
Why index your journal in DOAJ? What do you need to know?

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Overview

- Introduction to DOAJ
- Benefits of indexing diamond OA journals
- Basic criteria for inclusion in DOAJ
- The importance of licensing
- Applying for inclusion in DOAJ - the new application form
- Preservation initiative for diamond OA journals

Directory of Open Access Journals

- Founded 2003 to support the growing OA community
- Aim to include all OA journals that meet quality standards
- **Raise profile, visibility and impact of OA journals**
- Independent, not-for-profit service funded entirely by donations
- Editorial work supported by global team of volunteers
- All DOAJ services provided **free of charge** - including review, journal listing, metadata distribution

Worldwide coverage

80

LANGUAGES

125

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

11,635

JOURNALS
WITHOUT APCs

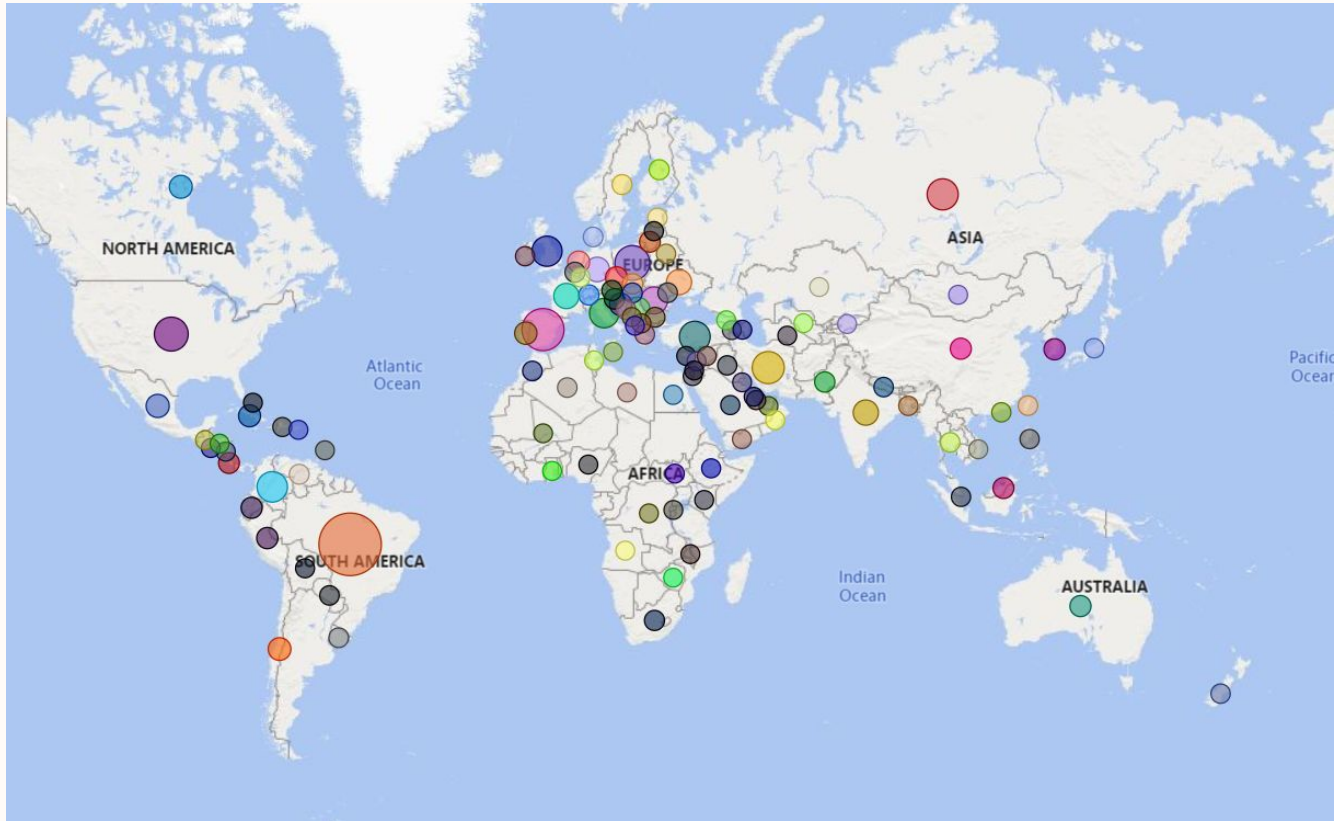
16,139

JOURNALS

5,874,821

ARTICLE
RECORDS

DOAJ



Geographic spread of diamond OA journals in DOAJ - March 2021

Benefits of DOAJ indexing

1

Demonstrate your journal meets good publishing standards

3

Attract more authors and readers from around the world

5

First step towards inclusion in Scopus or Web of Science

2

Increase discoverability of your journal in search engines and indexing services

4

Enhance the reputation and impact of your journal

DOAJ basic criteria

Openness

- All journal content must be free and open access
- Immediate access - no delay or embargo
- No registration requirement
- DOAJ's definition of open access journals:

Journals where the copyright holder of a scholarly work grants usage rights to others using an **open license** (Creative Commons or equivalent) allowing for immediate free access to the work and permitting any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose.

