

Arguments
and
Counter-arguments
for
Open Access Publishing



It is not possible to completely finance the author-pays (Gold) model; in addition to this, allocation of funds may not be fair and there could be favouritism.



Self-archiving (Green) model is also available where funds run out. Institutions are working on formula to allocate funds in an objective manner based on quantity of research output. This is the criterion used by funders too when allocating annual block grants to institutions for paid (Gold) publishing. However, self-archiving (Green) option is no less valuable than the paid (Gold) route.



Journals with high impact factors that authors want to publish in are not compliant .



The paper should have its intrinsic value independent of the journal it is published in. Increased visibility as a result of Open Access will provide higher citation rates.



Findability and
academic reputation
world-wide will
decrease.



There are many reputable publishers and journals with Open Access business models, such as [BioMed Central](#), [Hindawi](#), [PLoS ONE](#) to cite some few. [DOAJ – Directory of Open Access Journals](#) indexes the contents of Open Access journals. Contents of open institutional repositories, e.g. [QMRO](#), are indexed by [OpenDOAR](#) – Directory of Open Access Repositories.



The peer review process will be bypassed, leading to declining quality in papers published.



Peer-review does not happen in traditional publishing only. Scholars who peer-review papers generally do this for free and therefore do not necessarily profit from journals with traditional publishing models. However, they may even profit from peer-reviewing for Open Access publishers when a work is published under the paid (Gold) route. Consequently, Open Access publishing does not mean the demise of peer-review and lack of quality control – on the contrary, funders are only interested in peer-reviewed work and making them openly accessible.



Permissions are too liberal and authors do not want third parties to make profit out of their papers.



Public has the right to access research output funded by themselves, the tax payer. As for commercial re-use permissions, this will allow companies that fund research to make use of that research output for innovations which will benefit all and there will be greater research efficiency through early discussion of findings.



There are legal
concerns and
plagiarism may
spread.



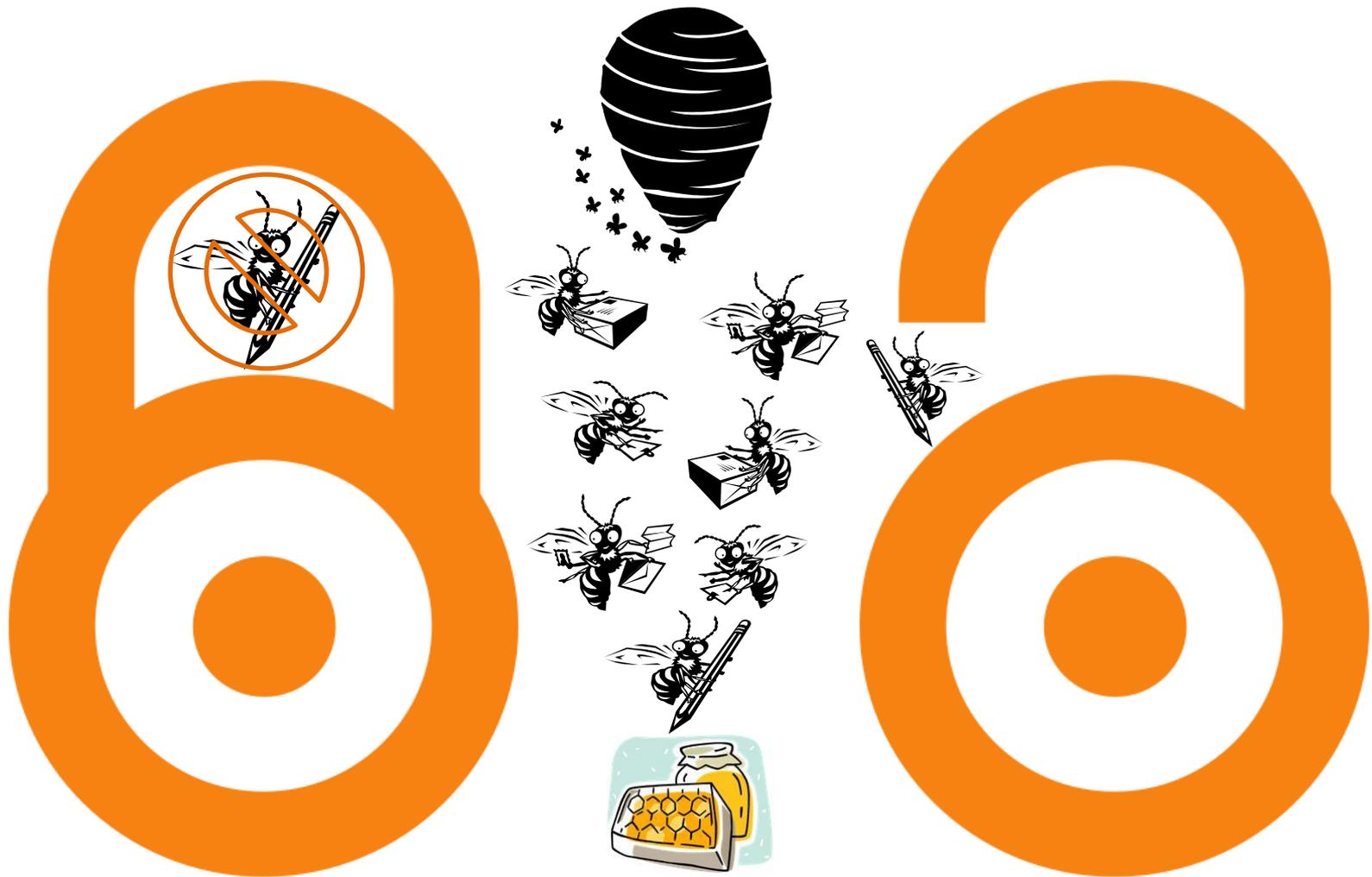
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