DIAMAS

Developing Institutional Open Access Publishing Models to Advance Scholarly Communication

Institutional Publishing in the ERA: results from the DIAMAS survey

D2.3 Final IPSP landscape Report

Author(s): See author list inside.

Reviewer(s): Émilie Paquin, UNESCO and Gunnar Sivertsen, NIFU

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Document overview

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Executive Summary

The DIAMAS project investigates Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSP) in the broadest sense, with a special focus on those publishing initiatives that do not charge fees to authors or readers. 'No fee' publishing models are collectively known as Diamond OA. A vast majority of IPSPs are already fully in line with the Diamond model, which is considered as the ideal, most equitable, end state of institutional publishing. At the same time, the current institutional publishing landscape also includes a varied subset of IPSPs who are not yet fully Diamond OA, and partly rely on subscriptions, print sales, and, marginally, APCs for their diverse revenue streams. Some publishing initiatives may also restrict access for authors, for instance to authors funded by a specific funder. The scope of the DIAMAS project extends to all such IPSPs as well. We coin the term 'diamondisation' for journals that are moving towards fully Diamond OA.

Survey focus. This report focuses on Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSPs) rather than on individual journals. It thus complements the 2021 OA Diamond Journals Study (OADJS) (Bosman, Frantsvåg et al., 2021) which analysed individual journals. For the purposes of the survey, the project defines IPSPs as entities that provide or coordinate a set of services for institutional academic publishing. Two complementary types of IPSP are distinguished: Institutional Publishers (IPs), who carry legal, ethical, or scientific responsibility for academic publishing, and Service Providers (SPs), who have more limited responsibility for specific activities in the publishing process. Both types can be integrated in a single IPSP.

This Landscape Report draws on the 685 valid responses to the DIAMAS IPSP survey conducted between March and May 2023. This represents data from 43 countries in the ERA. Due to limiting factors, such as reach of the survey, question wording, and translations, caution must be exercised in generalising the findings in this landscape report to the wider population of IPSPs in the ERA. The representativeness of the sample is even more limited in countries with a low response rate. Any conclusions drawn should be contextualised by the characteristics of the sample.

The data collection, the analysis performed, and this report are meant as a starting point for the subsequent Work Packages of the DIAMAS project, providing necessary information and highlighting areas needing further attention.

Identifying IPSPs. In terms of responses from IPSPs to the survey, we noted that countries that have a national centre coordinating Diamond institutional publishers also are best represented in the survey. These include Croatia, Finland, France, and Spain. These IPSPs also generally provide the most granular answers to the questions in the survey. In addition, the detailed country reports for Switzerland and Germany are confirmed by existing research on Diamond OA journals in these countries (Bruns, Taubert et al., 2022; Hahn, Hehn et al., 2023b).

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Many IPSPs found it difficult to self-identify as IPs or SPs. Further analysis showed that this was due to the fact that most IPSPs perform the functions of both IPs and SPs. in addition, publishing services do not always self-identify as such, because they are part of a larger organisation with a more general mission (e.g. libraries, ...).

The **governance** of IPSPs is in many cases embedded in public institutions that support or host them. This means that there is a strong interdependence between the IPSPs' governance model and that of the institution that supports or hosts them. This embedding explains why a number of IPSPs report that they lack specific governance documents: governance lies with a higher level in their organisation. This configuration has both strengths and weaknesses. On the one hand, IPSPs are backed by the governance of their institutions. On the other, they often depend on institution-specific variations regarding the importance of academic publishing that are often tied to individual leaders. In addition, the level of institutional embeddedness varies from one institution to the next. An infinite variety of relationships between IPSPs and their hosting institution can be observed.

IPSPs are deeply involved in the **scientific quality assurance** of the journals they publish. This can be seen in the fact that a large majority of IPSPs recruit and manage editorial board members for their journals. Roughly two thirds of IPSPs have research integrity or publication ethics policies, an area that requires more attention. Three quarters of IPSPs create quality criteria and enable compliance, and nearly all provide guidelines and instructions. These observations make it clear that IPSPs play a major role in providing a framework for the journals they publish, and do not just provide technical services. Three quarters of IPSPs also report that double-anonymous peer review is the prevailing choice, followed by single-anonymous peer review. Open Peer review is hardly used. IPSPs' participation in managing editorial quality is similar to their involvement in editorial management.

Nine out of ten IPSP respondents report alignment between the Open Access model and strong political support for openness principles (including national, institutional, or IPSPs own or other policies). The percentage of respondents' outputs made available OA varies by output type from around 90% for academic/scholarly journals, to around half for non-academic outputs. The uptake of various OS practices vary, and is not universal.

Technical service efficiency. A substantial percentage of IPSPs (57.9%) deploy workflows that cover all stages of the editorial process, including content editing, reviewing, and publishing. The service level is overall very complete. PDFs are the dominant output type, with a clear need to level up to XML and PIDs. IPSPs are highly reliant on OJS as a submission system and platform (61.9%), with about 14 other systems showing a low uptake or limited to specific communities. IPSPs employ a mix of in-house and outsourced services and technical infrastructures. The use of PIDs necessitates the use of outsourced services, generally operating on a commercial basis. Digital preservation is partly done via national libraries, partly via international services which may be commercial.

Visibility (including indexation), communication, marketing, and impact vary enormously between IPSPS. Visibility (including indexation), communication, marketing, and impact vary enormously between IPSPS. Enhancing the visibility and discoverability of publications and their content stands as a significant challenge for participants in institutional publishing and more than half of respondents would like to see improvement in that area. Satisfying both technical and non-technical participation criteria along with meeting metadata requirements proves to be a major challenge for most IPs that hinders their better inclusion in indexing services. More than half of respondents would like to see improvement in their indexation.

Costs and funding. There is no single diamond model and different degrees of diamond Open Access exist amongst IPSPs, depending on their output or service. In the last three years, IP's funding streams almost exclusively come from local, regional or national sources. A very small minority mention funders with an international scope.

A substantial share of IPSPs have formal governance and budgeting practices in place. However, a notable share functions without such frameworks, e.g. only just over half work with an approved budget. Such ownership and financial management practices may threaten the mid to long-term stability of the IPSP.

For those who do know their costs, the large majority of IPSPs run on less than 50k, but costs vary enormously as a function of the host country, the service offering and size of journal output. IPSPs above all need sufficient resources to be indexed and findable and to comply with accessibility standards.

IPSPs express an interest in collaboration in IT services, training, support and/or advice and production services, and communication services. This will help IPSPs upscale and save costs. However, pitfalls in collaboration exist such as high costs, low-quality service provision, and the management of outsourcing and knowledge transfer.

The sustainability of IPSPs is influenced by key factors including initial expectations, internal resources, and available funding sources. The main financial sustainability challenges are found in three main areas: 1) the lack of financial resources, 2) the lack of stability and permanence in employment, and 3) the dependence on a parent organisation. The greatest financial constraints by far are found when trying to provide adequate technical resources to run and develop the IPSP. Archiving, backups or preserving content and software, interoperability with other services, and supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs are also important areas of financial concern. Access to cash resources for certain services proves to be difficult for many. Receiving long-term structural or project-based funding public and institutional funding on both national and European levels is vital to many IPSPs.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB). Scholarly publishers – just like research and higher education institutions – are expected to consider the diversity and pluralism of the stakeholders' backgrounds and accessibility. According to the survey,

addressing dimensions of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) is far from a standard practice among IPSPs. About a fifth to a quarter of IPSPs have published policies or plans on discrimination, gender equality or accessibility. Three quarters of IPSPs, however, offer services in multiple languages and support multilingual publishing of abstracts. and/or full-texts. While there are advanced IPSPs in this area, awareness-raising on EDIB issues and organised support for practical solutions at the service provision level is much needed.

The **country reports** all present the number of responses to the survey. For most countries, we also present the number of journals in DOAJ, and the number of publishers according to GOA8. For countries with 10 or more responses, we present the most important numbers from the country in question. For a few countries with fewer responses we present some findings, but mainly based on information from other sources.

For some countries, longer country reports will be made available in a separate document, 'Institutional publishing in the ERA: Full country reports. A supplement to the D2.3 Final IPSP landscape Report' DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.10026207/, which is not part of this deliverable, but a supplement to it.

Conclusions. Results from the survey do not show large differences among regions in the ERA. The most important differences can be observed between individual countries within European regions. Countries with national organisations coordinating diamond IPSPs have established coordination mechanisms and have managed to align IPSPs. This is so regardless of the type of organisation that coordinates the effort: the national Hrčak portal in Croatia; the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV) in Finland; the national research infrastructure OpenEdition in France ; the national funder FECYT in Spain. The survey shows that IPSPs are sensitive to the national context, and much less to the international or global context.

Introduction

Authors

This document has been authored by many members of the DIAMAS consortium, as well as a few authors from outside the consortium - these last have been titled 'Guest authors'.

The report has been written in an open document, where everyone has been able to participate - writing, correcting, commenting, adding etc. It is very difficult to point to a given piece of text and identify who has written it. For the country reports, this is easier, as each is written by just a few persons.

The total report has been edited by a smaller group who has - in addition to writing parts - copy-edited the texts, decided what to put in the report and what not to, as well as created structure and internal linking.

A special mention goes to George Ross, Bianca Kramer and Jeroen Bosman for curating data and creating a large number of tables and graphs, both for the report itself and for authors of chapters and country reports.

Below, find lists of editors and authors. All lists are sorted alphabetically by last name, and the order does not signify larger or smaller, or more or less important, roles.

Editors

Name (last, first)	**Affiliation (full)**	**ORCID**
Bosman, Jeroen	Universiteit Utrecht	0000-0001-5796-2727
Frantsvåg, Jan Erik	University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway	0000-0003-3413-8799
Kramer, Bianca	Sesame Open Science	0000-0002-5965-6560
Manista, Frank	Jisc	0000-0001-6901-1507
Mounier, Pierre	Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)	0000-0003-0691-6063
Rooryck, Johan	ESF – cOAlition S	0000-0001-7214-7405
Stone, Graham	Jisc	0000-0002-5189-373X

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Authors and contributors

Name (last, first)	Affiliation (full)	ORCID
Armengou, Clara	Directory of Open Access Journals	0000-0003-2124-5165
Aschehoug, Astrid	French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)	0000-0002-0218-6932
Ball, Joanna	Directory of Open Access Journals	0000-0002-4033-9119
Bargheer, Margo	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	0000-0001-8246-8210
Bosman, Jeroen	Universiteit Utrecht	0000-0001-5796-2727
Brun, Victoria	Centre de sociologie de l'innovation, Ecole Nationale des Mines de Paris, PSL University, CNRS	0000-0001-7082-6252
de Pablo Llorente, Virginia	Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología (FECYT)	0000-0002-9581-8301
Franczak, Mateusz	The Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IBL PAN)	0000-0002-0416-2491
Frantsvåg, Jan Erik	UiT The Arctic University of Norway	0000-0003-3413-8799
Hersperger, Olivier	LIBER Europe	0009-0003-1072-7289
Klaus, Tabea	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (UGOE)	0000-0002-2791-1053
Kramer, Bianca	Sesame Open Science	0000-0002-5965-6560
Kuchma, Iryna	EIFL	0000-0002-2064-3439
Laakso, Mikael	Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV)	0000-0003-3951-7990
Manista, Frank	Jisc	0000-0001-6901-1507
Melinščak Zlodi, Iva	University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	0000-0001-6477-2016
Mounier, Pierre	Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)	0000-0003-0691-6063
Pölönen, Janne	Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV)	0000-0003-1649-0879

Name (last, first)	Affiliation (full)	ORCID
Pontille, David	Centre de sociologie de l'innovation, Ecole Nationale des Mines de Paris, PSL University, CNRS	0000-0002-6920-5333
Proudman, Vanessa	SPARC Europe	0000-0001-5623-9051
Rico-Castro, Pilar	Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología (FECYT)	0000-0003-0593-5713
Rooryck, Johan	ESF – cOAlition S	0000-0001-7214-7405
Ross, George	Jisc	0009-0008-5715-0233
Schima, Julian	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (UGOE)	0009-0005-2851-3523
Ševkušić, Milica	EIFL	0000-0002-2888-6611
Souyioultzoglou, Irakleitos	OPERAS AISBL	0000-0002-9875-7196
Stojanovski, Jadranka	University of Zadar, Croatia	0000-0001-7399-522X
Stone, Graham	Jisc	0000-0002-5189-373X
Torny, Didier	Centre de sociologie de l'innovation, Ecole Nationale des Mines de Paris, PSL University, CNRS	0000-0001-6661-9680
Vrčon, Andrej	LIBER	0009-0005-6198-3279
Wnuk, Magdalena	The Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IBL PAN)	0000-0003-4129-6664

Guest Authors

These are authors not part of the DIAMAS project, who have written country reports for the Landscape Report.

Name (last, first)	Affiliation (full)	ORCID	Section
Caliman Fontes, Lorena	Universidade de Coimbra	0000-0001-9566-2397	Country report Portugal
Pellin, Elio	University Library of Bern	0000-0002-4076-6743	Country report Switzerland

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Hannelore Vanhaverbeke, KU Leuven, for commenting on the country report for Belgium.

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Acronyms

AEUP	Association of European University Presses
APC	Article Processing Charges
ARK	Archival Resource Key
ATAG	Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines
CC	Creative Commons
CMS	Content Management System
CNRS	Centre national de la recherche scientifique
CoARA	Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment
COPE	Committee on Publication Ethics
CRediT	Contributor Roles Taxonomy
DFG	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft/German Research Foundation
DOAJ	Directory of Open Access Journals
DOI	Digital Object Identifier
DORA	Declaration on Research Assessment
EASE	European Association of Science Editors
EDIB	Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging
ERA	European Research Area
ERAC	European Research Area and Innovation Committee
EU	The European Union
EUR	The currency Euro
FEP	Federation of European Publishers
FNSO	French National Open Science Fund
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HE	Horizon Europe
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
I4OC	Initiative for Open Citations
IP	Institutional Publisher
IPA	International Publishers Associations
IPSP	Institutional Publishing Service Provider
ISBN	International Standard Book Number
ISSN	International Standard Serial Number
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation
K	A thousand; 1,000
LOCKSS	Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe
M	A million; 1,000,000
N/A	Not applicable
NPO	Not for profit organisation
OA	Open Access
OASPA	Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association
OJS	Open Journal System
OMP	Open Monograph Press
OPA	Online Publishers Association

OR	Open Research
ORCID	Open Researcher and Contributor ID
OS	Open Science
PDF	Portable document format
PID	Persistent Identifier
PKP	Public Knowledge Project
PKP PN	PKP Preservation Network
POSI	Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure
RFO	Research Funding Organisation
RI	Research Infrastructure
RPO	Research Performing Organisation
S2O	Subscribe to open
SCOSS	Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services
SP	Service Provider
SSH	Social Sciences and Humanities
STEM	Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
UAAG	User Agent Accessibility Guidelines
UNE	Unión de Editoriales Universitarias Españolas
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
URN	Uniform Resource Names
WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
WoS	Web of Science (a service of Clarivate)
WP	Work Package
XML	Extensible Markup Language

Recurring references

There are some documents, websites and data sets that will be referenced many times throughout the document. Instead of inserting a formal reference every time, we will use an abbreviation.

Websites will generally be linked to, not necessarily referenced, in the Landscape Report.

Acronym	Name	Link
DOAJ	Directory of Open Access Journals (*Directory of Open Access Journals – DOAJ*)[1]	https://www.doaj.org/
GOA8	Walt Crawford: Gold Open Access 2017-2022 Articles in Journals (GOA8) (Crawford, 2023a)[2]	https://waltcrawford.name/goaj.html
GOA8 Data	Corresponding data set (Crawford, 2023b)	https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.23203955.v2
OADJS	OA Diamond Journals Study. Part 1: Findings (Bosman et al., 2021)	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4558704
Q	DIAMAS Survey Questionnaire (*DIAMAS Survey Questionnaire and Glossary*, 2023)	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10207448
ROAD	ROAD, the Directory of Open Access scholarly Resources (*ROAD, the Directory of Open Access scholarly Resources*)	https://road.issn.org/

The DIAMAS Survey Questionnaire is often referred to in this report, often by the abbreviation Q followed by a number, this refers to the question with that number in the questionnaire.

[1] Number from DOAJ in the country reports are collected at various dates during the summer of 2023

[2] Data in this report and the corresponding data set is per January 1, 2023.

Editors' foreword

This report is the result of a collective work in the DIAMAS project, starting in September 2022 and ending with the delivery of this report in November 2023.

The DIAMAS project investigates Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSP) in the broadest sense, with a special focus on those publishing initiatives that do not charge fees to authors or readers. 'No fee' publishing models are collectively known as Diamond OA. A vast majority of IPSPs are already fully in line with the Diamond model, which is considered as the ideal, most equitable, end state of institutional publishing. At the same time, the current institutional publishing landscape also includes a varied subset of IPSPs who are not yet fully Diamond OA, and partly rely on subscriptions, print sales, and, marginally, APCs for their diverse revenue streams. Some publishing initiatives may also restrict access for authors, for instance to authors funded by a specific funder. The scope of the DIAMAS project extends to all such IPSPs as well. We coin the term 'diamondisation' for journals that are moving towards fully Diamond OA.

This report describes the landscape of institutional publishing in Europe, based on a process of collecting information from the organisations active in institutional publishing in the ERA. It is not a research report and is primarily intended to serve as a resource for the ensuing work packages in the DIAMAS project. This Landscape Report should therefore not be considered as an end product. Nevertheless, the information in the report may be useful for others who want to know more about the institutional publishing landscape in the ERA, and provides a good overview of areas that need attention and issues that need further investigation.

Several challenges were encountered in contacting the IPSPs. The project tried to contact a linguistically diverse community, using translations to facilitate contact - with the inherent problems of precision in translating our questions. In addition, the work had to be completed within the timeframe of the project.

The Landscape Report has two main parts. It contains a description of subject areas, in addition to a set of short country reports. Some country reports appear in a short version in the Landscape Report, with a longer, more detailed version made available separately. In general, for countries with less than 10 responses only have short reports without discussing numbers from the survey, since the small number of responses did not allow a representative analysis and discussion. The responses from these countries are contained in the numbers underlying the discussion in the subject area chapters.

A country report for Türkiye will be published at a later date. Due to the earthquake in February 2023, it was decided to postpone the survey until after the summer. The survey took place in September/October 2023. At the time of writing in November 2023, the Turkish results are being cleaned and a country report will be published in early 2024.

A. Methodology and data

Description of the survey and the surveying process

For DIAMAS, a survey of institutional publishing service providers (IPSPs) in the ERA was envisioned right from the start. This was seen as crucial because, despite the abundance of literature and research on many aspects of open access, no systematic empirical insight into the institutional part of the European publishing landscape was available. The information gathered via the survey is deemed crucial first to be able to map and detail a part of publishing landscape that is often not fully covered in publication databases. Secondly, beyond mere mapping, a survey is necessary to generate data to compare the actual state of affairs against existing and developing standards for scholarly publishing. In this section we describe the survey population, the survey topics and questions, the survey dissemination and general aspects of the response to the survey.

Survey population

The target group of the survey is that of institutional publishing service providers (IPSPs). This encompasses both institutional publishers (IPs), like university departments publishing one or more journal(s), and service providers for these institutional publishers (SPs), like organizations providing publishing software or editing services. Some organisations can combine these roles. More details and the exact definition of these IPSPs can be found in the scoping report (Bargheer, Bosman et al., 2022). Publishers and publishing units that are part of research performing organisations, academies, research funding organisations, learned societies, but also publishing units inside libraries, museums or government agencies are seen as institutional. To be clear, the target population was not explicitly restricted to IPSPs publishing (only) in open access or (only) providing services to open access publishers, although most institutional publishing is open access. During the project, both subscription-based or otherwise paid-for electronic publications, and publications that only appear in paper versions, have been observed as outputs from institutions.

In terms of geography, the target group is restricted to Europe, more specifically to 45 countries that are either part of the European Research Area (ERA), that are observers to the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) or that are third countries associated and to be associated with Horizon Europe (HE). It was decided to disseminate the survey in Türkiye at a later stage, in order not to burden our collaborators in the earthquake-hit country. Finally, as also detailed in the scoping report, service providers that serve institutional publishers in these countries, but are themselves outside the defined group of countries, are also seen as part of the target group for the survey.

In creating a survey population list to be used for disseminating the survey a practical and stepwise approach was used to optimise recall and precision: we tried to identify

as many organisations as possible that fell within our target group, without running the danger of including too many that could later prove to be outside the target group after all. As there was no existing database of institutional publishers to work from, we had to combine information from various sources and perform automatic and manual checks to improve precision.

The initial population was based on databases of scholarly journals that include publishers, ISSNs, and country information in the records. Records of those that were in our geographical scope were extracted from Ulrichs, DOAJ, Crossref, national journal lists, and datasets provided publicly by the Public Knowledge Project and Bielefeld University. All were deduplicated using ISSNs. It was seen as important to go beyond the DOAJ, as previous research (Bosman et al., 2021) has shown that many thousands of diamond journals, often from (small) institutional publishers, are absent from DOAJ. Also, we could not assume that all institution-based publishing would be journals that would satisfy DOAJ criteria. For example, serials that are not journals are not covered by DOAJ. One should also bear in mind that data sources generally cover scholarly, peer-reviewed research publications. Institutional publishing often also covers non-peer reviewed publications, like report series.

This first step resulted in a list of 10,445 journals. Automatic checks were performed by matching journal records with records in Crossref in order to add 'normalised' publisher names and check whether there was recent publishing activity. Manual checks on the list were also necessary to boil it down from a list of journals to a list of publishers, while at the same time checking the scholarly status of the publisher and the institutional nature of the publisher. In this phase, URLs and contact information (including both general and specific email addresses where available from the website) was added. The manual checks were performed on a country-by-country basis and were executed by project members familiar with the publishing landscape in those countries. These automatic and manual checks resulted in final cleaned country lists that together, and after deduplication and limiting them to records that included at least one email address (not web contact forms), held 4964 IPSP records (Table 1) . The initial dissemination of the survey targeted addresses in this set. There was no sampling. IPSPs in Spain were not part of this process. For Spain, around 124 IPSPs were approached via the organisation of institutional publishers UNE (Unión de Editoriales Universitarias Españolas). This resulted in a total number of 5088 initial survey invitations that were sent out.

Country	Initial survey invitations sent out	Country	Initial survey invitations sent out
Albania	10	Kosovo	8
Armenia	58	Lithuania	134
Austria	84	Luxembourg	6
Azerbaijan	1	Macedonia	19
Belgium	147	Malta	12
Bosnia and Herzegovina	65	Moldova	16
Bulgaria	222	Montenegro	59
Croatia	251	Morocco	174
Cyprus	9	Netherlands	161
Czech Republic	119	North Macedonia	46
Denmark	103	Norway	77
Estonia	2	Poland	91
Finland	329	Portugal	526
Finland/Sweden	1	Romania	268
France	121	Serbia	280
Georgia	47	Slovak Republic	203
Germany	40	Slovenia	122
Greece	163	Spain	124
Hungary	24	Sweden	84
Iceland	27	Switzerland	237
Ireland	89	Tunisia	26
Israel	63	Ukraine	5
Italy	346	United Kingdom	88
		Total	**5088**

Table 1 Survey invitations sent out initially, per country.

The approach used meant that IPSPs outside of Europe were initially not included due to lack of data, and neither were IPSPs that were not themselves publishing journals. As a result, service providers outside Europe and publishers that only published non-journal document types, such as pure book publishers, were left out. The issue of missing service providers was partly redressed at a later stage by sending out the survey to service providers that were reported by respondents to the survey as being used for their publishing activities. The issue of not explicitly targeting publishers without journal output has to be accounted for when interpreting the survey analysis results. In particular, results cannot be taken to be reflective of the general situation of non-journal publishers and service providers, as there were not captured to the same extent journal publishers/providers were.

It was understood that the addresses that the survey was sent out to initially did not represent an accurate reflection of the full survey population of IPSPs in Europe, as it was based on journal databases that, even taken together, do not contain information on all IPSPs. Organisations not publishing journals, and organisations focussing on service provision for institutional scholarly publishing rather than publishing per se, are segments of the landscape that do not occur in the data based on journal lists. In the dissemination phase (see Survey dissemination) attempts were made to reach these other parts of the survey population.

Survey topics and questions

The primary aim of the survey was to develop a dataset of information on IPSPs across Europe which could then be used by other WPs within DIAMAS to analyse strengths and challenges and to design suitable solutions. A secondary aim of the survey was to collect information from which to build an open IPSP database, to the extent that respondents would allow us to use their information for that purpose.

The broad scope of the project, and the almost limitless possibilities in terms of questions, were carefully considered in designing the length of the survey. The survey needed to be long enough to gather the data required by the project, but not so long as to become unwieldy and deter respondents from completing it.

It was decided that free text answers should be included sparingly to lighten the load in terms of translation and analysis. Also, compulsory questions would have to be kept to a minimum for the data to be meaningful, in order to not put off respondents.

It was decided to structure the survey according to the seven core components of EQSIP 1.0 (Armengou, Klaus et al., 2023) to ensure proper coverage of topics. In addition to two sets of introductory questions, this led to nine sections in the survey. In the end it was decided to also add a question on permissions to use the respondent's data, between sections 2 and 3. The survey was thus structured as follows:

1. Introductory questions - identification: important to find out who is filling in the questionnaire
2. Introductory questions - general features: the demographics
3. Funding - description of the funding model: crucial information to in assessing sustainability
4. Ownership and governance - information over who controls the publishing and decided on future developments
5. Open access and open science practices - providing insight in the diversity and speed of uptake of various OA/OS practices
6. Editorial quality, editorial management and research integrity - providing insight in the range of approaches taken
7. Technical service efficiency - important information to identify potential areas where additional support or promotion might be needed
8. Visibility, including indexation - known to be one of the most challenging issues for (smaller) publishers
9. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB): multilingualism, gender equity, accessibility - increasingly important elements of a fair publishing system

A working group was formed to scope out and develop questions for each component, with a mix of participants to ensure coverage of different types of organisation and expertise. In an interactive process, internal feedback was generated to improve phrasing and where necessary introduce new questions. Once all sets of proposed questions were completed, a small sub-group combined and developed the questions into a single draft set. In this phase, care was taken to remove duplicate/overlapping questions, remove questions aimed at journal editors rather than IPSPs, and also to remove questions that were felt to be too detailed for IPSPs to answer and better suited for follow-up focus groups. Questions were then also edited for consistency and further improved to facilitate thorough analysis, adding answering scales and removing free text options where possible. Finally, questions were allocated to the three respondent categories: institutional publishers (IPs), service providers (SPs), or organisations combining both functions. While most of the questions were presented to both institutional publishers (IPs) and service providers (SPs), some were only presented to one of those groups, based on their specific competences. The resulting draft questionnaire was reviewed with further input provided from the wider group and work package leaders.

When the English language draft questionnaire was finalised, it was sent to translators to create versions in Croatian, French, German, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Spanish, Turkish and Ukrainian. These languages were selected based on the size of the language areas as well as experiences and expectations as to how many additional and improved responses they would generate. Translation of survey responses has further information concerning the translation process of the survey.

Before dissemination the survey was tested in two ways: face validity testing and full testing. The limited face validity testing was carried out to check the clarity of questions in the survey, whether the respondents understand the questions and whether the questions are sufficiently precise and unambiguous. This was done by 11 volunteers. The overwhelming feedback was that the survey was too long and thus at risk of a high dropout rate. In addition, these testers suggested numerous smaller improvements to language clarity, consistency, and the order of questions. They also pointed out questions which might be too detailed.

Full testing of the survey, in which 11 people were asked to try to answer the questions for their organisation resulted in feedback mainly suggestions on shortening the survey and rephrasing of some questions and answering options. The selection of testers was aimed at ensuring a range of IPSPs as well as diversity in terms of country and language. Face validity testing was completed by another 11 volunteers. The overwhelming feedback was that the survey was too long which risked a high dropout rate. In addition, there was some questioning of the detailed knowledge required to complete the survey and these comments helped to identify which questions should be removed.

As a result of the face validity testing the decision was taken to cut all questions which were considered too detailed or technical, which resulted in a third of the questions being removed. This brought the number of questions in the survey down from 87 to 59, of which the topics are detailed in Table 2.

Sections and question numbers	**Topics of the questions**
1 - Introduction [Q1]	• Identifying information • Contact details • Updating preferences
2- General service features [Q2-10]	• Country • Languages of publications • Membership of associations, coalitions and declarations • Parent organisation details • Employee/staff numbers • IPSP type • Type of services • Type of output published/supported with services • Size: number of journals/articles/books/conference outputs • Academic disciplines covered
Permissions	• Input on which respondent provided data can be shared publicly
3- Costs, funding, income [Q11-21]	• Budget • Income and expense monitoring • In kind support • Use of external services • Willingness to consider cost-saving collaborations • Collaboration experiences • Funding types and stability
4- Governance [Q22-24]	• Existence of formal description of activities • Oversight • Community governance
5- Open Science [Q25-30]	• Open Access shares [question only for IPs] • Open Access policies and issues therein • Copyright and licensing • Open peer review [question only for IPs] • Date sharing policy • Contributor roles
6 -Editorial quality, editorial management and research integrity [Q31-33]	• Editorial management responsibility and tasks • Editorial quality involvement and guidelines • Peer review types • Research integrity policy
7 - Technical service efficiency [Q34-42]	• Types of service provided • Maintenance of services and infrastructure • Publishing system • Persistent Identifiers • Metadata openness • Technical content formats • Archiving policy and services used • Technical challenges

Sections and question numbers	Topics of the questions
8 - Visibility (including indexation), communication, marketing and impact [Q43-49]	• Indexing activity and indexing challenges [question only for IPs] • Community outreach • Data protection • Privacy policy • Publication of various types of metrics
9 - Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) [Q50-59]	• Addressing EDIB issues • Accessibility policy and requirements compliance • Language support • Multilingual output • Language diversity measures

Table 2 Sections and question topics in the survey.

Survey dependencies and the IP (institutional publisher) versus SP (service provider) distinction.

While most of the questions were presented to both institutional publishers (IPs) and service providers (SPs), some were only presented to one of those groups, based on their specific competences. In the survey, respondents were asked to self-identify as either an IP or SP. Being able to make the distinction in the survey analysis is important because of their different roles in the publishing landscape. The distinctive characteristic separating IPs from SPs is that IPs have control and governance over publishing, meaning amongst other things that they own journal titles and are able to appoint editors and choose service providers. The distinction is described more fully in the DIAMAS scoping document (Bargheer et al., 2022). In practice, the distinction is not as clearcut, and both real-world blurriness and different respondent interpretations are reasons to treat the self-reported classification with some caution (for a further discussion of the issues involved, see 'Distinction between IPs and SPs' in the analysis section. We have chosen not to 'correct' the self-identification answers given, for practical reasons, but also as a matter of principle, to respect respondents' answers. Instead, we chose to on a case-by-case basis decide whether it is best to treat both respondent types separately or to lump them together when presenting and analysing the survey results. Where relevant, accounting for any suspected incorrectness in self-identification will be done explicitly when interpreting results.

Survey translation

Today, English is perceived as the international language of science and scholarship, the same role that Latin had until sometime in the 19th century. But this is quite a recent phenomenon - until recently French, German and Russian had this function in many scholarly communities. And in the larger languages - French, German, Spanish, Portuguese etc. - scholarship in the national language was quite common also outside the nationally oriented scholarly fields. So, we could not assume that all scholars will be comfortable responding to a survey in English.

To ensure the best possible accessibility and to reach out as far as possible to receive as many responses as possible, also from scholarly communities where English is not a dominant language, we decided to translate the survey into different languages.

The translation involves at least a total of three tasks: First, the translation of the survey itself, then the translation of accompanying materials such as introductory texts, a glossary, etc., and last but not least the back-translation of the answers from the survey into English, which will be the language for the analysis and the publication of the results, so that they could be added to the data set.

Besides the decision into which languages the survey should be translated, it was necessary to identify suitable tools for translation and to check their suitability for the specific subject matter of the survey and the vocabulary associated with the project.

Languages for translation

Since correct and reliable translation is time-consuming, we needed to be restrictive with regards to the number of languages we offered for the survey. Some of the time use is dependent on the number of languages, some is more dependent on the volume of textual answers we receive.

Following the idea to offer translation for communities where this would lead to a significant increase in the number of received answers to the survey, we had to choose languages with a high number of users and with a large number of potential respondents. To identify those, the best measure we had of the latter point was a rough idea of the number of journals published in the area where the language is used.

By choosing major languages with a high number of potential respondents, we ensured that a high percentage of responses would be in languages other than English. For practical reasons, this meant at the same time we couldn't have a high number of languages to translate to.

For the selection of languages, we listed large languages by number of speakers in Europe and/or journals and discussed in a selection process which language might be added and which languages, e.g. regional languages, we would have to miss for pragmatic reasons.

The decision for a language requires at the same time the guaranteed availability of the necessary resources – persons who are native speakers, with a good command of English and knowledge about the field – for each language.

Besides the translation work for each language which would be added in the survey tool increases the time to implement the survey in the tool and the logistics and coordinating and keeping track of processes.

Finally, the set of the following nine languages for translation was identified, which includes the large languages and smaller languages, where we suspected a large number of possible respondents, but avoiding at the same time smaller languages where we assumed English to be unproblematic, e. g. the smaller languages of Northern Europe, where English has been a sine qua non for some generations of scholars.

- Croatian
- French
- German
- Italian
- Polish
- Romanian
- Spanish
- Turkish
- Ukrainian

Except for Turkish and Romanian, all of the languages in the list were represented in the project. For Turkish and Romanian there were fortunately contacts to native speakers among the consortium members, so that these languages could also be covered by the project.

Another challenge in connection with the translation process was the detailed time planning for when the resources would be required. Besides the translation of the survey itself and additional material in advance the translation of the responses were potentially trickier, because their volume was unknown until the survey closes. Regardless of the exact extent of the answers we needed a specific closing date of the survey decided before the dissemination of the survey.

Tools for translation

To support the translators of the identified languages it was important to check tools for all necessary translations in the pre-dissemination and the post-dissemination phase.

As free available tools we identified

- Google translator, which is certainly the most widely used translation tool. Google translator supports translation in about 100 languages.
- DeepL provides translations for 29 languages and recognizes, when text is entered, 26 languages. From the languages in the identified list of languages only Croatian was not covered.
- eTranslation, a tool for quick translations in all 24 official EU languages which is available for all EU institutions, public administrations and universities (EU login requested).

- EuroVoc, the multilingual and multidisciplinary thesaurus of the EU covers 21 areas divided in 127 subareas. This tool was identified as possible additional support if we receive answers related to journals/services for special disciplines.

Qualtrics, the tool chosen for the survey in parallel to the translation tool check, offers the function to integrate over 100 languages by using a Google Translate API. With this the tool is able to translate the survey questions automatically into the selected survey languages that were added by the survey managers. To guarantee a reliable high data quality of the survey and due to the before identified mistranslations of the Google translator we decided to have the survey translated automatically by Qualtrics and to check and correct these translations by native speakers in the project before the final re-upload in Qualtrics for the participants. In parallel to the automatically generated translation of the survey by the tool, the project members created additional translations of the supplementary materials such as introductory texts and the glossary.

Survey dissemination

The survey was implemented in the Qualtrics survey software, also applying relations between questions to be able to make presentations of some questions to some groups conditional. It was sent out in bulk to 4,964 addresses via Qualtrics between 29-31 March 2023, and to 124 addresses in Spain on 23 March 2023. The survey was open until 30 April 2023, a deadline that was moved to 10 May 2023 at a later stage to generate more responses, and to be able to send reminders and direct invitations. The generic link was also sent out over this period starting on 21 March 2023 and this link was also available during that whole period on the website.

From the start several approaches to reach the survey population were envisioned: not only the mass mailing via the Qualtrics survey software, but also more targeted and direct approaches using national lists and contacts. This included reminders, survey-a-thons, and promotion via the website and social media, but also contacting various local, European, or international organisations, asking them to forward our email invite to the survey to their members in the targeted geographical area. When the first generated lower than expected response numbers, additional effort was put into the second dissemination method. It was also decided to carry out a final, more systematic attempt to garner responses by employing a country-by-country approach. For that, people from the DIAMAS team but also specialists outside DIAMAS were asked to coordinate additional actions or supply contact information to boost responses. They used a more direct and often personal approach to invite IPSPs to take the survey. The approach differed from country to country. In some cases they constructed new/additional lists of potential IPSPs in scope of the survey, in other cases reminders were sent to crucial larger IPSPs. To a certain extent this implied the addition of new IPSPs to our population, as people with affinity to their country's publishing landscape used their own knowledge and local information to add organisations that were clearly in scope but were for some reason lacking in the list based on journal databases.

The effect of this additional effort to obtain responses from the larger institutional publishers for which responses where until then still lacking has to be taken into account when interpreting the survey results. In some cases and for some countries we also sent out the survey link to email lists, including those of associations and hosting and publishing platforms. In all, our approach of optimising dissemination for each separate country resulted in a strongly increased response, but it did also mean that the differences in dissemination approaches between countries also increased. Also, it is possible that some additional bias was introduced towards either larger or smaller organisations. That will be taken into account when comparing results. Overall, given the difficulty of finding contact data for our population, the challenges in obtaining responses from the organisations that the survey was sent to, and the potential country and size biases introduced in the process, it is important to exercise caution in interpreting the resulting landscape. It is certainly far from definitive, and should rather be viewed as a first sketch. Without further corroboration, results could in some cases be best interpreted as evidence of the existence of organisations with certain characteristics, rather than an assessment of exact shares and patterns.

We found that the mass emailing via Qualtrics provided us with substantially fewer valid responses than the other approaches. Another finding is that both approaches resulted in a high number of surveys (over 1,300) being opened and closed without being submitted, most with almost no information being entered. We clearly reached quite a number of people that did not see themselves as our intended audience, or did not have the time or the knowledge to participate.

Data cleaning

Exporting the data from Qualtrics

After the survey closed on 10 May 2023, a total of 657 completed responses had been submitted, with a further 1,370 responses started but not submitted (ie. the respondents did not click the 'Submit responses' button at the end).

These unsubmitted responses were in varying degrees of completeness. It was clear that the majority could be disregarded as they held little or no data of value. However, 93 unsubmitted responses were identified as being in a state of near completion. It was agreed to contact these respondents to obtain permission for their answers to be included in our analysis.

After contacting those respondents that had indicated that they were happy for the project to contact them, we received permission from 47 respondents to include their unsubmitted responses, which together with the 657 completed ones, gave us a total of 704 responses to clean. For this purpose Alteryx was used to create a workflow that would perform the necessary steps to render the data usable for analytical purposes.

Initial data cleaning

A workflow created in Alteryx consists of a sequence of 'tools' (the coloured icons shown in each Figure) which manipulate the data in distinct ways. The total number of records (in this case, survey responses) being processed by the workflow is shown by the number that appears between each of the tools. The raw survey data was input at the start of the workflow process so that response data could be prepared for analysis.

The initial cleaning process involved the creation of new fields in the data. A 4-digit Unique ID field consisting of numbers or letters was created, by truncating the existing Response ID field from Qualtrics, to provide a convenient way to identify each response from an IPSP. The 'analysis permission granted' field was created to identify whether respondents had provided permission for their answers to be included in analysis going forward; as was a Yes/No 'in database' field.

The 'region' field was added using a lookup table as shown in Fig. 1, and was based on the scoping report, in which countries were categorised into wider regions.

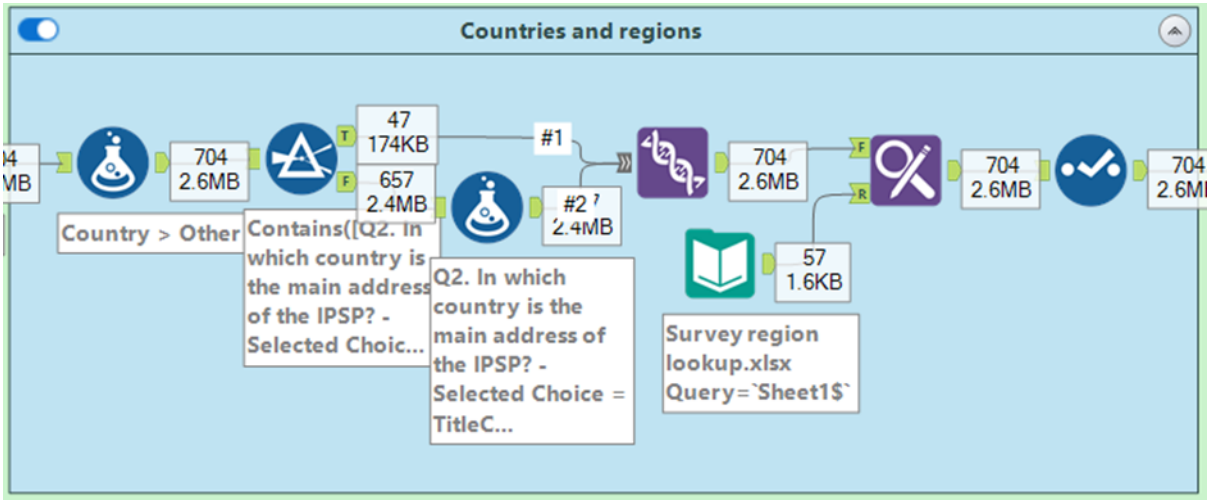


Figure 1 Alteryx workflow container showing process of adding Regions.

Figure 1 shows a segment of the data cleaning process. The geographic Region is appended to the response data by using the Find Replace tool (the purple magnifying glass) to add a Region for each IPSP, using the Country provided in the survey response.

Those respondents who did not provide consent to be contacted in the future – either if the project had questions on their answers, or to receive updates on the project in general – had the provided email addresses changed to 'Null'.

At this stage, two responses are filtered out from the workflow:

- One response from Turkey which will be added to the Turkish analysis in early 2024
- One response whose authors consented to it being included in the IPSP database (Agnoloni, Bosman et al., 2023) but not in further analytical datasets

This left 702 responses that could then be progressed for translation and question-by-question cleaning.

Translation of survey responses

In an effort to gather data from a diverse set of respondents, the survey was conducted in multiple languages. To facilitate this, automatic translation tools (Google Translate, DeepL) were used to translate the survey questions and collect responses in the selected languages. However, it was recognised that the potential limitations of automated translations, particularly in capturing nuanced and context-specific information accurately.

In an effort to ensure the highest level of accuracy and reliability in the survey data, an additional step was taken by involving skilled reviewers who are proficient in the respective target languages. These reviewers were tasked with thoroughly examining the automated translations back to English and editing any text that appeared to be incorrect or lacked precision. The review process was essential to:

Enhance clarity: Reviewers helped improve the clarity of responses by correcting grammatical errors, awkward phrasing, and ambiguities introduced by the automated translations.

Preserve context: Reviewers had a deep understanding of the cultural and linguistic nuances in each language, enabling them to ensure that the translated responses preserved the context and intent of the original answers.

Maintain data integrity: By diligently reviewing and editing the translated responses, we aimed at maintaining the integrity of the survey data and ensuring its suitability for analysis.

This comprehensive approach struck a balance between efficiency and accuracy.

For the survey response translation process, a translation dataset was created, which consisted of each free text field in the data followed by two subsequent blank columns. The translation dataset was uploaded as a Google Doc; the first blank column was subsequently populated with an automated translation of the preceding free-text field.