Coverage and currency

- Journals must be **actively** publishing scholarly research
- Any research area
- Any language (no English needed)
- Publish at least 5 research articles per year
- New journals need to demonstrate a publishing history of more than 1 year, or have published at least 10 articles

Journal information

- All journals require a registered and confirmed **ISSN**
- Dedicated homepage for journal
- Information available and easily findable on:
 - Aims and scope
 - Open access policy
 - Instructions for authors
 - Editorial board, including affiliations for all members
 - Editorial process (**peer review**)
 - Copyright and licensing terms
 - **Author charges (even if zero)**



7 Common types of peer review

1 Single Blind Peer Review

Authors don't know who the reviewers are. But the reviewers are aware of the authors' identity when they decide to accept or reject the document for review as well as throughout the review process.



2 Double Blind Peer Review

The journal editor does not reveal the reviewers' credentials to the authors and vice-versa. So both parties are not aware of each other's identity. All indicators of identity such as names, affiliations, etc. are removed.



3 Open Peer Review

The authors and peer reviewers both know each other's identities. This system allows the peer reviewers' comments as well as the authors' responses to be published along with the final manuscript.



4 Collaborative Peer Review

This type of peer review occurs on a platform provided by the journal where authors & reviewers can discuss how the paper can be improved. Often, reviewers' identities are concealed from authors but may be revealed at the time of publication.



5 Third-Party Peer Review

Authors get their manuscripts reviewed by an independent peer review service before they approach any journal. Based on the reviews, they make changes to the paper and then submit it to the journal.



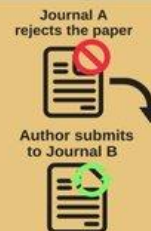
6 Post-Publication Peer Review

The journal provides a platform such as a discussion forum for the post-publication commenting. Once the published paper is available on the platform, anyone who reads it can post their comments or views about the paper.



7 Cascading Peer Review

When a manuscript is rejected after review because it is of low priority for the journal at the moment or because it is not interesting for the journal's target readers, the journal may suggest that the author/s submit the manuscript to an alternate journal along with the reviews. Often, the new journal is part of the publisher's portfolio.



Copyright

- OA best practice is for authors to retain copyright of their articles
- But DOAJ will accept journals where copyright is transferred to the publisher
- Ensure your policy is clearly stated
- Provide link to your publishing agreement if you use one
- **All rights reserved** not appropriate for OA content



Importance of licensing

Why is licensing necessary?

- Free access does not always mean open access
- Open access means there is the right for readers to reuse content
- Use licensing to:
 - Inform readers how they may reuse content
 - Inform readers of any reuse that is not allowed
 - Protect the author and journal against unauthorised use
- DOAJ recommends use of **Creative Commons** licenses (or equivalent)
 - **No charge** for using CC licenses

LICENSES



TERMS



BY

Attribution

Others can copy, distribute, display, perform and remix your work if they credit your name as requested by you



ND

No Derivative Works

Others can only copy, distribute, display or perform verbatim copies of your work



SA

Share Alike

Others can distribute your work only under a license identical to the one you have chosen for your work



NC

Non-Commercial

Others can copy, distribute, display, perform or remix your work but for non-commercial purposes only.

