherpa/Romeo
- Dulcinea
- OAKlist
- Héloïse
- Diadorum
- Other

Select all that apply.

Journals charging APCs	
Subject	APC's
All Subjects	26%
Medicine	41%
Science	42%
Technology	34%
Social Sciences	18%
Education	9%
Language & Literature	3%
Phil, Psych. & Religion	8%

Charges

13) Does the journal have article processing charges (APCs)? *

- Yes
 No

If "No" proceed to question below

14) Amount *

15) Currency *

16) Does the journal have article submission charges? *

- Yes
 No

If "No" proceed to question below

21) Does the journal have a waiver policy (for developing country authors etc)? *

- Yes
 No

22) Enter the URL where this information can be found *

A delicate balance!

- Respecting different publishing cultures and traditions
- Not primarily exclude, but rather facilitate and assist the smaller journals to come into the flow
- **While at the same time** promoting standards, transparency and best practice

- Promoting best practice (anno 2014) – qualifiers for the DOAJ SEAL:
- Archiving arrangement with an archiving organisation
- Provision of permanent identifiers
- Provision of article level metadata to DOAJ
- CC-BY (embedded machine readable in article metadata)
- CC-BY or CC-BY-NC
- Deposit policy registered in a deposit policy directory

The DOAJ SEAL

To qualify for the Seal the journal must:

1. have an archival arrangement in place with an external party. ([scroll to digital archiving policy question](#)) If 'No policy in place' is selected, the journal will not qualify for the Seal.
2. provide permanent identifiers in the papers published. ([scroll to article identifiers question](#)) If 'None' is selected, the journal will not qualify for the Seal.
3. provide article level metadata to DOAJ. ([scroll to metadata provision question](#)) If 'No' is selected or the journal fails to provide metadata within 3 months, the journal will not qualify for the Seal.
4. embed machine-readable CC licensing information in its article level metadata. ([scroll to embedded licensing data question](#)) If 'No' is selected the journal will not qualify for the Seal.
5. allow reuse and remixing of its content in accordance with a CC-BY or CC-BY-NC. ([scroll to licensing question](#)) If CC-BY-ND, 'No' or 'Other' is selected the journal will not qualify for the Seal.
6. have a deposit policy registered in a deposit policy directory. ([scroll to deposit policy question](#)) If 'No' is selected the journal will not qualify for the Seal.

A journal cannot apply for the Seal. The Seal will be awarded to a journal by the DOAJ Editorial staff depending on the information provided in the [application form](#).

Where are we now?

- The new application form was implemented March 2014.
- Experience so far: it is not easy to complete a application!
- The fact that an **application cannot be submitted** unless you are able to properly fill in the application form is already **filtering out many questionable publishers.**
- Since March: 450 journals added (170 removed)

and...

- We are now enrolling dozens of associate editors from all over the world to help us.
- We now operate a three-tier evaluation process

Three-Tier Evaluation Process



Associate Editors: reviewing applications, communicate with publishers, recommend inclusion/rejection

Editors: allocating applications to Associate Editors, recommend inclusion/rejection

Managing Editors: allocate applications to Editors & decide on inclusion/rejection

Editorial Teams (Dec 2014)

Current teams

- English (3 teams)
- Spanish (3teams)
- Portuguese

- Russian
- Turkish
- Chinese
- Indonesian
- Ukranian
- Italian
- Polish
- Farsi

New teams shortly

- Arabic (2 teams)
- French
- German
- Hindi

- More to come!

What comes next?

- Shortly ready to announce the re-application process
 - all listed journals have to re-apply to stay listed!
- Tool for bulk-upload for multi-journal publishers (10+ journals) will be tested by Springer & SciELO
- Re-application process expected to be completed by the end of 2015
- Spring 2015:
 - All information provided will be publicly available
 - Searchable
 - Computable (API)
 - OpenURL

Benefits of being listed!

- From the survey mentioned earlier:
- Important/extremely important benefits of being listed:
- Increased visibility : 97%
- Increased traffic : 85%
- Prestige : 86%
- Certification : 87%
- Eligibility for support from OA-publication funds: 64%
- Better promotion : 80%
- Increased submissions : 72%

So!!

- Starting out in 2003 with some 300 journals the DOAJ has developed into an important service with some 10.000 journals.
- Now we are significantly upgrading the DOAJ in response to increasing demand and hot issues.
- We are now developing our back office systems and enrolling dozens of associate editors from the community to help us

To conclude!

- We believe that the new application criteria will improve the transparency and credibility of OA-journals
- We will continue to contribute to the momentum of open access publishing by
 - carefully promoting **standards, transparency and best practice**
 - without losing the **global** view
- This will benefit **all** (open access) publishers!

But!

- “upgrading” DOAJ is a major effort:
- major system development work
- implementing a new way of working – putting associate editors to work
- we will only be able to do this, if we get more financial support from the community.
- If you think we are doing good work – then support us!

Our ambition: DOAJ to be **the** **white list!**

and make other lists superfluous –
that is:

If a journal is in the DOAJ it complies
with accepted standards

If it isn't in the DOAJ – watch out!

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

Thank you for your attention!



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Thanks to
all the Library Consortia, Universities and Publishers
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We have vacancies here!

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