The second blank column was used by the expert reviewers to sense check the automated translation field and provide amendments where necessary.

After the translation process was completed, the translated fields were integrated into the dataset as additional columns.

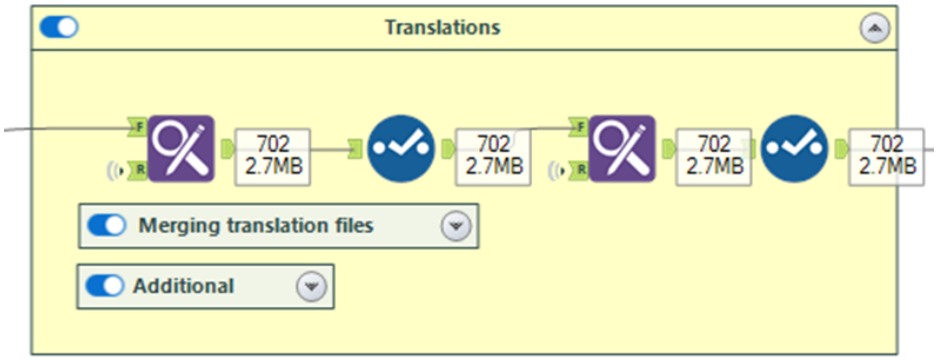


Figure 2 Integrating translated fields via an Alteryx workflow.

Figure 2 shows a section of the Alteryx data cleaning workflow in which translated free-text fields are appended to the data. The 'Merging translation fields' and 'Additional' containers contain nested workflows that join together multiple files for each language. The cleaned dataset thus contains each free-text response in its original language as well as the English translated version.

Cleaning of survey answers

A multitude of actions were performed on the data in order to prepare the answers to each question for analysis by individual work packages. These are shown in some detail in Figure 3.

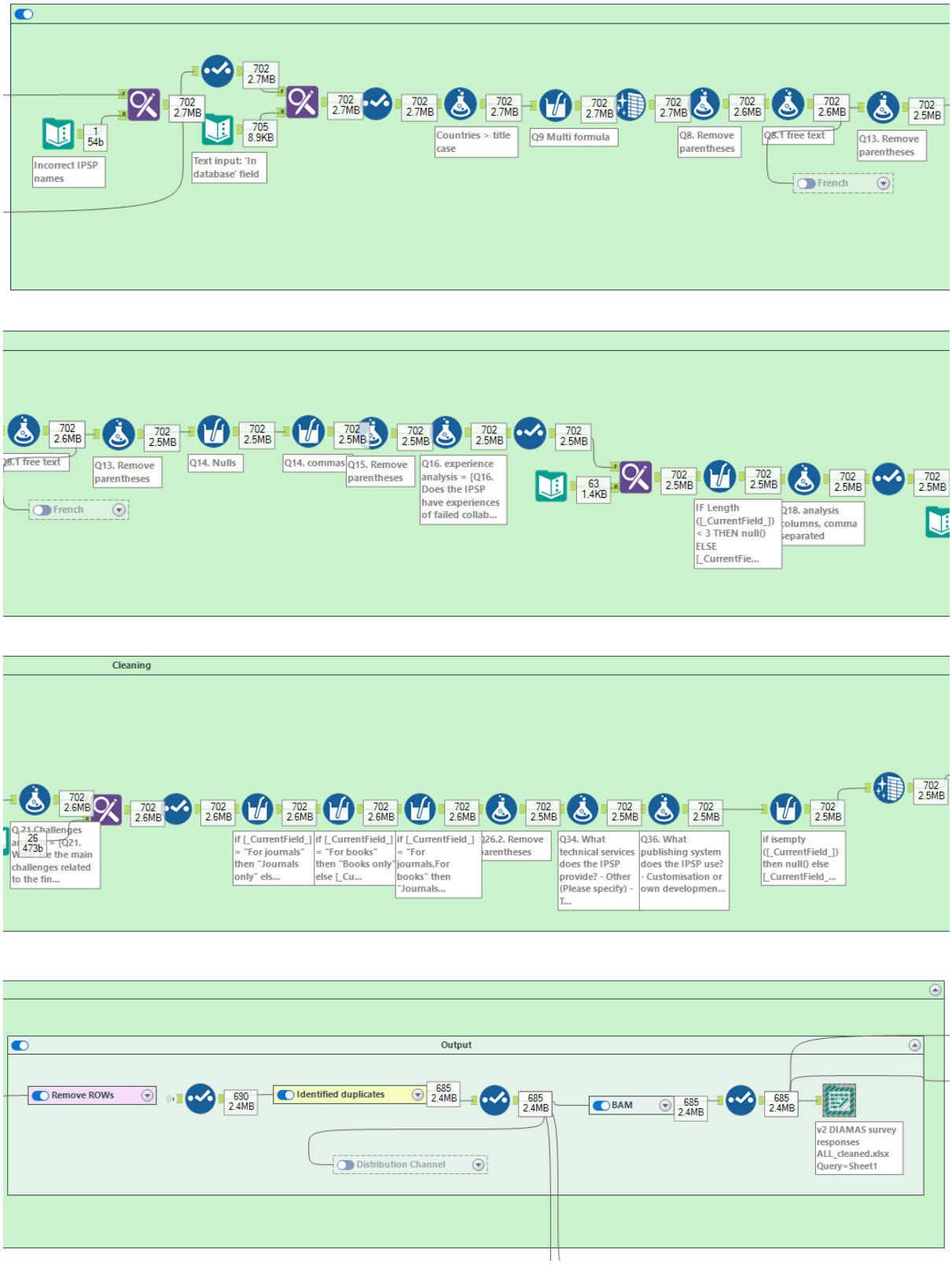


Figure 3 Alteryx container showing the steps taken to clean survey responses.

Figure 3 shows the cleaning process workflow for individual survey questions (split into 4 images for legibility). This cleaning mostly consists of tools which amend the

responses for all IPSPs on a question-by-question basis to make analysis easier. In the final part of this process there are containers ('Remove Rest-of-Worlds' and 'Identified duplicates'); these workflows filter out responses prior to creation of the final dataset, e.g. from countries outside of the scope of the survey, or duplicate IPSP responses.

Given the number of questions in the survey, the focus in preparing the data for each question was to ensure the response data was in a format that could be easily analysed in future work. As such, no changes were required to the data for 29 questions, as those fields were already in an acceptable format. Actions that were required were recorded in a shared Google Doc to ensure that any changes made were transparent and could be queried.

Actions varied depending on the format of the answer as generated by Qualtrics. For example, Q3 (Publication languages) consisted of a column for each possible language that could be identified as being used by the IPSP, with numbers 1-5 indicating the preference for that language. A separate workflow was required to manipulate this data into a legible format (one column, with each language separated by a hyphen, highest-lowest priority language.

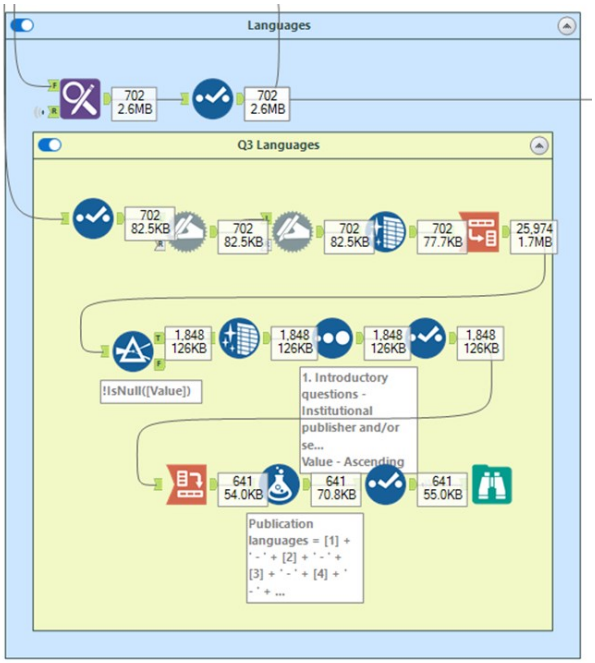


Figure 4 Alteryx workflow showing changes to Q3. (Publication languages) responses.

Figure 4 shows a workflow created during the overall cleaning process to summarise the publication languages used by IPSPs, as an example of some of the data cleaning required. In the original survey data, responses to Q3 were output as a column for each different language and a value between 1-5 in order of the respondents' preference. After cleaning, there is a single column containing each language identified in order of preference (e.g. "Hungarian - English - Spanish").

Response data for numerous questions, especially those with multiple-choice options, was manipulated in this way. For questions containing only two options, e.g., Q9 (publishing or providing a service for various publication types), the data was edited to

be easier to read and analyse – so that a field containing the text 'Publish,Service' would now read "Publish and Service".

In the survey, respondents were asked to self-identify as either an IP or SP. In practice, the distinction is not as clearcut, and both real-world blurriness and different respondent interpretations are reasons to treat the self-reported classification with some caution (for a further discussion of the issues involved, see 'Distinction between IPs and SPs' in the analysis section). We chose not to 'correct' the self-identification answers given, for practical reasons, but also as a matter of principle, to respect respondents' answers. Instead we chose to on a case by case basis decide whether it is best to treat both respondent types separately or to lump them together when presenting and analysing the survey results. Where relevant, accounting for any suspected incorrectness in self-identification will be done explicitly when interpreting results.

Creating the cleaned dataset

After the question-by-question cleaning, a number of responses were removed from the data prior to the creation of the cleaned dataset, including translated fields. These removed responses were:

- 12 responses originating from IPSPs in countries outside of the project's scope.
- Five responses that were confirmed as being duplicates of other responses by IPSPs in the survey.

This resulted in a cleaned dataset consisting of 685 responses for further analysis, as well as the creation of other datasets. This process is summarised in the flowchart in Figure 5.

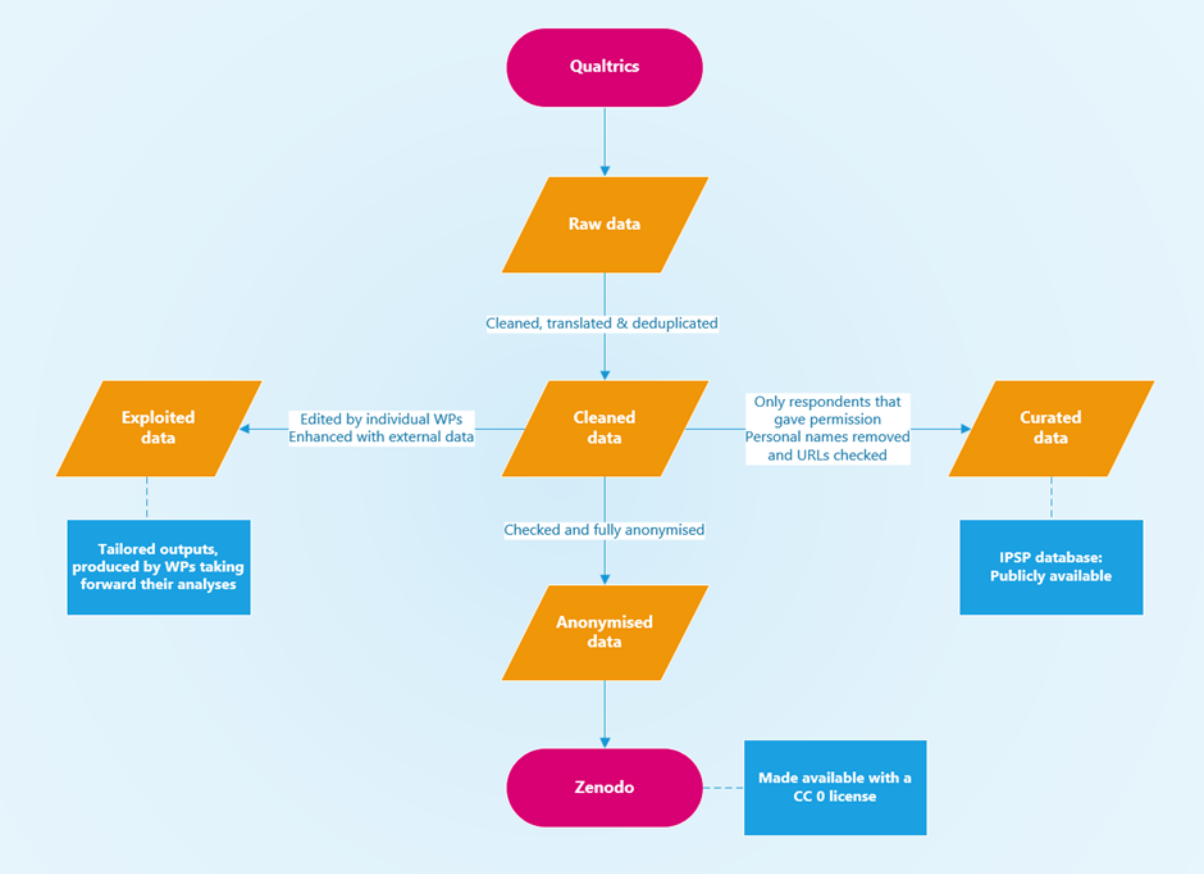


Figure 5 Workflow to show creation of exploited, curated and anonymised datasets from survey response data.

Finally, as part of the data cleaning, we agreed the following definitions of the various stages of the data cleaning, which would be added to the project Data Management Plan:

- Raw data: the final set of valid responses including submitted responses and partially completed responses where permission was received to include responses.
- Cleaned data: the dataset cleaned for analysis including translations into English of free text responses, addition of columns showing geographical region and de-duplication of responses. Although further cleaning/refining is expected during the analysis, this is the final dataset to be used in the D2.3 Landscape Report.
- Curated data: data for public release, i.e. the IPSP Database where internal reference have been removed, email address removed and IPSP names have been checked for personal names and URLs have been checked and edited for validity.
- Exploited data: copies of the dataset that have been edited and corrected via other WPs as part of their work on the project, e.g., for the EQSIP gap analysis or the IPSP registry. Exploited data may include information from external sources to enhance the data.

- Anonymised data: there will be no open anonymised data set, but there will be several forms of data sharing, including the IPSP-registry and aggregate data tables. Details are in the survey data availability statement on Zenodo.

Survey response

The survey garnered 685 valid responses from 43 countries. The final number of responses received was spread out quite uneven geographically (Figure 6 and Table 3). Likely, this partly reflects country size, partly real numbers of IPSPs, partly dissemination effects and partly response effects. The five countries with the largest response numbers (Serbia, Croatia, Spain, France, Italy) make up nearly 50% of the total set of responses. The 22 countries that in terms of response numbers are the smallest together have less than 10% of the total number of responses. Figure 7 Figure 8 and Figure 9 in the section Benchmarking response numbers and geographical distribution tries to benchmark the response numbers to information from existing databases.

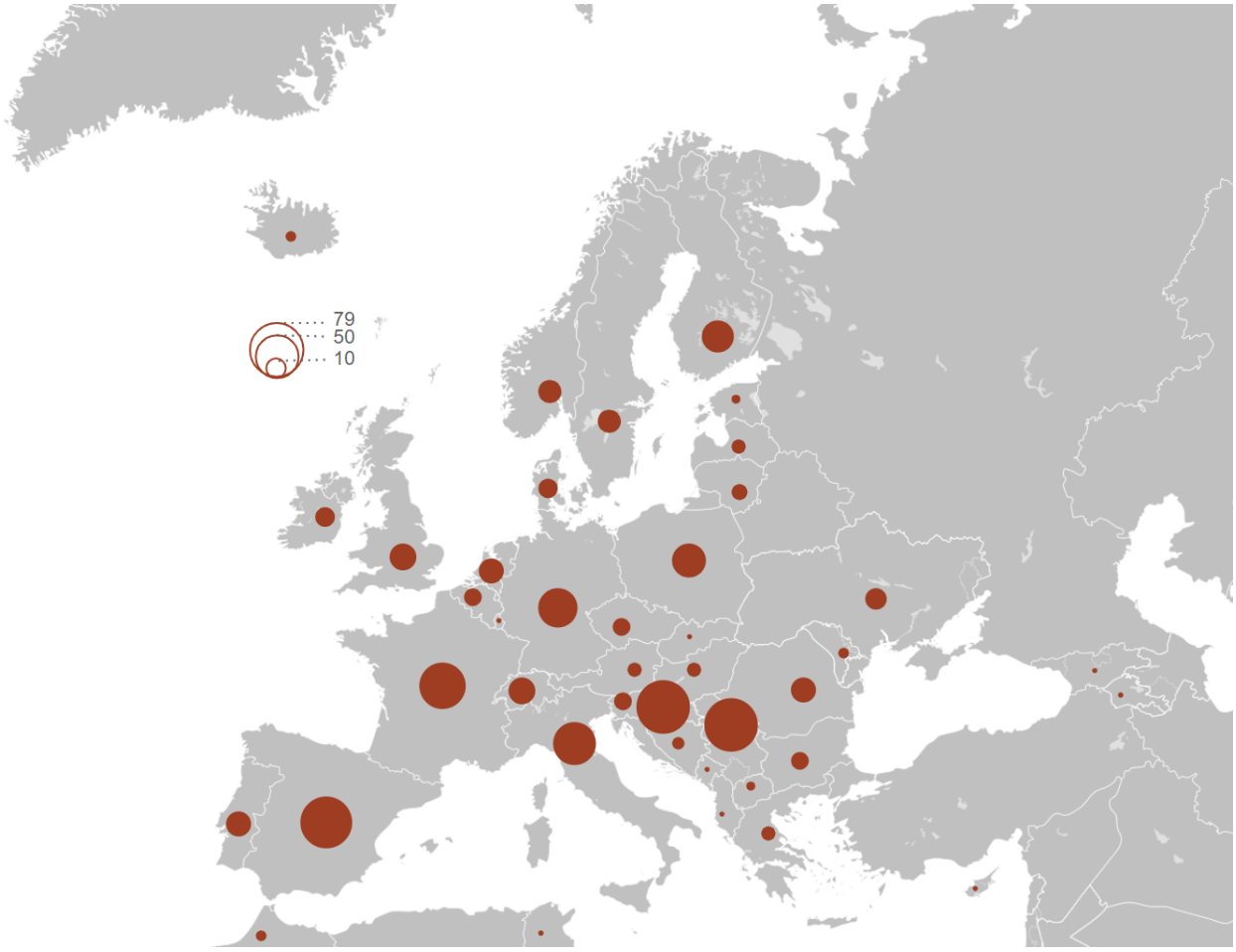


Figure 6 Survey responses per country.

Country	Responses	Share of responses		Country	Responses	Share of responses
Albania	1	0.1%		Lithuania	7	1.0%
Armenia	1	0.1%		Luxemburg	1	0.1%
Austria	5	0.7%		Moldova	3	0.4%
Belgium	8	1.2%		Montenegro	1	0.1%
Bosnia & Herzegovina	4	0.6%		Morocco	3	0.4%
Brazil	1	0.1%		Netherlands	17	2.5%
Bulgaria	9	1.3%		North Macedonia	2	0.3%
Canada	2	0.3%		Norway	15	2.2%
Croatia	77	11.2%		Poland	31	4.5%
Cyprus	1	0.1%		Portugal	18	2.6%
Czechia	8	1.2%		Republic Of Ireland	10	1.5%
Denmark	10	1.5%		Romania	17	2.5%
Estonia	2	0.3%		Serbia	79	11.5%
Finland	27	3.9%		Slovakia	1	0.1%
France	60	8.8%		Slovenia	8	1.2%
Georgia	1	0.1%		Spain	74	10.8%
Germany	43	6.3%		Sweden	15	2.2%
Greece	5	0.7%		Switzerland	19	2.8%
Hungary	6	0.9%		Tunisia	1	0.1%
Iceland	3	0.4%		Ukraine	12	1.8%
Italy	52	7.6%		United Kingdom	20	2.9%
Latvia	5	0.7%		**Total**	**685**	**100 %**

Table 3 Responses per country.

The response rate is the share of total survey invitations sent out that received an answer. For the current study the final response rate is not clear cut, as invitations were sent out in multiple forms, and response received could not always be tracked back to a specific invitation. The initial bulk mailing response was disappointingly low. It was decided to use an array of methods to boost response: (selective) reminders as well as invitations sent out to members of associations, publishing platforms, mailing lists and networks, in addition to reminders via social media. This was mostly organised by project members at the country level, using knowledge of the local publishing landscape. There was an immediate and strongly positive effect on response. Methodologically the downside of this response optimising approach was less control over potential biases introduced by selective and multiple invitations and losing the ability to exactly say how many and which organisations received an invitation to fill out the survey. This was explicitly accepted, as it was seen as more important to have acceptable response levels. The variety of dissemination routes used, and the fact that these were partly overlapping and partly unlimited, as with social media outreach,

means that it is not known exactly how many organisations were targeted. We know that we at least reached out to some 5000 organisations, but perhaps reached even almost double that. However, it is not feasible to calculate any reliable response rate figure, other than it is likely to be somewhere between 7% and 14%.

Benchmarking response numbers and geographical distribution

How can we compare our response numbers with the assumed total population? As it is unknown how many IPSPs are currently active in the ERA, it is difficult to provide precise estimates. Nonetheless, comparisons can be made to external data sources, especially for institutional publishers (IPs). Two relevant data sources in this context are DOAJ (supplemented with the analysis carried out yearly by Walt Crawford for his GOA project (Crawford, 2023a), referred to as GOA8 throughout the report), and ROAD, the subset of the ISSN-registry that is limited to open access scholarly resources. It should be noted upfront that both databases have a different scope from that of our survey - both are limited to open access publishing (which our survey was not, at least not explicitly) and both are not limited to institutional publishing (which our survey was). In terms of inclusion criteria, ROAD is limited to scholarly resources with an ISSN (which our survey wasn't), and inclusion in DOAJ is both dependent on publishers making an application, and their journals meeting specific inclusion criteria. For all these reasons, our survey response population cannot be expected to be a subset of publishers in either ROAD or DOAJ - nonetheless a comparison of numbers and geographical distribution can tell us something about the population covered with the survey.

DOAJ

To come as close to a like-for-like comparison as possible between DOAJ and the survey population, we looked at the subset of actively publishing journals in DOAJ with publishers classified by Walt Crawford in GOA8 as 'university/college' '(n=10,709) or 'society/government' (n=1,893) - as together this comes closest to our own definition of institutional publishing. Since the survey was not limited to diamond journals only but included institutional publishing as a whole, we also did not limit the DOAJ subset to non-APC journals. For this comparison, survey responses were limited to self-declared institutional publishers, since service providers are not in scope of DOAJ. As all but 31 IPs in the survey (94%) reported to publish journals, all IPs were included for this comparison. We compared both the number of publishers as well as publisher size (in terms of number of journals and articles) for all countries the survey had received responses from. Regions are based on the assignment used in the DIAMAS project, rather than the assignment used in GOA8.

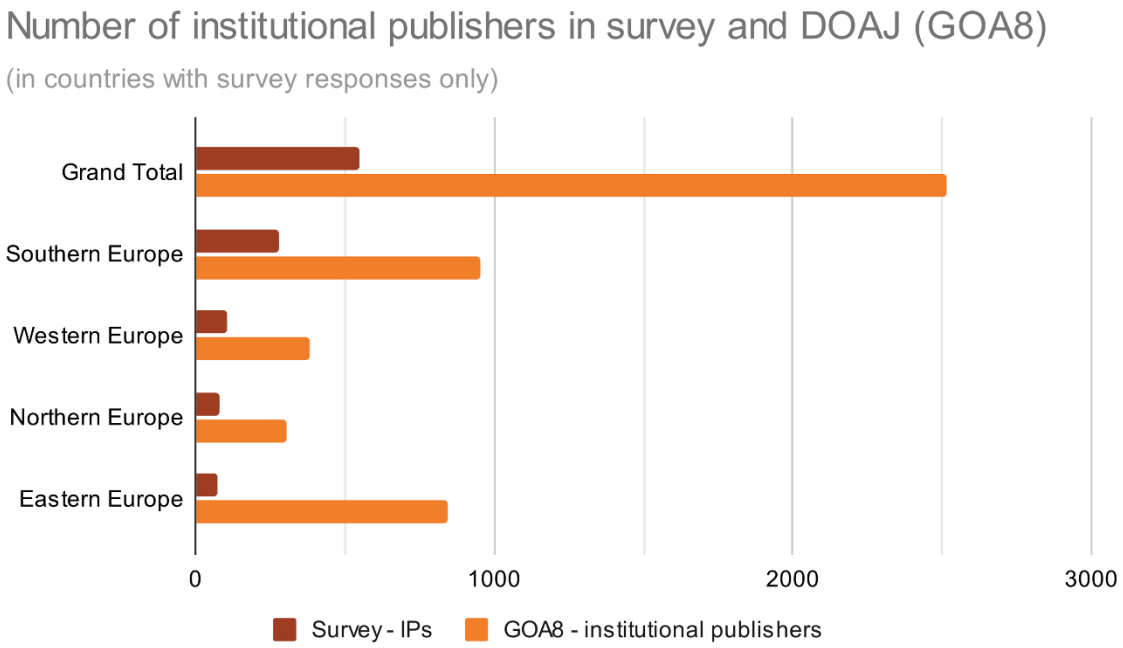


Figure 7 Institutional publishers per region in survey and DOAJ (GOA8).

Across all countries the survey had received responses from, the ratio between survey respondents (IPs only) and institutional publishers in DOAJ is 22% (Figure 7). Looking at the different European regions as defined in the scoping report (Bargheer et al., 2022), the ratio of IPs in the survey and institutional publishers in DOAJ is slightly higher for Southern, Western and Northern Europe (30%, 28% and 27%, respectively) and considerably less for Eastern Europe (8%). Consequently, while institutional publishers from Southern and Eastern Europe make up the large majority of European institutional publishers in DOAJ (with shares of 39% and 34 % respectively), in the survey responses Southern Europe is overrepresented, with a 52% share, and Eastern Europe underrepresented with a 13% share) (Figure 8). It should be noted that this is likely a combined effect of differences in outreach and uptake of the survey in different countries/regions, and at the same time, for Southern Europe especially, the survey having reached a considerable number of publishers not included in DOAJ.

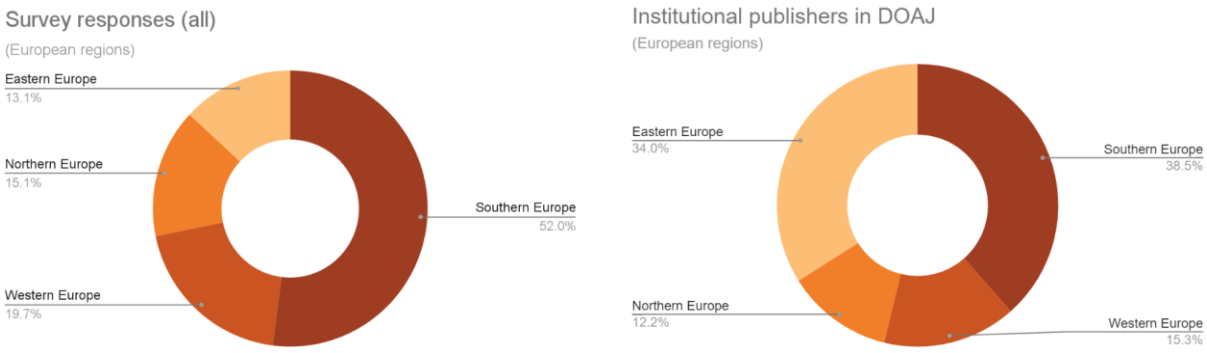
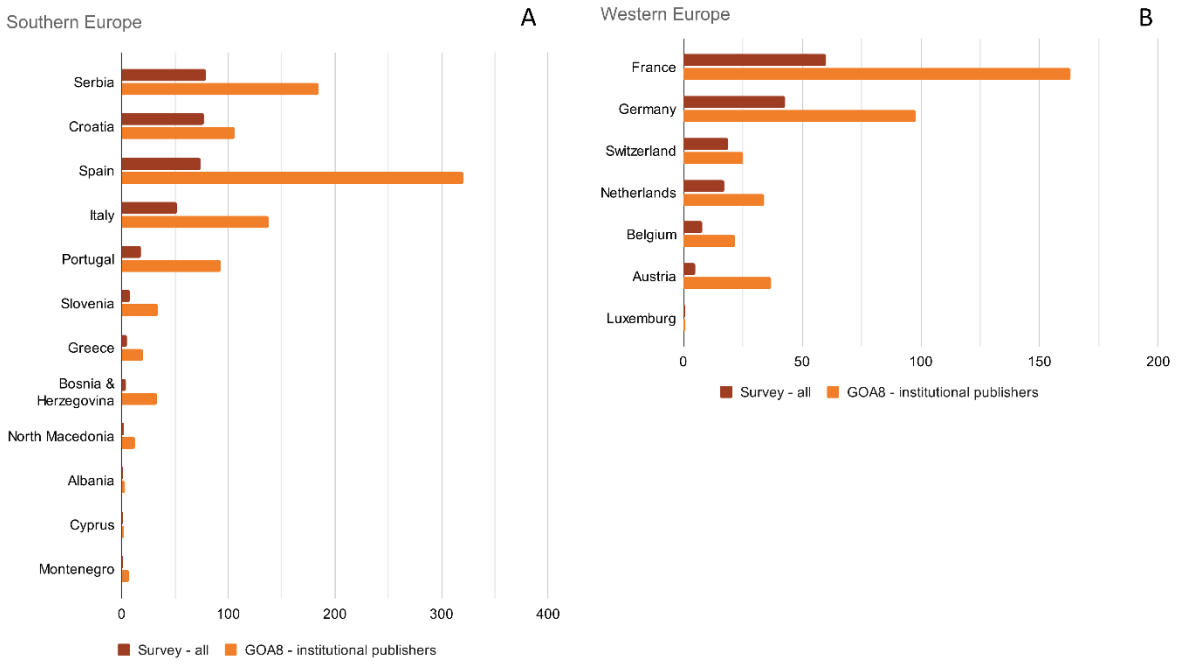


Figure 8 Survey responses and institutional publishers in DOAJ by region.

Looking at individual countries by region (Figure 9) provides a more detailed image as to which countries had a high or low response when compared to the number of institutional publishers from that country in DOAJ. In Southern Europe, Croatia has a high ratio of survey respondents against DOAJ (60%), consistent with pre-existing knowledge that many Croatian journals are not included in DOAJ (see country report for Croatia). In contrast, even though Spain, like Croatia, is among the top 3 in terms of survey respondents, it has a remarkable low ratio (21%) of survey respondents versus institutional publishers in DOAJ. Similarly, in Western Europe, France is underrepresented in the survey when compared with the DOAJ ratio (25%), even though it has more responses in the survey than e.g. Germany, which has a ratio of 35%. In Northern Europe, the UK is a clear outlier with a very low ratio of survey respondents as compared to DOAJ (15%); while Finland, in contrast, has a high representation (ratio 45%). In Eastern Europe, all countries are underrepresented compared to DOAJ, with Poland and Romania especially having relatively high numbers of publishers in DOAJ but relatively few survey respondents (ratio of 12% and 8%, respectively). Ukraine, also well-represented in DOAJ, has an even lower representation in the survey (ratio 4%), which is undoubtedly related to the current political situation.



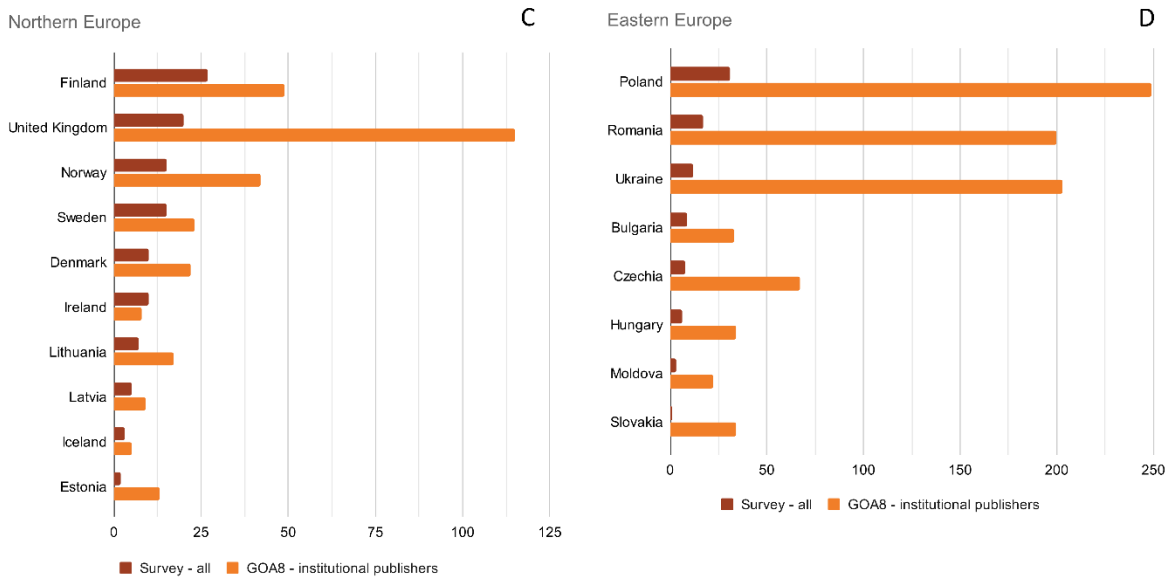


Figure 9 Survey responses (IPs) and institutional publishers in DOAJ per country in different regions.

Four countries represented in the survey population are outside the four European regions and therefore not included in Figure 9. These are Morocco, Tunisia (both in Northern Africa), Armenia and Georgia (both in Southwest Asia). Of these, only Morocco and Armenia had survey responses from IPs (n=2 and 1, respectively), which for both means a relatively low representation compared to institutional publishers from these countries in DOAJ (ratio 9% and 14%, respectively).

While comparing numbers of publishers between the survey population and DOAJ gives some indication of the differences in population of both, another important characteristic is publisher size, both in terms of journals as well as in terms of articles. Due to the way the survey was distributed (especially the fact that the most responses were received from networked dissemination, and relatively few responses by directly approaching individual publishers), the concern beforehand was that mid- and large-sized IPSPs would be overrepresented, and the smaller ones underrepresented.

Looking at the distribution of number of journal and number of articles (in 2022) among IPs in the survey population and institutional publishers in DOAJ, it indeed seems that very small publishers (with only 1 journal) are underrepresented in the survey compared to DOAJ, while mid-size (2-10 journals) and especially larger publishers (over 10 journals) make up a larger part of the survey population than of institutional publishers in DOAJ (Figure 10A). This effect is much less pronounced when looking at publisher size in terms of articles (Figure 10B) although also here, publishers with a total output of less than 50 articles a year are underrepresented in the survey population, while publishers with a larger output are slightly overrepresented.

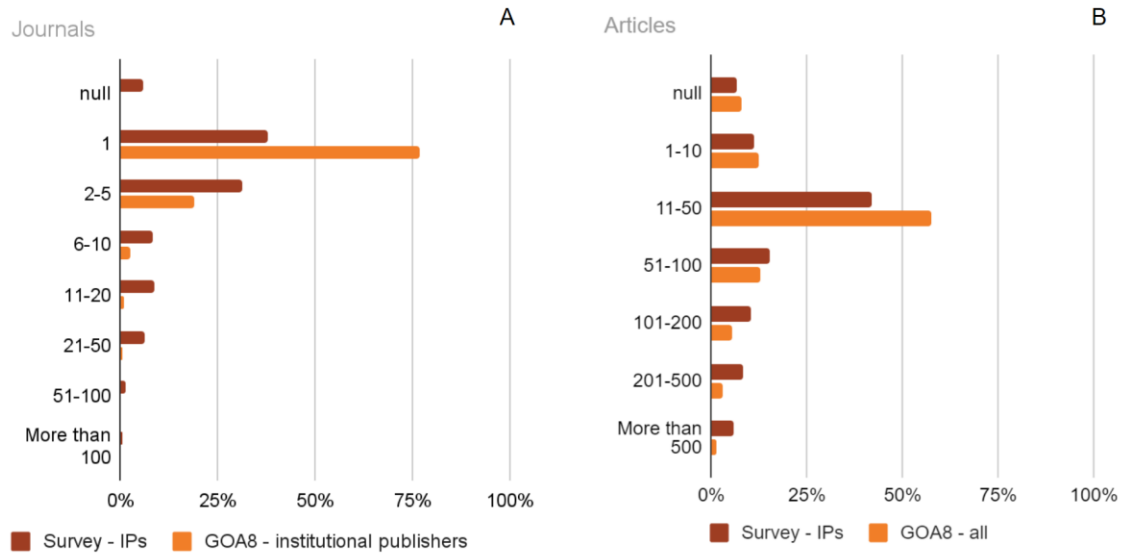
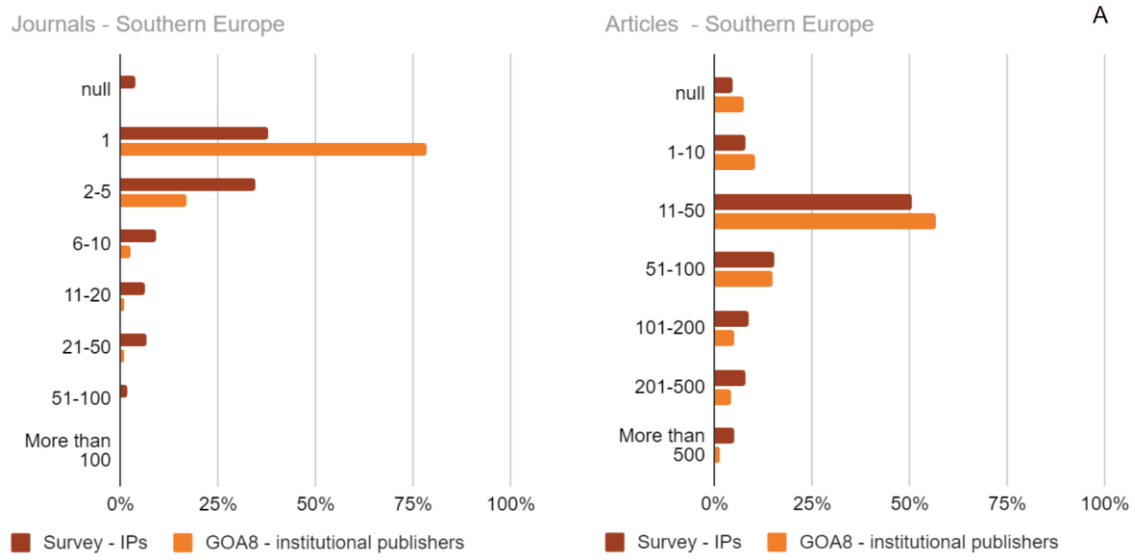
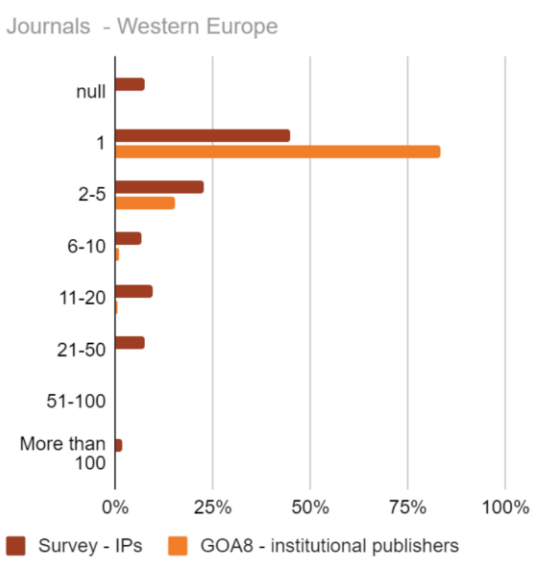


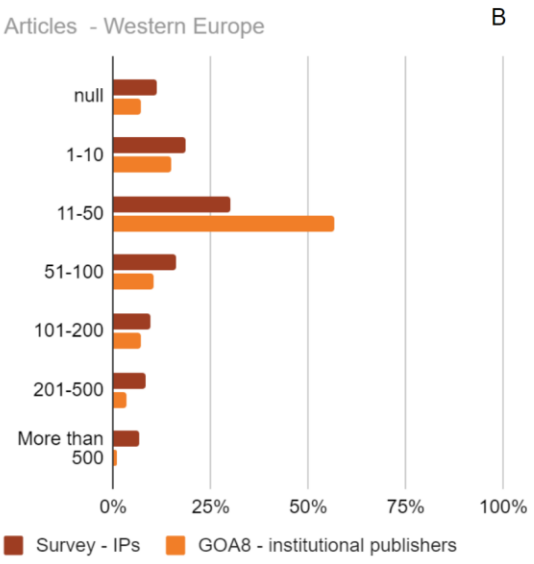
Figure 10 Survey responses (IPs) and institutional publishers in DOAJ by journals and articles in 2022.

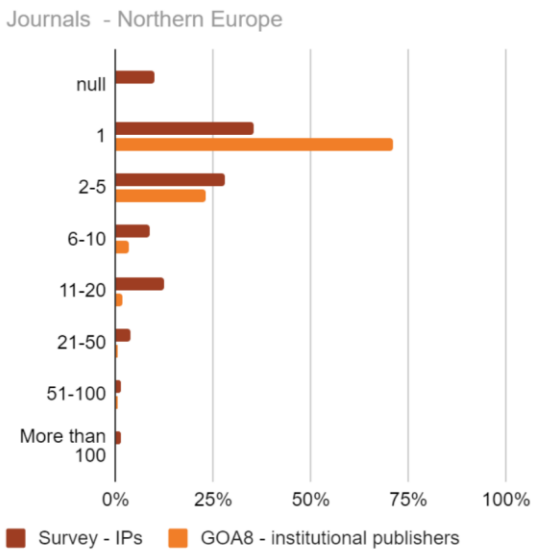
This overall pattern is similar for all four regions in Europe (Figure 11 A-D). There are some subtle differences: the difference between the proportion of very small publishers (1 journal) in the survey population and in DOAJ is highest in Eastern Europe, due to the small percentage of these publishers in the survey population in this region. Conversely, Western Europe has the highest percentage of very small publishers in the survey population.




