

OVERVIEW

Study on Read & Publish Agreements

20 February 2019

Background

- Builds on discussions in EUA Expert Groups on Open Science and High-Level Group on Big Deals
- Follows EUA's work on Big Deals and the [EUA paper on transparency and competition in the large publishing market](#) sent to DG Competition
- Expected to provide information for negotiators in consortia dealing with scholarly resources

Rationale

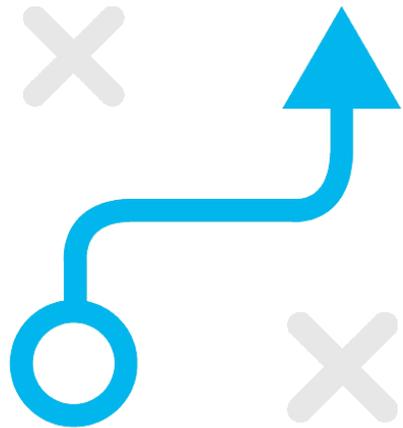
Possible benefits of “read and publish” deals:

- **administrative efficiency and convenience for universities**
- **their potential to act as a transition vehicle toward full Open Access**
- **lower absolute cost compared with some other models**
- **complement to the push by ‘Plan S’ on Open Access**

However

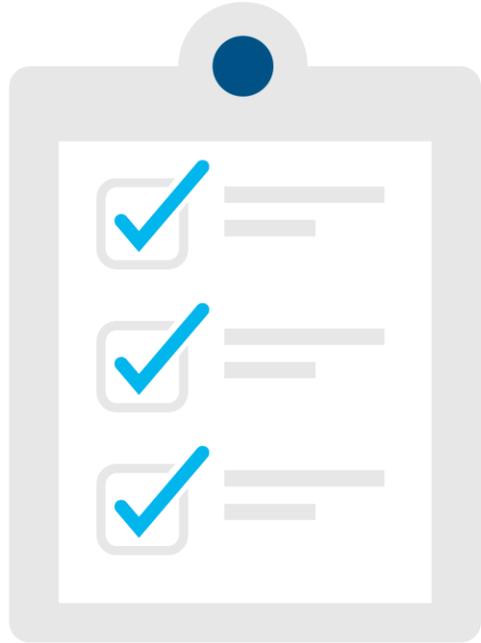
No systematic review of the features of a market based on such agreements should they become ubiquitous

Objectives



- To create a set of scenarios that describe how the scholarly publication system may be affected if read and publish agreements become widespread
- 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

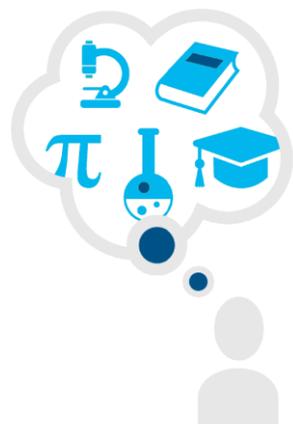
Outputs



- A. Economic market models illustrating the more likely trajectories for journals if “read and publish” deals become common, with dependencies and degrees of confidence in those models**
- B. A PESTLE (*) analysis relating to the journals market and the transition to OA**
- C. A set of at least four scenarios**
- D. A validated SWOT (*) analysis of each scenario**
- E. A set of recommendations on how to ensure that the objectives of R&P agreements are realised and the costs and risks of both identified in ways that enable them to be monitored, and minimised.**

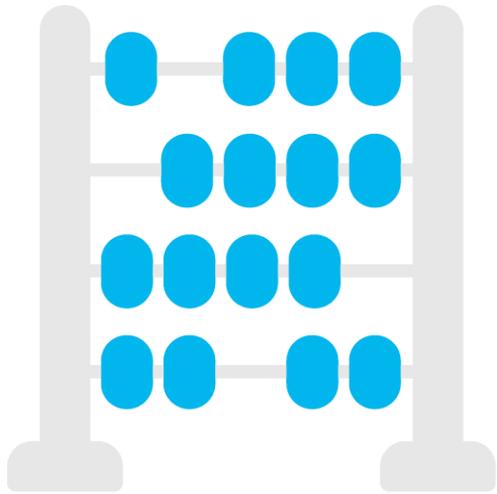
(*) PESTLE: Political; Economic; Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental.
SWOT: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats.

Issues to be addressed (indicative)



- a) Possible **features of R&P agreements** and, differences between R&P agreements, ‘transformative’ agreements, ‘offsetting’ agreements, and ‘Publish and Read’ agreements.
- b) Short, medium- and long-term **cost implications** of a R&P based market
- c) **Implications for the publishing industry** including likelihood of consolidation, implications for small, learned society and pure gold publishers, transparency
- d) Longer term **sustainability of an APC-based market and applicability of APCs** as a sustainable business model across all markets, publishers and subject areas
- e) **Implications for the distribution of publication costs within and across countries** in an R&P environment
- f) **Implications if R&P agreements** only become ubiquitous in some parts of the world
- g) **Implications for authors** from the Global South
- h) **Implications for freedom to publish** in preferred journals
- i) **Implications for arts, humanities and social sciences**
- j) **Implications for innovation in research communication**
- k) **Implications for service levels** offered by publishers, including e.g. text and data mining, post-cancellation access rights etc.
- l) **Implications for transparency in the market**, e.g. accountability for public funds, price-informed publication choices, etc.
- m) **Implications for demand and costs for Open Access infrastructure** such as repositories and archives

Governance and funding

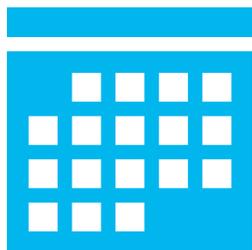


- **Management centralised by EUA together with international group of sponsors**
 - **EUA as contracting body**
 - **Steering Committee composed of funders**
- **Total budget available for the contract: approx. €130,000**
- **Support and funding from 25 NRCs and EUA**

Expected benefits

- **Support national (or equivalent) consortia to develop new, more value for money, and better service, agreements**
- **Open new scenarios/routes towards Open Access**
- **Inform further dialogue between universities, research centers and with stakeholders in EU and worldwide, also in the context of Plan S**

Timeline



Announcement	20 February 2019
Deadline for responses	15 March 2019, 17h00
Evaluation of responses	15-29 March 2019
Award of contract	Early April 2019
Project launch	Early April 2019
End of project	October 2019

Contact

Lennart Stoy (Lennart.stoy@eua.eu)
Project Manager R&I

Thank you for your attention