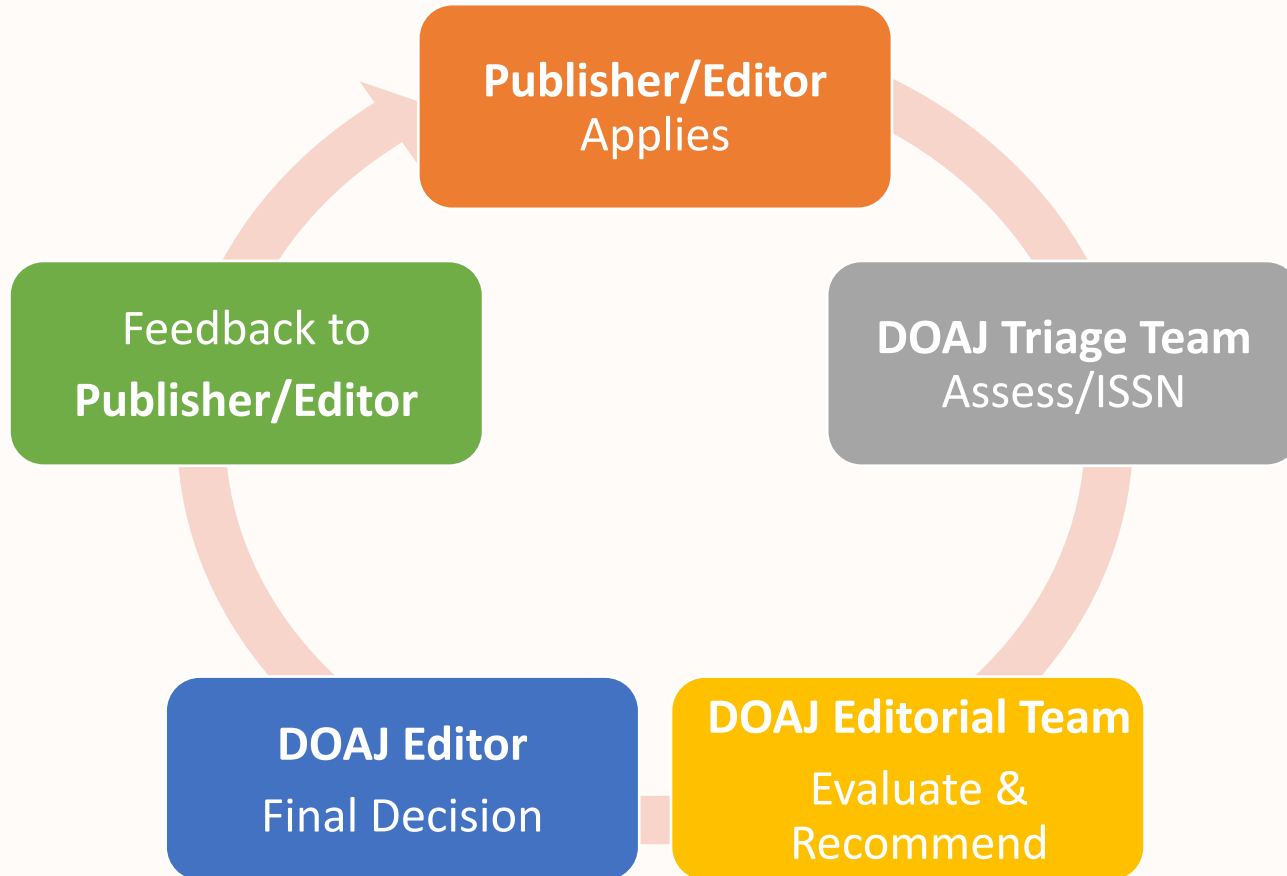
Applying for inclusion in DOAJ

How to apply

- DOAJ only includes journals that apply for inclusion
- Apply using the online application form at <https://doaj.org/apply/>
- Previous form had 56 questions!
- **New form** designed to make the process easier and quicker
- But journals must still meet strict quality standards

New application form

- Open access compliance
- About the journal
- Copyright and licensing
- Editorial information
- Business model
- Best practice (not required for inclusion)
 - Persistent identifiers (like DOIs)
 - **Digital preservation**



Help and documentation

Guide to applying

<https://doaj.org/apply/guide/>

Reference version of the application form

<https://doaj.org/static/doaj/docs/2021-02-17-DOAJQuestions.pdf>

Information in other languages

<https://doaj.org/apply/guide/#in-other-languages>

Preservation of diamond OA journals

Project overview

- Diamond OA journals are most at risk of disappearing from the web
- Project group of five organisations dedicated to preservation of OA content
- Aim to create a hub where preservation agencies can harvest consistent metadata and full-text content
- Offer free and low-cost options for preservation and access
- Help to preserve journals that don't have the funds to join existing preservation services

Who is involved?



DOAJ

PKP
PUBLIC
KNOWLEDGE
PROJECT

Problems to solve

1 Journals can vanish from the web, taking with them the research they published, leading to “reference rot” and broken URLs.^[1]

2 Some archiving and preservation solutions come with financial and technical barriers that may prevent journals from taking part.

3 There is an initial investment in time and tech required by each service to set up a new journal before content is ingested. This can be expensive.

4 Communications with thousands of small publishers and a lack of standard practices makes archiving difficult.

5 Awareness among journal owners, editors and publishers about why archiving and preservation are important is low.

¹. *Open is not forever: a study of vanished open access journals* Laakso et al. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.11933>

Project aims

A sustainable solution that facilitates archiving for unfunded open access journals.

Aggregated archiving data available in Keepers Registry.

Goal of >50% reduction in the number of “unarchived” journals in DOAJ.

Better documentation and training tools for raising awareness on why archiving is good for journals.



Thank you!

Meet me in the Networking Lounge if you have any questions about DOAJ
Wednesday 9 - 11 am Amsterdam/3 - 5 pm Singapore
Thursday 2 - 4 pm Amsterdam/8 - 10 pm Singapore

Contact me at judith@doaj.org

DOAJ helpdesk: feedback@doaj.org