Journals - Western Europe
null
1
2-5
6-10
11-20
21-50
51-100
More than 100
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%
Survey - IPs
GOA8 - institutional publishers

B


Articles - Western Europe
null
1-10
11-50
51-100
101-200
201-500
More than 500
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%
Survey - IPs
GOA8 - institutional publishers


Journals - Northern Europe
null
1
2-5
6-10
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21-50
51-100
More than 100
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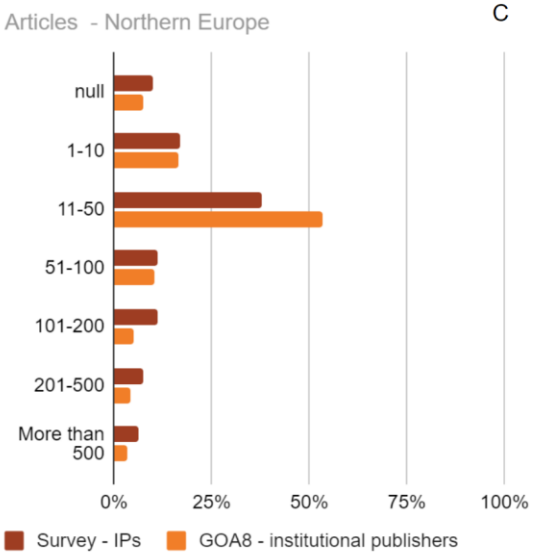
Survey - IPs
GOA8 - institutional publishers

C


Articles - Northern Europe
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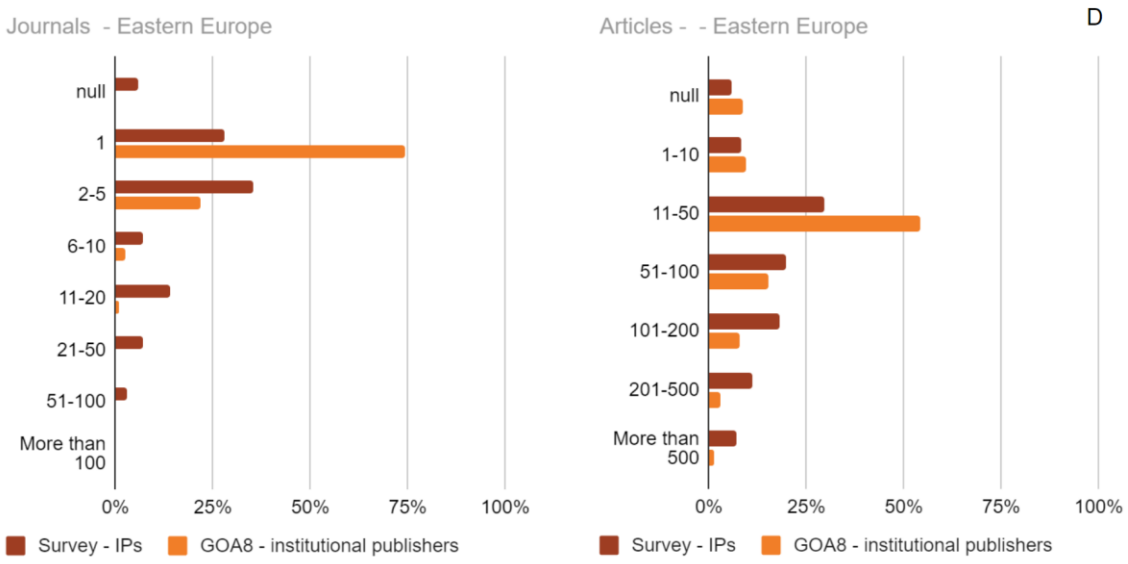
Survey - IPs
GOA8 - institutional publishers



D

Figure 11 Survey responses (IPs) and institutional publishers in DOAJ by journals and articles in 2022 in different regions.

The survey population thus is different from the population of institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), with relatively more smaller publishers in DOAJ than in the survey population), and some countries (e.g. Croatia) either having had either a better response rate or having more institutional publishers whose journals are not included in DOAJ. A methodological caveat is that the publisher field in DOAJ is not controlled, and since the data were taken as is, there *can* be multiple entries for the same institution, with differences in spelling or language. This will lead to an overestimation of the number of small publishers (publishing only 1 journal), but also to overestimation of the publisher population in general. Overall, it is hard to assess which more accurately represents the landscape of institutional publishers, and ultimately, whether or not our survey can be taken as being representative.

It could be argued that low survey responses in a given region or country are themselves the main reason to be careful with producing too broad claims about the landscape of institutional publishing in that region or country. When looking at the survey responses overall, it should be kept in mind that Eastern Europe is likely underrepresented as a region, and very small publishers are underrepresented across all regions.

Importantly, even with low absolute response numbers or low representation, results can still be meaningful, but might have to be used as examples or case studies, or 'lowest estimates' (e.g. practice X exists or is relevant for at least so many IPSPs in this country), without making further statements about representativeness in a given population.

Total number of journals covered - comparison with ROAD

While DOAJ is useful to compare the survey population to in terms of geographical distribution and publisher size, it is less useful to gauge the coverage of the survey in terms of total number of journals, since both groups only partially overlap.

In the Open Access Diamond Journal Study (OADJS) (Bosman et al., 2021) the ROAD database was used both as an ancillary source of information on the total number of active open access journals as well as to make an estimation of the total number of diamond open access journals.

Below, two approaches to the question of journal coverage of the DIAMAS survey are worked out, one starting from the number of journals in scope in ROAD, irrespective of their business model (Approach A), and one starting the from the estimated number of diamond open access journals from the OADJS (Approach B).

Approach A - proportion of open access journals covered

A download of the full ROAD database from November 2020 contained 11,074 currently active open access journals from the countries represented in the DIAMAS survey, out of a total of 39,187 active open access journals.

An important drawback is that ROAD does not contain information on the type of publisher, so it is not immediately obvious how many journals in ROAD are published by institutional publishers. If we take the distribution of publisher types in DOAJ (via GOA8) as a yardstick, we can use the observation that 69,1% of all journals in DOAJ are published by institutional publishers, and 54.2% of journals in the countries covered by the survey. While this has the important limitation that it is not known whether this distribution is similar for the part of ROAD that does not overlap with DOAJ (short of doing a sample analysis), we here accept it as a proxy estimate of the proportion of journals from institutional publishers in ROAD. Applying this proxy, the estimated number of journals from institutional publishers in ROAD from the countries included in the DIAMAS survey is 6,002 (54.2% of 11,074).

To compare this to the number of journals covered by IPs in the survey, we looked at question 25 in the survey, which asked about the number of scholarly journals published/served in 2022, with bracketed answer options (see Figure 10A). Using the lower and upper bounds of the brackets used gives us a low estimate of 2785 and a high estimate of 5916 journals covered by IPs in the survey (using 150 as a top end of the 100+). The latter is a largely arbitrary decision as there are no institutional publishers in DOAJ with more than 100 journals to base this number on. When looking at all publishers in DOAJ (including traditional publishers and commercial full OA publishers), the average number of journals per publisher in the 100+ bracket is 262. Using this number instead of the more conservative estimation of 150 would increase the high estimate from 5916 to 6252 journals - a relatively small increase as there are only 3 IPs within this range among the survey respondents.

While not all journals published by IPs in our survey are necessarily open access, 84% of IPs who responded to the question 'How much of your content is published in Open Access' indicated that over 90% of their scholarly journal content is open access - although it is not clear whether respondents interpreted this question as relating to the proportion of journals or the proportion of articles that is open access. Notwithstanding this ambiguity, applying this percentage to the upper and lower bound of total number of journals published by IPs in the survey gives us between 2,339 and 5,028 open access journals covered by the survey.

Comparing the estimated number of open access journals covered by IPs in the survey (2,339 to 5,028) with the estimated number of open access journals in ROAD from the countries covered by the survey (6,002), the number of open access journals covered by the survey is between 40% and 84% of the size of the corresponding population of journals in ROAD. While it is tempting to interpret this as a sign of good to very good coverage, there are a number of important limitations to be taken into consideration.

First, as with DOAJ, the journals covered by the survey and those covered by ROAD are expected to be only partly overlapping, since our survey was formally not limited to publishers of journals with ISSNs, while ROAD only includes journals with ISSN. Second, the above estimate is based on a number of assumptions and proxy estimates as outlined above, reducing its reliability. Third, the current estimate does not take into account the distinction between APC-based and diamond open access journals within institutional publishing, which potentially affects the size of the ROAD subset the survey population is compared to. This is why we also approached the question of journal coverage from a different angle.

Approach B - proportion of diamond OA journals covered

In particular, the question arises how the number of journals covered by the DIAMAS survey compares to the estimated 16,953-28,569 diamond journals globally, an estimate provided by the Open Access Diamond Journals Study based on ROAD and DOAJ and, for the subset of ROAD not overlapping with DOAJ, analysis of a random sample stratified by discipline. The main issue here is that the estimate in OADJS was neither constrained to institutional publishing, nor limited geographically. Based on DOAJ/GOA8, while the proportion of journals from institutional publishers is 54.2% for all journals in DOAJ from the countries represented in the DIAMAS survey, it is 76.5% for the diamond journals contained in this subset.

Applying both the proportion of journals from countries in scope of DIAMAS (11.704 of 39,178 active scholarly journals in ROAD, or 29.9%), as well as the proportion of diamond journals from institutional publishers from DOAJ (76.5%) to the estimation of 16,953-28,569 diamond journals globally, yields a new estimate of 3,877-6,534 diamond open access journals from institutional publishers in the countries in scope of DIAMAS.

Comparing this to the estimated number of open access journals covered by IPs in the survey (2,339 to 5,028), we can tentatively deduce – though with many caveats – that the number of open access journals covered by the survey is between 36% and 77% of the number of diamond open access journals publishers by institutional publishers in the countries covered by the survey.

Taking into account all the caveats mentioned, both coverage ranges would indicate that the responses received in the survey represent a substantial part of the full journal output of institutional and diamond journal publishing landscape in the geographical limits of our research area. However, this does not necessarily mean that the journals covered are representative of the full landscape, especially as it was shown in the previous section that there likely is an underrepresentation of (very) small publishers in the survey response, especially those publishing only single journals. This is relevant as earlier studies, e.g. OADJS, have shown that such stand-alone journals suffer from more resource problems than larger publishing entities.

B. Results

Analysis of opening questions (Q1-10)

The survey provided information on a number of aspects of institutional publishing, which will be described here in more detail. Together, these aspects can provide an overview of the current state of institutional publishing across Europe. It is important to note that, given the number and potential bias in responses, the survey responses are not necessarily representative for the situation across Europe or in individual geographic regions or countries. Nonetheless, the survey can identify the existence of certain practices and issues in institutional publishing, even if it is sometimes not possible to generalise these observations due to response numbers and bias.

In the sections below, basic characteristics of IPSPs will be described, using questions 1-10 of the survey. These basic characteristics include languages used, membership of associations and charters, organisational aspects (including parent organisation and staff size), types of services, publication types, publisher size in terms of output, and disciplines served.

IPSPs were also asked about the country that hosted the main address of the IPSP (which was subsequently matched to geographical regions), and whether they identified themselves primarily as an IP or an SP. In addition to their identification as characteristics in their own right, these three attributes (country, geographical region and type of IPSPs), are also used as background variables to further analysis of all other characteristics.

Q1. Respondents' identifying information

The survey gathered identifying information such as IPSP names, translated names, contact and respondent names and email addresses, respondent function, website URLs and contact permissions. It allowed identification, follow up contacts, enrichment by checking websites, and more. The question on the respondent's function shows a very large variety of types of staff who have filled out the survey: from editors, editorial assistants, directors, and professors to librarians, programme managers, and even vice rectors for research.

Q2. Country and region

The DIAMAS scoping report defined the project's geographical target area as consisting of a number of regions within the ERA in order to ensure adequate representation of responses. It was assumed that there would be countries in most regions, where the satisfactory number of responses might not be obtained. As Table 4 shows, Southern and Western Europe were the regions with the most responses. An acceptable number of responses were also obtained for Northern and Eastern Europe. However, the two

ERA regions completely outside of the European Union gave too few responses for any detailed analysis at country level. All responses are still part of the data underlying the analysis of areas.

	n	%
Southern Europe	322	47.0
Western Europe	153	22.3
Northern Europe	114	16.6
Eastern Europe	87	12.7
Northern Africa	4	0.6
Southwest Asia	2	0.3
Rest of World	2	0.4

N = 685 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q2 (all)

Table 4 Responses per region.

The number of responses per country is found in the Survey response chapter. The report also details some analyses of the differences between regions.

Q3. Publication languages

It is an understatement to say that language is hugely important in publishing. The areas where languages play a role are many: the languages used in publications, language diversity, and the ability to publish in the language of the author's choice, translation issues and services. But the languages that are used in the technical aspects of publication platforms and supported by submission systems, or used on service provider websites are also important issues in scholarly publishing.

The survey gathered information on languages used in publications. Looking at languages that are most frequently used in publications published or serviced by IPSPs, 37 languages are mentioned in answer to the question of which of the five most common languages the IPSP publishes articles in (Table 5). This set includes all official EU languages except Maltese. As expected, English is mentioned most often, with over 95% of IPSPs selecting it. However, that does not mean that English is the primary language for most IPSPs, as it was only mentioned as the first publication language in about 40% of valid responses to this question. The explanation is rather that English is the most used second publication language. Indeed, many publishers accept English language manuscripts in addition to the main language(s) of their country. Of 379 valid responses that do not have English as primary language, 313 (83%) have it as a second language, and a further 39 (10%) as third, fourth or fifth language. Apart from English, the French, Spanish, German, Italian, Serbian and Croatian languages are all mentioned as one of the five most frequently used ones by over 10% of respondents. The language diversity found may reflect the degree to which institutional publishing caters to publication in national languages, alongside English as an additional publication language. Partly, this result also reflects the geographical distribution of survey responses over countries and language areas.

Language	n	%	Language	n	%
English	598	95.7	Romanian	13	2.1
French	212	33.9	Czech	11	1.8
German	163	26.1	Greek	11	1.8
Spanish	161	25.8	Bulgarian	9	1.4
Italian	106	17.0	Hungarian	8	1.3
Croatian	75	12.0	Galician	7	1.1
Serbian	75	12.0	Slovak	6	1.0
Portuguese	61	9.8	Irish	5	0.8
Russian	41	6.6	Basque	4	0.6
Swedish	38	6.1	Icelandic	4	0.6
Polish	34	5.4	Lithuanian	4	0.6
Catalan	30	4.8	Latvian	3	0.5
Danish	22	3.5	Romansch	2	0.3
Finnish	20	3.2	Welsh	2	0.3
Norwegian	20	3.2	Albanian	1	0.2
Dutch	19	3.0	Estonian	1	0.2
Slovene/Slovenian	19	3.0	Faroese	1	0.2
Ukrainian	17	2.7	Macedonian	1	0.2
Bosnian	14	2.2			
N = 625 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q3 (all)					

Table 5 Publication languages most frequently used.

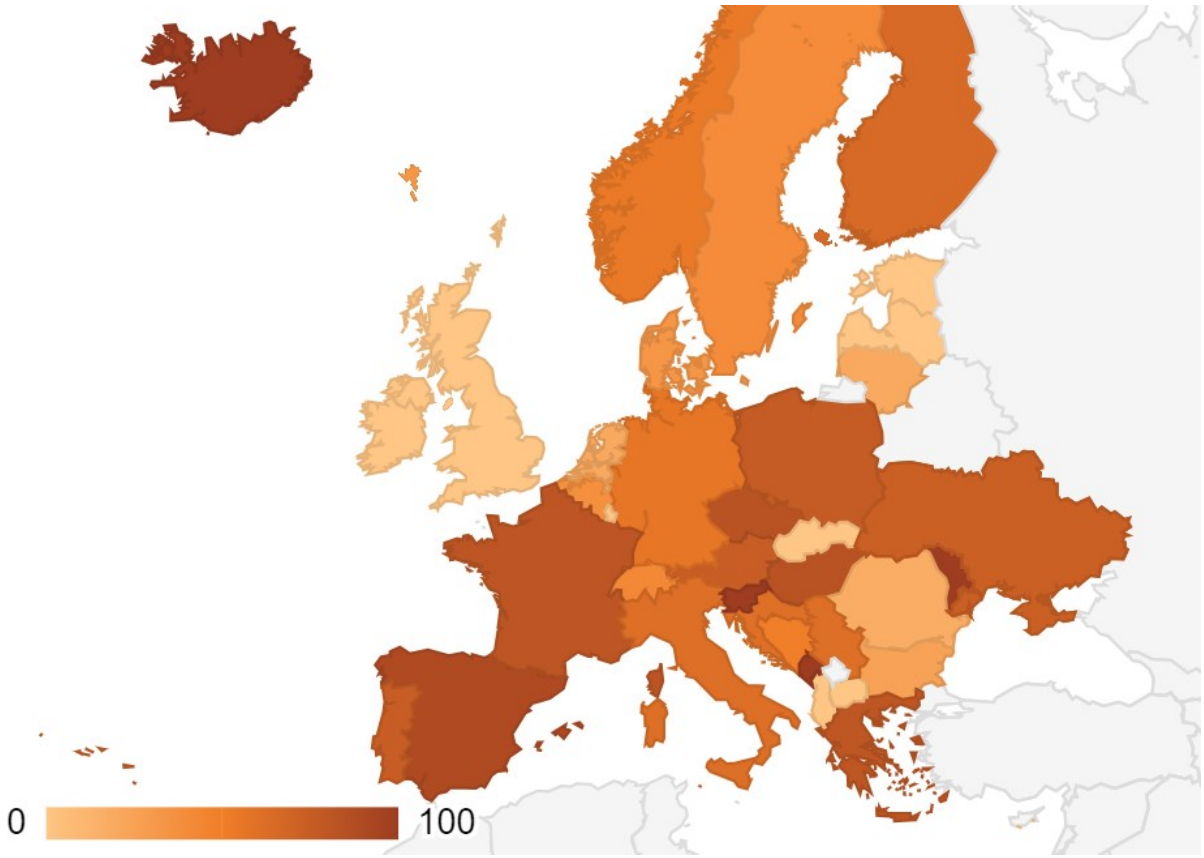


Figure 12 Proportion of IPSPs with main/primary publication language other than English.

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Looking at the use of English or the local language(s) in countries that do not have English as the local language (which is the case for UK and Ireland, hence they are excluded in this analysis), 62% of the 602 respondents have a local language as the primary publication language, 37% have English, and 1% a third language. There is quite some variation in the data. For example, among the 11 respondents from the Baltic countries, 91% have English as the first language, and 9% a local language. In the Nordic countries, 54% of 68 respondents have a local language as the first language, 46% English. Looking at France, Italy, Portugal and Spain (130 respondents) 22% have English as the first language, while 75% have a local language as the primary publishing language, and 3% a third language. In Croatia, Poland, and Serbia, 63% of 169 respondents have a local language as the primary language, 36% English. The size of the local language, its accessibility by readers, its community and its international adoption may influence to which degree it is used for scholarly communication. For example, French, Portuguese and Spanish have large numbers of readers and speakers outside their own countries.

For the 21 respondents identifying as companies or corporations, local languages are the primary publishing language for 52% of them, English accounts for 43% while 5% have a third language as the primary one. This is in line with the findings of OADJS that commercially oriented journals were more likely to employ English.

It is worth noting that for the 180 respondents focusing exclusively on humanities or social sciences (not combined with other disciplines), 71% have a local language as the primary language, 27% have English and 2% a third language.

This points to the conclusion that a majority of respondents are oriented towards a local community, especially in humanities and social sciences, employ local language(s), reach local readers and community, and are a publishing venue for authors writing in a local language. Whether this be in addition to, or instead of, an international audience, cannot be said. However, English has a strong presence among respondents, so institutional publishing obviously caters both to authors wanting to reach an international audience and/or for authors outside of the local community language.

The survey results are in line with the analysis of (Balula & Leão, 2021), namely that

> *"English is assumed, worldwide and in multiple societal contexts, as the language of communication, posing as important means to disseminate (share and search for) information. When it comes to research, the results of the literature review undertaken by* [Balula and Leão (2019)] *underline that 'in terms of information availability, which underpins the co-construction of knowledge, the use of English as lingua franca promotes the dissemination of research outputs and breakthroughs'. Nevertheless, many SSH researchers frequently develop culturally and societally relevant studies in their local languages, in particular, because their aim is to contribute to the debate, decision-taking and innovation processes in specific areas, such as cultural heritage, education, migration, public administration, etc.* [Kulczycki, Guns et al. (2020); Giglia (2019); Luzón (2019)]."

Q4. Association and charter membership

There are many associations and initiatives that organisations active in scholarly publishing can be member, part, or signatory of, be it publishing associations or initiatives to promote publishing standards and openness. In the survey we asked IPSPs for their relations with twelve specific associations and initiatives as well as their membership of an (otherwise unspecified) national publisher association.

Overall, membership of such organisations is low among our respondents (Figure 13). For almost all organisations, about a quarter of IPSPs either did not answer this question, or stated that they did not know whether they are a member or signatory of these associations and initiatives. The responses to the survey indicated that our IPSPs were mainly members and signatories of national associations, DORA, OASPA, CoARA and COPE, in that order, with only the first two having more than 10% of the IPSPs in our survey as a member or signatory. Although some of the goals and standards promoted by these organisations can in principle also be supported without being a member or signatory, clearly the awareness of the relevance or value of these associations and initiatives is still perceived as being low. Especially when the association does not offer waivers or sponsorship options, fees may be a barrier to membership organisations, and lack of time and knowledge may affect the ability to comply with membership criteria where there is no fee, as well as the ability to assess the value of memberships and signing of charters, alongside language barriers. Finally, not all associations/declarations may match the profile of a respondent.

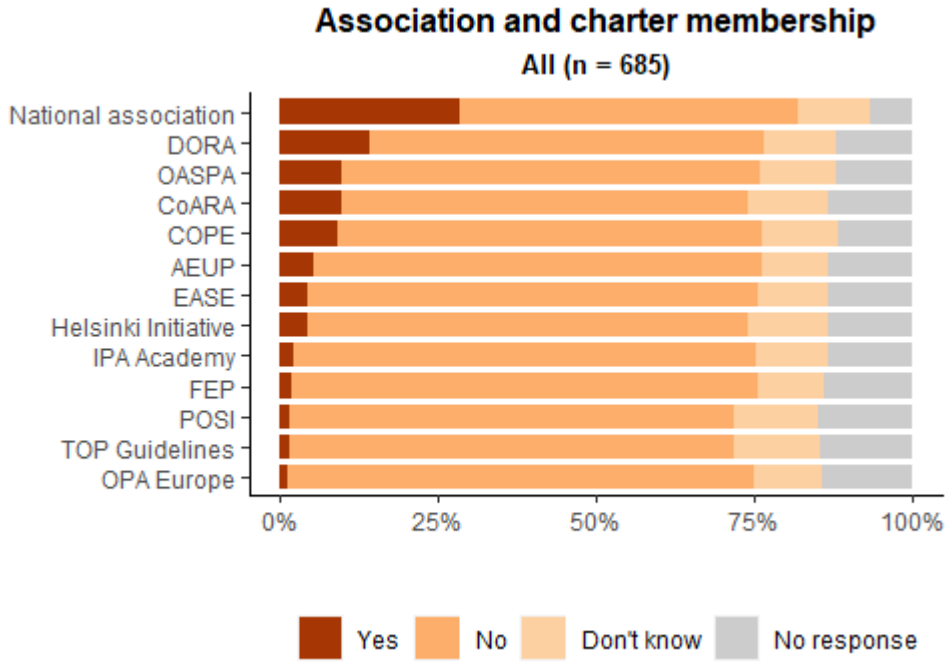


Figure 13 Association and charter membership.

IPs vs SPs

It is interesting to see that those IPSPs in the survey that self-identify as an SP, are members or signatories of these associations and initiatives more often than IPs (Figure 14). It seems that SPs compare positively to IPs here, especially where it concerns associations and initiatives that have a change agenda concerning openness and assessment (in particular DORA, COARA and POSI). By contrast, IPs are slightly more often members of typical publisher associations such as AEUP, FEP and IPA Academy, as well as EASE.

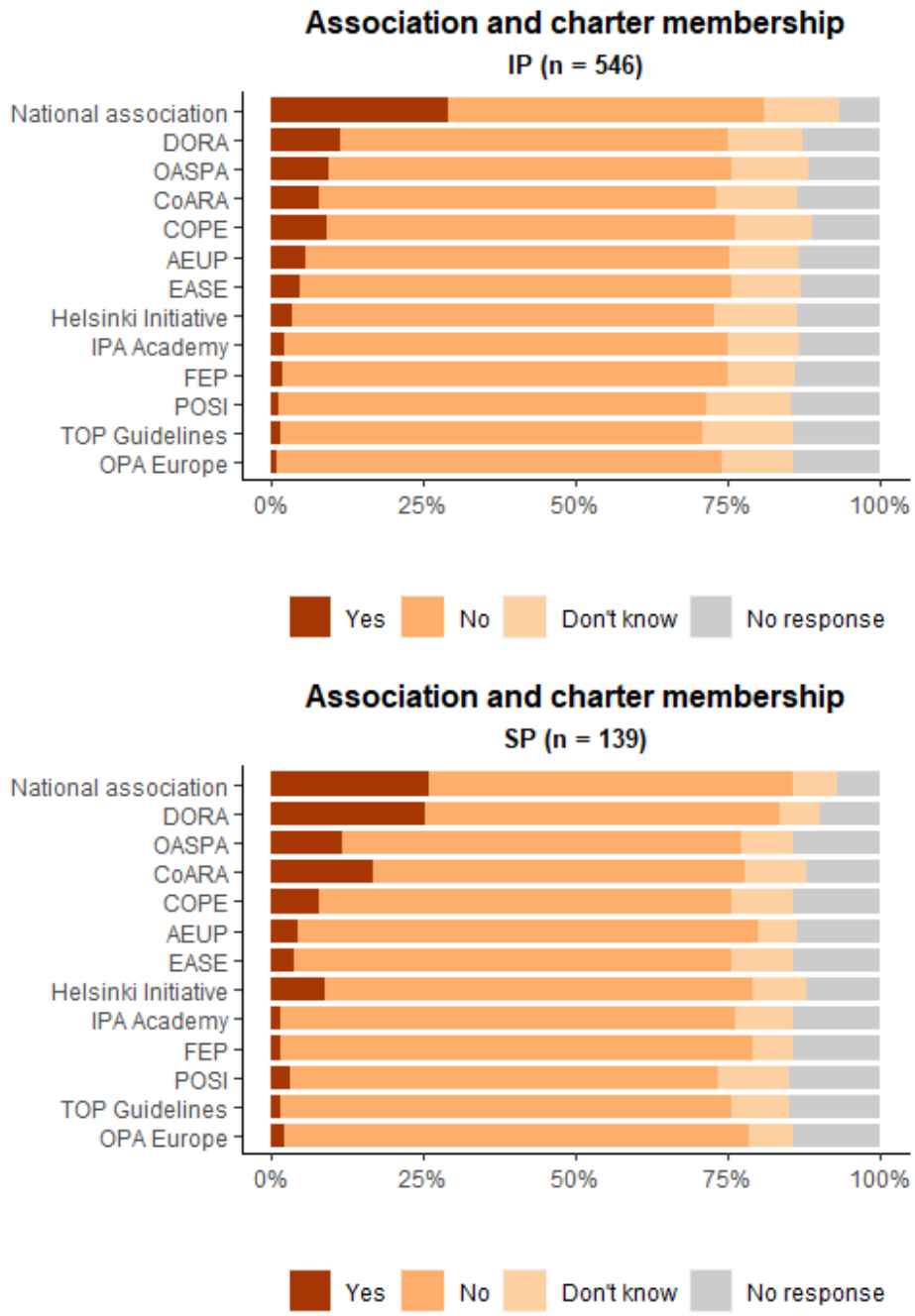
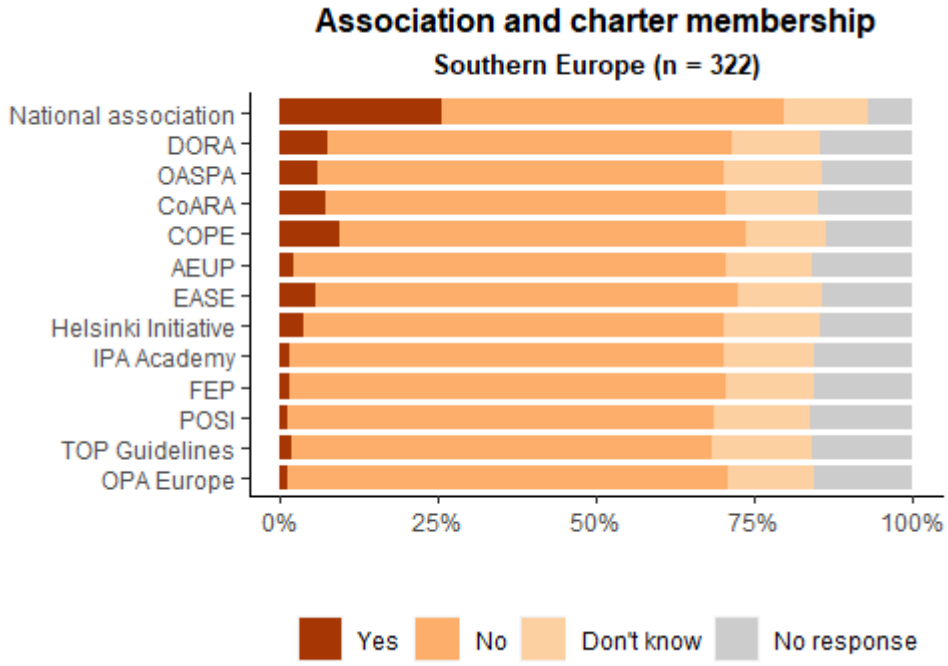
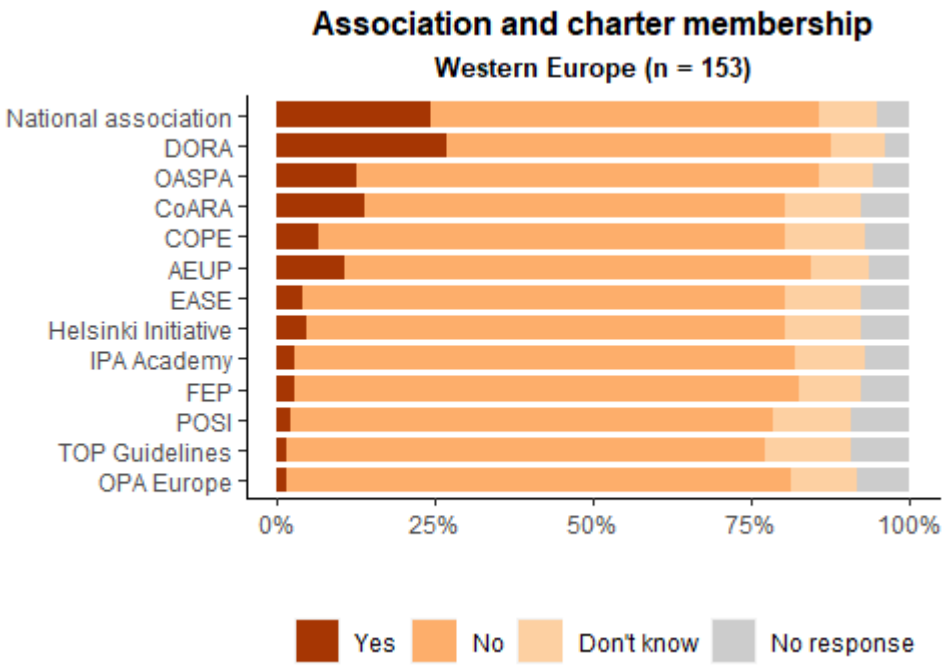


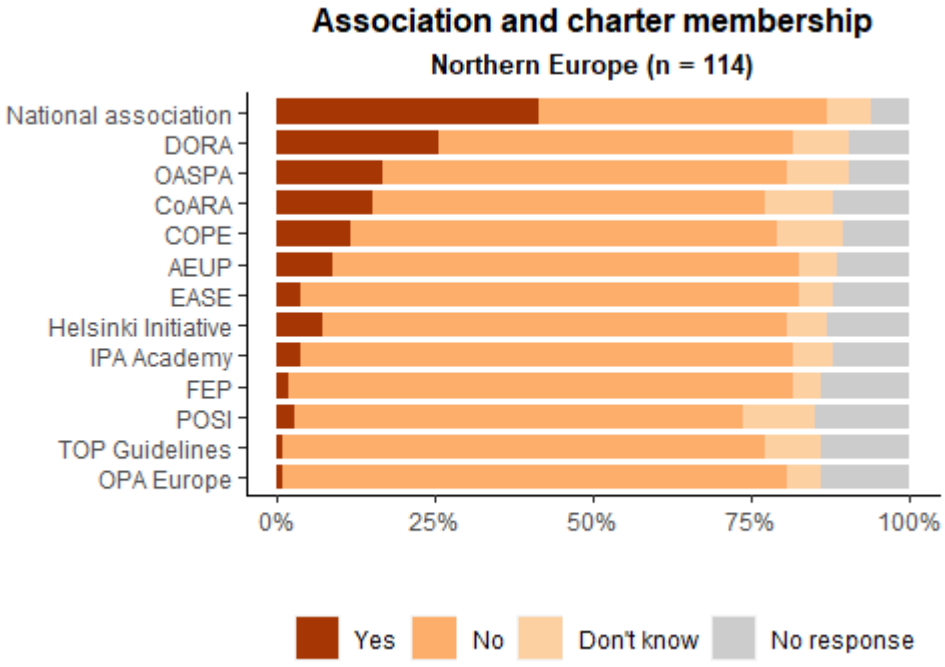
Figure 14 Association and charter membership by type (IP/SP).

Geographical regions

Association and charter membership in Europe's four regions is uneven (Figure 15. Relatively, the highest membership and signatory shares are to be found in Northern and Western Europe, with lower shares in Southern and Eastern Europe. In all regions, memberships of the national publisher bodies are high, but DORA signatory levels are only comparable to that high level in Western and Northern Europe. The fact that across all associations and charters membership levels differ between the four regions could suggest that there may be some more general factors at play, such as the composition of the respondent group in Southern and Eastern Europe, the geographical scope of outreach by the associations and charter initiatives or the relevance of these associations and charters for the challenges that IPSPs in Southern and Eastern Europe are facing. A final salient fact is that in Southern and Eastern Europe, COPE jumps out as an association having relatively high membership rates, compared to other associations and charters initiatives.




Association and charter membership
Western Europe (n = 153)
National association
DORA
OASPA
CoARA
COPE
AEUP
EASE
Helsinki Initiative
IPA Academy
FEP
POSI
TOP Guidelines
OPA Europe
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%
Yes
No
Don't know
No response


Association and charter membership
Northern Europe (n = 114)
National association
DORA
OASPA
CoARA
COPE
AEUP
EASE
Helsinki Initiative
IPA Academy
FEP
POSI
TOP Guidelines
OPA Europe
0%
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75%
100%
Yes
No
Don't know
No response

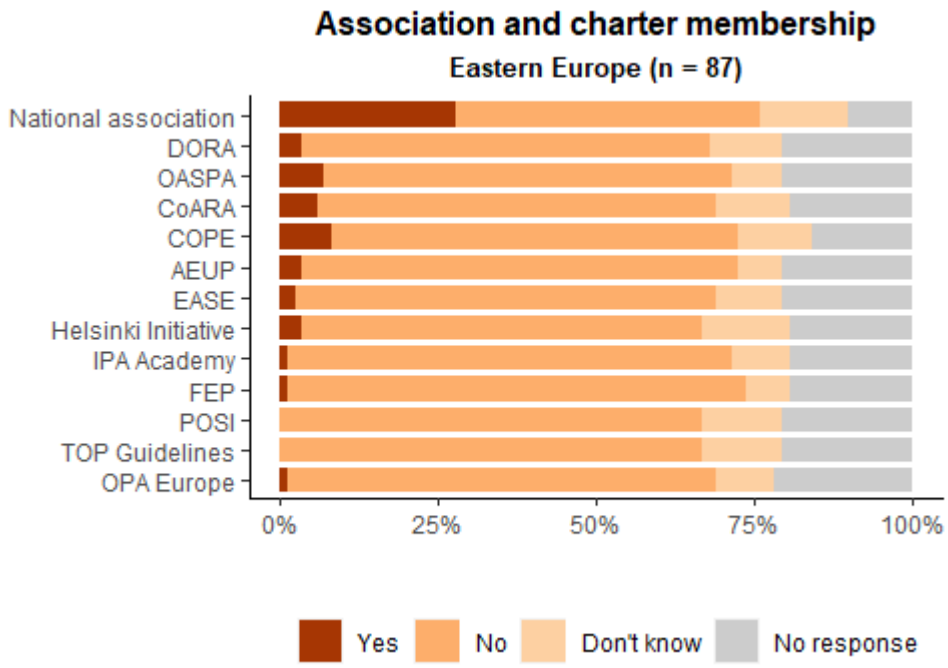


Figure 15 Association and charter membership per region.

Q5. Parent organisations

The survey asked whether IPSPs have a parent organisation and if so, what their relation is with that parent organisation. Parent organisations may be crucial in deciding on and facilitating publishing activities, including decisions and support towards change. If the IPSP is indeed part of a larger organisation, that may have consequences for the independence and sustainability of the IPSP. For example, a parent organisation may have policies that directly affect the operations of the IPSP.

Among the survey respondents, almost 60% indicated that their publishing/service entity has a parent organisation. This percentage goes up to around 70% for just the SPs (Figure 16). It means that the majority of IPSPs will at least formally, if not also operationally, have to reckon with their parent organisation or the department they are part of.

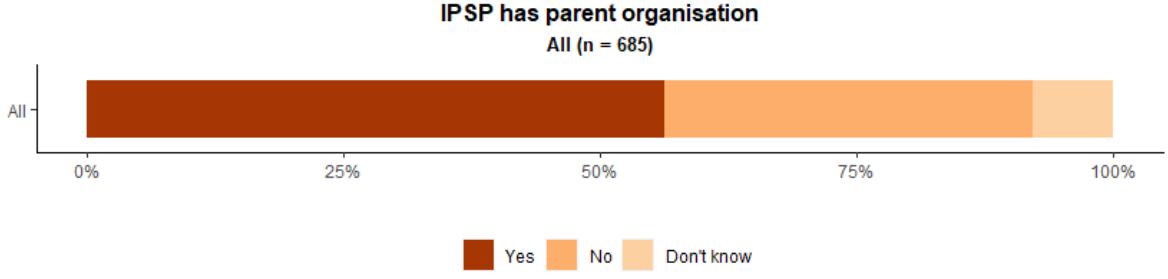


Figure 16 IPSPs with parent organisation.

Looking at the type of relations IPSPs have with their parent organisation (Figure 17) it appears all relationship types occur in substantial numbers. Though many are 'only' owned or governed by a parent organisation and operate independently, many others represent a full department, or part of a department or library.

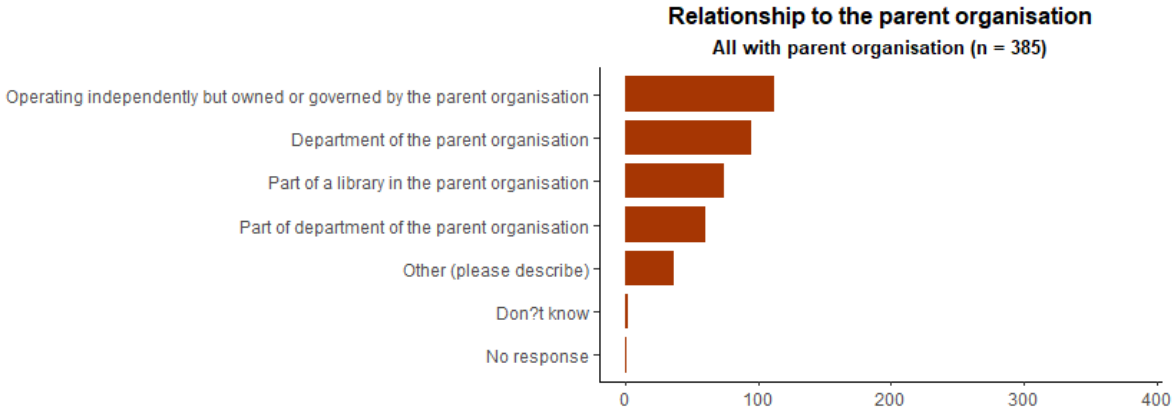


Figure 17 Relationship to parent organisation.

A final aspect of the relationship with the parent organisations is their customer scope: do they provide services just to/within that parent organisation or are they also targeting IPSPs beyond that (Figure 18). Some 45% of our respondents say they only provide services within their own (parent) organisation.

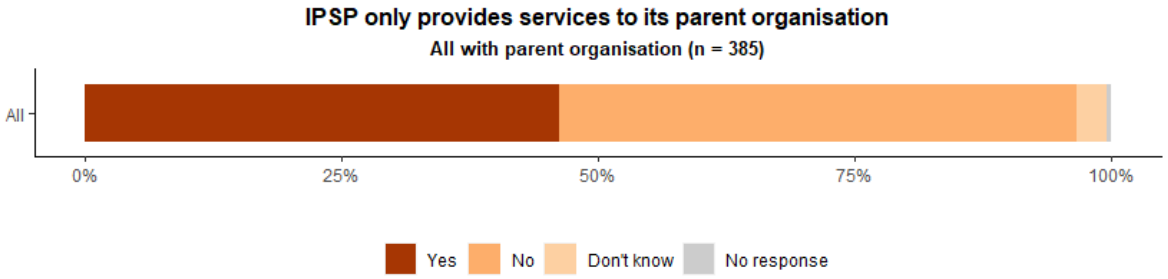


Figure 18 Provision of service to parent organisation only.

Responses by Region, Relationship, IP/SP

With the exception of Southern Europe, around 65% of IPSPs in other regions are part of a larger organisation (Figure 19). In Southern Europe IPSPs are slightly more likely to be independent organisations. SPs are slightly more likely to have parent organisations than IPs (Figure 20). However, without further information it is difficult to explain why this is the case.

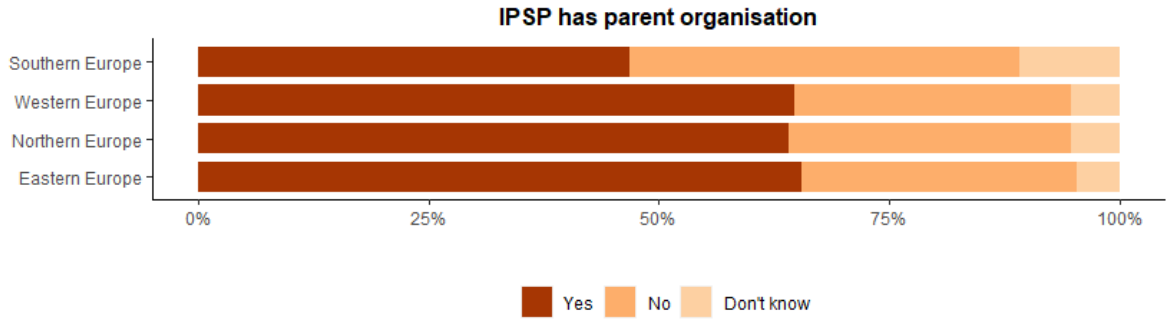


Figure 19 IPSPs with parent organisation by region.

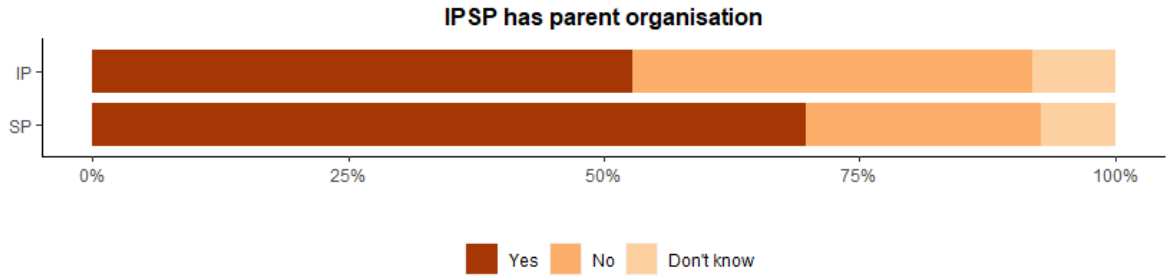
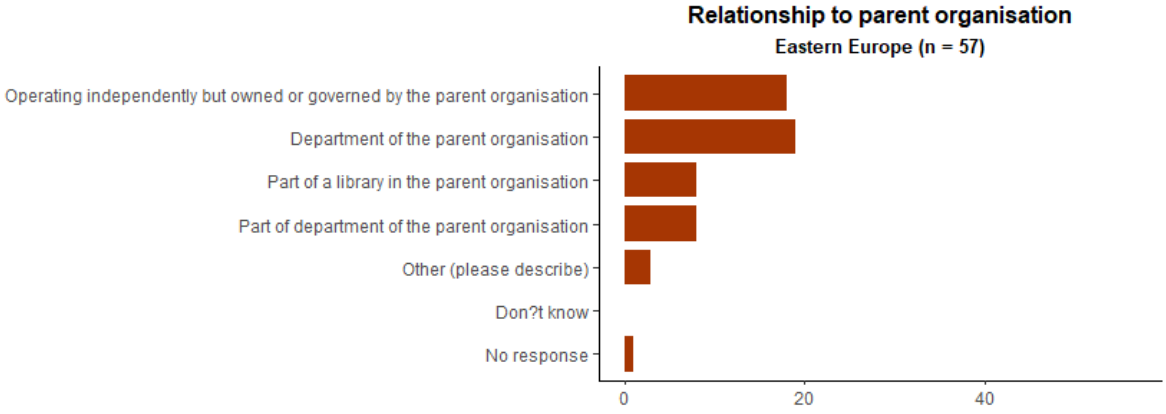
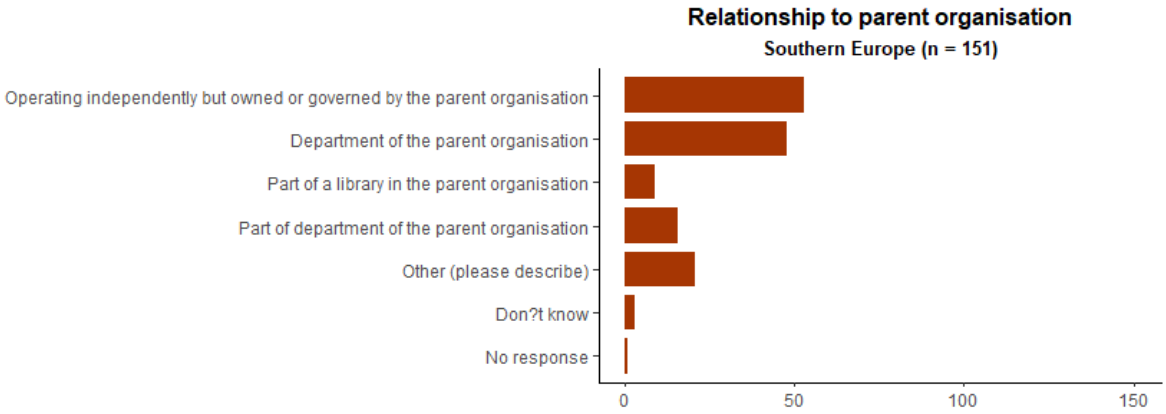


Figure 20 IPSPs with parent organisation by type (IP/SP).

There are also some notable differences between regions regarding the relations IPSPs have with their parent organisations, if they have one (Figure 21). While in Northern and Western Europe libraries stand out in serving as a link to the parent organisation, in

Southern and Eastern Europe IPSPs are relatively more often a department in their own right or an independently operating unit.





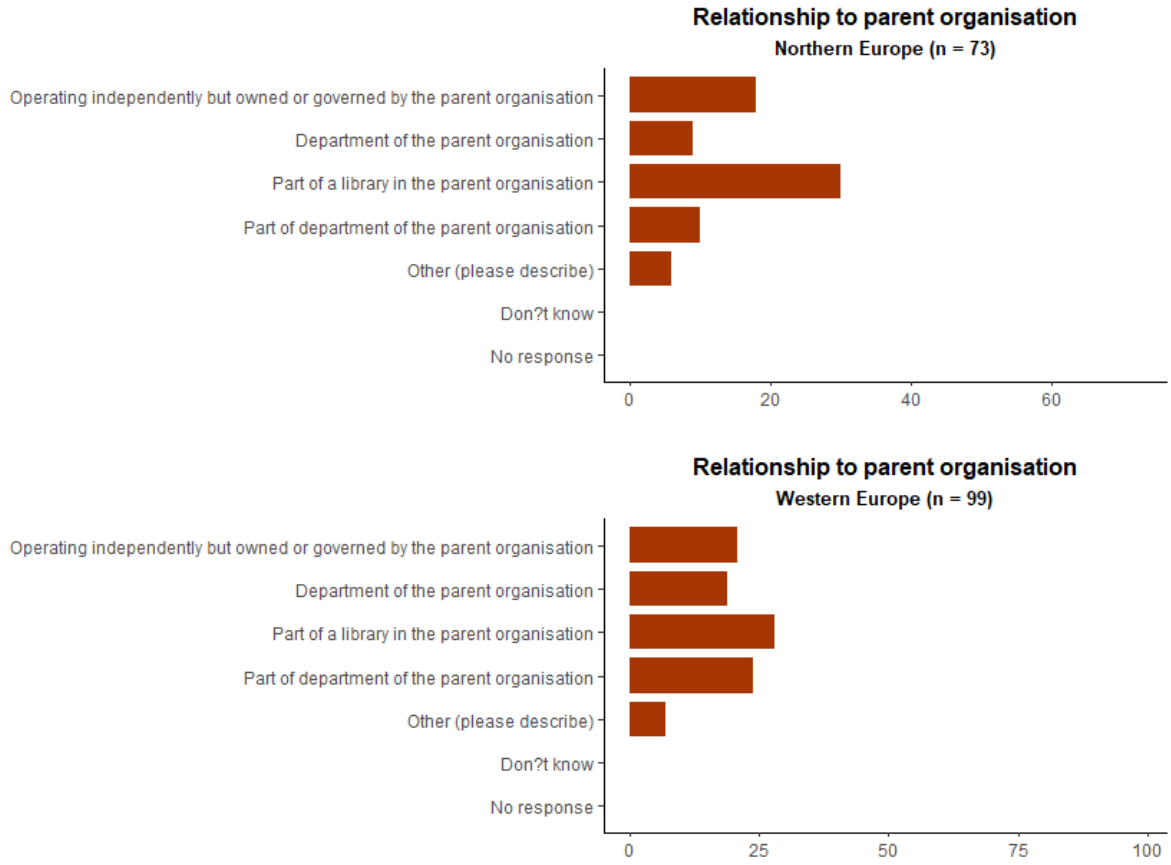


Figure 21 Relationship to parent organisation by region.

Looking separately at the IP and SP segments among respondents (Figure 22) libraries often serve as the link between SPs and the parent organisation. By contrast, IPs function a bit more often as a separate department.

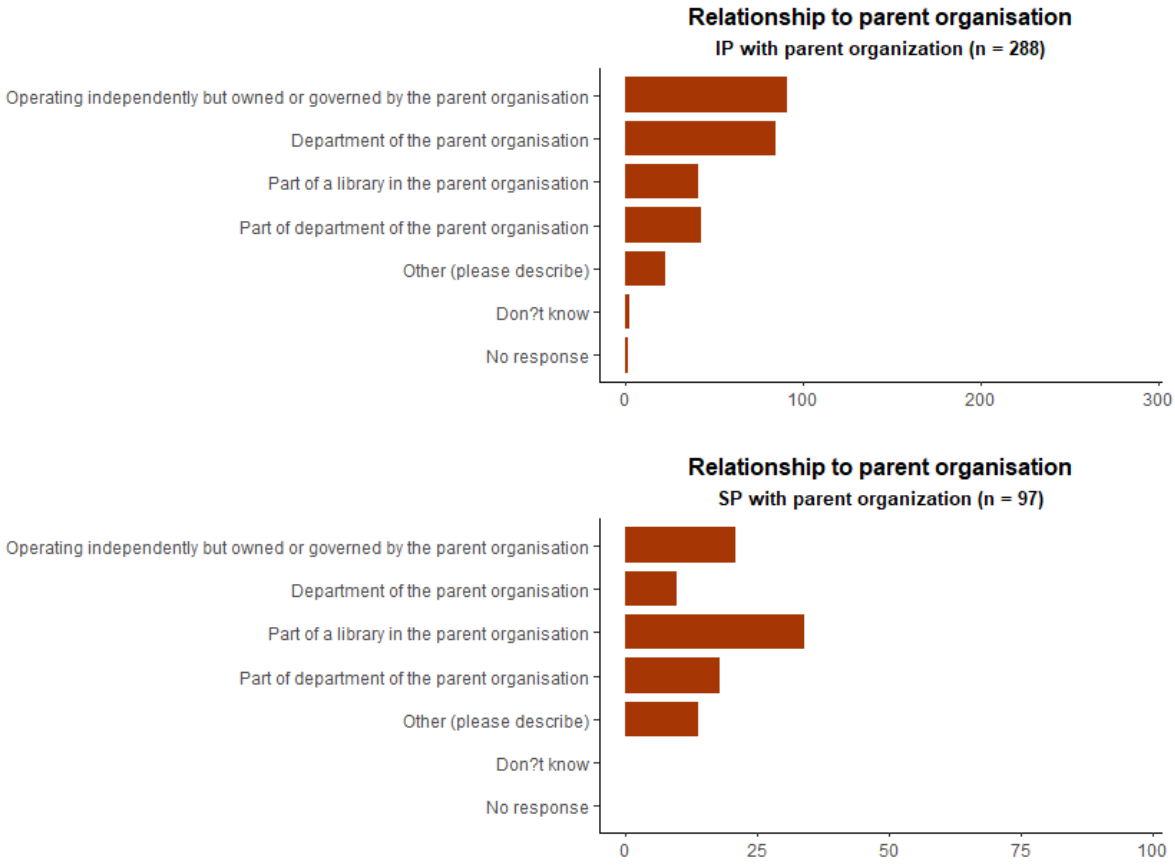


Figure 22 Relationship to parent organisation by type (IP/SP).

Regarding IPSPs only servicing their own organisation, there are some noteworthy differences between European regions. In Southern Europe, the majority of IPSPs that have a parent organisation only provide services 'internally'. In Northern and Eastern Europe most of those IPSPs do not restrict their operation to the organisation they are part of. To a lesser degree that also holds for Western Europe.

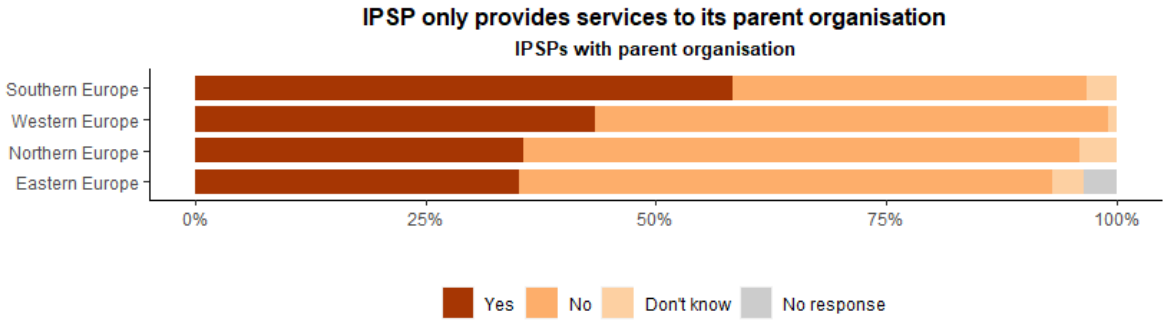


Figure 23 Provision of service to parent organisation by region.

Q6. Legal entity

The legal status of the IPSP or its parent organisation is important as it relates to governance, business models, and sustainability. The organisations can be commercial, either privately owned companies or publicly owned corporations, and non-commercial, either not-for-profit private organisations or not-for-profit public organisations. The scope of the DIAMAS project includes institutional, non-commercial IPSPs, as well as commercial organisations that provide services to those non-commercial IPSPs.

About two thirds of IPSPs are non-commercial, public organisations (such as most universities), and together with private but not-for-profit organisations (NPO, such as most societies and associations), over 85% of responding IPSPs are indeed not for profit (Figure 24). As expected, we find more for-profit organisations among SPs, compared with IPs. Less than 4% of IPs state that they are commercial companies or corporations.

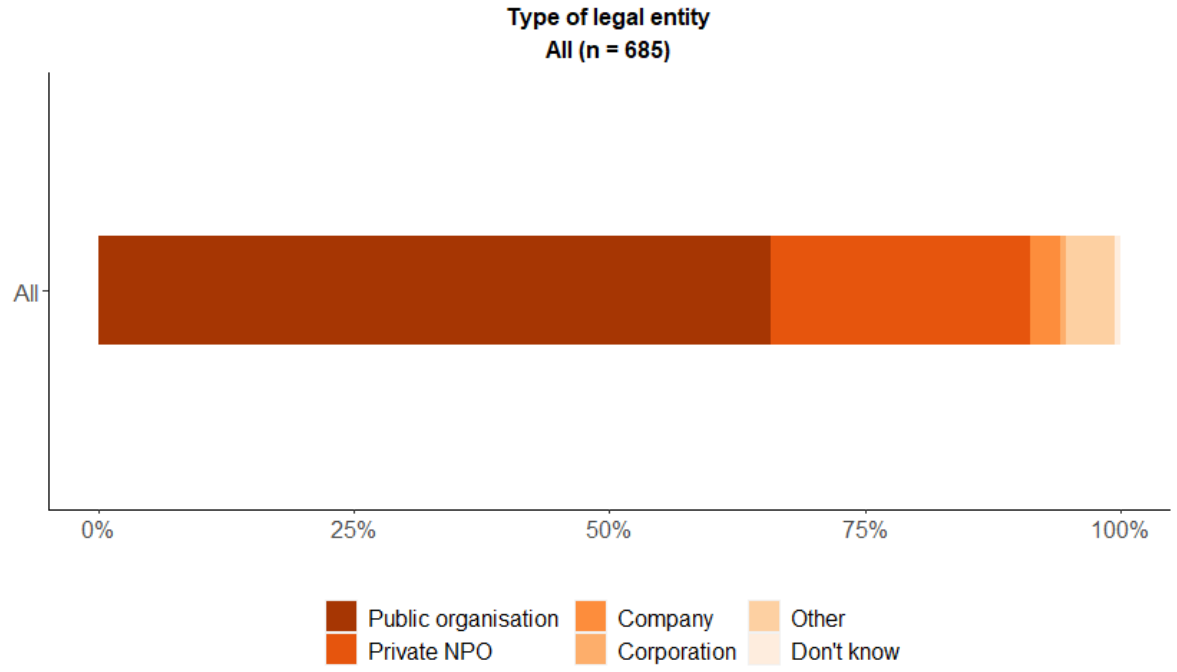


Figure 24 Type of legal entity.

Responses by Region

The mix of various legal entities among IPSPs is very much alike geographically (Figure 25. We can see that in Eastern Europe there are slightly more privately owned companies among the responding IPSPs, while in Northern Europe there are slightly more private not-for-profit organisations.

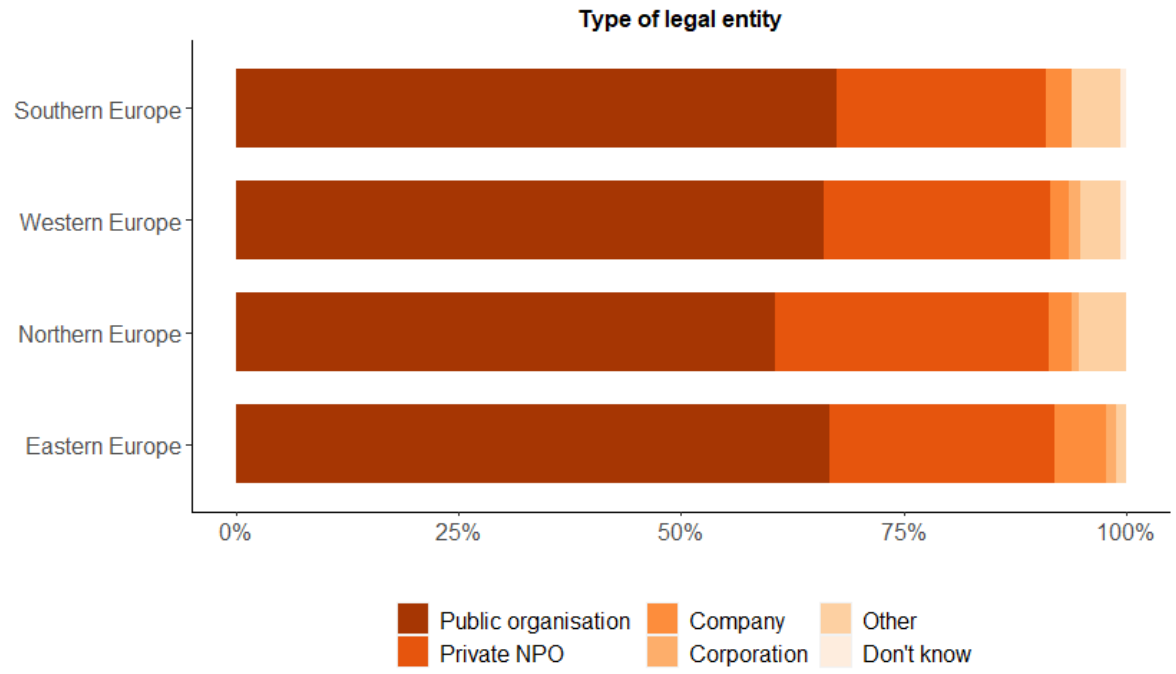


Figure 25 Type of legal entity by region.

Q7. Staff size

One of the ways to get an impression of the size of IPSPs, apart from their output in terms of publications or publications that they provide services for, is looking at 'inputs'. Paid staff size is one of those inputs. That is not the full story, as such organisations also often make use of labour provided in kind and volunteer labour. However, the number of paid Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff is an indication of both size and the degree to which the IPSPs uses paid staff alongside the other kinds of labour mentioned.

In terms of paid staff numbers, a very large majority of IPSPs are small or very small, with more or less equal shares of 25-30% having either none, less than 2, or 2-5 FTE paid staff Figure 26 . Looking at this differently, this also means that a large majority do have one or more FTE paid staff. It is also interesting to see that there are a sizable number of IPSPs that have a medium to large size number of paid FTEs: among the survey respondents some 85 IPSPs have 10 or more FTE in paid staff.

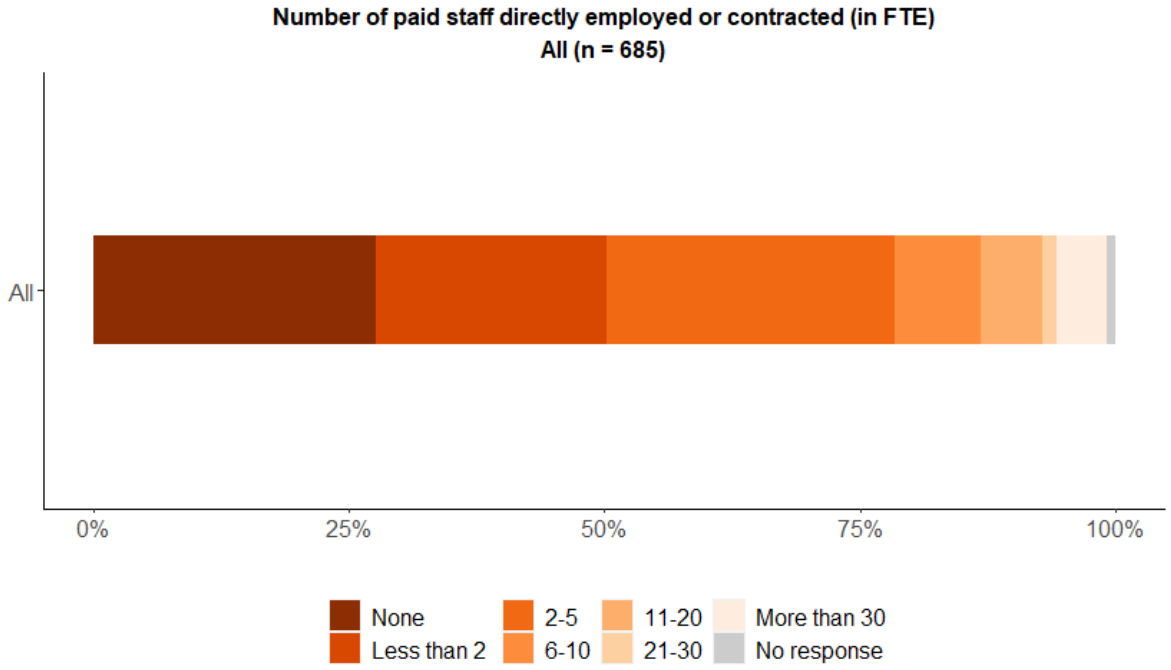


Figure 26 Paid staff directly employed or contracted (in FTE).

Responses by Region

The size distribution in terms of paid FTE staff is not the same in the four European regions we distinguish. The relative number of IPSPs in the survey without any paid staff is much smaller in Western and Northern Europe compared to Eastern and Southern Europe. Furthermore, the share of IPSPs that have more than 10 FTE of paid staff is significantly larger in the Eastern European segment of the responses (Figure 27).

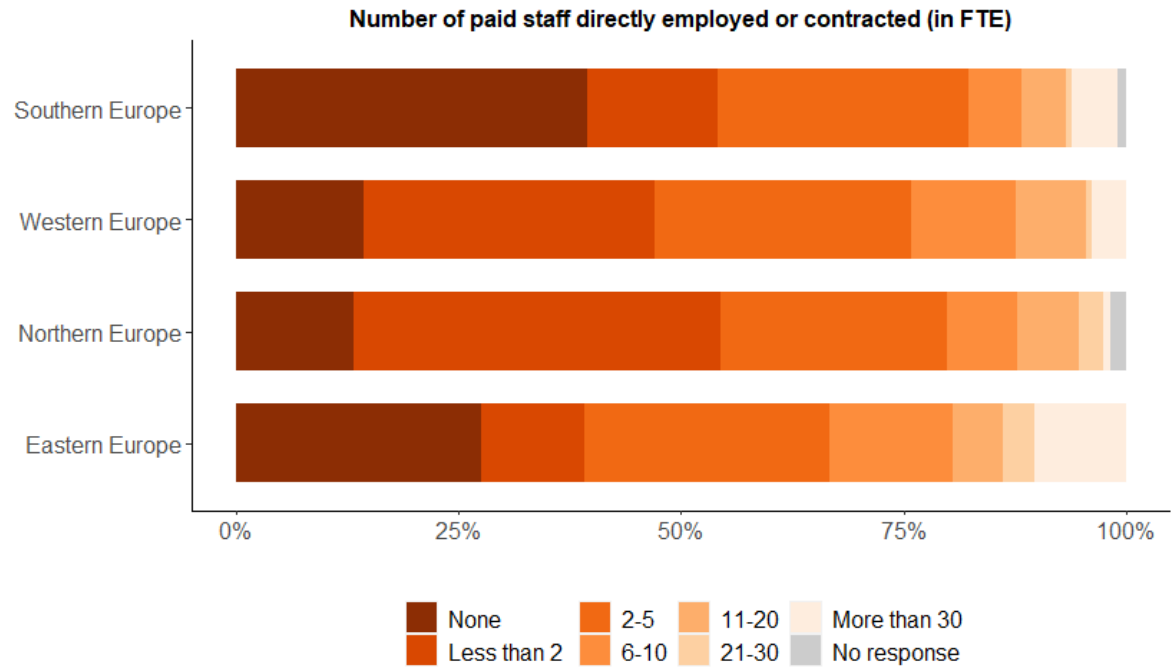


Figure 27 Paid staff directly employed or contracted (in FTE) by region.

Q8. IP or SP and services provided

An important distinction in the landscape of organisations active in scholarly publishing by institutions is between the two types of institutional service providers (IPSPs): institutional publishers (IPs) that have at least a certain amount of control in terms of ownership and governance, and service providers (SPs) that mainly provide services to IPs. The distinction is introduced and described in the scoping report (Bargheer et al., 2022) and the issues around it in the section 'Distinction between IPs and SPs' in the chapter 'Analysis of areas' of this report.

Over three quarters of respondents self-identify as an institutional publisher, with the remainder self-identifying as service providers. This could reflect bias in dissemination, bias in response, as well as of course the real-world numbers of organisations active in institutional scholarly publishing. When looking at survey results not broken down by IPSP type it is good to know that they reflect the combined patterns of these two types. But it is also important to realise that the distinction is not clear-cut and may have been interpreted differently by different respondents.

Looking at the types of services/activities of both types of IPSP reveals that as expected, the overall majority have activities in the editing and production aspects of publishing, whether it is for their own publications or as service for other IPSPs (Figure 28). Smaller majority groups are active in IT, communication and administrative, legal and financial aspects of publishing. As IT, communication, administration, legal and financial issues are likely relevant for all IPSPs, this implies that some IPSPs may rely on external service providers for these tasks. Providing training, support, and advice is an area that almost half of the organisations are active in.

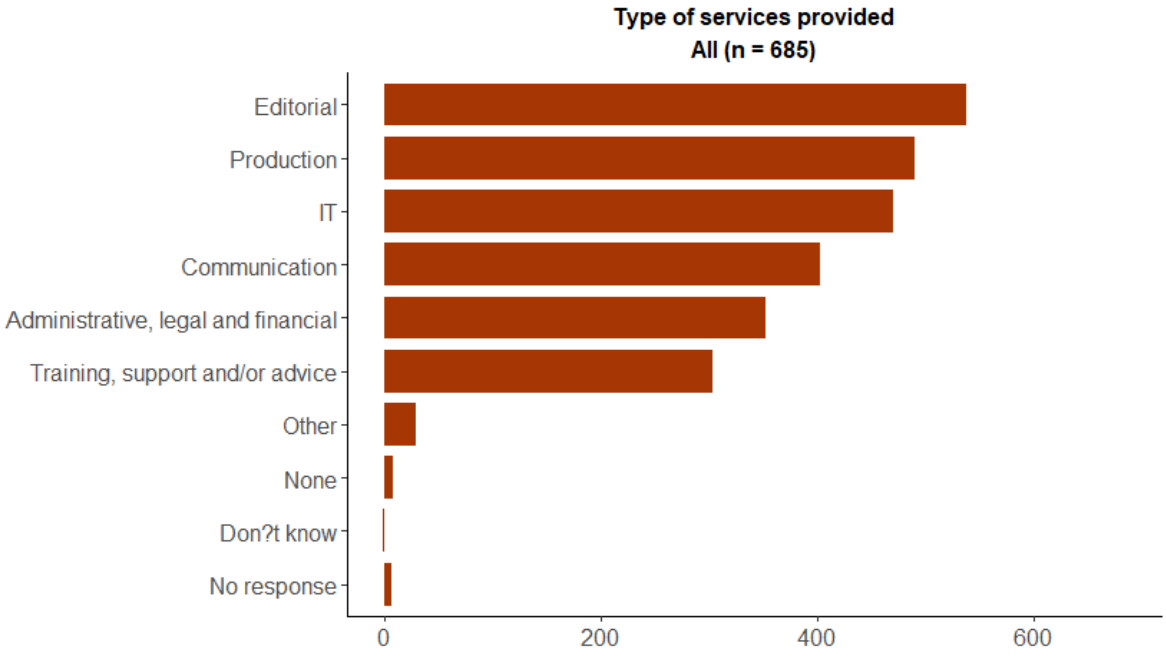


Figure 28 Services provided.

Shares of IPs and SPs in the survey response show significant variation over the European regions (Figure 29). Southern and Eastern Europe have relatively more responses from IPs compared to Northern and Western Europe. It is hard to come up with conclusive evidence explaining this difference, but some of the survey dissemination activities, especially reaching out to all journals and their publishers using specific journal platforms, may have contributed to it.

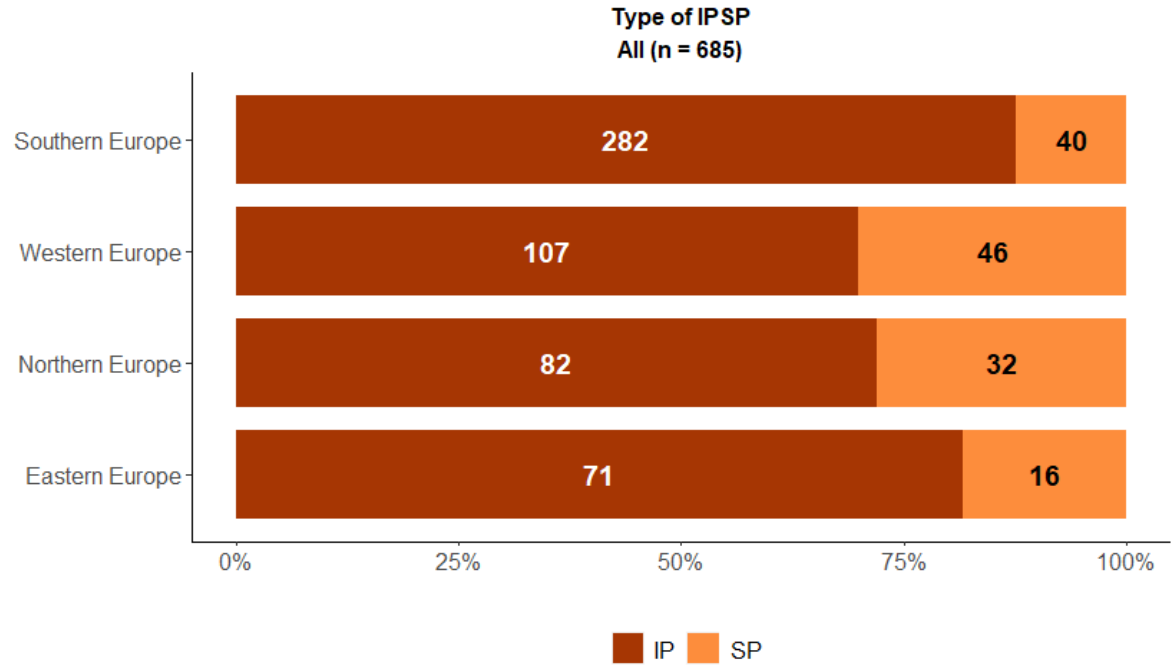
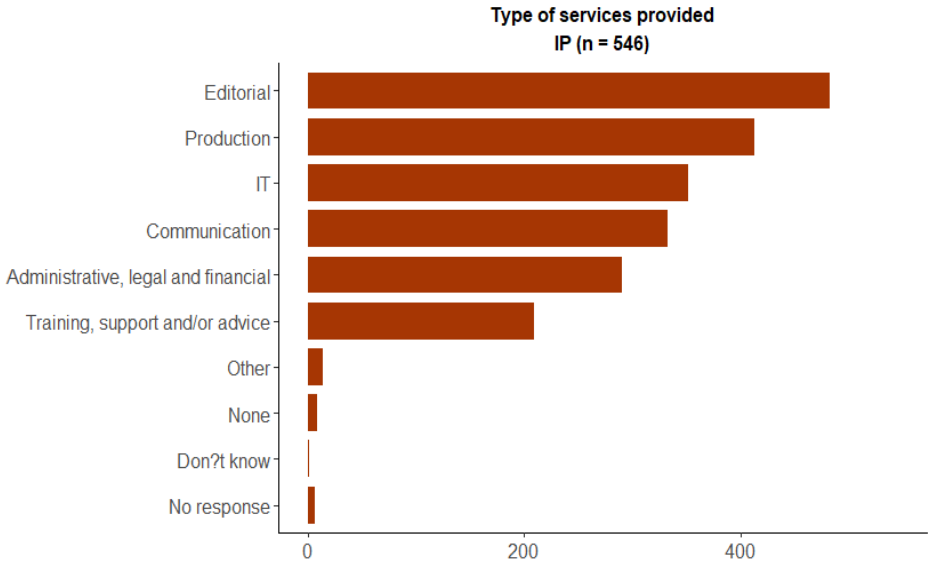


Figure 29 Type of IPSP by region.

The respective portfolios of activities carried out by IPs and SPs are clearly different (Figure 30). Whereas for IPs publication editing and production are most prominent, for SPs it is IT and training, support, and advice that are most often mentioned. However, both IPSP types have substantial numbers of respondents active in any of the activity areas. For training, support and advice, as may also be expected, more of the SPs than the IPs state being active in it: 68% versus 39% respectively.



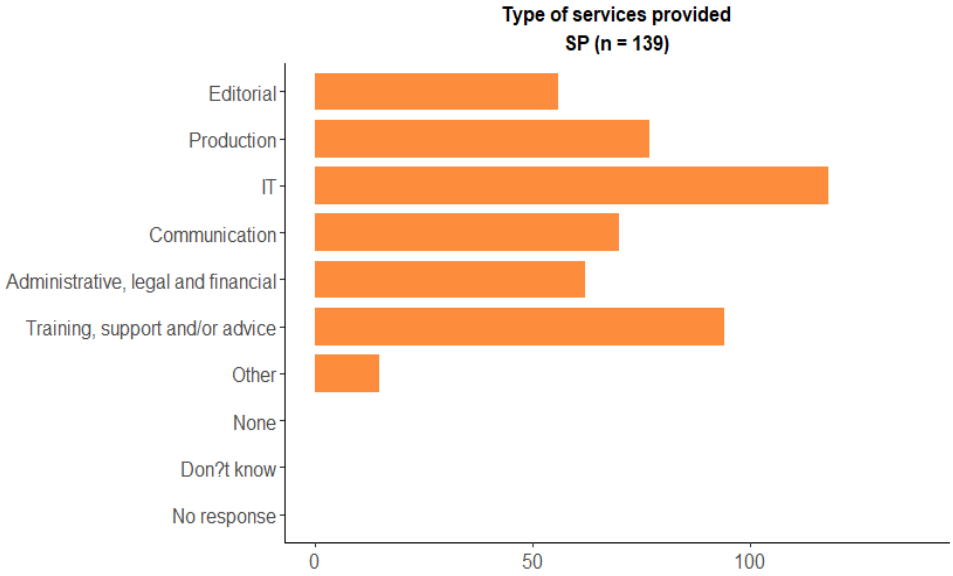


Figure 30 Services provided by type (IP/SP).

When looking at the number of activities that IPs and SPs support (Figure 31), it becomes apparent that IPs more often support a larger number of activities, and SPs often support fewer activities each. In general, this points to the fact that IPs often undertake many activities relating to publishing themselves, while SPs more often specialise in only a few types of services. Finally, very few, less than 10%, focus on just one type of service.

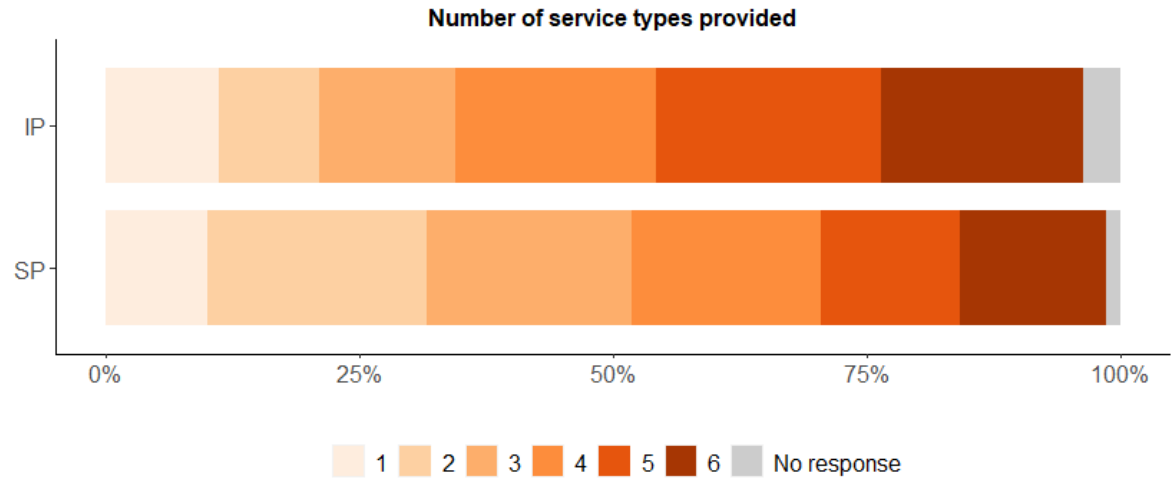


Figure 31 Number of service types provided.

Q9. Publication types

In principle institutional publishing can encompass a huge variety of publication types: from books and journals to various forms of conference output, grey literature such as dissertations and reports, and even early research output such as data, software, posters, and preprints. Beyond that it could also include scholarly blogs, workshop reports, and educational material. Significant differences in the focus of IPSPs are expected, while recognizing that many may be considering to start publishing or servicing new types of publications, or, conversely, to specialise and focus on one or two publication types. All types require specific expertise, make use of different standards, software, and platforms and with their own cultural, technical and market developments. This makes it important to have indications of the relative size of the publication types in the portfolio of IPSPs.

Response totals

It is not surprising that academic journals, in view of their permanence and relatively good findability, large numbers, and long history are the most frequently mentioned publication type in the portfolio of surveyed IPSPs (Figure 32). Almost all respondents mentioned publishing journals or providing services for journal publishing. There is likely also survey response bias towards IPSPs with journals in their portfolio, as these were specifically targeted in the survey dissemination. Nonetheless, books and conference outputs are also sizable 'sectors' within the IPSP portfolio's, with a modest majority of respondents saying they are active in it. Grey literature publishing is much smaller, but non-academic outputs and 'other research outputs' (for instance, preprints) are also mentioned by substantial numbers of IPSPs.

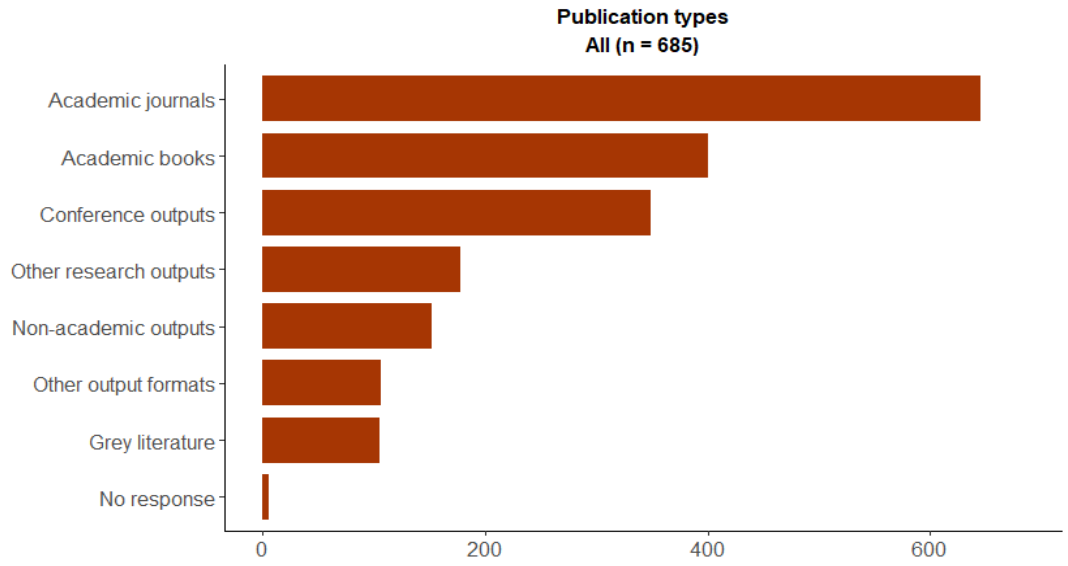


Figure 32 Publication types.

While almost all IPSPs either publish or service scholarly journals, the number of journals published and the number of articles published and handled is relatively small

(Figure 33 and Figure 34). Typically, IPSPs have 1-5 journals in their portfolio, with only about a third saying they have more than that. Although the groups with only one journal and that with 2-5 are both 'small journal publishers', those with just one journal are arguable a special group in the sense that they likely lack the ambition or ability to grow and start new journals, as their sole goal might be to fill an academic niche with a quality venue and not to be a publisher per se. Among the respondents there were 13 IPSPs saying they published or serviced 50 to 100 journals, and 18 claiming over 100 journals in their portfolio. Looking at IPs only, these numbers are eight and three. This means that the really large organisations in this regard were mostly SPs, providing services towards publishing the journals, rather than being themselves the publisher of the journals. However, it should be noted that further analysis for some of the C. Country reports, where publisher websites were checked, showed that some publishers may have confused number of journals with number of issues in a year, which will have affected these results.

Regarding the IPSP size distribution in terms of numbers of articles they publish or provide services for, a large majority publishes or handles less than 100 articles in a year.

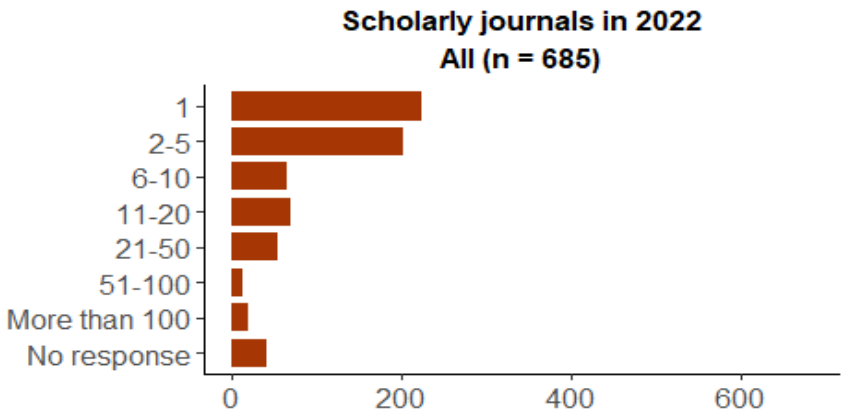


Figure 33 IPSPs by journal portfolio size.

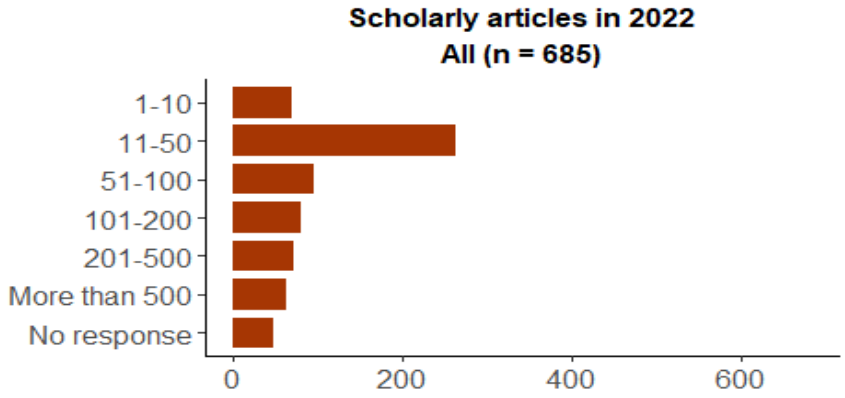


Figure 34 IPSPs by article portfolio size.

A small majority of IPSPs also publish or service books, and the same holds for conference output (Figure 35 and Figure 36).Most IPSPs having these in their portfolio, only publish or service limited amounts. Some 230 IPSPs were involved in the publication of up to 10 books in 2022, though there are still also some 170 publishing more than that, with over 21 (12 IP, 9 SP) stating to publish or service over 100 books in that year. For these publication types, responding IPSPs produce conference outputs in larger absolute numbers than books, but the size distribution is even stronger skewed towards smaller portfolios, with very few publishing large numbers of conference materials. It should be noted, though, that since the survey was targeted primarily at IPSPs publishing and/or serving journals, there will almost certainly be a response bias involved here.

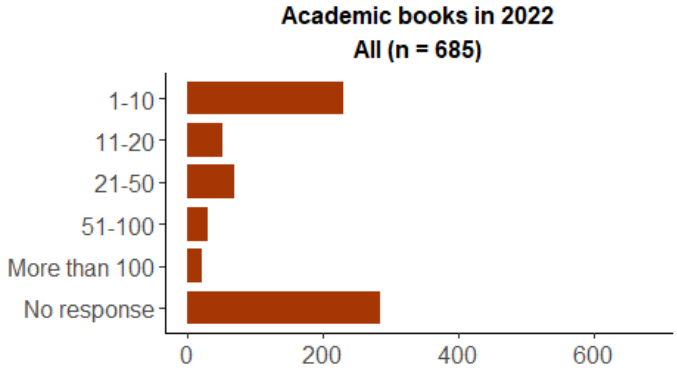


Figure 35 IPSPs by book portfolio size.

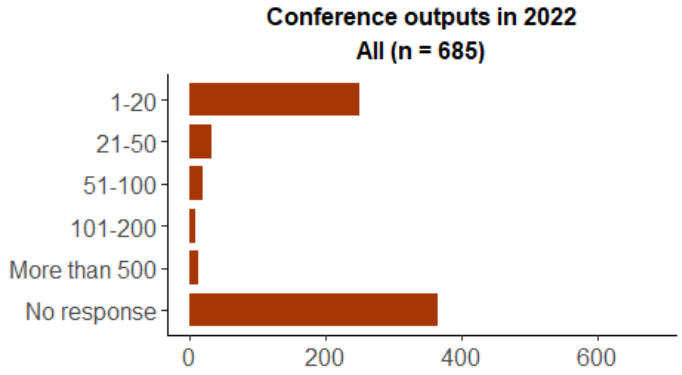


Figure 36 IPSPs by conference output portfolio size.

Responses by IP/SP and Region

In trying to unravel the complexity of the configuration of portfolios of IPs and SPs, they were asked to state whether they published, serviced or both published and serviced the various publication types (Figure 37). As expected, almost all IPs state, for all publication types, that they either publish or both publish and service these. Very few state that they only provide services for specific publication types. However, and somewhat surprisingly, while a large majority of SPs *service* various publication types in their portfolio of activities, for all publication types the majority of SPs say that they

also *publish* these. In a non-marginal minority of cases, they even say to *only* publish these, without servicing them. This suggests a very complex and diverse set of activity configurations of SPs in particular, which is further explored in the section 'Distinction between IPs and SPs' in the chapter 'Analysis of areas' in this document.

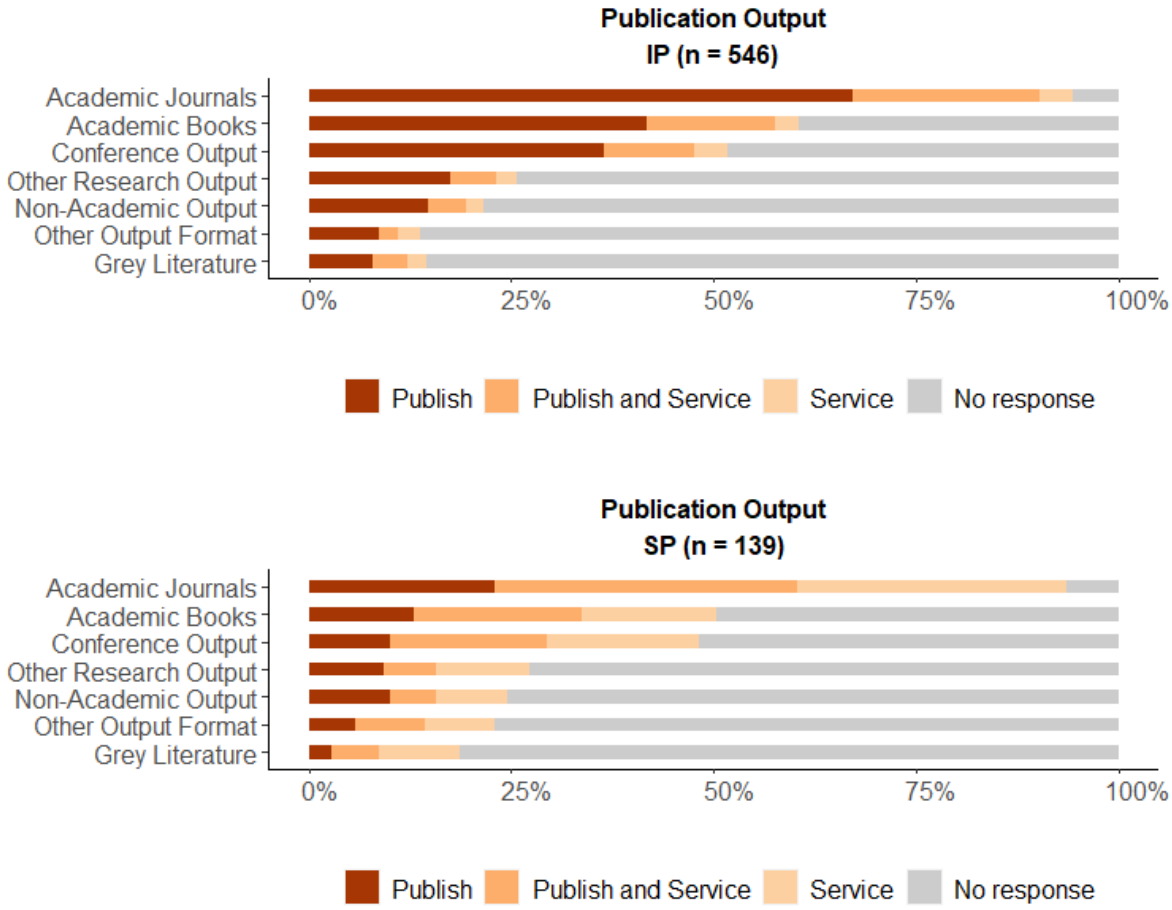


Figure 37 Publication output by type (IP/SP).

Roughly speaking, the IPSPs in the four European regions do not differ very much in terms of their sizes, as measured by the number of books and conference outputs they produce (Figure 40 and Figure 41). A closer look, however, shows that in Northern and Eastern Europe there are relatively more IPSPs producing large numbers of books. For conference outputs it is again Western and Northern Europe that have relatively more IPSPs producing large amounts of conference materials.

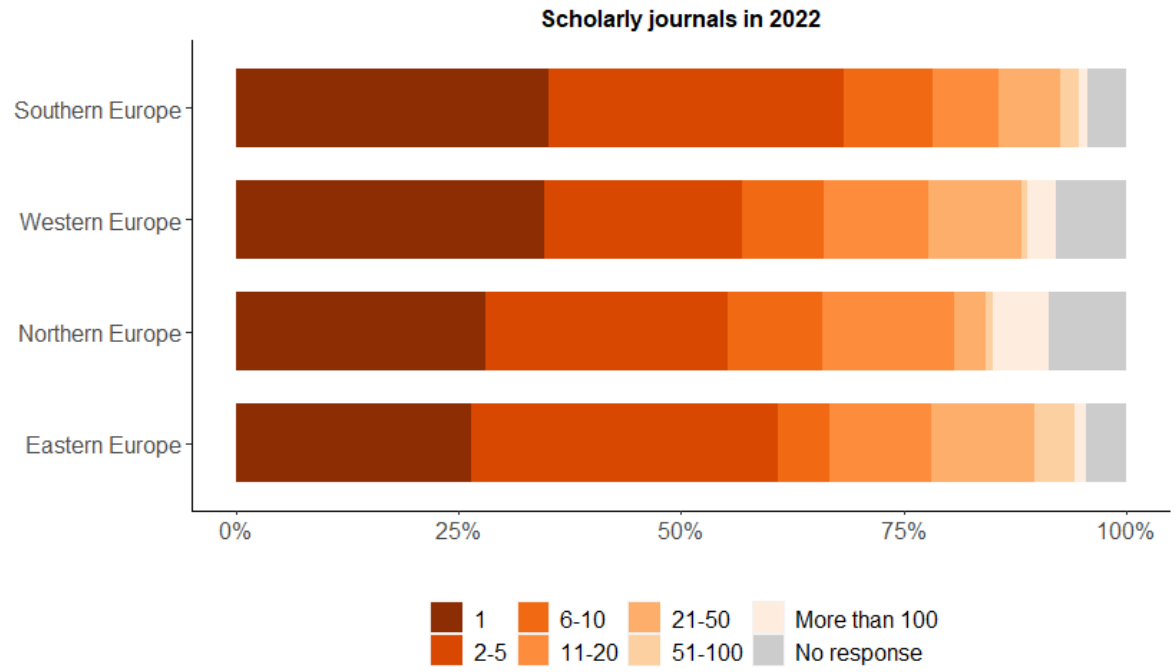


Figure 38 IPSPs by journal portfolio size per region.

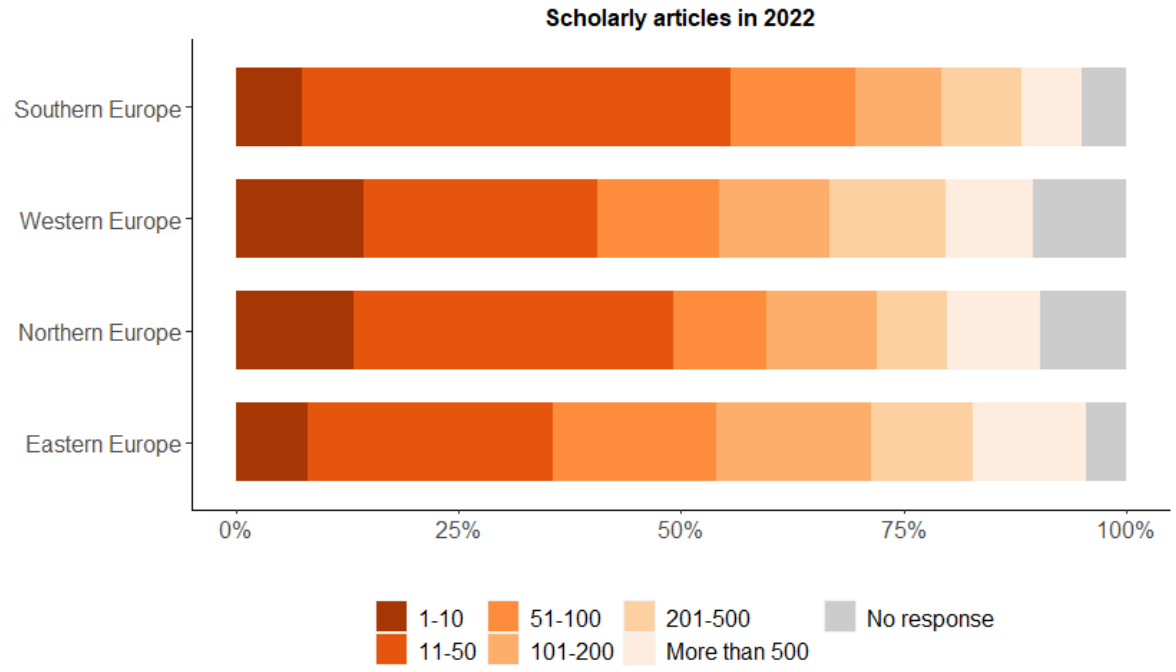


Figure 39 IPSPs by article portfolio size per region.

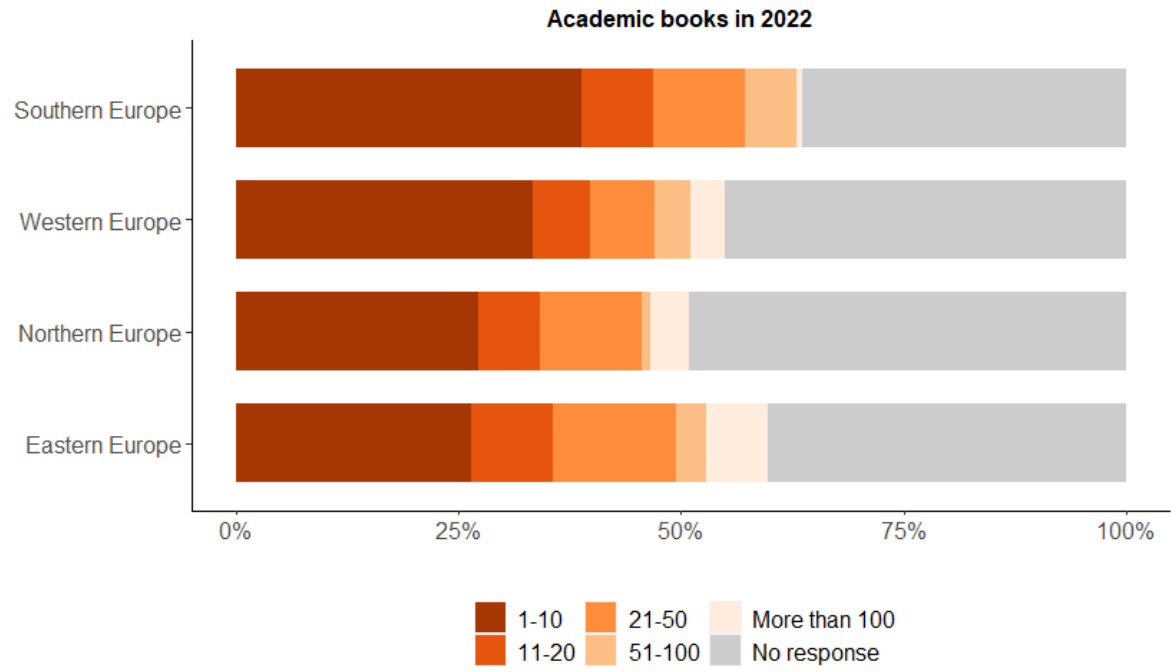


Figure 40 IPSPs by book portfolio size per region.

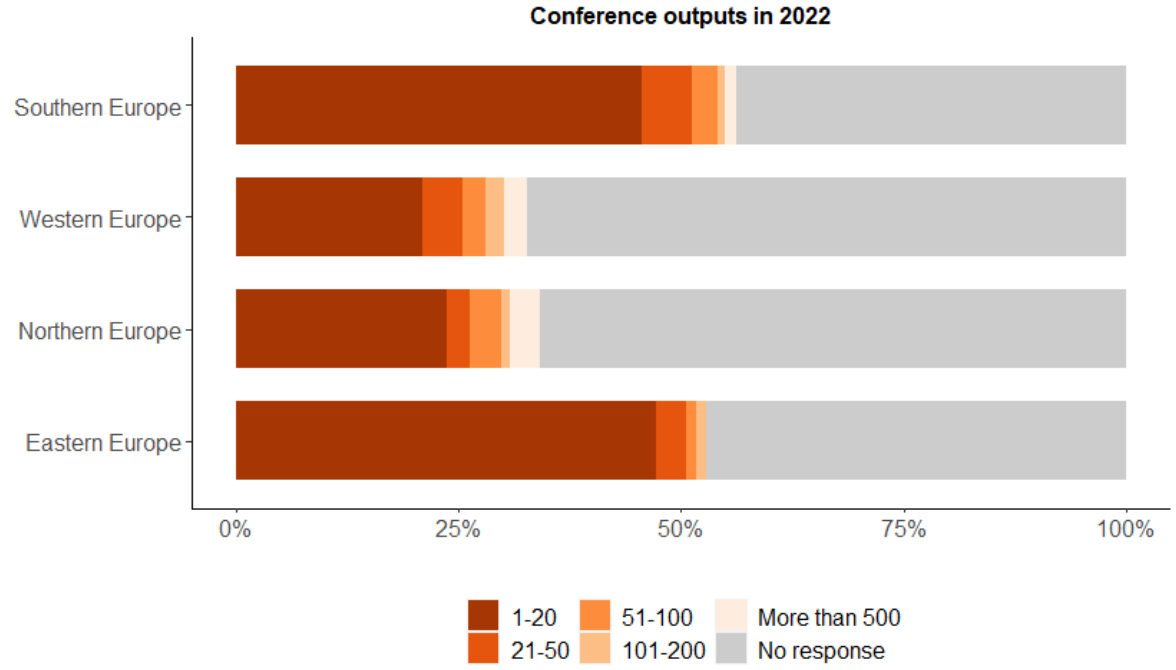


Figure 41 IPSPs by conference output portfolio size per region.

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Q10. Disciplines

Academic disciplines all have their own epistemic traditions and concomitant publication cultures. Types of output, the role and relative importance of document types, choices around authorship, funding availability for research and publishing, the mix of publication languages and even the goals of publishing: they all vary markedly from discipline to discipline. The diversity of publishing can often be related to these disciplinary differences.

Response totals

IPSPs responding to the survey indicate that the disciplines that they service or publish in (Table 6) most often are social sciences and humanities. Many also say their publications are multidisciplinary. Natural sciences, engineering and technology, and medical and health sciences are mentioned less often, though still in substantial numbers. This is not surprising, as publishing in the latter group of disciplines is often less tied to national or language contexts and thus generally more interesting for commercial, non-institutional publishers and service providers. Interestingly, a non-marginal share of 6% of IPSPs say their work also involves non-academic publications. It would be interesting to learn more about any synergies between the academic and non-academic segments of their portfolio.

	n	%
Agricultural sciences	82	12.0
Engineering and technology	163	23.9
Humanities	369	54.2
Medical and health sciences	146	21.4
Multidisciplinary	308	45.2
Natural sciences	183	26.9
Non-academic	41	6.0
Social sciences	376	55.2

N = 681; multiple answer question Source: DIAMAS survey - Q10

Table 6 Scholarly disciplines.

Responses by Respondent type and Region

The disciplinary composition of publications is not very different when comparing IPs that publish with SPs that provide services (Figure 42). If anything, the number of SPs providing services for publications in medical and health disciplines is somewhat larger than IPs publishing in those fields.

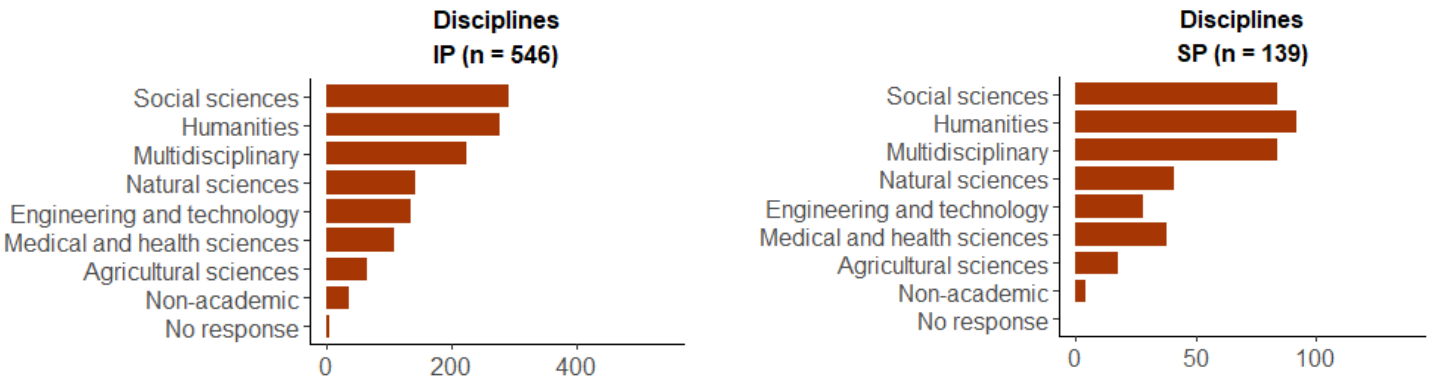

Figure 42 Scholarly disciplines by type (IP/SP).

Geographically the differences are also relatively minor. In all four European regions, social sciences, humanities and 'multidisciplinary' are the three largest fields in terms of publication output (Figure 43). Of the set of three smaller disciplinary groups (natural sciences, engineering and technology, and medical and health sciences) natural sciences seem to be slightly more often mentioned by IPSPs from Northern and Western Europe. Agricultural sciences is a smaller discipline in this regard in all four regions. Non-academic outputs were mentioned by around 5% of respondents, except in Western Europe where 9% of respondents mentioned these.

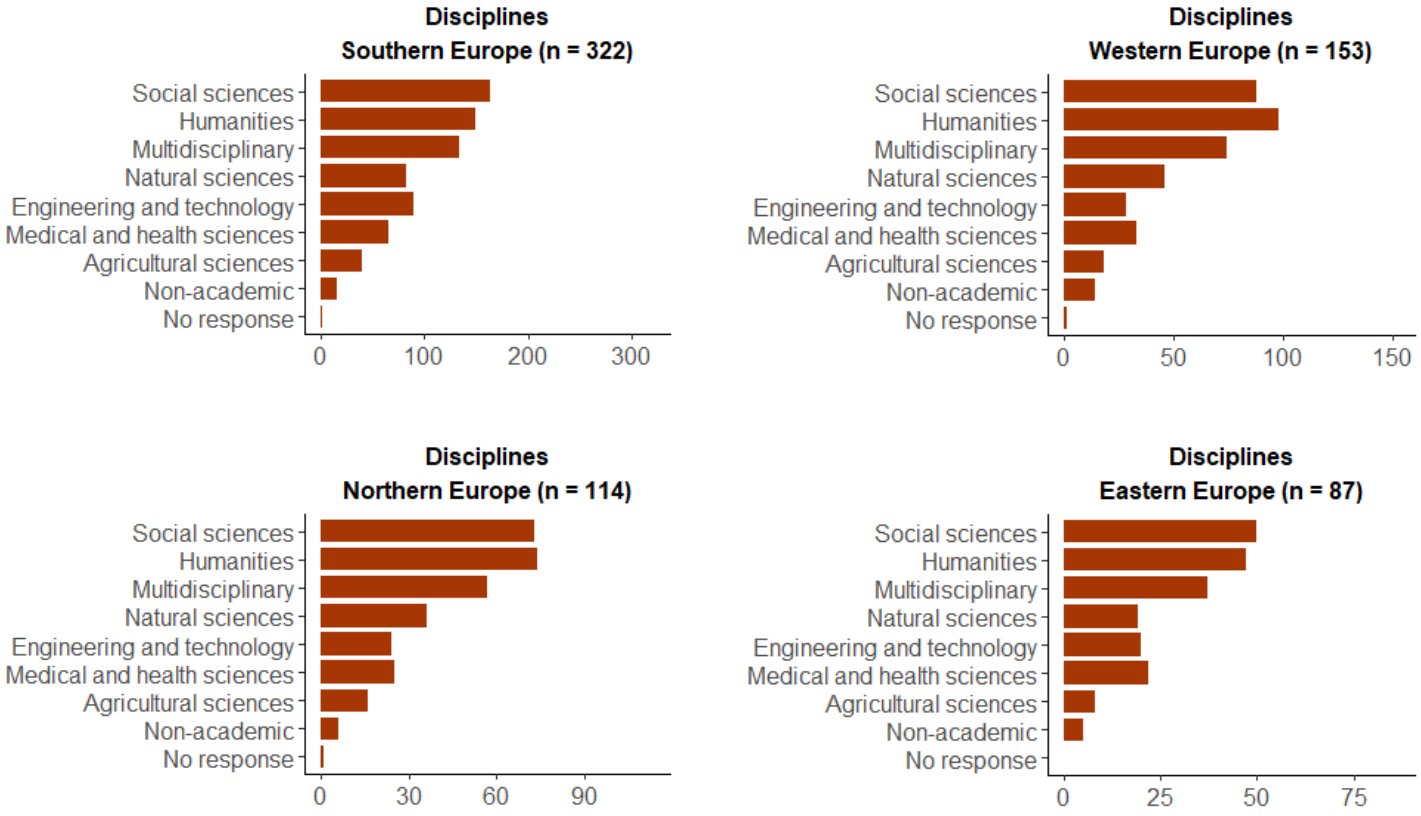

Figure 43 Disciplines by region.

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Analysis of areas

1. General service features (Q2–10)

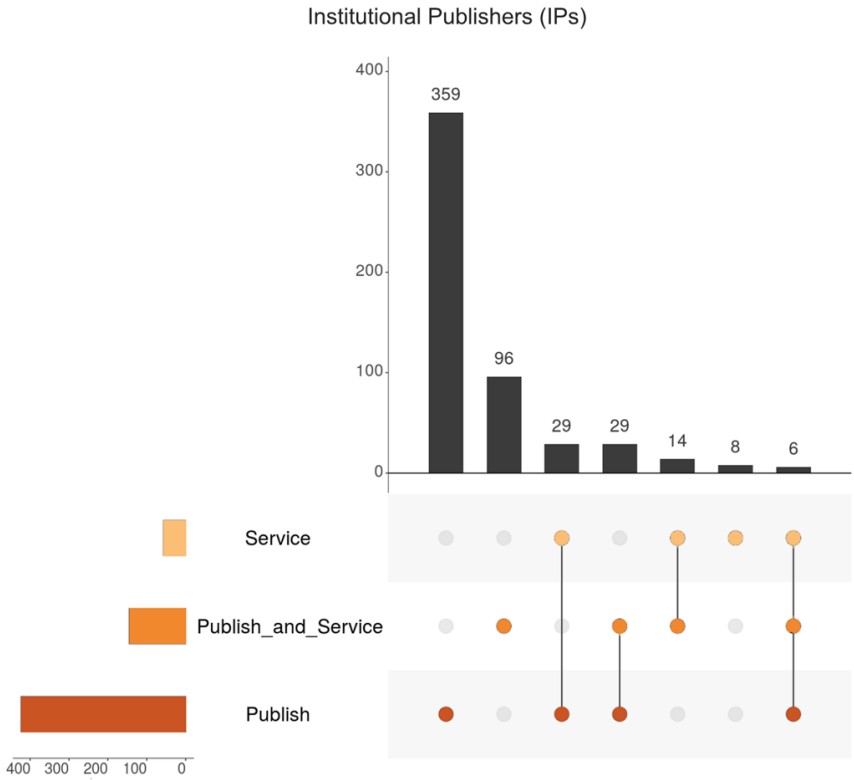
Distinction between IPs and SPs

The distinction between institutional publishers (IPs) and service providers (SPs), while conceptually important for their different roles and challenges in the publishing landscape, can be confusing in practice, especially when asking IPSPs to self-identify. The distinctive characteristic separating IPs from SPs (described more fully in the DIAMAS scoping document (Bargheer et al., 2022) is that IPs have control and governance over publishing. This means, among other things, that they own journal titles and are able to appoint editors and choose service providers.

In practice, the distinction between the two types of IPSP is not clear-cut. IPs may be carrying out (all) publishing operations themselves and thus be their own service provider. Additionally, IPs may provide services to other publishing organisations, either inside or outside their own parent organisation. All this can make it difficult for respondents to characterise their exact role, and this situation is not helped by the fact that academic institutions are often organised in complex and granular ways, with publishing activities often embedded in different levels of an organisation. Finally, respondents may have different perspectives on the distinction between IP and SP, and where their organisation fits.

In addition to asking respondents to self-identify their organisation as IP or SP, the survey also asked them to indicate whether they publish, provide services, or do both for different kinds of publication types. The answers to this set of questions thus could provide some insight into whether IPSPs consider themselves to be both a publisher and service provider at the same time, and whether these roles might differ for different publication types they support. For instance, it is very well possible that an IPSP self-identifying as an SP services book publication while at the same time being the formal publisher of some journals. The analysis provided below on this issue complements the descriptive analysis of question Q9. Publication types in the section Analysis of opening questions (Q1-10).

In Figure 44, the horizontal bars show, for IPs and SPs the total number of respondents that reported to publish ('Publish'), provide services ('Service') or both ('Publish and Service') for at least one publication type. The vertical bars represent the overlap between these groups - in other words, whether across all publication types, respondents indicated only 1 activity, or a mix of 2 or even 3 activities. The vertical bars can thus be thought of as representing the different sections of a Venn diagram.



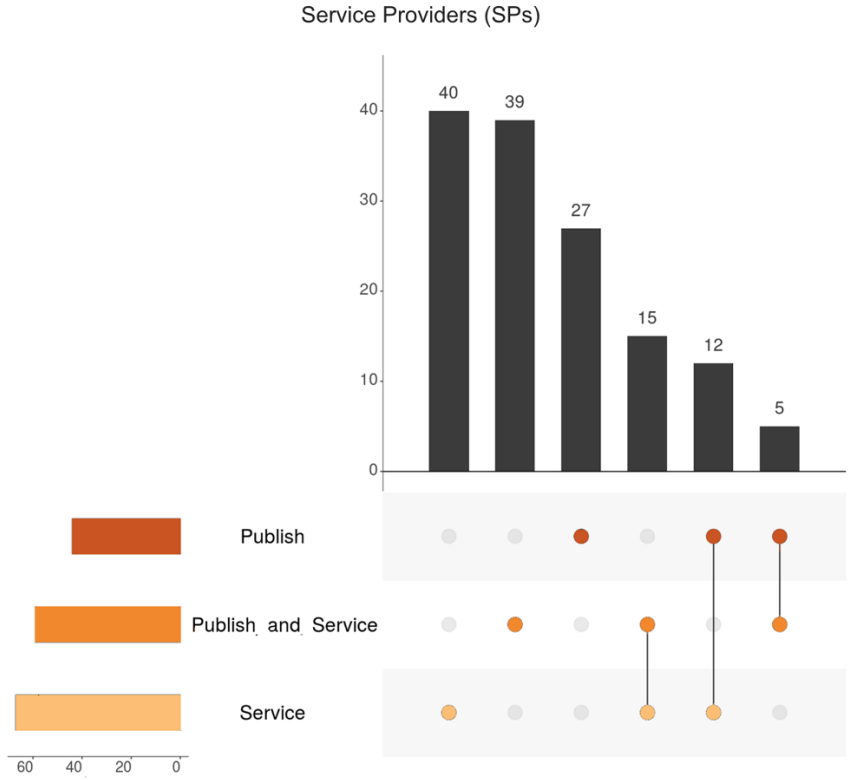


Figure 44 IPSPS that publish, provide service, or both, by type (IPs/SPs).

What is apparent is that IPs mostly are consistent in that they either report 'Publish' or (to a lesser extent) 'Publish and Service' for all output types they might cover. There are some cases that differentiate between 'Publish' and 'Publish and Service', or 'Publish' and 'Service' for different output types. Also, consistent with expectations, there are virtually no IPs that only indicate 'Service' for all output types.

Service providers, in contrast, seem much more varied in how they report their activities. There's a sizable number each that consistently report either 'Service', 'Publish or Service' or 'Publish' for all publication types, and also sizable chunks that mix two of the three.

Taken together, it is apparent that IPSPs are ambiguous in the way they identify themselves, especially when they are both publishing as well as providing services to others. While this necessitates a cautious approach when analysing the survey results, it also points to a broader, conceptual issue regarding the landscape of IPSPs and how best to support it.

We introduced the distinction between IPs and SPs to be able to distinguish between different roles/functions in publishing - with the explicit understanding that these could be embodied by a single organisation, or disaggregated into several service units. While this disaggregation is masked by design when enforcing a binary choice, it could be further explored by combining insight in the services provided by given IPSPs (including roles in editorial management), their reliance on other service providers and their organisation structure and governance. This also relates to the concept of quality standards for institution publishing, an important planned outcome of the DIAMAS project. If IPSPs were to provide (via their website) full transparency on all governance aspects, this would go a long way in providing clarity, not least to authors and publishers themselves. That could also help strengthen the identity of IPSPs and the communities in which they function.

In considering all this, it is important to not only identify empirical indicators of the roles and functions of IPSPs, but also take into account social and cultural factors that play a role in how IPSPs self-identify. As mentioned, one aspect is the position of IPSPs within their own (parent) organisation: academic institutions are often organised in complex ways, and publishing activities are often embedded at different levels of the organisation. They are not always centralised, regulated, or even explicitly coordinated, and on occasion, one entity can provide services to another entity within the same organisation. This can make it difficult for respondents to characterise their exact role in relation to other entities inside and outside their (parent) organisation.

Adding to this complexity is the issue of how IPSPs perceive their own role and how they are perceived by others, especially when they are part of a larger organisation. Do they indeed have the professional identity of a publisher (or service provider), or are they projected in that role (perhaps in combination with other tasks and responsibilities)? Again, this is a question of organisational structure and governance, but also of culture and history, often in a specific local context. As such, this ambiguity in how IPSPs identify is perhaps an inherent characterization of institutional publishing

that should be taken into account when considering the landscape of institutional publishing and how to support its capacity and sustainability.

2. Costs, funding, and income streams

For the purpose of this analysis, the project defines the scope of financial sustainability as follows:

> *The capacity to develop and implement feasible medium-term financial strategies that facilitate the consistent execution of editorial tasks, incorporating essential developmental elements for adhering to globally recognized quality standards in editorial work and publishing, all while guaranteeing the continuous accessibility of published content. This capacity can depend on the IPSP's internal resources and expectations, the contextually available funding sources, and the effectiveness of the strategies deployed.*

The diamond model and the degree of 'diamondisation'

The project defines the diamond OA model as one that does not charge compulsory author fees. We will define full diamond OA institutional publishers as IPs that publish all their outputs OA and do not charge APCs. We will define 'diamondisation' as a term that indicates perceived progress towards full Diamond Open Access, as well as the degree to which that goal is fulfilled by IPSPs.

This survey has been designed to gain an understanding of all types of IPs and SPs. Not all IPSP outputs are available in open access, and nor do they all use the diamond OA model. Gaining insights on the prevalence of diamond open access is an important first question since diamond is a project priority. As the survey sample is skewed towards those who have an affinity for openness, which may not fully represent the broader reality of institutional publishing, we are not able to accurately assess the proportion of diamond publishing in European IPs. However, we can analyse the range of publishing and funding models that responding IPs apply: whether they are closed, open access, diamond, or APC. It is also important to point out that as regards APCs, it is not possible to see whether they are charged for all of the IP's output, or for only part of it. As a result, we cannot effectively assess the share of publications published in OA or under the diamond model.

When IPs publishing in diamond OA estimate the proportion of content they publish, the vast majority publish all of their content within OA journals (401 out of 496 IPs or 80.8%). The rate is a lot lower for books: 141 out of 319 IPs (44.2%) as shown in Table 7.

	n	mean	median
Academic journals	496	90.1	100
Academic books	319	58.2	60
Conference outputs	280	75.5	100
Grey literature	105	62.6	95
Non-standard research outputs	117	63.2	99
Non-academic outputs	118	51.1	50
Other outputs (datasets, software ...)	89	54.0	67

Single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q25

Table 7 Mean and median of the proportion of OA content per output type.

Not all OA publishers are fully diamond: 71.1% are both fully OA and fully diamond for journals (285 out of 401 IPs) and 26.6% for books (85 out of 319). Just over 25% publish all their journals and books in OA without charging APCs or book publishing charges (BPC). Note that there are more full OA journal IPs that are diamond than other OA journal IPs: 21.7% of the former rely on APCs against 32.6% for the latter. In addition, less IPs who rely on APCs publish all their journals in OA (50.5%, or 116 out of 209) than IPs who do not (59.9%, or 285 out of 476).

When looking at the population of IPs with full OA journals, 19% have relied on APCs over the last three years. Some 23.5% of IPs also use voluntary author contributions (VAC) as a revenue stream: 7.8% rely highly or very highly on this revenue stream. This rate is lower (20.9%, of which 7.7% highly or very highly) for full OA journal publishers.

Aside from APCs and VACs, a fixed and permanent subsidy from a parent organisation is a revenue stream for more than half of Full diamond IPs publishing fully diamond OA journals (54.4% with 43.5% relying on them highly or very highly). Almost 20% of IPs rely on periodically negotiated subsidies from their parent organisation. Moreover, just over 50% rely on time-limited grants or public or private subsidies from outside their organisation and 21.4% depend on them highly or very highly. Finally, 30.8% rely on content and print sales although only few rely highly or very highly upon these (5.7%). Periodically negotiated subsidies are more common amongst full diamond OA IPs publishing full diamond OA journals.

The revenue types of Fully Diamond IPs (i.e., IPs only publishing in diamond OA) that publish journals is also very similar to that of IPs, books (N=85). 56.4% of them rely on a fixed and permanent subsidy from their parent organisation, 43.4% on periodically negotiated subsidies from their parent organisation, 52.9% on time-limited grants or public or private subsidies from outside their organisation, and 31.8% on content and content and print sales. Compared to all book publishers in the sample, IPs publishing diamond and OA book rely less on a fixed and permanent subsidy from their parent organisation (56.4% against 62.1%) and on content and print sales (31.8% against 47.4%).

In summary, broadly speaking, there are different combinations of funding models (closed content, APC, diamond) and reliance upon them differs. Even if not all institutional OA publishing is diamond, IPs who publish in OA are more likely to have a diamond model than charge APCs. Nevertheless, Fully Diamond IPs publishing journals have similar revenue streams to IPs that publish OA and at least partly charge APCs. It is clear that there is no one monolithic and equivocal diamond model, but different degrees of diamondisation, i.e., diamond OA depends on the output type such as journals or book.

Governance and management

We can observe that good governance, including a management office, a governing board or the external audit of accounts is attested in IPSPs small and large. Table 8 shows the existence of various overseeing governance structures in relation to the size of an IPSP's annual budget.

We also wanted to explore the relationship between governance and budget management to see if there were any connections between the type of governance model and budgets set for IPSPs. Despite the high number of respondents who did not select a budget size in the survey (over 50%), those reporting a budget size have governance models. The most common model is the presence of a governing board in all IPSP budget brackets, including for those who did not provide a budget bracket. The presence of a management office or external audit of accounts was also fairly common in all budget brackets, with a particular bump in the budget spans between 1K-100K.

	Does the IPSP have a governance model that oversees its activities?			
What is the service's annual budget (EUR)?	Management office	Governing Board	External audit of accounts	Other
Less than 1K	22	24	20	5
1-10K	60	63	52	16
11-50K	61	69	56	14
51-100K	39	42	40	6
101-500K	35	38	36	12
501K-1M	10	10	7	0
>1M	11	12	12	4
Don't know	35	40	33	11
Do not wish to disclose	24	27	25	9
No answer	238	242	220	79
Grand Total	535	567	501	156

Source: DIAMAS survey Q11.1 (all, N=386 of 685) and Q23 (all, N=651 of 685)

Table 8 Volume of annual IPSP annual budget (euros) related to governance models overseeing IPSP activities.

The existence of an approved budget says something about the way IPSPs manage costs and how they take advantage of financial opportunities. It also provides important information on the costs of IPSPs. Well over half of IPSPs, 57%, report having an approved annual budget as compared to 34% who report that they do not. Whilst 18% of ISPSs reporting a budget cost more than 100K to run, 49% cost 50K EUR or less; and of these, 21% report a budget of 10K EUR or less and 7% a budget of less than 1K EUR per year (Q11.1). Certain IPSPs have high costs of over 1 million. Two of these 15 are from Southern and Central and Eastern Europe whose costs relative to GDP are particularly high. It should be noted that 9% do not wish to disclose their budget and 12% do not know the exact amount of their budget despite reporting having one. One should point out that the size of the budget can depend on the service provided.

Table 9 shows the connection between IPSPs starting each year with an approved budget and the existence of formal documents describing their activities, i.e. *Statutes, by-laws or articles of association (internal regulations and External legislation/requirements/policies that determine the scope of activities*.

290 (42%) of all IPSPs report having both an approved budget and a document containing statutes, by-laws or articles of association (internal regulations). 66 of IPSPs (10%) start with neither an approved budget nor a document with statutes, by-laws or articles of association (internal regulations).

237 (35%) of all IPSP respondents have both an approved budget and a formal document describing external legislation/requirements/policies that determine the scope of activities. 64 IPSPs (9%) start the year with neither an approved budget nor a document with external legislation/requirements/policies.

To sum up, a substantial share of IPSPs have formal governance and budgeting practices in place. Many IPSPs report having a governing board, irrespective of whether they have or report having a budget or not. However, there is also a notable share that functions without such a framework, which means that the ownership and financial management practices may not be optimal and may threaten the mid to long-term stability of the IPSP.

	Does the IPSP start each year with an approved annual budget?				
Does the IPSP have a formal document that describes its activities?	Yes	No	Don't know	Other	Total
Statutes, by-laws or articles of association (internal regulations)					
Don't know	22	14	7	2	45
No	55	66	3	7	131
Yes	290	141	13	26	470
Grand Total	367	221	23	35	646
External legislation/requirements/policies that determine the scope of activities					

No response	5	1	0	1	7
Don't know	18	14	7	2	41
No	54	64	3	7	128
Yes	237	126	10	22	395
Grand Total	314	205	20	32	571
Source: DIAMAS survey Q11 (all, N=682 of 685) and Q22 (all, N=657 of 685)					

Table 9 Presence of formal documents describing the IPSPs activities related to the presence of an annual budget.

The costs

It is important to analyse both the size and service offering against the costs of an IPSP to come to a better understanding of them.

As seen in Table 10, 537 (78%) IPSPs report having five or less FTEs. Here, the share among service categories is quite even across IPSP offering two to seven services each. The relatively higher end of the FTE scale of six and upwards sees 143 (21%) IPSPs generally providing more services. However, 17 IPSPs report not providing any services. Looking at the category of IPSPs operating with no paid staff however, 181 IPSPs (26%) offer at least one type of service, with the bulk of responses being in the two to seven service category range.

	No. of different categories of services the IPSP provides								
Paid staff that are directly employed or contracted by the IPSP in Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	≥7	Grand Total
None	8	3	40	30	35	20	34	19	189
Less than 2	4	5	25	24	28	20	29	20	155
2–5	4	3	27	23	31	19	49	37	193
6–10	1	1	4	4	4	5	10	29	58
11–20		1	2	2		6	8	22	41
21–30			4		1		1	4	10
More than 30			5	4	5	5	5	10	34
Grand Total	17	13	107	87	104	75	136	141	680
Source: DIAMAS survey Q7 (all, N=680 of 685) and Q8.1 (all, N=678 of 685)									

Table 10 Paid staff FTE in relation to number of service types provided.

Table 11 shows how different service categories are distributed in terms of paid staff FTEs. Despite the fact that most IPSPs are involved in many types of service provision as shown above, there seems to be a consistent 20-30% in all service categories made up of IPSPs with a maximum of five paid FTE staff. It appears that the IPs who provide more services have more employees. This clustering stems from the background that the vast majority of responding IPSPs have between zero and five paid FTE as well as

commonly offer a broad range of services. It does not seem that any type of service in particular requires more FTE.

	How many paid staff are directly employed or contracted by the IPSP in Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)?								
What kind of services do you provide?	No answer	None	Less than 2	2–5	6–10	11–20	21–30	>30	Grand Total
Editorial	1%	28%	20%	28%	9%	7%	1%	6%	100%
Production	1%	25%	21%	29%	11%	8%	1%	5%	100%
IT	1%	27%	23%	29%	9%	6%	1%	5%	100%
Communication	1%	23%	22%	28%	10%	8%	1%	6%	100%
Administrative	1%	21%	19%	31%	12%	9%	1%	5%	100%
Legal and financial	1%	21%	19%	31%	12%	9%	1%	5%	100%
Training, support and/or advice	1%	18%	24%	27%	13%	9%	2%	6%	100%
Other	0%	28%	24%	21%	7%	7%	10%	3%	100%
Source: DIAMAS survey Q7 (all, N=680 of 685) and Q8.1 (all, N=678 of 685)									

Table 11 Service types provided in relation to paid staff (in FTE).

When comparing budget size to the number of academic scholarly journals (one indicator, excluding books and other types of outlets) published in 2022, Table 12 shows that the large majority of IPSPs run on less than 50K EUR annually. Some have particularly high costs, and some are run on a shoestring: this can depend on size but not always. The majority of IPSPs who publish over 100 journals have costs over 1M EUR, although there are two outlier IPSPs who run on less than 50K EUR or 100K EUR. Some IPSPs have high costs running above 100k with 10 or less journals. Conversely, the majority of single-title journals generally cost less than 50K EUR. However, there are a number that have large budgets. Of those running on over 1M EUR, four are service providers rather than institutional publishers. Three IPSPs seem to have significantly higher costs as compared to the types of services they provide, e.g. three provide three or less types of services including editorial, production and communication services and three are managed with limited personnel resources, i.e. 10 FTE.

	<1K	1-10K	11-50K	51-100K	101-500K	501K-1M	>1M	Do not wish to disclose	Don't know
N/A	5%	18%	23%	14%	18%	5%	5%	9%	5%
1	10%	36%	18%	7%	5%	2%	4%	6%	12%
2-5	10%	22%	25%	18%	6%	3%		7%	8%
6-10		8%	24%	5%	27%	3%	5%	11%	16%
11-20	3%	5%	18%	18%	13%	3%	3%	18%	18%
21-50	6%	6%	13%	6%	29%	6%	3%	16%	13%
51-100		10%	10%	20%	20%	10%	10%	10%	10%
More than 100			9%	9%		9%	36%	18%	18%
Q9.1 (all, N=546 of 685) and Q11.1 (all, N= 386 of 685)									

Table 12 Size of journal portfolio in relation annual budget size (Euros) in percent of row total.

To sum up, whilst well over half of IPSPs work with an approved annual budget, over 30% do not. This might bring challenges when managing changing or scarce resources and can create a lack of transparency for potential funders. It seems that the IPs who provide more services have more employees although there are some outliers. It does not seem that any type of service in particular requires more FTE. For those who know their costs, we learn that the large majority of IPSPs run on less than 50k. Some, however, have particularly high costs, and some run on a shoestring, and this can depend on the host country, the service offering and size of journal output for example, but not always, meaning that some may be more or less economical than others, e.g. some IPSPs run on above 100k with 10 or less journals.

THE LACK OF RESOURCES

A lack of resources can stand in the way of the IPSP on several levels, ref. Table 13. Of those who report technical challenges, by far the most respondents, 60%, report financial constraints in providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services. Financial constraints pose a problem for 28% of respondents when archiving, backing up or preserving content and software, for 24% when trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services, and supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs affects 23%.

	n	%	n total
Providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services	351	59.8	587
Archiving, backing up or preserving content and software	146	27.8	526
Trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services	127	24.1	526
Supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs	125	23.1	541
N = 526-587; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q42 (all)			

Table 13 Technical challenges.

Indexation is a crucial tool that provides access and visibility to many IPSPs' outputs. Access to cash resources for certain services proves to be difficult. One-time or annual fees for membership of organisations/associations/coalitions is an important or very important challenge for 44% of respondents. We see similar figures for monthly fee charges where 43% of IPSPs report this as an important or very important challenge.

The lack of resources is reported as an important or very important challenge when seeking to meet accessibility standards by 181 and 227 IPSPs respectively, which is 68% of all respondents (Q54).

In short, a significant majority of IPSPs report having financial constraints in providing adequate resources for their infrastructure and services, particularly in the area of indexing and above all in meeting accessibility standards. Resources are therefore vital for IPSPs to be able to comply with accessibility standards and to keep them up to date.

SAVING COSTS

When considering opportunities for saving costs, IPSPs were asked which areas they might consider collaborating on with others (Table 14). All areas of the IPSP workflow have the potential for more consolidation or collaboration with *Administrative, legal and financial services* reported by 127 IPSPs at the lowest end and *IT services* at the highest, by 310 respondents. *IT services* (46%), *Training, support and/or advice* (45%) and *Production services* (42%) are the top three areas where there is the highest need for developing consolidated efforts and efficiencies as shown in the table below. Other specific areas mentioned include plagiarism and similarity checkers, professional peer review, translation, creation of XML, print-on-demand, cost sharing in co-editions, distribution, sales especially for read and publish type agreements, international visibility, printing, overlay journal services and similar software-related collaborations.

Just over 100 IPSPs, for example from institutional library publishing programmes and National Academy of Sciences initiatives, do not consider it worthwhile collaborating on any activities with others. However, it is not understood why this is the case.

	n	%
Administrative, legal and financial services	127	19.0
Communication services	251	37.5
Editorial services	194	29.0
IT services	310	46.3
Production services	284	42.4
Training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice	301	44.9
None	105	15.7
Don't know	80	11.9
Other	29	4.3

N = 670 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q15 (all)

Table 14 Areas in which collaboration with other organisations would be considered.

Of those who want to collaborate in certain service areas, on average, 60% are on a budget of 50K EUR or less. Over 70% have a budget of 100K EUR or less. This increases to 80% for those who need production services and 78% of those who need communication services. Of the IPSPs who declare budgets of 100K EUR or less, and who wish to collaborate, half of them mention *Production services* and *IT services* (Table 15). *Training, Support and Advice* and *Communication Services* come in closely behind at 47% and 44%. For those declaring 100K EUR or less, twice as many want to collaborate on *Production* and *IT services* than they do on *Administrative* or *Editorial services* as seen in the following table. This is consistent with a recent study, which shows that diamond journals would prefer, if they had the financial capacity to do so, delegating design, production and copy editing tasks, in order to refocus on editorial and scientific activities (Dufour, Pontille et al., 2023).

	n	%
Production services (copy-editing, proofreading, typesetting, metadata, etc.)	117	50
Communication services (marketing/dissemination, social media, etc.)	102	44
IT services (submission system, platform, website, etc.)	118	50
Training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice	110	47
Administrative, legal and financial services (contracts, accounting, documentation, etc.)	49	21
Editorial services (selection of manuscripts, peer-review, plagiarism checking services, etc.)	64	27
N= 229 of 234 - IPSPs with budget <= 100K		

Table 15 Areas in which collaboration with other organisations would be considered by IPSPs with a budget of 100K EUR or less.

A few IPSPs report failed collaboration in the past in a range of areas, the most prominent being organisational limitations for outsourcing activities, including accounting, competition, public procurement rules and contract regulations. The low quality, unreliability, and timeliness of some services is a further concern. Problems with financial and personnel resources were also reported, including high or unsustainable costs and the lack of qualified personnel and knowledge transfer with temporary staff. Some joint activities such as tender purchases, national research activities, and scientific events are not always successful. Other responses include the pitfalls of vendor lock-in, and one service even went bankrupt. Printing services are highlighted as a particular service area with issues. One further respondent mentioned how difficult it was to get the technical expertise needed in the working language.

To sum up, when considering opportunities for saving costs and scaling up, all areas of the IPSP workflow could see more consolidation or collaboration. IT services, training, support and/or advice and production services and communication services are the areas where collaboration could be of most value. Establishing a common university service and financing it from research projects could be a pathway forward for some. When building out cost-saving activities, it is important to build in quality control and financial management mechanisms to avoid some of the pitfalls of collaboration such as high or unsustainable costs and low-quality service provision, and try to ensure that the organisation can manage the challenges with outsourcing and knowledge transfer effectively. It is, however, also clear that not all IPSPs will consider it worthwhile collaborating on any activities with others, and will choose to be independent.

Profit and loss

When analysing to what extent IPSPs are expected to produce a profit or surplus, the majority (28%) report this as 'not applicable' (Q20). The share of those who are allowed limited losses or overspending and those who are not, are almost identical (around 20%). An additional 20% is expected to generate a surplus, either to invest in their own operations, to create a financial buffer, or to subsidise other activities of the organisation. Only a tiny fraction (below 1%) is expected to generate shareholder value.

A much higher share of IPs (21%) compared to SPs (14%) are permitted to have limited losses or to overspend. The reasons for this would need further investigation.

Being a part of a larger parent organisation can provide a certain financial safety net for IPSPs. Respondents with a parent organisation are slightly more likely to be permitted limited losses (22%) compared to independent ones (17%). Independent organisations will more frequently not allow limited losses (24%) compared to those with a parent organisation (18%).

Compared to other respondents, companies are much more often required to generate profit in order to invest in their own operations or to create a financial buffer compared to non-profits or public organisations (but there are only 15 companies and three corporations who provided an answer to this question).

To sum up, regarding the initial expectations for generating profit or surplus, there is a fairly even share across three groups, each comprising approximately 20% of the European IPSPs surveyed. These groups include those allowed limited losses, those without such allowances, and those with expectations to generate a surplus. This diversity in initial expectations can be attributed to factors such as the size, origin, or organisational background of these IPSPs, and this can have an important influence on their business strategies.

The funding landscape

Funding mechanisms

Understanding the diverse funding offerings and the reliance on various funding sources, forms, and mechanisms provides further insights into the sustainability of institutional publishing.

IPSPs were asked: *Over the last three years, how much has the IPSP relied on the following forms of funding?* and were offered 10 different options, with the possibility to mark as many of them as applicable with the varied degrees of reliance (from *Very high* to *Very low*, or *Not applicable* at all). Respondents were further asked as to how stable these funding sources had been in the last three years which are visualised in the graphs below (Figure 45).

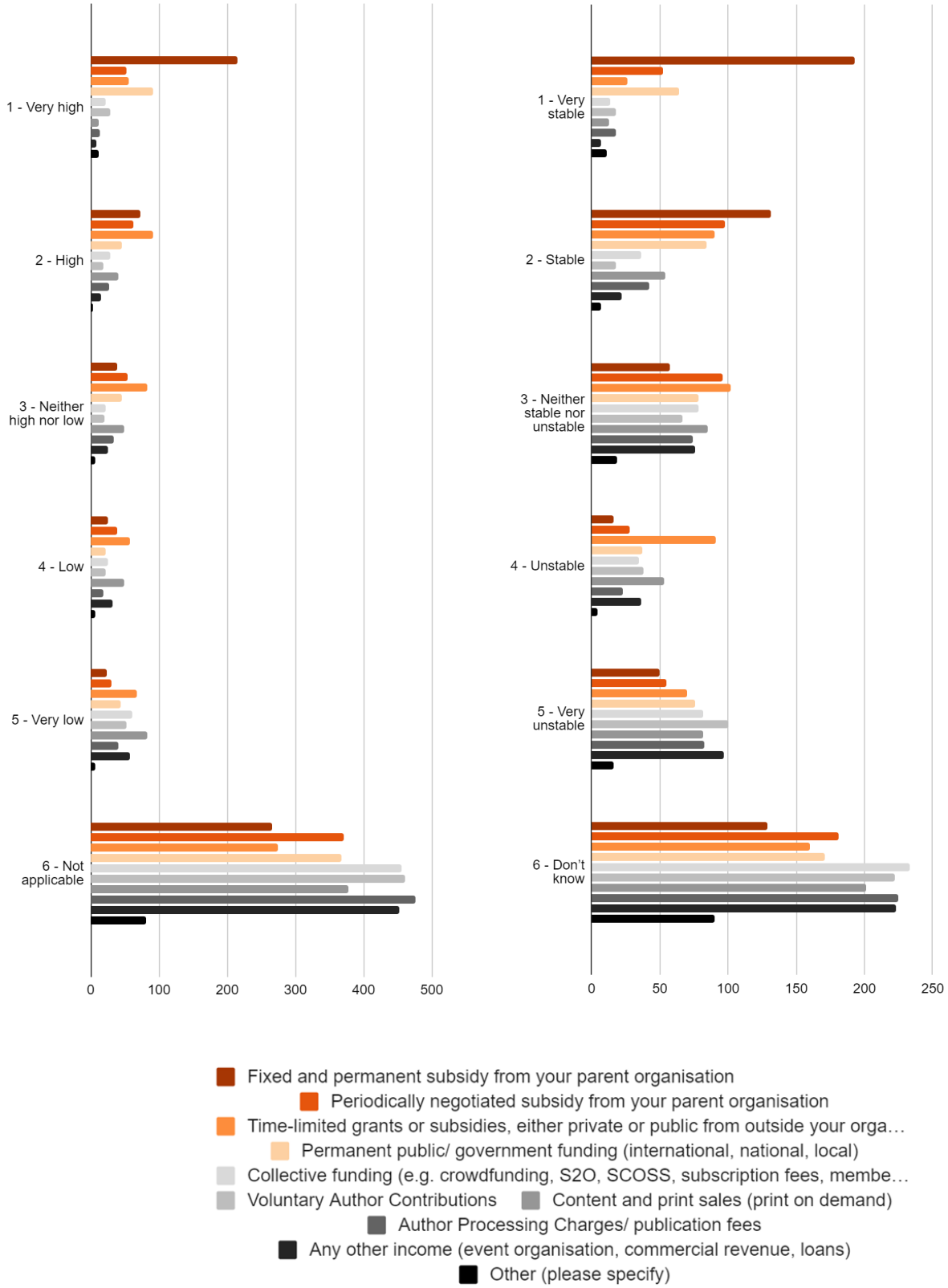


Figure 45 Reliance on different forms of funding and their perceived stability.
Source: DIAMAS survey - Q17 (all) (all, N= 670 of 685) and Q17.1 (all, N= 652 of 685).

Funded by the European Union

Among the options offered, *Fixed and permanent subsidies from a parent organisation* are clearly the most important, and many respondents state that they rely on them highly or very highly. *Periodically negotiated subsidies from the parent organisation*, *Time-limited grants or subsidies, either private or public from outside the organisation* and *Permanent public government funding (international, national, local)* are also often highly relied upon.

Conversely, sources of funding like *Author Processing Charges (APCs)/publication fees*, *Voluntary Author Contributions*, *Collective funding (e.g. crowdfunding, S2O, SCOSS, subscription fees or membership fees)* or *any other income (event organisation, commercial revenue or loans)* were usually marked as not applicable and hence not prevalent ways of funding IPSPs.

However, it should be noted that all options were marked as *Not applicable* by an important share of respondents (from 41.4% to 78.3% per option). This means that there is no single funding source that can be recommended as the most appropriate across the whole of the European landscape of institutional publishing and that different models work in different contexts.

A diverse range of funding sources across the European publishing landscape can be considered both a necessity and opportunity to sustain the European IPSP landscape, in particular if the sources drawn upon are stable and enable IPSPs to build effective business strategies upon them. To understand this opportunity better, it is important to explore the stability of existing funding forms as perceived by our respondents.

The same source of funding that was reported as being most often relied upon (by 33.5% of respondents) is at the same time perceived as the most stable (again, by 33.5%), so within our sample we can conclude that *Fixed and permanent subsidies from parent organisations* are one of the key cornerstones to the sustainability of institutional publishing. However, such subsidies are not available to all since 41% marked them as not applicable.

Aside from the fixed and permanent subsidies, further stable resources include *Periodically negotiated subsidy from your parent organisation* and *Permanent public/government funding (international, national, local)*, both of which are considered stable or very stable by 29%. Interestingly, 22% find *Time-limited grants or subsidies, either private or public from outside their organisation*, to be stable or very stable. It seems that for a certain number of IPSPs, regular (therefore relatively stable), albeit periodical and time-limited sources of funding are available to them, which is consistent with prior research of existing national funding schemes for publishers in countries where most responding IPSPs originate from (Laakso and Multas 2023). It should not be underestimated that the skills required to secure such funding should be considered an asset to the IPSP and its sustainability.

Generally, respondents report relying less often on sources such as *Collective funding*, *Voluntary Author Contributions*, *Content and print sales, Author Processing Charges/publication fees* and *Any other income* and these are also frequently perceived as less stable.

RELIANCE ON FUNDING STREAMS, PERCEIVED STABILITY AND MONETARY INCOME

Another capacity that seems important to the sustainability of the survey sample is the ability to secure funding from multiple sources. By looking at how frequently IPSPs rely on different funding forms to a high or neither high nor low extent (Table 16), it is possible to get a fuller picture of the complexity of funding strategies.

Number of funding sources	N	%
0	80	12%
1	205	31%
2	198	30%
3	101	15%
4	58	9%
5-9	28	4%
Grand total	670	100%
N = 670 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q17(all)		

Table 16 Number of funding sources for which IPSPs reported very high, high or neither high nor low reliance.

The majority (61%) relies substantially on only one or two forms of funding although there are some that rely on three (15%), four (9%) or five to nine forms (4%).

The organisational efforts needed to secure funding from different streams and sources or to fulfil the funding criteria must clearly place a considerable burden on many IPSPs.

It should be noted that it is not just the larger IPSPs in terms of the number of employees that make an effort to source funding from multiple streams. A remarkably high share of very small IPSPs, those in the category of less than two FTEs (57%) or in the category of two-five FTEs (60%) combine two or more funding sources and rely on them highly. This is especially noteworthy as the permanence and stability of staff is a major challenge to the sustainability of most IPSPs. Even if such efforts in securing diversified funding have proved manageable or even successful in the past, they should perhaps be reconsidered and possibly alleviated by collaborations or shared costs and infrastructures to reduce the burden of managing multiple funds on the IPSP.

It would be interesting to know more about the business models of 12% of respondents who reported that their dependence is not high on any of the mentioned funding sources. One might make the assumption here that some operate solely on voluntary or in-kind contributions, and without dedicated funding.

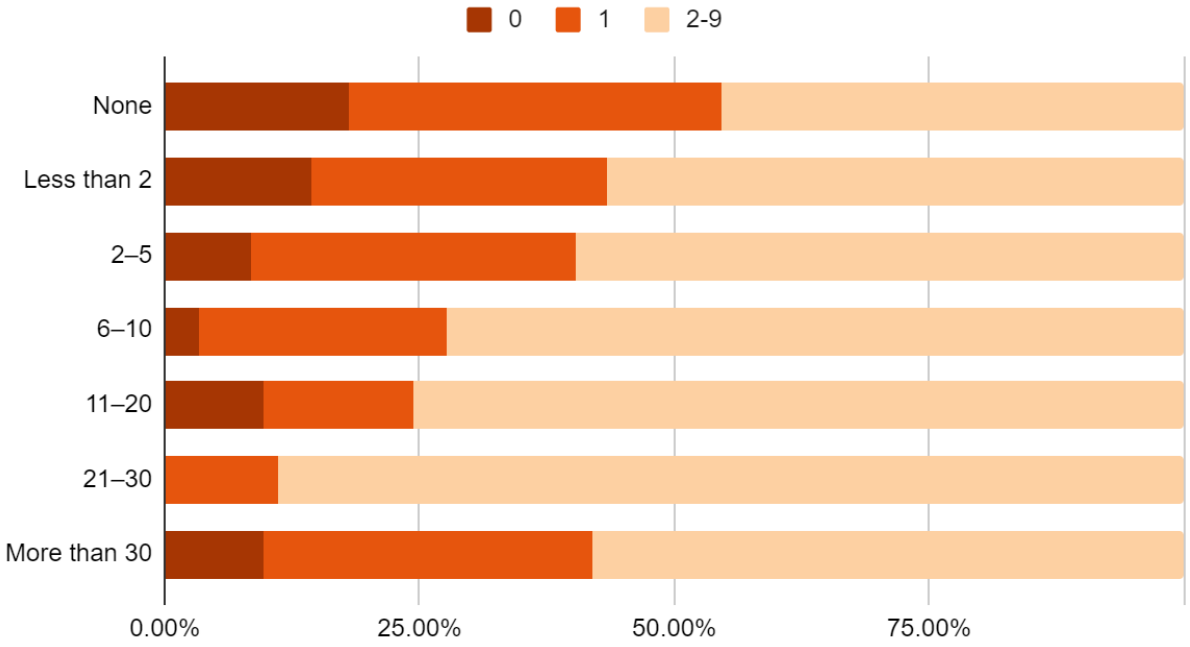


Figure 46 Number of funding sources (0, 1 or 2-9) in relation to paid staff (in FTE).
Source: DIAMAS survey – Q7 (all, N=680 of 685) and Q17 (all, N=670 of 685).

It is also interesting to look into the relation of the size of the IPSPs (measured by the number of their paid staff) and the number of forms of funding (Figure 46). It seems that middle-sized IPSPs (with between six and 30 FTEs) are somewhat more likely to receive funding from multiple sources compared to those very small (up to five FTEs) or very large (over 30 FTEs). At the same time, those that are very small are slightly more likely not to depend substantially on any form of funding.

In light of recent debates around the sustainability of OA diamond vs. APC-based Open Access, it is interesting to see how much APCs can contribute to the sustainability of IPSPs. In the survey sample, 132 (22%) of IPSPs reported charging some sort of APC or publication fees. However, as seen from Figure 45 above, they are rarely perceived as very stable and are often not relied upon to a high degree. Moreover, even among those who rely on them substantially (from Very high to Neither high or low) for only 9 (12%) they are the sole source of funding. All others will complement APCs with some other source of finances (often, subsidies or public funding).

The stability of funding sources and relation to parent organisation for IPSPs

The survey also explored how the IPSP's relationship to its parent organisation relates to the stability of funding from various sources. Table 17 presents the results of this cross-tabulation.

Fixed and permanent subsidies from the parent organisation were reported as dominantly neutral or stable regardless of the relationship to a parent organisation.

Time-limited grants or subsidies - either private or public from outside the organisation - are considered stable or neutral when IPSPs are either a department of the parent organisation or part of one (over 50% of IPSPs with this type of relationship to their organisation). Other respondents perceive such funds to be more unstable or do not have knowledge about or experience with them.

When it comes to periodically negotiated subsidies from parent organisations, it is particularly IPSPs that are part of a department of a parent organisation that consider them notably stable or neutral (67% of IPSPs of that category that responded, compared to 44%-45%for IPSPs that have other types of relationships to their parent organisation).

It is libraries within the parent organisation who report not having knowledge of permanent public/government funding (international, national, local) the most (51%). IPSPs that operate independently but that are owned or governed by the parent organisation consider this type of funding source to be the most unstable.

Collective funding (e.g. crowdfunding, S2O, SCOSS, subscription fees, membership fees) receive the highest total of 'Don´t know' responses and almost half of all IPSPs report this. Similar situations also concern voluntary author contributions, author processing charges/publication fees, and any other income (event organisation, commercial revenue, loans) with all three having 48% 'Don´t know' responses. This makes it hard to discern any relationship differences for these funding sources, but in itself can be interpreted to speak for the lack of experience or opinion on these types of funding sources in terms of stability. The 'Don´t know' share for the funding source of content and print sales (print on demand) is also relatively high at 42% and it is IPSPs part of libraries in parent organisations in particular that are not sure about whether it is or is not stable. Concerning the rest of the organisation relationship categories, distributions are roughly uniform with around 30% reporting them as unstable, and 30-40% as neutral or stable.

	What is the relationship to the parent organisation?						
	Department of the parent organisation	Part of department of the parent organisation	Operating independently but owned or governed by the parent organisation	Part of a library in the parent organisation	Other	Don't know	No response
Considered globally, how stable are these funding sources based on the last three years?							
Fixed and permanent subsidy from your parent organisation							
Unstable	2	2	16	3	4	2	37
Neutral or Stable	74	45	67	49	28	1	117
Don't know	7	5	16	11	2		88
Time-limited grants or subsidies, either private or public from outside your organisation							
Unstable	25	15	28	14	11	1	67
Neutral or Stable	41	23	36	11	8	2	97
Don't know	16	6	24	28	9		77

	What is the relationship to the parent organisation?						
	Department of the parent organisation	Part of department of the parent organisation	Operating independently but owned or governed by the parent organisation	Part of a library in the parent organisation	Other	Don't know	No response
Periodically negotiated subsidy from your parent organisation							
Unstable	8	8	19	6	8	1	33
Neutral or Stable	47	28	49	22	15	2	83
Don't know	20	6	20	28	7		100
Permanent public/government funding (international, national, local)							
Unstable	14	6	22	11	4	2	54
Neutral or Stable	32	24	37	14	11	1	107
Don't know	27	6	23	26	10		79
Collective funding (e.g. crowdfunding, S2O, SCOSS, subscription fees, membership fees)							
Unstable	16	10	26	9	7	1	48
Neutral or Stable	14	12	21	10	7	2	62
Don't know	32	13	32	31	15		110
Voluntary Author Contributions							
Unstable	19	10	30	9	6	2	62
Neutral or Stable	16	12	16	10	6	1	42
Don't know	29	13	31	31	13		105
Content and print sales (print on demand)							
Unstable	22	11	24	13	7	2	56
Neutral or Stable	29	15	28	13	8	1	58
Don't know	22	9	29	27	12		102
Author Processing Charges/publication fees							
Unstable	14	8	24	10	4	1	45
Neutral or Stable	14	13	25	18	7	2	55
Don't know	32	11	29	26	14		113
Any other income (event organisation, commercial revenue, loans)							
Unstable	15	11	26	9	6	2	64
Neutral or Stable	14	10	20	9	5		47
Don't know	33	12	31	32	13		102
Source: DIAMAS survey Q5.3 (all, N=383 of 685) and Q17.1 (all, N= 652 of 685)							

Table 17 Stability of funding and relation with parent organisation.

To sum up, the sustainability of IPSPs is a multifaceted concept influenced by several key factors, including initial expectations, internal resources, and available funding sources. The survey findings reveal significant variations in these three aspects.

It can be observed that the reliance on monetary as opposed to in-kind (non-monetary) support presents a polarised landscape, with various groups of IPSPs highly reliant on monetary income. As regards monetary revenues, publication fees are not a very prevalent revenue stream in the survey sample, and when they are used, they are often not relied upon heavily and are used as one among the array of funding mechanisms.

As regards the type of funding support that IPSPs draw upon, permanent subsidies from parent organisations are most frequently substantially relied upon, and they are also generally perceived as the most stable source of support. Periodically negotiated subsidies from parent organisations and different types of external grants or subsidies are also relied upon by many. Whilst this kind of support works for many, it does not for all, hence it can be concluded that there is no one source of funding that can be universally applied or recommended across all countries or types of IPSPs.

A majority of IPSPs highly rely on just one or two sources of funding, whilst many others rely on more, up to nine. This implies that some IPSPs spend significant resources on fund-raising; time they might spend elsewhere. In this context, the presence of diverse and numerous funding sources can be viewed both as a necessity and an opportunity for sustainability. It becomes essential to have a range of stable funding sources in place to ensure long-term viability and reduce the burden of excessive fundraising activities.

THE FUNDERS

It is important to analyse the external funding landscape for IPSPs to capture the funding support economy of the European institutional publishing landscape.

Table 18 shows the distribution of the number of funders mentioned by institutional publishers and service providers. Half of the population declares not calling on any external source of funding, and this might show a reliance on in-kind support. The second insight is that IPs have more funders than SPs, i.e. means of 1.2 and 0.78 and more multiple funders. As many more IPSPs mention five funders, it could be assumed that a majority of them have more than five funders, mentioning only the main ones. Yet again, there is a very contrasted landscape, with half of all IPSPs with no external funders, while a minority have many of them.

Number of funders	IP	SP
5	8.1%	4.3%
4	2.7%	0.7%
3	6.6%	5.0%
2	13.0%	7.2%
1	23.3%	24.5%
0	46.3%	58.3%
Total funders mentioned	657	109

DIAMAS survey – Q18; IPs (N=546) and SPs (N=139); open text question.

Table 18 Number of funders mentioned, by type (IP/SP.

Almost all the funders mentioned are institutions such as research centres, departments, universities, publishers, national dissemination platforms, governmental bodies, local communities or learned societies. A tiny part of the answers include

generic answers such as 'authors', 'private sponsors' or 'government' and 'university'. If these answers are excluded, there are 717 entities. After deduplication, 495 funders remain and this shows a very contrasted landscape between local, regional and national and non-domestic or international funders.

Local, regional and national funders

Local, regional or national funders are the main funders for almost all IPSPs. As already shown in a recent paper, there are many countries in which public funding schemes are very important for institutional publishing, be this for journals or books (Laakso & Multas, 2023). As shown in Table 19, the funders with at least five mentions clearly confirms this; at least for the countries with the most respondents (Croatia, France, Serbia and Spain).

Funder	N
Ministry of Science Croatia	42
Ministry of Science Serbia	33
Ministry of Education and Science Poland	26
Finnish Association for Scholarly Publishing	20
French National Fund for Open Science	16
CNRS (France)	15
DFG (Germany)	8
Academy of Sciences Croatia	6
Ministry of Education Serbia	6
Ministry of Science France	6
FECYT (Spain)	5
Ministry of Culture Poland	5

DIAMAS survey - Q18;Open text question.

Table 19 National funders mentioned by 5 or more IPSPs.

It is noteworthy that - except for French funders - all other funders only seem to fund IPSPs for their own country. Moreover, when including funders with a few or even a single mention - which represent a vast majority - it can be observed that in many countries the 'funders market' is even more local than national, e.g. Italy being the paramount example in the sample.

International funders

Aside from local and national funding, three types of international funders can be identified. First, there are different mentions of European institutions as funding sources such as the European Social Fund, the Council of Europe or the European Commission. Second, some national or local funders also fund IPSPs from other countries. Third, other international funders include large publishers, dissemination services or foundations as shown in Table 20.

	N	# of countries	Most prevalent
European institutions	12	9	European Commission (6)
'International'	9	6	Knowledge Unlatched (3)
Other countries	45	14	FNSO (4)
Total	66	16	

Open text question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q18

Table 20 Types of international funders mentioned by IPSPs.

These international funders represent less than 10% of total mentions and are thus marginal actors in the institutional publishing landscape. European institutions and other international funders are the most marginal in this group. Secondary international dissemination platforms do not represent an important revenue stream for IPs since JSTOR and Project MUSE are only mentioned once. When looking at the country of these funders, there is a very clear pattern: French institutions (FNSO, CNRS, and the Ministry of Science) are very present, while the rest of them are scattered among a dozen countries and they stem from universities, learned societies or research funding agencies. Furthermore, these French funders, as well as other 'international' funders appear to fund many more SPs than IPs.

To sum up, in the last three years a very clear funder landscape appears: when IPSPs have funders, their most important financial streams come almost exclusively from local, regional or national sources in all European countries. Of the 717 funders, sponsors and donors mentioned before deduplication, only 66 are international in character or scope.

These international FSDs are infrequent funders of IPSPs, e.g. the most cited by far, the European institutions are only mentioned 12 times in total. This shows the lack of large-scale funding schemes being used by IPSPs in this sample. Further investigation would be needed to understand this. For example, is this due to the lack of concrete funding from these sources or rather due to the lack of access to or knowledge of these schemes or even due to limited capacity to apply for such funding?

International funding is only dominant in service providers like PKP or Scipost. On the other hand, governmental or big public domestic institutions are mentioned by many IPs of a given country, such as the Croatian and Serbian Ministries of Science. This divided landscape has only one notable exception: it is above all French institutions that support non-French IPSPs, which is somewhat curious since many other countries benefit from IPSPs that serve many. Gold Open Access would present a very different

funding landscape: as APCs come from different countries, many RFOs and libraries would appear as their "main funders".[3]

To make fully diamond OA IPs more sustainable, there is the need for new funding schemes that would stimulate and enable RFOs and universities to become their funders independent of their nationality or location. (The interest of direct funding has been discussed in (Dufour et al., 2023).

In-kind support and volunteering

Beyond monetary income, institutional OA journals rely a lot on in-kind support and volunteers. The survey gives an indication on that dependency at the IP or SP level.

Table 21 below shows that the majority of IPSPs rely substantially on non-monetary or in-kind support (32.7% very highly, and 15% highly), but at the same time, this is not available to 21% (those who reported it to be 'not applicable'). The same is valid for monetary income but to a lesser degree. While 21.8% rely on it very highly and 13.7% highly, monetary income is not applicable to 26.4%. A few IPSPs report that they rely heavily on other kinds of resources, but on analysis, these mainly relate to some kind of in-kind contributions (namely, voluntary work).

	Non-monetary or in-kind support		Monetary income		Other	
Very high	203	32.7%	137	21.8%	6	6.4%
High	93	15.0%	86	13.7%	2	2.2%
Neither high nor low	58	9.4%	70	11.1%	4	4.3%
Low	42	6.8%	71	11.3%	1	1.1%
Very low	58	9.4%	64	10.2%	3	3.2%
Not applicable	130	21.0%	166	26.4%	65	69.9%
Don't know	36	5.8%	35	5.6%	12	12.9%
Grand Total	620	100.0%	629	100.0%	93	100.0%

Source: DIAMAS survey – Q19 (all, N=646 of 685)

Table 21 Reliance of specific types of resources.

This again confirms previous findings that the landscape of European IPSPs shows a varied approach in the way it sustains itself for either development or operations. However, it is clear that in-kind and voluntary support is crucial for many IPSPs.

[3] The exercise could be done with the help of open APC data. For example, for a journal of the American Society for Microbiology, the 'main funders' are a German University, a Swiss consortium, and then a Swedish, a Belgian and finally an Italian University https://treemaps.openapc.net/apcdata/openapc/#publisher/American%20Society%20for%20Microbiology/Microbiology%20Spectrum/period=2022&country=

Financial opportunities and constraints

Financial constraints

Over 200 IPSPs reported on their main financial sustainability challenges and how they could be addressed in full text. Answers can be grouped into three main areas: 1) the lack of financial resources; 2) the lack of stability and permanence in employment, and 3) the dependence on parent organisations.

Firstly, the lack of financial resources is by far the main challenge (n=112; 55%). This is associated with several aspects of the IPSP's funding schemes. Some IPSPs particularly insist on the need to rethink their current business model to better face current changes: for instance, to imagine sustainable options in the face of the decline of subscribers, to guarantee the cost-income balance, or to secure fundraising work. Other respondents are concerned with the lack of financial resources related to membership fees, the balance between print and digital revenues, or costs related to copy-editing, translation and printing.

A second important challenge, but much smaller, relates to personnel resources (n=29; 14%). IPSPs report far too many staff being employed on a limited-time contract basis, which creates a large turnover in the team. This can result in a feeling of unfairness, bring about a waste of human resources, job insecurity and staff shortages leading to the need for staff to have a wide non-editorial skill set in some cases. IPSPs point out their institutional fight for the renewal of positions or the need to stabilise human resources, their strategies to secure jobs through civil servant recruitment and the need for the long-term provision of personnel. Simultaneously, some respondents insist on the important role of volunteering and local skills as fragile resources to sustain Diamond OA. Considering voluntary work is a crucial aspect for sustaining some services provided (e.g. copy-editing and typesetting). Certain IPSPs stress it as a key challenge to make their activities last in the near future. The lack of management resources to effectively monitor the entire workflow and to secure the competencies needed is another challenge that is underscored. Respondents also describe the issue of limited resources available to researchers running OA publishing operations. Greater availability of technical staff could ease the workload. Overall, most of the respondents who addressed this topic expressed the wish that more public service positions in academic publishing would be opened.

A third financial sustainability issue for IPSPs concerns the ambivalent relationship with the parent organisation (n=14; 7%). Respondents here stress the administrative or financial dependence on the parent institution, and such a reliance is seen as positive when it enables IPSPs to run their service. However, the support from parent organisations can be considered constraining. For instance, the volume of funding or the annual-based budget from the parent organisation is both celebrated for its regularity and criticised at the same time as it prevents the IPSP from exploring other self-financing formulas. This is especially noteworthy as financial support from the parent organisation is a crucial revenue stream for a large part of IPSPs as outlined

above. It should also be noted that from the perspective of the university management of some IPSPs, the development of diamond open access journals is not a priority.

Other challenges that were mentioned to a lesser extent include the uncertainty in the public finance system and the competition for subsidies. The increasing expenses generated by technical costs that are dedicated to the production and maintenance of infrastructures and inflation are among other crucial challenges underscored by some IPSPs.

Managing financial constraints

Respondents point out four major ways of how to meet these challenges.

First, a significant amount of IPSPs address – most often explicitly – the need for regular funding. More consistent support is called for the permanence, maintenance, or continuity of the IPSP as well as for its development and innovation activities. This can mean long-term, permanent financial support, generated income, human resources and technical infrastructure. In addition, some IPSPs consider annual public funding an appropriate way to ensure a stable financial basis to plan activities. Institutional funding is envisioned as an essential means of ensuring sustainability given the competitive grant context. Moving away from short-term project-based funding to long-term structural funding and standardised long-term contracts on the national or European level could be one of the solutions. Such funding should also arrive without delays and pressure so it can be spent adequately. In parallel, a few respondents also mention funders external to the public sector such as foreign private foundations.

Second, sharing technical resources and organising scalability are seen as opportunities to increase the integration of diamond OA publishing into the overarching organisation whilst using the synergies over several institutional departments. Small-scale operations might not be eligible for public funding from government and other funding organisations, therefore economies of scale are considered to provide a much-needed solution. The sustainability of the service could be addressed through the membership of national, regional and international collaboration initiatives. Achieving economies of scale was mentioned both as a challenge to achieve and an opportunity, e.g. in terms of permanent posts dedicated to one or more journals and administering various small contributions from generous donors; relying on attractive, high-performance platforms to reduce hosting and maintenance costs, or even benefiting from one-off or other services to support the publication of journals or books. Scaling up could be addressed through collaboration with other organisations by means of sharing tools and services, for example. The main next challenge is thus to establish an economic model (including network/cooperative coordination and an annual budget) and governance (consortium or association type) which would ensure the sustainability of the network/cooperative. One respondent also mentioned that when IPSPs have to juggle a range of haphazard incomes, this can be hard to administer and a capacity centre could also play a role here.

Finally, two other important ways to address financial sustainability challenges include, on the one hand, embedding OA publishing in the library budget, although this can create some additional dependencies of the publishing service on the library budget, which is decided annually. On the other hand, some institutions consider setting up a common university service and financing it from research projects. In both cases, the creation of further permanent positions must be negotiated with the library management and the university management. Making authors aware that diamond OA still has a cost (although minimal when based on voluntary contributions) and, therefore, stimulating their minimum voluntary contribution without making it mandatory or explicitly request it, was also mentioned as a solution.

To sum up, the main financial sustainability challenges are found in three main areas: 1) the lack of financial resources, 2) the lack of stability and permanence in employment, and 3) the dependence on parent organisations. The greatest financial constraints by far are found when trying to provide adequate technical resources to run and develop the IPSP. Archiving, backups or preserving content and software, trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services and supplying and e enriching metadata/PIDs are also important areas of financial concern. Access to cash resources for certain services proves to be difficult for many, e.g. for one-time or annual membership fees. More regular and consistent funding will help IPSPs to develop and above all maintain their level of service on a more permanent basis. Receiving public and institutional funding is vital to many IPSPs and it is essential to continue and expand on this to move away from short-term project-based funding to long-term structural or project-based funding and standardised long-term contracts on the national or European level. Such funding should also arrive without delay and with as few strings attached as possible, so it can be spent within a well-defined timeframe. In addition, OA publishing could also become part of the library service portfolio with the appropriate budget.

3. Governance

Survey questions 22 to 24 asked IPSPs about the formal organisation of their governance. The initial figures of our respondents show a consistent pattern. About 73% of IPSPs have formal documents describing their activities in the form of statutes, by-laws, or articles of association (Q22). 20% of IPSPs declare that they do not have such documents, and 7% do not know. This is assumed to mean that 7% of IPSPs are not aware of any such documents. When asked about other formal documents that might give information about their governance practice, a few respondents refer to governance documents at their institution (4), contracts with journals (3), annual reports (2) and websites (2).

This figure contrasts with awareness about external legislation, requirements or policies that apply to the functioning of the IPSP: only about half of respondents seem to be familiar with those. This difference confirms results from OAJDS that IPSPs function in a rather insular manner, and are not familiar with issues of governance that transcend their own operations, in particular regarding the management of financial

operations. This pattern is confirmed by the figures regarding the oversight of the IPSPs' activities by a management office or governing board (Q23). While 52% declare having a management office that oversees their activity in general, about 78% of IPSPs do not have or are not aware of an external audit of their accounts. The figures about awareness of an external audit should be interpreted with caution: many IPSPs may not be subject to an external audit at their administrative level, or there may be national legislation exempting these organisations from external audits.

These figures suggest a substantial lack of professionalisation of the governance and the accounting of a large number of IPSPs who responded to the survey. When asked about the types of bodies that oversee their activities, 89 respondents provided a free text answer. These answers were coded under three main types: institutional (rector, director, steering committee and the like), editorial (editorial boards and the like), scientific (scientific committees and boards). 37 respondents referred to an institutional overseeing body, 21 to an editorial body, 18 to a scientific body. The other answers were not exploitable: the low numbers of responses do not allow for any kind of firm conclusions. But the predominance of general institutional governance bodies rather than specialised ones to oversee and monitor IPSP activities within the few answers provided can be interpreted in multiple ways and require further surveys to confirm or refute these interpretations. For example, these data could indicate a strong embeddedness of IPSPs in their mother institutions, but also a lack of internal awareness and recognition for the specificity of their activities (which would require a specific and specialised overseeing body). It could also be an indicator of a lack of autonomy inside the institutions, in particular when combined with the low proportion of specific financial auditing practices that could indicate a lack of budgeting autonomy within the institutions.

Furthermore, the answers to Q24 about representation of the wider scholarly community suggest that IPSPs are not only insular in terms of governance and oversight, but are also inward looking and local in terms of their scholarly representation: about 60% of IPSPs do not have such outside scholarly representation. In addition, answers to Q11 crossmatched with those of Q22 show that only 42% of IPSPs that completed the survey reported having both an approved budget and a document containing statutes, by-laws or articles of association (internal regulations), and 35% have both an approved budget and a formal document describing external legislation/requirements/policies that determine the scope of activities.

These figures clearly suggest that roughly half of IPSPs who have responded to the survey need help in professionalising their governance practices, financial audits, and in reaching out to the broader scholarly community to ensure scholarly legitimacy beyond their local context. An examination of regional or national answers to the survey questions does not show any clear trend: all countries and regions have substantial subsets of IPSPs that lack professional oversight of governance, finances, and outside scholarly representation.

More generally, answers provided to Q22-24 open a whole set of new questions to understand more in detail the ambivalence of relations between IPSPs and their parent

institutions in terms of governance and budget autonomy. It was not possible to add further and more precise questions to the survey because of maximal survey length restrictions. Therefore, the main concern was first to assess in this survey the level of professionalism and formalisation adopted by IPSPs in their governance and financial management practices. A comparison of the answer to Q5 (whether the IPSP has a parent organisation or not), and the answers to Q22-24 did not show a clear correspondence: organisations without a mother organisation were no more likely to have positive answers to Q22-24 than the ones who did have a mother organisation. Future research should dive into the details and explore how IPSPs parent institutions support and/or control IPSPs in their operations, once there is more awareness of the specific nature of publishing activities inside institutions or organisations whose missions and purpose are not limited to academic publishing.

4. Open science practices

Open access prevalence among institutional publishers

One of the primary goals of this survey was to determine the proportion of institutional publishing content currently available in Open Access and to understand how many institutional publishers prefer the OA publishing model. Nevertheless, accurately establishing the OA proportion based on the responses received proved challenging. This difficulty stemmed from several factors related to the survey's distribution, respondent motivations and the way the question on OA was formulated.

As outlined in the initial chapter describing the survey and its methodology, the survey was initially directed towards all stakeholders in institutional publishing, regardless of their access model. However, after an initial modest recall to our survey invitations, a stronger response rate was observed after the invitations were widely shared through various communication channels, many of which were specifically related to or supportive of OA. Additionally, influential Open Access stakeholders at the national or international levels (e.g., DOAJ) encouraged publishers to participate. Consequently, the sample of respondents is likely skewed towards those who have an affinity for openness, which may not fully represent the broader reality of institutional publishing.

The survey included a question asking, 'How much of the IPSP's published content is in Open Access?' The purpose was to determine the proportion of content published in OA across various types of outputs, including academic/scholarly journals, academic books, conference output, grey literature, non-standard research outputs (e.g., media, digital products), non-academic outputs, and other outputs (e.g., datasets, digital scholarship, and software). This question was directed specifically at respondents who identified themselves as institutional publishers (IPs) rather than service providers (SPs).

Upon examining the responses, several issues came to light that may have affected the accuracy of the results. Unlike other survey questions, this question was presented as

a sliding scale ranging from 0 to 100%. Unfortunately, it appears that this format led to misunderstandings among respondents, as further revealed during the preparation of the country reports.

The wording of the question, both in English and in translations into some other languages, did not explicitly use terms like 'share,' 'percentage,' or 'proportion,' and it did not provide clear instructions for interpreting the points on the sliding scale (0 - 25 - 50 - 75 - 100) as percentages. While some translations did clarify this, such as the French version using the word 'proportion' and the Italian version using 'percentuale,' it is possible that respondents using less precise translations did not understand that it was a percentage scale.

To illustrate the misunderstanding, when the websites of a random sample of IPs who reported unusually low OA content shares were checked (e.g., 1% or 6%), it was found that they had actually published only one journal (with 100% OA) or six journals (again, with 100% OA). Furthermore, other aspects of the question were also open to different interpretations. A share of content in OA could have been interpreted as a share of journals or a share of articles in those journals. The question also didn't specify the time frame, whether it implies only the current content or the backfiles as well (some of the journals might have stated less than 100% OA because they don't have all of their backfiles digitised in OA, or they may be practising 'delayed' OA).

Adding complexity, the question was directed exclusively at IPs and not SPs. As mentioned earlier, this distinction was not always clear to respondents. Some prominent publishers, primarily publishing OA content, classified themselves as SPs and were thus excluded from answering this question. Those are all the factors that could lead to a downsized approximation of the share of OA content.

In conclusion, there are factors that could lead to an overestimation of the OA content share (related to survey dissemination and respondent recruitment) as well as factors contributing to an underestimation (linked to question wording and translations). Therefore, it is crucial to exercise caution when generalising findings to the wider population of institutional publishers. Instead, conclusions should be limited describing the characteristics of our sample.

When examining the sample, a significant and consistent preference for the OA publishing model becomes evident across all output types (Figure 47). This preference is particularly prominent in the case of scholarly journals, where IPs publish an average of 90.1% of their content in OA. For other content types, the mean values vary, ranging from 51.1% for non-academic outputs to 75.5% for conference outputs. Notably, the mode, representing the most frequently reported value, is 100% for all mentioned output types.

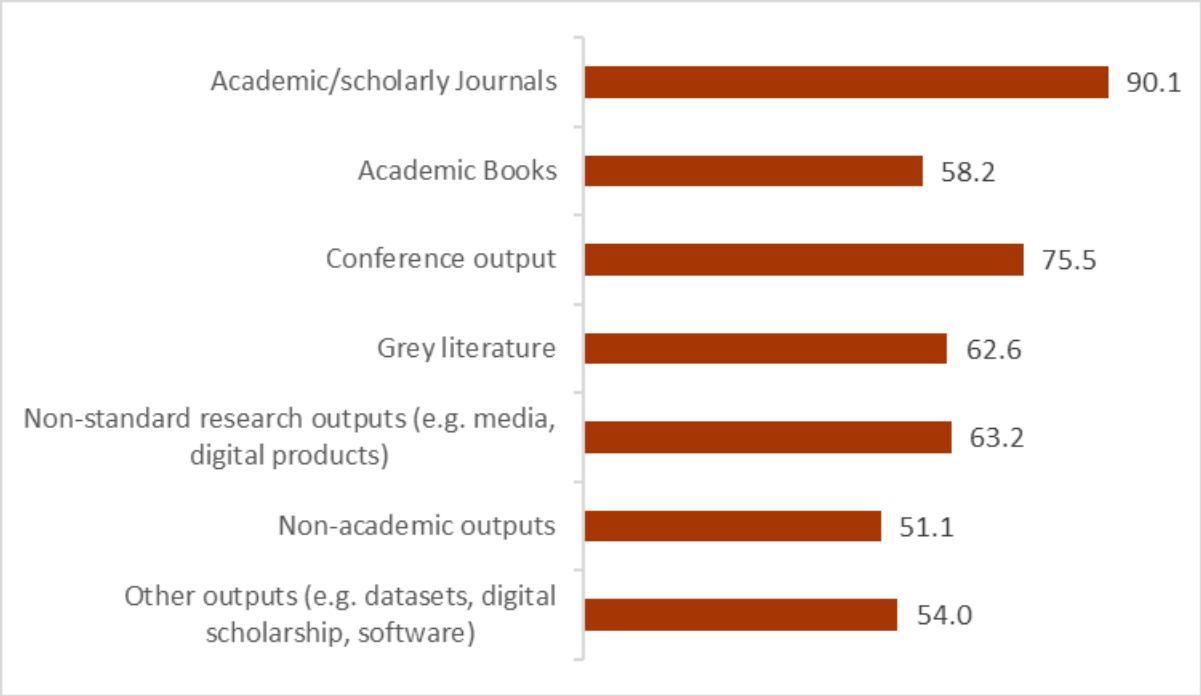


Figure 47 The share of IP's published content available Open Access.
N = 529 of 546; sliding scale question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q25 (IPs)

These average values, however, do not remain consistent across all groups of IPs. Therefore, when considering future actions aimed at increasing the prevalence of open access, it is beneficial to identify gaps and recognize the leaders in OA adoption across different types of scholarly outputs.

Eastern Europe is way ahead and above the overall average with 96.6% of OA journals. Northern Europe is well above average in all of the output types, while Western Europe is above average in all categories except for scholarly journals.

Furthermore, a closer examination of geographical differences reveals that countries within the same region can exhibit markedly different practices (Table 22). For instance, within Northern Europe, Finland (with 99.6%) outperforms the United Kingdom (with 84.6%) in the share of OA journals. In Southern Europe, Spain leads convincingly in the domain of OA journals (96.3%), while Italy champions openness in all other output types. Switzerland achieves a 100% share of OA books, whereas France's share is only 51%. This underscores the importance of tailoring actions aimed at increasing OA content shares to the specific needs and circumstances of each country.

Despite the valuable insights gained from this detailed analysis, it is essential to remain mindful of the limitations and weaknesses of the survey. In some cases, smaller groups of respondents may have a disproportionate impact on the results. This was evident in Switzerland, and consequently, Western Europe, where two publishers who only publish one journal title, reported only 1% OA journal content, distorting the overall findings.

Average values per groups	Journals	Books	Conference output	Grey literature	Non-standard research outputs	Non-academic outputs	Other outputs
Overall	**90.1**	**58.2**	**75.5**	**62.6**	**63.2**	**51.1**	**54.0**
Regions							
Eastern Europe	**96.6**	57.8	71.6	30.5	**65.2**	**51.8**	17.3
Northern Europe	**91.8**	**70.5**	**80.0**	**90.9**	**83.8**	**64.1**	**74.5**
Southern Europe	89.2	51.1	74.6	53.7	52.7	44.0	42.1
Western Europe	86.6	**68.4**	**81.4**	**85.0**	**76.8**	**62.0**	**80.8**
Countries (10 best represented in the responding sample)							
Poland	**97.2**	**61.2**	61.4	50.0	**79.3**	**51.3**	**100.0**
Finland	**99.6**	**67.2**	66.7	**75.0**	50.0	**75.0**	37.5
United Kingdom	84.6	**74.0**	70.0	**100.0**	**100.0**	**66.7**	**100.0**
Croatia	**90.3**	51.6	**78.2**	40.1	36.6	51.0	34.9
Italy	85.1	**76.5**	**87.4**	**84.5**	**86.8**	**67.3**	**62.9**
Serbia	84.7	49.8	**76.6**	40.0	38.9	33.9	20.4
Spain	**96.3**	33.4	55.5	57.5	49.7	34.9	44.8
France	86.5	51.0	60.1	**72.0**	**70.0**	45.1	**76.4**
Germany	86.4	**86.2**	**89.4**	**82.5**	**74.7**	**66.7**	**80.8**
Switzerland	80.2	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**85.0**	**87.5**	**100.0**

Table 22 Average shares of IP's published content available in Open Access across regions and countries. N = 529 of 546; sliding scale question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q25 (IPs) Countries are coloured by regions; numbers higher than average are bold on coloured background.

When examining the average shares of OA content among IPs with different legal structures and varying journal production sizes, interesting variations are uncovered (Table 23). It is unsurprising that companies and corporations tend to have lower OA content in their journals. However, within the sample, corporations often lead the way in publishing OA books, conference outputs, grey literature, and non-academic outputs.

Private not-for-profit organisations and public organisations generally exhibit similar patterns of behaviour. Still, public organisations tend to be more open with their book content, while private not-for-profits are more open in all other output types.

Regarding the size, in terms of the number of published journal titles, there seems to be a high prevalence of OA among those publishing only one journal, and on the contrary, publishers with more than 100 journals will have the lowest average share of OA.

Average values per groups	Journals	Books	Conference output	Grey literature	Non-standard research outputs	Non-academic outputs	Other outputs
Overall	**90.1**	**58.2**	**75.5**	**62.6**	**63.2**	**51.1**	**54.0**
Type of legal entity							
Company	64.2	30.6	42.3	1.0	10.0	18.0	2.0
Corporation	74.5	**68.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**		**100.0**	
Don't know	74.7		**80.0**				
Other	**93.3**	**60.9**	**75.8**	60.0	36.3	16.7	35.3
Private not-for-profit organisation	**93.3**	57.8	**81.5**	**66.3**	**72.7**	**67.5**	**61.1**
Public organisation	89.8	**59.3**	74.9	62.2	61.6	47.1	53.4
Number of journals published in the last year							
1	**93.7**	**62.6**	**81.0**	55.2	57.7	**54.8**	**55.6**
2-5	88.3	57.7	**78.8**	61.2	63.1	48.0	49.1
6-10	89.2	**59.0**	73.5	**87.7**	**83.2**	**75.4**	**73.6**
11-20	**92.0**	58.1	71.1	**88.9**	**83.6**	49.4	**66.6**
21-50	81.9	37.1	53.4	52.2	48.2	28.7	31.4
51-100	86.5	**58.3**	**82.5**	6.0	**88.0**	16.7	**57.0**
More than 100	69.0	52.0	**100.0**	**100.0**			

Table 23 Average shares of IP's published content available in Open Access across IPs of different type and size (according to journal portfolio size).
N = 529 of 546; sliding scale question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q25 (IPs), Q6, Q9.
Numbers higher than average are bold on coloured background.

Differing practices of publishers within varying disciplinary cultures present an additional layer of complexity. This analysis was only possible for publishers who publish in only one disciplinary area, and excluded all who have publications in multiple fields or interdisciplinary ones.

Table 24 presenting OA shares across disciplines and publication types reflects the varied significance placed on certain types of publications, the reliance on different communication channels and formats, and the willingness of researchers in specific fields to pay for access to publications behind paywalls or in print.

It can be observed that social sciences have above average OA shares among all publication types, while for humanities that is the case for journals, but not for books, conference proceedings or grey literature. In engineering and technology, OA shares consistently fall below average for all output types, especially for grey literature, non-standard research outputs, and non-academic outputs.

It remains to be determined whether the lower prevalence of OA in certain fields can be addressed through improved and openly available infrastructure or if it requires gradual changes in disciplinary habits and practices to embrace new publication models.

Average values per groups	Journals	Books	Conference output	Grey literature	Non-standard research outputs	Non-academic outputs	Other outputs
Overall	**90.1**	**58.2**	**75.5**	**62.6**	**63.2**	**51.1**	**54.0**
Discipline *(for IP who only publish in one discipline)*							
Agricultural sciences	90.1	56.0	**100.0**	**75.5**		50.0	50.5
Engineering and technology	86.7	39.5	71.7	30.5	37.8	27.5	33.0
Humanities	**92.2**	57.1	67.9	36.8	**65.3**	**53.1**	**58.9**
Medical and health sciences	87.3	56.0	71.5	50.0	50.0	**62.5**	33.7
Natural sciences	89.5	**64.9**	73.2	45.0	60.6	50.8	**62.5**
Social sciences	**92.5**	**59.0**	**84.0**	**92.9**	**94.0**	**78.0**	**94.5**

Table 24 Average shares of IP's published content available in Open Access across disciplines.
N = 529 of 546; sliding scale question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q25 (IPs), Q10.
Numbers higher than average are bold on coloured background.

Open Access and Open Science policies

There is a notable alignment between the prevalence of the Open Access model and strong political support for openness principles among our respondents. A significant number of 599 respondents adhere to various Open Access or Open Science policies, including national, institutional, their own or other policies. Many of them comply with policies at different levels (and often, with multiple policies), as visible in Figure 48.

Most respondents follow national or have their own OA or OS policies, with a slightly lower percentage adhering to policies set by their parent institutions. This variation is understandable, as not all IPSPs have parent institutions.

It is evident that political support and compliance are slightly higher for journals compared to books. This difference can be attributed to both the greater representation of journal publishers in our sample and the varying levels of maturity at national and international levels among funders, institutions, and policymakers in relation to book publishing.

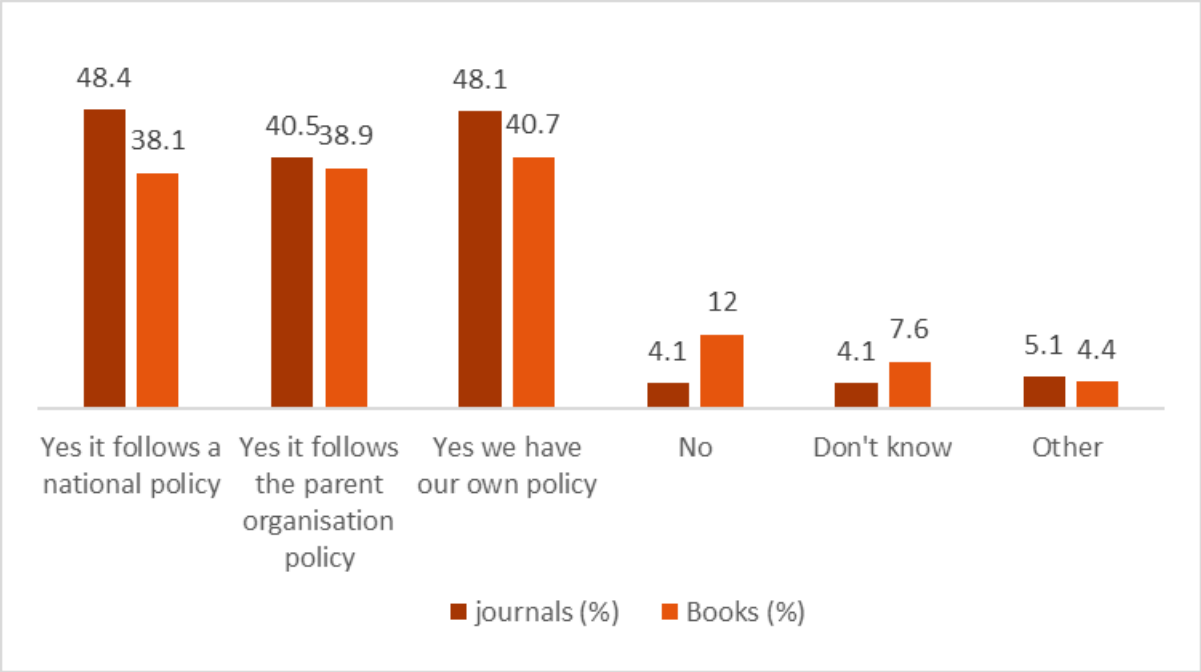


Figure 48 IPSPs following an Open Science/Open Access policy.
Journals (N = 630 of 685)/Books (N = 383 of 685); multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q26 (all).

Any meaningful future actions aimed at enhancing the capacities for open access in institutional settings will have the most effect if they are embedded in the current institutional or national context and aligned with existing policies. Furthermore, actors in the institutional publishing ecosystem need to understand and know which policies they have to comply with. It is therefore important for the DIAMAS project to have a full understanding of the policies that exist in Europe, but also to understand how aware IPSPs are of their political context.

Examining the 10 countries most represented in the survey yields interesting observations. In four countries, the majority of respondents claim to adhere to OA/OS. This is particularly evident in France, where several respondents explicitly mentioned the National Open Science Policy, and in Serbia, where the National Platform for Open Science is referenced. Croatia presents a unique case where the majority of respondents also state that they follow a national OS/OA policy, even though Croatia does not have such a policy in place. This can be attributed to the strong presence of the diamond model of OA publishing among Croatian journals, the influence of the central publishing platform Hrčak (where openness is a requirement for inclusion), and the Ministry of Science and Education's criteria for state subsidies, which emphasise openness. Together, these incentives foster a strong conviction among IPSPs that Open Science aligns with national political preferences, as detailed in the country report for Croatia. This example illustrates that while survey responses may not always precisely reflect the legal and political landscape, they do provide valuable insights into general preferences within national contexts.

Conversely, in some countries with well-established and widely communicated OA/OS policies, the majority of respondents indicated that they do not follow these policies (e.g., the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Finland, or Spain). While this is expected in some cases due to the policies not yet being in effect at the time of the survey (as with the Spanish policy), it would be beneficial to understand the reasons behind the limited impact of these policies on institutional publishing in other cases.

Country	Yes	No	No of answers	
Croatia	48	27	75	Majority follow the national policy.
France	41	17	58	
Serbia	52	26	78	
Poland	16	14	30	
Switzerland	8	10	18	Majority do not follow the national policy.
Germany	12	29	41	
Finland	11	13	24	
Italy	13	36	49	
Spain	28	43	71	
United Kingdom	7	12	19	
Grand Total	236	227	463	
N = 463 of 482; source: DIAMAS survey - Q26 (all).				

Table 25 IPSPs following a national Open Science/Open Access policy.

IPSPs that reported having a policy (or complying with a higher-level policy) were asked to provide a URL link to their policy. While not all of them did so, the URLs received yielded valuable insights. In some cases, it is not clear whether IPSPs are referring to their own policy, their parent institution's policy, or a national policy. Occasionally, the URLs point to individual journal policies rather than the policies of the entire institution, even when the institution publishes multiple journals and other output types.

Journal policies are infrequently found on the websites of national publishing platforms (*scindeks.ceon.rs*, *journal.fi*, *hrcak.srce.hr*, *revistas.rcaap.pt*, *journals.openedition.org*, *ejournals.epublishing.ekt.gr*, *recyt.fecyt.es*). This suggests that these platforms serve not only as a means to provide open access to journal content but also play a significant role in showcasing journal policies. According to some country reports, these platforms also offer guidance in developing such policies. In some cases, IPSPs not only link to their own policies on the platform's websites but also provide direct links to the general terms-of-use pages of these platforms. This indicates that platform policies are often adopted by publishers, and this level of policymaking has a substantial impact on the institutional publishing landscape, even if this was not initially fully recognized through the formulation of our survey questions.

A number of respondents provided URLs of institutional OA/OS policies, as could be expected, although some of them are not yet finalised or publicly available. A number of national OA/OS policies were reported (Finnish, French, Portuguese, Serbian, UK) and sometimes even some less formal documents (like Croatian Declaration on Open Access). Interestingly, seven respondents referred to the URLs of (different) Creative Commons licences.

Policies adhered to by IPSPs, whether they are policies at a higher (institutional or national) level or policies they define themselves, can address different elements of open access or open science practices.

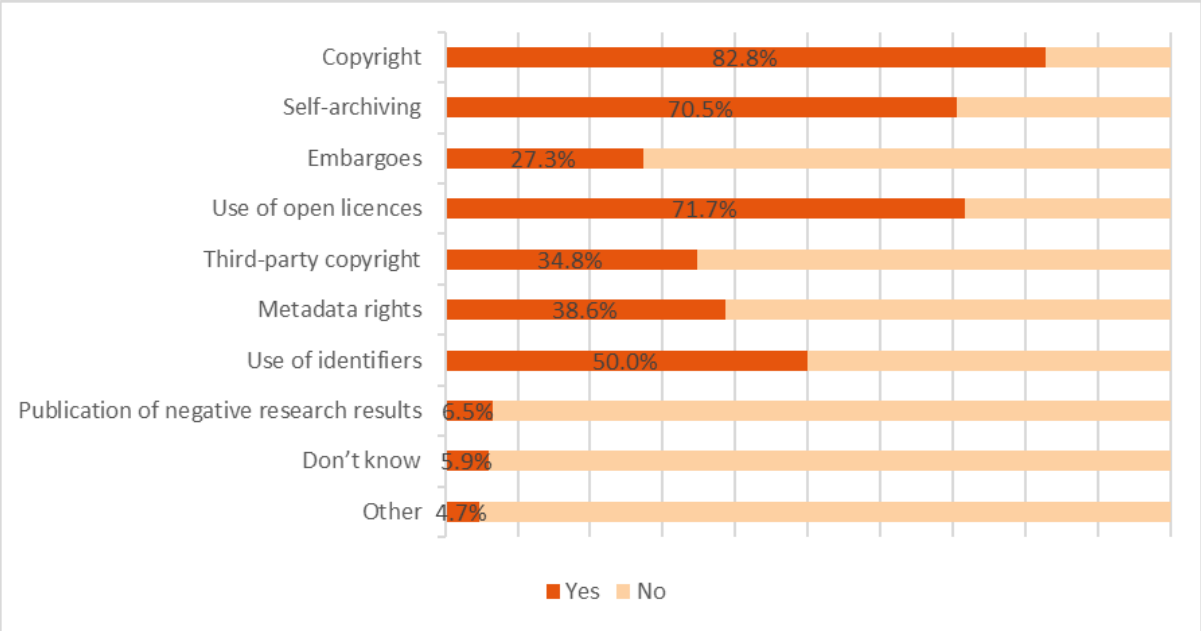


Figure 49 Issues addressed by Open Science/Open Access policy.
N = 572 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q26.2 (all).

While some elements are more prevalent than others, the majority of respondents, 82.8%, address copyright-related issues (e.g., who holds the copyright in content that you publish?) in their policies. Approximately 70% of policies also cover matters related to self-archiving (e.g., do you allow self-archiving of your published content and under what conditions?) and the use of open licences (e.g., do you have a default open licence?). To a lesser extent, policies define the use of identifiers (e.g., for authors, institutions, funders), metadata rights (e.g., Is metadata shared in the public domain?), and third-party copyrights (e.g., rules on using third-party copyrighted materials?). Understandably, issues related to embargoes (e.g., do you impose embargo periods?) are not often covered in the policies, since most published content is available in open access, so embargoes have no relevance there.

One particular good practice related to open science is addressed by a very low share of respondents, namely the publication of negative research results. This could, at

least to a certain degree, be explained by the disciplinary nature of a large share of IPs. As shown earlier, many such publishers publish content primarily in humanities, where quantifiable methods that could result in negative results are often lacking. This could still not hold for all of the IPSPs who reported negatively on this aspect of OS practice, and more awareness of the issues of transparency in reporting research results is needed.

It is possible that some of the listed open science practices are followed by respondents but not explicitly detailed in policy documents. Some comments suggest this possibility (e.g., "I'm not sure we have an online policy that specifically states this - maybe for the journals - but the way we operate in practice addresses all these issues.").

Transparency in all aspects of publishing and editorial workflows is a fundamental principle of Open Science. Therefore, future efforts within DIAMAS should focus on assisting IPSPs in formulating policies that reflect and document their practices. The survey results provide clear guidance on the areas where this support is most crucial.

Adoption of Open Science principles

The third important aspect of Open Science, in addition to the share of Open Access content and the alignment with Open Science principles at a policy level, is the willingness of IPSPs to adopt positive practices associated with openness and transparency in scholarly communication.

According to the survey respondents, it appears that some of these practices have already become standard in academic publishing. For instance, the use of Creative Commons licences is widespread among IPSPs, not only for scholarly journals but also for many book publishers. Similarly, allowing authors to self-archive their published content in open repositories is common practice. However, even with such practices, a smaller share of IPSPs will still exhibit some reluctance or uncertainty, and there is still room for progress with the overall acceptance of open licensing and right retention. Imposing embargoes for self-archiving is, from the OS perspective, one negative practice listed among the options offered, and unsurprisingly, the majority of respondents reported not practising such a restriction on authors and limiting their rights.

Some other practices proved challenging, not to the majority, but still to a substantial share of IPSPs. These include making references openly available according to the principles of I4OC (Initiative for Open Citations) and accepting submissions that have been publicly shared as a preprint or working paper before or upon submission. The reasons for these challenges likely vary, and it can be assumed that they are more grounded in acquaintance with standards and technical capabilities in case of I4OC, and in practical editorial concerns or value judgements in case of accepting submissions based on preprints.

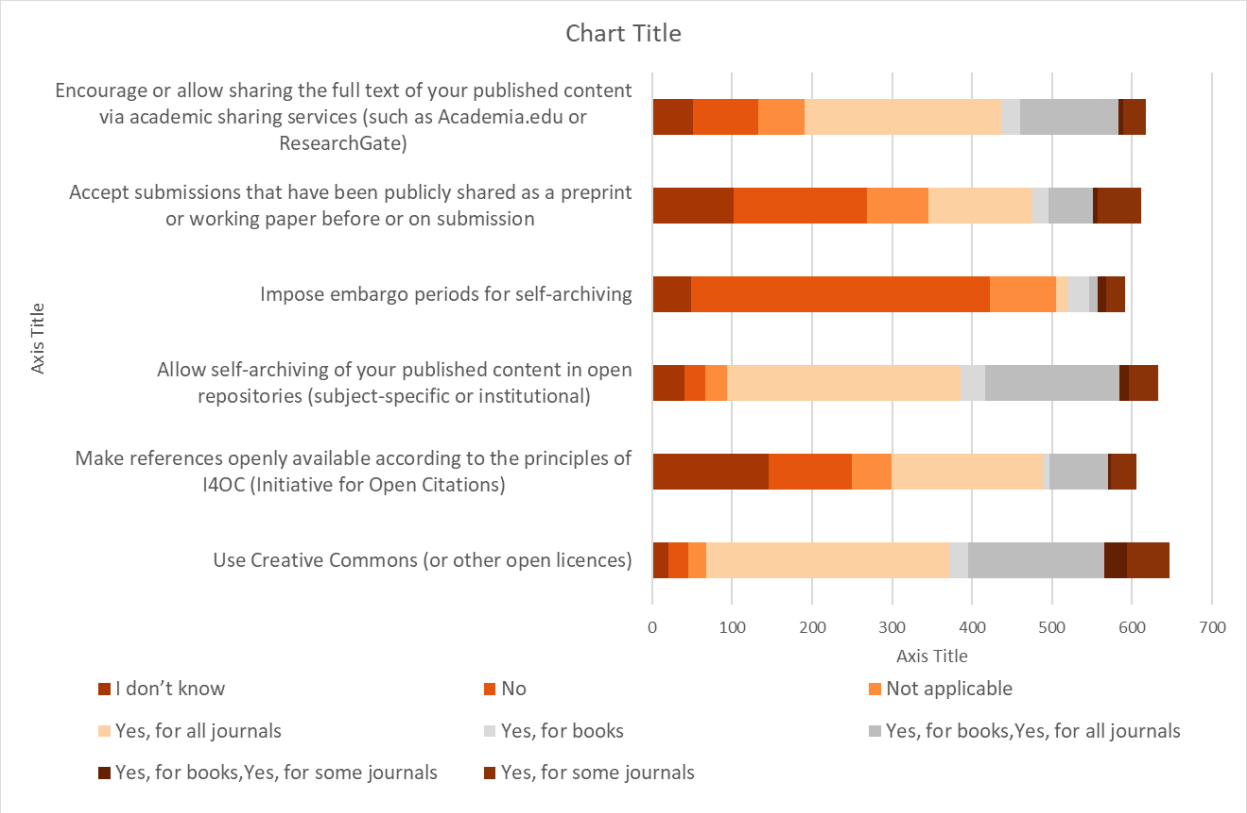


Figure 50 Adoption of Open Science principles: Implementation at IPSP level. N = 655 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q27(all)

Fostering change in these areas will necessitate a thorough understanding of the obstacles preventing IPSPs from adopting these positive practices. However, the survey results can only provide limited insights into these impediments.

When considering the necessary support for wider adoption of open citations, it becomes essential to analyse which groups are more likely to report non-compliance with the I4OC standard or a lack of awareness about it. Geographically, IPSPs from Northern and Western Europe are more likely to report non-compliance or lack of awareness compared to countries in Eastern or Southern Europe. However, the country reports do not always confirm these findings, and there remains uncertainty about whether self-reporting in the survey always reflects a full understanding of the phenomena being inquired about.

When it comes to accepting submissions that were previously available as preprints, there seems to be some disciplinary variation at play, where the share of IPSPs who do not accept such submissions at all is highest among Agricultural sciences (35.5%), while the share of those who report that they do not know is highest among IPSPs in Humanities (18.7%) and Social Sciences (17.6%).

As evident from Figure 51, Creative Commons and other open licences have effectively become the standard for OA publishing and are widely accepted among respondents. However, when queried about the specific licence IPSPs require or recommend, only a

slight majority opt for licences fully aligned with Open Access principles, ensuring comprehensive reuse and redistribution rights, namely CC BY. This finding has important implications, especially considering that many national and international research funders, particularly those associated with cOAlition S, mandate or recommend the use of a CC BY licence. Clearly a substantial number of responding publishers does not offer an article publication route that would be compliant with the CC-BY requirement of cOAlition S funders. Another fact worth noting here is that many of our respondents are publishing a wide array of output types, including books, for which even funder policies and requirements tend to be more liberal than for journals (and the survey responses do not reveal which licences are applied to specific publication formats).

Furthermore, this preference for more restrictive licences may reflect concerns and uncertainties about granting full reuse rights. Publishers may lean towards more restrictive licences if they perceive them as safeguards against undesirable forms of reuse and redistribution. This is even more understandable if a large proportion of respondents publish and provide services in the humanities and social sciences, where Creative Commons licences have been accepted with more caution. This situation underscores the need for future capacity-building efforts, emphasising not only the promotion of Creative Commons licences in general but also a deeper understanding of the implications and benefits associated with truly 'open' licences, such as CC BY or CC BY-SA.

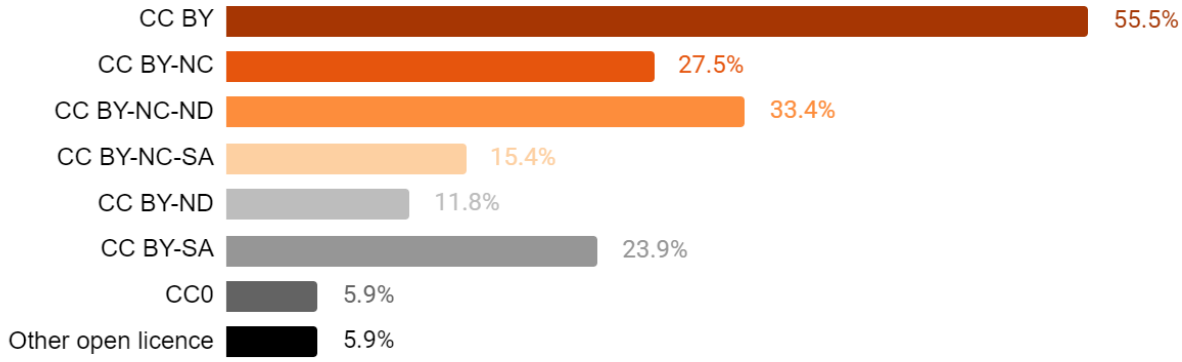


Figure 51 Licence(s) used or recommended.
N = 560 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q27.1(all).

The survey investigated three additional OS practices, all of which can be seen as innovative, demanding for a change in traditionally performed workflows, with a goal of enhancing trust and transparency in scholarship. Those three practices are open peer review, research data sharing (and having a research data sharing policy in place) and distinguishing between contributor roles (such as the CRediT Contributor Roles Taxonomy).

The results of the survey indeed call for improvements and change, as they indicate that institutional publishing is still very far from embracing those practices on a wider scale (Figure 52, Figure 53, Figure 54). On all three topics, the largest shares of

respondents fall into the category of those who do not enable such practices. A somewhat smaller, but still non-negligible, share of IPSPs report a lack of awareness on these issues. While some of these practices could require more advanced (and therefore, more costly) technical support, as for instance, some forms of open peer review, others are relatively easy to implement, and only require change in workflows and procedures.

Similar to previous questions, a lack of awareness and non-compliance with these practices can be linked to disciplinary epistemic cultures. For instance, in many fields of the humanities, single-author papers remain the norm, eliminating an immediate need for implementing a CRediT taxonomy. Additionally, the concept of 'research data' has only recently gained traction among humanities scholars and remains a topic of contention. However, these disciplinary nuances cannot fully account for the high percentage of respondents reporting negatively on these practices. Considering that dominant commercial international publishers are adept at promptly adapting to open science requirements, it becomes clear that raising awareness and building capacities among institutional publishers is crucial in addressing these issues if the institutional publishing is to become a viable alternative.

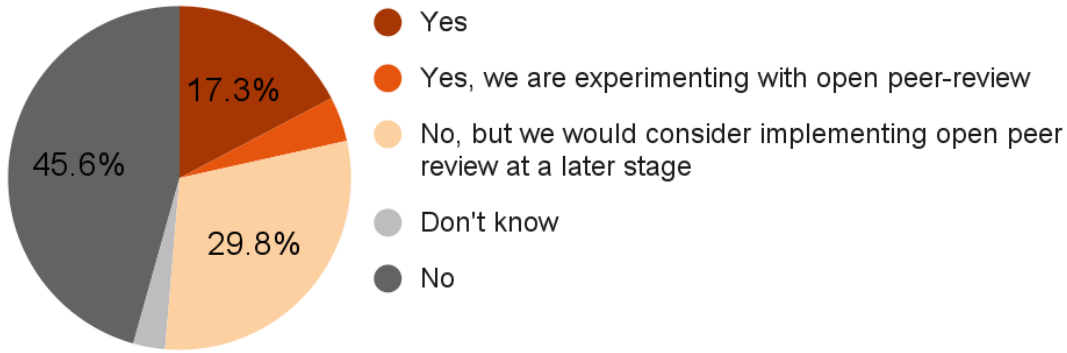


Figure 52 Forms of open peer review enabled.
N = 526 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q28 (all).

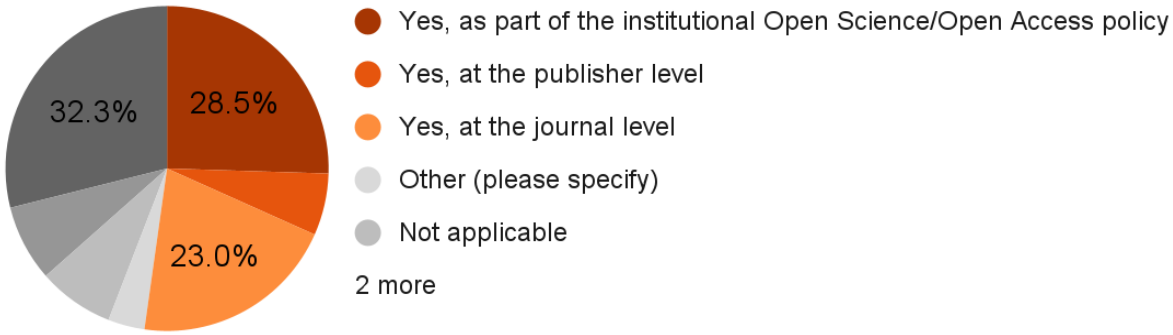


Figure 53 Research data sharing policy in place.
N = 656 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q29 (all)

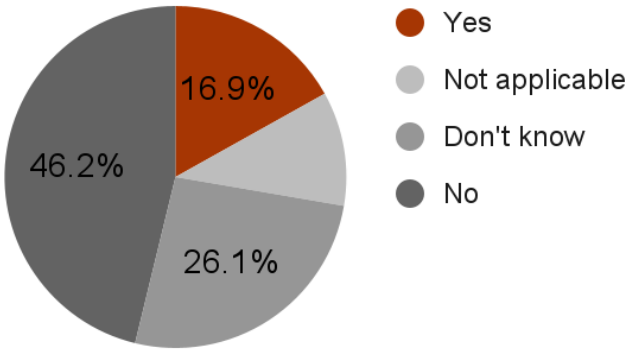


Figure 54 Contributor roles distinguished (as in CRediT).
N = 658 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q30 (all).

5. Editorial quality, editorial management, and research integrity

Quality scholarly publications effectively disseminate trustworthy and reproducible research outcomes. Therefore, ensuring and maintaining high editorial quality is important for the reputation of scholarly publications, fostering trust in authors, editors, reviewers and the research community while ensuring that the published content significantly contributes to the progress of science and society. Editorial quality in scholarly publications refers to the standard of excellence in publishing journals, books, or other publications. To ensure a high-quality standard of published content, well-defined processes of editorial management and research integrity are necessary.

Editorial management

This includes long-term strategic planning, compliance with editorial policies and publishing standards, budget management, timeliness of publication, and technology integration in editorial work. The goal of editorial management is not only to ensure that the content meets high standards of quality but also to be produced and distributed efficiently, aligning with the overall objectives of the publication.

IPSPs are typically involved in editorial management. Their main role is to set the strategic direction of a publication and support effective operation in all publishing phases. Together with editorial boards, they can shape the scope, mission and goals, taking care of the intended readership and general position of the publication in the scholarly and publishing community. To ensure sustainability, IPSPs are usually responsible for securing budget and allocating resources, recruiting and managing editorial board members, and providing space, equipment, infrastructure and tools needed for editorial work. They should take care of legal and ethical aspects, providing oversight and guidance related to possible issues in copyright and licensing, conflict of interest, plagiarism, data manipulation, etc. Maintaining the publication's reputation,

IPSPs can administer and enforce editorial policies and ensure adherence to high ethical standards, supporting continuous training of editorial staff.

Still, IPSPs' involvement in editorial management can endanger the independence and autonomy of the editorial teams, which is essential for nourishing the integrity and credibility of scholarly publications. To avoid possible conflicts of interest, peer review process and content selection should be maintained by the editorial board exclusively. Furthermore, editorial policies could be endorsed and enforced by IPSPs, but editors are primarily responsible for policies that reflect their recommendations, requirements and standards. Good communication between IPSPs and editors will reduce the possibility of conflicts, so it is necessary to have their roles clearly defined, make all decisions collaboratively and transparently, and make some formal agreement outlining editorial independence.

The aim of this part of the survey was to map the percentage of IPSPs involved in editorial management and investigate their duties and responsibilities if they are involved. Still, the answers to the questions about IPSPs participation in editorial management should be seen in the context of the respondents' structure. Namely, many respondents come from editorial offices, and in some countries, such respondents represent more than half of the sample. For this reason, the proportion of 70% of IPSPs participating in editorial management must be considered cautiously (Table 26).

	n	%
Yes	459	69.4
No	183	27.7
Don't know	19	2.9
N = 661 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q31(all).		

Table 26 IPSPs' involvement in editorial management of publications.

As expected, IPSPs mainly recruit and manage editorial board members (80%) (Table 27). Still, according to the responses, they are also significantly involved in other tasks like coordinating and monitoring the peer review process, sourcing reviewers, etc. Only 2% of IPSPs have no tasks in the editorial management of their journals.

	n	%
Recruiting and managing the editorial board members	364	79.6
Coordinating the peer review process	359	78.6
Monitoring the peer review process	357	78.1
Sourcing reviewers	343	75.1
Performing basic checks on adherence with the authors' and reviewers' guidelines	337	73.7
Performing basic checks regarding adherence with the scope of the publication	334	73.1
Performing basic checks on ethical consent	281	61.5
Plagiarism scan/Automated similarity checking	241	52.7
Other (please specify)	12	2.6
No tasks in the editorial management	10	2.2

N = 457 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q31.1(all).

Table 27 Tasks accomplished in editorial management by IPSPs.

Editorial quality

This encompasses various aspects contributing to the content's overall reliability, credibility, and scholarly integrity. It reflects the diversity and expertise of the editorial board and the value of the published content. The most important aspect of editorial quality is the peer review process, followed by indexing and visibility, timeliness, efficient communication with authors and reviewers, open access, accessibility, and other factors in editorial quality.

Clear and transparent IPSP or publication policies contribute to editorial quality. Editorial policies mainly describe the peer review process, authorship criteria, data sharing and reproducibility statements and editorial independence commitment. Furthermore, research integrity and ethical policies guarantee that the research, collection, analysis and storage of results, as well as research results reporting, is carried out under the highest research and publishing standards. Publication policies outline open access, copyright and licensing and long-term preservation. Policies can also regulate how to handle retractions, corrections, or appeals. In addition to policies, different guidelines (for authors and reviewers) are intended to ensure high-quality submissions and evaluation.

Three questions were included in the survey to gain an insight into how many IPSPs are responsible for the quality of the outputs to be published, whether instructions for authors and reviewers are available and which procedure is used to assess these outputs.

IPSPs' participation in managing editorial quality is similar to their involvement in editorial management. 74% of IPSPs create quality criteria and enable compliance, and 91% provide guidelines and instructions (Table 28). These numbers are higher due to the large share of respondents from editorial bodies.

	Quality criteria/compliance (n)	%	Guidelines/ instructions (n)	%
Yes	491	74.3	448	91.4
No	134	20.3	31	6.3
Don't know	36	5.4	11	2.2

N = 661 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q32 (all).

Table 28 IPSPs' involvement in managing editorial quality.

As observed from Figure 55, double-anonymous peer review is the prevailing choice (76%), followed by single-anonymous peer review (37%), and editorial review (screening) (33%). Within the various layers of openness in the peer review process, three aspects were singled out for inclusion in the question about peer review type: open identities of the reviewers, authors and editors, open reviewers' reports and open community participation in the peer review process.

Among 488 out of 685 IPSPs responding to this question, open identities are implemented by 13%, while 7% apply open review reports. Open participation is employed by only 3% of IPSPs.

Figure 55 Types of peer review in use.
N = 488 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q32.2 (all).

Comparing these results with the level of IPs' implementation of the open peer review process (Q28), the data appears consistent. This suggests that the concept of the open review process was well-understood by our respondents (IPs and SPs), although there is some possibility to mix open peer review with a non-anonymised peer review process. The share of IPs implementing open peer review, 17.3%, with additional 4.2% experimenting with it, corresponds to 11.8% open identities, 6.5% open reports and/or 2.4% open community participation in the IPs' peer review process (Q32.2). There could be an overlap between shares of open identities, open reports and open communication, i.e. IPSP can apply multiple layers of open peer review process. The low implementation level is very likely the result of additional technical requirements

and the lack of support provided by the editorial management system used: open peer review requires publishing reviews in addition to the paper itself, putting additional strain on resources.

Limiting Q32.2 results to 73 out of 139 SPs who answered the question about types of peer review revealed identical shares with significantly higher percentages: 23.3% support open identities, 11.0% open peer review reports and/or 5.5% participatory peer review (Figure 56).

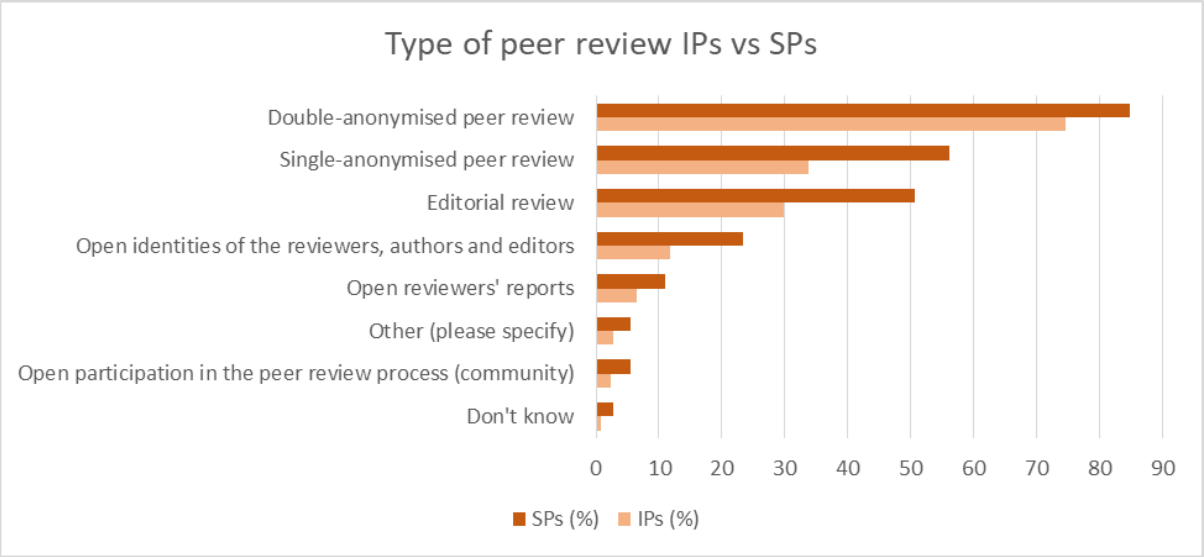


Figure 56 Adoption of various types of peer review by IPs and SPs.
N = 415 of 546 (IPs) and N = 73 of 139 (SPs); multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q32.2.

In interpreting these results, it is crucial to highlight that Q32.2 was a multiple-answer question. SPs were free to select all types of peer review supported by their publishing platforms, tools, infrastructures, or services, irrespective of the actual number of publications utilising these options in practice. While the implementation of open peer review by IPs reflects more modest results, the more extensive support for the open peer review process among SPs is noteworthy. Still, to accurately assess the degree of IPs' adoption of the open peer review process, it's necessary that layers of openness are provided on all publishing platforms and infrastructures that IPs use to manage the peer review process.

Comparing the shares of various peer review types across European regions unveils intriguing similarities and differences (Figure 57). The regions of Eastern Europe (EE) and Southern Europe (SE) align closely in the shares of peer review types. In Northern Europe (NE), there is a divergence between a smaller share of double-anonymised (73.4%) and a larger share of single-anonymised peer review (42.2%), compared with EE and SE. NE also stands out with a higher representation of open peer review: open identities (17.2%), open reviewer's reports (9.4%), and open participation (4.7%).

The most significant disparities emerge in Western Europe (WE), where there is a lower representation of double-anonymised (68.9%) and higher proportion of single-anonymised peer review (50.8%), compared to other European regions. Regarding open

peer review, open identities constitute 28.8%, open reports at 14.4%, and open participation at 5.9%, indicating its assimilation into common publishing practices. The most salient finding, however, is the substantial representation of editorial review at 53.4%, which is twice as much as in other regions (EE at 26.4%, SE at 25.8%, and NE at 28.1%). While this result may result from different interpretations of 'editorial review' in different countries/regions or some inconsistencies in the translations of the questionnaire, it should be investigated further.

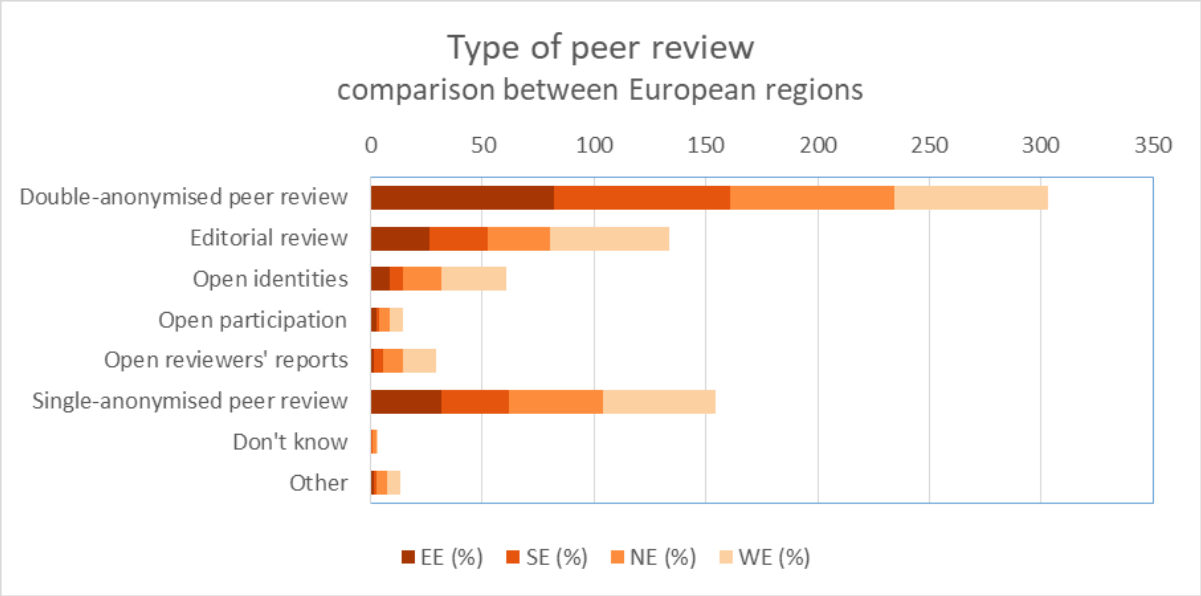


Figure 57 Comparison of different peer review types across European regions.
N = 488 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q32.2 (all), Q2.

The breakdown of peer review types across disciplines highlights the predominant use of double-anonymised peer review in IPs from humanities and social sciences, constituting 83% and 82%, respectively (Figure 58). Similarly, multidisciplinary and non-academic IPs primarily opt for double-anonymised peer review (79% and 78%, respectively), although there is a strong presence of single-anonymised peer review. In the realm of natural sciences, both single-anonymised and double-anonymised peer review are equally embraced, each representing 56% and 58%, respectively. Notably, these findings align with the outcomes of our previous studies (Hebrang Grgić & Stojanovski, 2017).

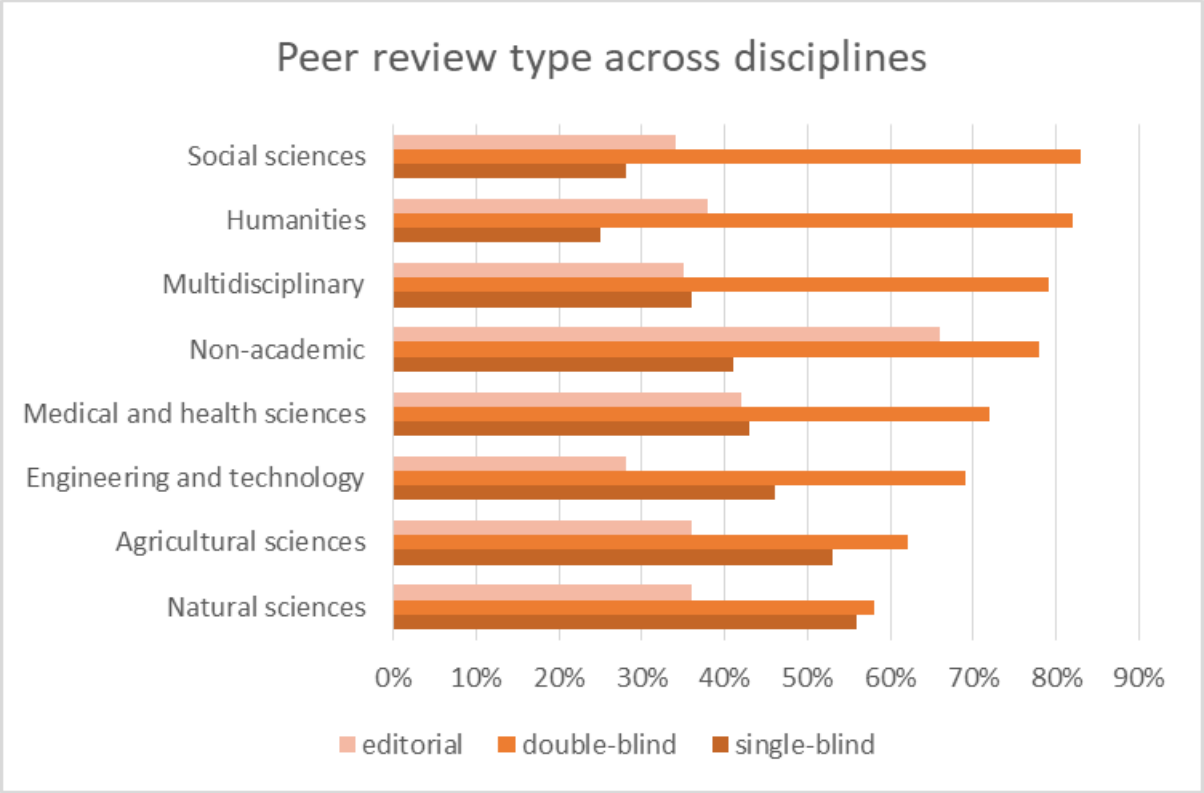


Figure 58 Peer review types across disciplines.
N=415 of 549, multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q32.2 (all), Q10.

Unlike the independent peer review process, editorial review involves an assessment conducted by the editor or the editorial team. In the context of scholarly journals, the primary objective of editorial review is to evaluate whether the manuscript aligns with the publication's scope, meets specific journal's requirements, and possesses sufficient quality to proceed to independent peer reviewers. Journals that also encompass non-scholarly content could exclude independent peer review and rely solely on editorial evaluation. The editorial review of books and other publications entails an objective and critical assessment by an editor who is an expert in the respective field. Our survey results reveal that editorial review takes precedence among IPs specialising in non-academic publications, representing a significant proportion of 66%. A substantial share of editorial review is observed in the field of medical and health sciences, accounting for 42%. Among IPs in various other disciplines, over one-third opt for editorial review. Notably, engineering and technology IPs have the lowest adoption of editorial review, standing at 28%.

Research Integrity

This includes elements of transparent practices in performing research accurately, honestly and professionally, while publishing in open access, e.g. communicating all research outcomes openly. This includes reporting on appropriate research methods, gathering data, data management, scrutiny in drawing interpretations and conclusions, authorship and contributorship, enabling reproducibility, appropriate ethical, legal and professional standards, equity, diversity, inclusion, belonging, governance, adherence

to the best research and publishing practices, regulations and guidelines. By using verifiable methods in proposing, performing, and evaluating research, research misconduct (fabrication and falsification of data, plagiarism, etc.) will be recognised and prevented.

By probing the existence of specific policies on research integrity or publication ethics, the survey aimed to gain an insight into the involvement of IPSPs in establishing such policies. The existence of research integrity and/or publication ethics policies can help overcome or eliminate any sort of misconduct, which may happen at any stage of research and to ensure high-quality scientific publications and public trust in scientific findings.

	n	%
Yes	417	63.3
No	181	27.5
Don't know	61	9.3
N = 659 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q33 (all).		

Table 29 Specific policy on research integrity/publication ethics.

While 63% of IPSPs have research integrity or publication ethics policies, 27% lack such policies, raising concerns (Table 29). Additionally, 9% of IPSPs are not aware of their existence.

The comparison of the employment of the research integrity and publication ethics policies across different European regions presents an intriguing pattern, with a significantly higher adoption rate in Eastern Europe (78.8%) and Southern Europe (70%), as opposed to Northern Europe (54.7%) and Western Europe (46.3%) (Figure 59). At the same time, in Eastern Europe, there is a more pronounced lack of awareness regarding such policies (12.9% 'don't know' responses), adding a layer of complexity to the overall landscape despite the notable positive responses.

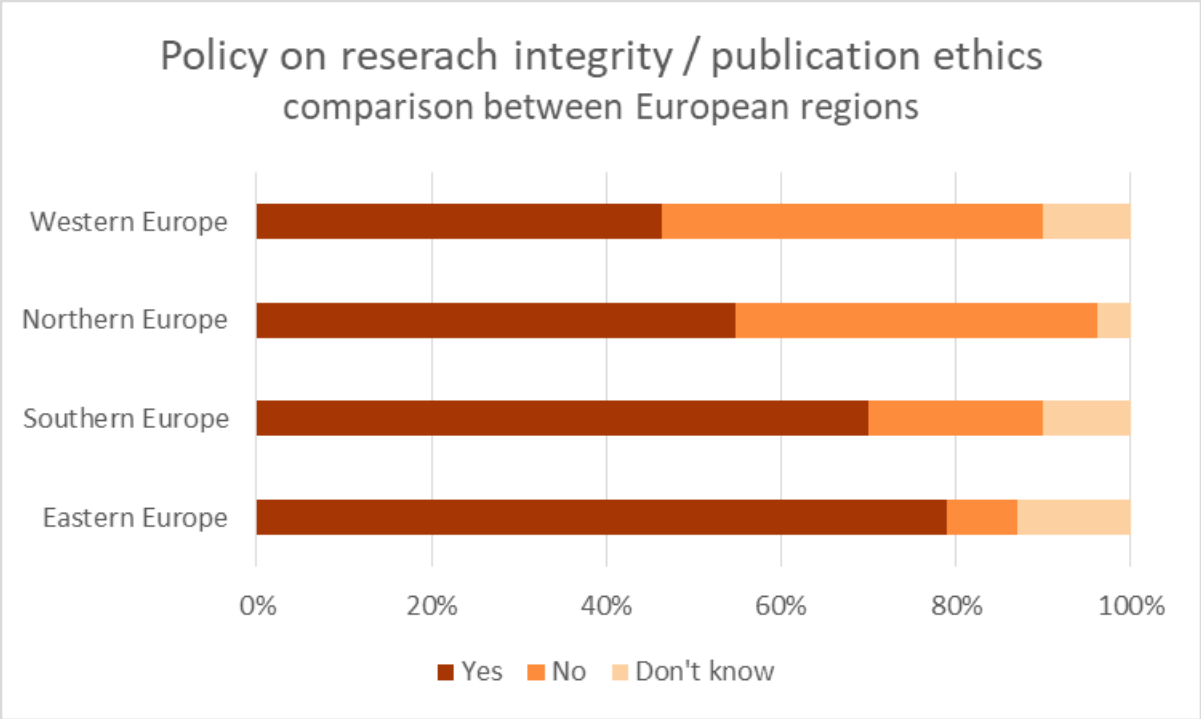


Figure 59 Adoption of research integrity and/or publication ethics policies in European regions. N=659 of 685, single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q33 (all), Q2.

6. Technical service efficiency

This section of the survey focused on the implementation of technical standards by IPSPs. The questions were formulated with an aim to providing a detailed overview of the responding IPSPs overall technical capacity. To this end, a range of indicators related to interoperability standards and digital workflows have been identified and informed the questions.

The responses imply that IPSPs implement a variety of strategies to develop - and manage in an effective manner - a technically efficient service able to deliver outputs compliant to current standards. Despite evident variations, the findings of a preliminary analysis suggest that the majority of IPSPs adopt a similar operational pattern, which can be summarised as follows: the deployment of services is based on open-source solutions and in-house maintenance procedures, as a strategy to mitigate a series of challenges related to the lack of personnel, skills and resources

Technical services provided by the IPSP

The analysis of the responses shows a diverse range of combined services offered (Table 30). Most IPSPs offer multiple types of services; those offering only one type of service account for 17.3% (114). A significant number of IPSPs (178; 26.9%) offer technical services though they do not have dedicated staff for this purpose.

Regarding content-related services, a substantial percentage of IPSPs (57.9%) appear to deploy workflows covering all stages of the editorial process, including content editing, reviewing, and publishing. A smaller number of responses (26.9%) come from

IPSPs offering specialised services within the editorial process. A significant percentage of IPSPs are also involved in metadata and quality control activities, ensuring that published content is compliant with standards and guidelines.

58.4% of IPSPs provide hosting services, which indicates a capacity to set up servers, manage and sustain the hosting infrastructure, and make content accessible online – often via a customised user interface, as the relevant response rate (43.9%) suggests. Software (most probably used to support editorial workflows) is mentioned in 40.2% of responses.

As expected, the percentage of SPs providing software (54.5%), hosting options (70.1%) and user interface development (66.4%) is above the combined average and much higher than the equivalents for IPs (36.6%, 55.4%, 38.1%, respectively). Among the content management services, a similar trend is noticed in relation to metadata quality control services. Interestingly, some service providers offer only one type of service: hosting (2), software (2), partial editorial workflow (1), metadata and quality control (3) and user interface (2), while six SPs don't know which services they provide.

	n	%
Full editorial workflow	383	57.9
Hosting	386	58.4
Metadata and quality control	357	54.0
Partial editorial workflow	178	26.9
Software	266	40.2
User interface	290	43.9
Don't know	49	7.4
Other (Please specify)	48	7.3

N = 661 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q34 (all).

Table 30 Technical services provided.

Maintaining and updating the IPSP's services and/or technical infrastructure

The choice between in-house and outsourced maintenance options depends on the IPSP's organisational priorities, resources, and the skills required to undertake the technical tasks. Despite several contradictory responses, the analysis clearly reveals that the majority of respondents prefer in-house approaches (68.5%), with a strong emphasis on the involvement of IT department personnel and/or dedicated publishing departments (Table 31). However, there is also a notable percentage of organisations that adopt various outsourcing strategies (52%), which may reflect a need for external expertise. The aggregated results also indicate a tendency to combine in-house and outsourced workflows (34.2%). A number of respondents claim that there is no provision of either services (5) or technical infrastructure (1), or both services and technical infrastructure (6), while 30 respondents have no information about provisions.

Provision type	No. of IPSPs	%
In house only	235	36,9 %
In house and outsourced	234	36,8 %
Outsourced only	122	19,2 %
No provision	12	1,9 %
Don't know	30	4,7 %
Other	3	0,5 %
Grand total	636	100.00%

N = 636 of 685; source: DIAMAS survey - Q35 (all).

Table 31 Maintenance and update of services and/or technical infrastructure.

A comparative analysis of IPs and SPs suggest that the latter have stronger in-house resources (74.1% of SP responses and 67.0% of IP responses). Overall, 44.6% of SPs and 53.9% of IPs rely on outsourcing in their operations. The available data do not reveal a causal relationship between the available budget and the provision of services and infrastructure.

Regarding the maintenance of services, 415 (70.0%) of those who responded to this question mentioned full or partial reliance on in-house maintenance schemes, with support provided by their IT personnel (43.3%) and/or a dedicated publishing department (34.2%). A number of IPSPs reported the implementation of workflows distributing effort across departments (18.2%). A total of 247 (41.7%) of IPSPs who responded to this question outsource service maintenance tasks to various degrees: partial outsourcing is the most common scheme (27.3%); 8.8% of IPSPs mainly outsource services, while 6.6% claim being exclusively dependent on other technical service providers, though a closer look at the data suggests that some of them are still relying on in-house resources, which may imply a limited awareness of the IPSP maintenance workflows. The shares of the IPSPs who rely only on fully or partially outsourced services and those combining outsourced and in-house services are approximately equal (21.9% and 19.7%, respectively).

The percentage equivalents of IPs and SPs suggest that the latter have a stronger capacity to support in-house service maintenance (71.2% of SP responses and 57.9% of IP responses), especially workflows requiring the involvement of IT personnel (52.1% of SP responses, as opposed to 41.1% of IP responses). At the same time, 23.7% of SPs and 39.2% of IPs include outsourcing in their service maintenance plan.

The maintenance of the IPSP technical infrastructure is also based on internal procedures, carried out mainly by the IPSP IT departments (54.1%). Compared to service maintenance, other departments within the IPSP are much less involved. The total percentage of IPSPs implementing in-house maintenance is 63.6%, whereas a total 47% of responses confirms outsourcing the related workflows to a varying degree. Partial outsourcing is the most common scheme (22.3%); 14.1% of IPSPs mainly outsource their services, while 12.4% claim that they are exclusively dependent on other technical service providers (though some of them still claim reliance on in-house

infrastructure). The aggregated results reveal that the total share of those relying only on outsourced infrastructure is 29.1%, while 18.5% of the respondents combine in-house and outsourced infrastructure.

It appears that SPs have a comparatively increased capacity to sustain in-house maintenance of their technical infrastructure, as SPs relying on in-house infrastructure account for 58.3% of the total SPs, with the equivalent of IPSPs being 49.5%. On the other hand, 35.3% of SPs outsource (partly or fully) their services, as compared to 38.6% of IPs.

Due to the uneven share of responses across geographic regions it is impossible to draw reliable conclusions about the provision of services. It seems that IPSPs in most regions with a substantial number of responses (except for Eastern Europe) outsource infrastructure more often than services and that it is easier for them to provide in-house services than in-house infrastructure (Table 32).

Geographic region	Responses	In-house Services		In-house technical infrastructure		Outsourced Services		Outsourced technical infrastructure	
Eastern Europe	87	55	63.2%	53	60.9%	41	47.1%	24	27.6%
Northern Europe	114	65	57%	57	50%	43	37.7%	54	47.4%
Southern Europe	322	185	57.5%	156	48.5%	112	34.8%	117	36.3%
Western Europe	153	102	66.7%	78	51%	49	32%	63	41.2%
Grand Total	676	407	61.1%	344	52.6%	245	37.9%	258	38.1%
Source: DIAMAS survey - Q35 (all).									

Table 32 Maintenance and update of services and/or technical infrastructure by region.

Publishing systems

The term 'publishing system' refers to a collection of technologies that enable IPSPs to manage and publish online content and related metadata. For the purposes of the survey, publishing systems include platforms specifically designed to support online editorial workflows as well as Content Management Systems (CMS). Table 33 provides an overview of the publishing systems IPSPs use.

	n	%
Customisation or own development (please specify)	81	12.3
Dataverse	11	1.7
Drupal	24	3.6
DSpace	50	7.6
Editorial manager	11	1.7
Janeway	10	1.5
Lodel	43	6.5
Manifold	4	0.6
Open Journals System (OJS)	406	61.4
Open Monograph Press (OMP)	61	9.2
Pressbooks	2	0.3
PubPub	3	0.5
Scholar One	15	2.3
WordPress	74	11.2
Don't know	55	8.3
Other commercial software (please specify)	53	8.0
Other open source software (please specify)	41	6.2

N = 661 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q36 (all).

Table 33 Publishing system.

Publishing platforms (Open Journal Systems, Open Monograph Press, Scholar One, Editorial Manager, Janeway, Pressbooks, PubPub, Lodel, Manifold, etc.) are used by 75.3% of the IPSP who responded to this question (the corresponding equivalents are 74% for IPs and 80.6% for SPs). Among those, PKP's Open Journal Systems (OJS) is by far the most frequently mentioned, at a percentage as high as 61.4% on average. More than one-third of the respondents (36%) mention OJS as the only solution used. Table 34, which takes into account free-text answers, shows that 65.7% of SPs and 61.9% of IPs use OJS or an OJS-based platform.

IPSP type	Unknown software		Other software		OJS		OJS-based		Total	
IP	69	13.1%	132	25.1%	323	61.3%	3	0.6%	527	100%
SP	11	8.2%	35	26.1%	86	64.2%	2	1.5%	134	100%
Grand Total	80	12.1%	167	25.3%	409	61.9%	5	0.8%	661	100%

N=661 of 685; multiple answer question; DIAMAS survey - Q36 (all).

Table 34 Usage of OJS and OJS-based platforms by type (IP/SP).

Most IPSPs using OJS publish 1-5 journals (39.3% of all respondents and 62.6% of those using OJS). 10 IPSPs using OJS publish 51-100 journals, and eight IPSPs using OJS and OJS-based software publish more than 100 journals (Table 35). While it is not possible to establish whether all of these journals are published using OJS, the survey data show that the 70% of the IPSPs publishing 1-5 journals and using OJS or OJS-based platforms

use OJS as the only solution. Most IPSPs who publish a large number of journals, other than those using OJS, do not specify the software used. Interestingly, two respondents mention WordPress; one IPSP uses Lodel, while three use commercial solutions (ScholarOne, Editorial Manager, ARPHA Publishing Platform).

No. of academic/scholarly journals published in 2022	Unknown software		Other software		OJS		OJS-based		Grand Total	
1	28	4.5 %	48	7.7 %	134	21.5 %	3	0,5 %	213	34.2 %
2-5	23	3.7 %	47	7.5 %	126	20.2 %	1	0.2 %	197	31.6 %
6-10	8	1.3 %	15	2.4 %	40	6.4 %	0	0.0 %	63	10.1 %
11-20	2	0.3 %	20	3.2 %	45	7.2 %	0	0.0 %	67	10.8 %
21-50	2	0.3 %	9	1.4 %	42	6.7 %	0	0.0 %	53	8.5 %
51-100	0	0.0 %	3	0.5 %	10	1.6 %	0	0.0 %	13	2.1 %
More than 100	4	0.6 %	5	0.8 %	7	1.1 %	1	0.2 %	17	2.7 %
Grand Total	67	10.8 %	147	23.6 %	404	64.8 %	5	0.8 %	623	100.0%
N=661 of 685 Source: DIAMAS survey - Q36 (all).										

Table 35 The usage of OJS and OJS-based platforms and the number of journals IPSPs published in 2022.

The relatively small number of responses regarding the annual budget of IPSPs does not allow for reliable conclusions. However, it is interesting that the majority of IPSPs with a budget larger than one million EUR (64.9%) do not use OJS, while in almost all other categories the use of OJS prevails.

The usage of OJS across Europe ranges between 53.69% (Western Europe) and 69.13% (Southern Europe). All OJS-based customised solutions are from Southern Europe.

Use of Open Monograph Press (OMP) was reported by 9.2% of IPSP; yet, OMP appears to be implemented only by a small proportion (61; 15.2%) of those IPSPs who included books within their range of publication outputs (401) in Q9 of the survey. The majority of OMP users are SPs (60.6%). Almost half of the IPSPs using OMP come from Southern Europe. Most OMP users (41%) published 1-10 books in 2022. The use of proprietary platforms such as Scholar One and Editorial Manager is also evident on a smaller scale.

CMS-based applications are also extensively used as publishing venues, with the related responses adding up to 14.07% of the total (with an equivalent of 15.67% of SP responses and 13.66% of IP responses). Among those, WordPress (a site building software based on a plugin architecture and a template system) appears most frequently (11.2%) as one of the solutions used, while 3.74% of the respondents use it as the only software to host their published outputs. Drupal (3.6%) is also used, even if only at a lower percentage.

Repository software, such as DSpace (7.6%) and Dataverse (1.7%) are also used to support publishing operations. Opus, Omeka and DIVA are also used to a lesser extent.

As CMS and repository software systems mainly support document management and record retention processes, it can be safely assumed that IPSPs have separate procedures in place to manage submissions, peer review and editorial curation of contents under publication.

It is not clear whether (and to what extent) the likelihood of distinct editorial workflows and the variety of publication formats presented in Q39 relates to the combined use of software systems (43.12% of the respondents use more than one software) that the response rates designate. In the latter case, for example, multimedia files and datasets may be uploaded to a repository and linked to the publication as supplements. In any case, the integration of publication systems resides in the development of customised solutions, which is a practice reported by 12.3% of IPSPs - with IPs and SPs appearing to be equally engaged in developing this type of software. However, a closer analysis of these responses does not reveal much about these customised systems and in some cases suggests that the respondents either did not understand the question or that they did not have the required information. The share of 'don't know' answers is not insignificant (8.3%).

As expected, open-source platforms or CMS systems are by far the preferred solutions by IPSPs. The IPSPs relying solely on free and open-source solutions account for 73.22% (80.60% of SPs and 71.35% of IPs). Some IPSPs combine open-source and commercial solutions (4.54%). Apparently, the deployment of an installation of this type is part of the IPSP strategy to reduce the amount of effort and resources needed to sustain a service, as open-source platforms are supported by an active community of developers.

Persistent identifiers (PIDs)

Persistent identifiers (PIDs) take the form of character strings used to assign a unique ID to scholarly outputs (textual resources and research data, for example) and/or agents, such as the ORCID for authors. The provision of PIDs requires IPSP registration with a provider such as a national ISSN office or a DOI registration agency - with a cost, more often than not - as well as the commitment of effort to generate sufficient metadata in a structured format.

As PIDs are an essential measure to ensure semantic interoperability and content retrieval, it is not surprising that they have become a standard practice for the vast majority of IPSPs, with more than 80% of respondents assigning them to their publications, which may also imply more than one identifier, as a journal ISSN and DOIs for its published articles. Moreover, most publishing systems support technical workflows for PID registration. As expected, the majority of the IPSPs for whom assigning PIDs and handling metadata is not a challenge belong to those who assign PIDs to all of their publications (80; 61.1%) or all of their journals (30; 22.9%). However, other IPSPs from these two groups are still facing various challenges (Q42) related to PIDs, with the lack of human resources as the most prominent one (180 IPSPs from both groups). It is interesting that 26 (5.3%) IPSPs who assign PIDs to all journals and/or other outputs do not assign DOIs, though the majority of them publish journals.

The survey data reveal some regional differences related to the use of PIDs, which are most consistently used in Western Europe, where 81.2% of IPSPs assign PIDs to all journals and other publications (Table 36). The small number of responses from the areas outside Europe does not allow for making reliable conclusions.

Geographic region	Don't know		No		Yes for all journals		Yes for all publications		Yes for some journals		Grand Total	
Eastern Europe	10	11.8%	14	16.5%	12	14.1%	44	51.8%	5	5.9%	85	100%
Northern Europe	12	11.2%	10	9.4%	21	19.6%	53	49.5%	11	10.3%	107	100%
Southern Europe	34	11.0%	24	7.7%	98	31.6%	140	45.2%	14	4.5%	310	100%
Western Europe	10	6.7%	12	8.1%	23	15.4%	98	65.8%	6	4.0%	149	100%
Grand Total	66	10.2%	60	10.4%	154	20.2%	335	53.7%	36	6.2%	651	100%
N=651 of 685 Source: DIAMAS survey - Q37).												

Table 36 The usage of persistent identifiers across regions.

Separate response options were provided for journals, where the relative proportion of IPSPs assigning PIDs to all journals is significantly higher than their counterparts who do not uniformly apply this measure. Interestingly, IPs appear to be more consistent than SPs in adopting PIDs, both in the case of journals (IPs: 24.1% of all responses; SPs: 22.6%) and all output types (IPs: 51.4% of all responses; SPs: 49.6%).

Respondents were also asked to indicate the type(s) of PIDs applied to their published output (Q37.1), as shown in Table 37. ISSN was mentioned in 71.1% of responses; this is expected, as almost all respondents mentioned publishing journals or providing services to publishers (Q9). As for digital PIDs, DOI is by far the most popular solution, with 94.7% of IPSPs registering DOIs to either Crossref, Datacite, or other registration agencies. Handle (7.9%), URN (5.6%) and ARK (0.2%) are also used by a minority of IPSPs. As digital PID registration is based on the delivery of structured metadata, it is also worth noting that the total number of positive responses is much higher compared to the number of IPSPs claiming to provide metadata and quality control (cf. Q34), which is an essential part of the registration process.

	n	%
ARK	2	0.4
CrossRef-DOI	409	77.0
Datacite-DOI	78	14.7
Handle	42	7.9
ISBN	272	51.2
ISSN	382	71.9
URN	30	5.6
Other (please specify)	22	4.1
Other DOI	47	8.9

N = 531 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q37.1 (all).

Table 37 Persistent identifiers.

Releasing metadata openly with a standard metadata description schema

The release of open metadata plays an important role in achieving semantic interoperability. Practically, it requires a policy framework allowing open licensing and editorial workflows to enrich content-descriptive metadata and technical infrastructure that supports their conversion into a standardised schema. The responses imply that metadata export and sharing is not a standard practice among IPSPs (Table 38). It is worth noting that, compared to the other questions in this section, the proportion of respondents who are not informed about whether the IPSP provides this particular service is significantly higher (29.2% of IPs as compared to 22.6% of SPs). It is also interesting that 24.62% (32 respondents) of those who do not know whether their metadata are released openly and 16.89% (18 respondents) of those who do not release metadata in line with any of the standard schemas do not identify interoperability as a challenge (Q42).

Accordingly, the total number of IPSPs who confirmed using open protocols is lower than the reported use of publication systems that support metadata exports in standard, non-proprietary and interoperable formats; to this, one should add the increased proportion of negative responses (15% of SP and 20.2% of IP). Also, a cross-section with the data relating to the use of OJS shows that 16.7% of total respondents are using OJS without knowing whether they are also releasing metadata in an interoperable format, while additional 9.6% use OJS but do not release metadata in a machine-readable way. In the cases where a positive answer was provided, the preferred licence is CC BY or another CC licence (37.2% on average, with no discrepancies between IP and SP), and Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (10.7% on average, with 17.3% positive responses in the case of SP). The application of other open licences has also been reported at a much lower rate.

	n	%
No	125	19.1
Other (please specify)	35	5.4
Yes, under CC BY or another Creative Commons licence	242	37.0
Yes, under Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC0)	70	10.7
Don't know	182	27.8

N = 654 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q38 (all).

Table 38 Metadata released openly with a standard metadata description schema.

Formats

The inherent properties of output formats define the level of interoperability and processability of published outputs. Some of the formats suggested in the response options (HTML-based formats, for example) support machine-readable content descriptions, are optimal for indexing in search engines and enable integration of interactive components. Notwithstanding the benefits, creating processable files with enriched metadata requires specific skills and consumes effort. According to the survey data, 40.8% of IPSPs make their outputs available in HTML format, while 17.6% of IPSPs release EPub publications (Table 39). However, the data do not provide accurate information about the context (e.g. whether video formats are used for research data or video abstracts) and the extent to which these formats are consistently used across publishing operations (whether a particular format is used in journals or books, or both).

On the other hand, PDFs can be automatically generated by text processing software and published without further curation. Thus, it is not surprising that PDF is the most frequently used publication format (97.3% of the respondents).

XML and JSON, which are formats used primarily for representing and transmitting structured data (such as raw research data or metadata) and not for creating web pages or documents, are also supported, even if disproportionally, with the former mentioned in 20.2% and the latter in 2.4% of responses. 8.8% of IPSPs use other compatible formats for structured data.

Multimedia and sound are also published by 21.2% of IPSPs. It might be expected that IPSPs publishing or providing services in the SSH disciplines would be represented at a higher frequency, as these types of materials are more often produced in the respective scientific fields.

The dispersion of responses suggests that IPSPs publish (or provide services for) multiple formats. A cross-examination of the IP as compared to the SP responses shows that, with the exception of PDF and EPub, SPs support at a higher rate the publication of the various output formats.

	n	%
Data formats, e.g. csv	58	8.8
EPub	116	17.6
HTML	269	40.8
Image or video formats (e.g. mp4, .mov)	87	13.2
JSON	16	2.4
PDF	642	97.3
Sound files (e.g. mp3, .wav)	53	8.0
XML	133	20.2
Don't know	9	1.4
Other (please specify)	25	3.8

N = 660 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q39 (all).

Table 39 Content format(s).

Archiving/backup policy

A backup policy requires specifications, alternative storage locations, and standardised procedures. The main finding in regard to the relative proportion of positive responses to this question is that whilst most publishing systems support technical workflows for regular content backups, only 73.5% of IPSP apply measures to ensure content retrieval in case of unexpected failure (or are aware of such a policy being in place) (Table 40). It is concerning that 15.4% of SPs do not have a backup policy, and 9.2% of SPs do not know whether they have one. As the challenges identified in Q42 suggest, this is the result of a combined lack of resources and skills. The survey data show that those with a larger annual budget have a backup policy more often than those with a smaller budget – 65.2% of those with a budget smaller than 1K EUR, as opposed to 95.1% of those with a budget between 100K and 500K EUR.

A significant share of those who have a backup policy said that they provided hosting (62.2%), and either had their own in-house technical infrastructure (57.6%) or outsourced it (40.9%) (Q34). About 60% of them rely on an IT department when it comes to the maintenance of infrastructure and services (Q35).

	n	%
Yes	479	73.5
No	96	14.7
Don't know	77	11.8

N = 652 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q40 (all).

Table 40 Archiving/backup policy.

Digital preservation

Digital preservation ensures continuous access to digital outputs. It requires a technical infrastructure, skilled personnel and long-term organisational engagement. Preservation is supported either by repositories or federated services. The survey responses suggest a strong tendency to deposit content for preservation in national libraries or infrastructures (commonly supporting repository-based services) – 71.7% of those who responded to this question. Among the federated services, the PKP Preservation Network (PKP PN) is the most frequently used; still, the number of IPSPs (81) receiving the service is lower than the total number of respondents who mentioned OJS and OMP as their publishing systems. Dark archives for academic content (such as CLOCKSS and Portico) and decentralised preservation systems (LOCKSS, which also supports the PKP PN) have also been reported. 24 (16.4%) of 146 IPSPs who included biomedical and life sciences as a covered academic field use PubMed.

Overall, a high percentage of respondents were ignorant of whether the published content was preserved in a particular service – with the exception of national infrastructures and libraries, which appear to be an essential element in those cases where a preservation scheme is in place. Finally, the use of a digital preservation service is more frequent among IPs.

Challenges

The concluding question of the section captures the range and intensity of the challenges IPSPs face in sustaining their services. Respondents were asked to assess whether a number of statements related to technical standards and processes constitute a challenge for their institutions. The aggregated results demonstrate that lack of human resources, technical as well as financial limitations may (interchangeably) result in considerable operational constraints. As the analysis of the questions in this and other sections of the survey highlights, there is a close connection between these complementary aspects, and any discrepancies found in individual responses only underline the complexities of maintaining technical efficiency.

As mentioned above, the lack of human resources (32.7%), the technical limitations of the infrastructure (27.9%) and the limited budget (27.8%) are stressed by IPSPs as the most important challenges related to the preservation of content and services (Table 41). Lack of competencies and skills is also indicated in a significant number of responses (17.5%), while 46 (7.8%) IPSPs report administrative constraints. Other challenges have also been reported to a far lesser degree. IP responses reveal a similar, yet not identical, pattern. Whereas lack of human resources is still the most frequent occurrence (34.1%), financial constraints (28.8%) emerge as an important challenge. Technical limitations (26.9%), lack of expertise (17.5%) and administrative constraints (7.9%) also compromise the capacity of IPs to preserve their output and sustain their services. On the other hand, technical limitations (31.8%) and the lack of human resources (27.3%) seem to be the most important considerations among SPs, with

financial constraints also being mentioned (23.6%). Lack of expertise (17.3%) and administrative constraints (11.8%) also have an impact on the implementation of preservation workflows. Interestingly, (30.4%) of IPSPs, 29.6% of IPs and 33.6% of SP claim not to face any challenge whatsoever. Six IPs and one SP (1.3% of the total number of respondents) face challenges other than the ones described in the question.

	n	%
Administrative constraints	46	8.7
Financial constraints	146	27.8
Lack of expertise	92	17.5
Lack of human resources	172	32.7
Technical limitations of existing infrastructure	147	27.9
This is not a challenge	160	30.4
Other	7	1.3

N = 526 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q42 (all).

Table 41 Challenges - Archiving, backing up or preserving content and software.

Financial capacity is an important factor in determining an institution's ability to provide adequate resources to sustain its infrastructure and services (Table 42). As expected, IPSPs underpin the importance of limited funds (59.8%), which strongly relates to maintaining sufficient staff (55%) and consistently upgrading the technical infrastructure (23.3%). In this case, too, the lack of competencies among the IPSP personnel (18.6%) and the administrative constraints (17.4%) evidently have an impact on the foreseen sustainability schemes. The commitment of financial (61.4%) and human resources (52.4%) remain the two main challenges for IPs, followed by technical limitations (22.8%) and lack of expertise (17.9%). Administrative issues are also mentioned at a corresponding rate of 17.2%. Regarding SPs, the challenges reported in order of occurrence are as follows: inadequate number of personnel (65%), financial constraints (53.7%), technical limitations (25.2%), lack of expertise (21.1%), and administrative constraints (17.9%). A comparatively considerable number (74) 12.6% of 74 IPSPs (12.6%), 59 IPs (12.7%), and 15 SPs (12.2%) do not identify any challenges. Four IPs include other challenges in their provided responses.

	n	%
Administrative constraints	102	17.4
Financial constraints	351	59.8
Lack of expertise	109	18.6
Lack of human resources	323	55.0
Technical limitations of existing infrastructure	137	23.3
This is not a challenge	74	12.6
Other	4	0.7

N = 587 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q42 (all).

Table 42 Challenges - Providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services.

Metadata curation and PID assignment are highly dependent on skilled personnel, as both processes involve information standardisation and control. Consequently, the lack of human resources and/or expertise were stressed as the two most important factors preventing delivery of sufficient metadata by 43.1% and 27.9% of IPSPs, respectively (Table 43). 126 (23.3%) IPSPs included technical limitations and 125 (23.1%) financial constraints in their responses; administrative constraints are also represented at a percentage of 9.8%. The importance of sufficient and skilled personnel in metadata curation is further highlighted in the case of IPs, where lack of human resources and lack of expertise occupy the first and second place in terms of response frequency, at a percentage of 43.3% and 28.9%, respectively. Financial constraints (24%) and technical limitations (23.5%) are equally represented, whereas the percentage of IPs stressing administrative constraints is identical to that of IPSPs (9.9%). In accordance with IPs, a relative majority of responses provided by SPs (43.3%) identifies lack of human resources and/or expertise. A substantial share of SPs report technical limitations (22.4%) as well as financial (19.8%) and administrative constraints (9.5%) among the challenges they are facing in their daily operations. Nevertheless, 131 IPSPs (24.2%), 30 SPs (25.9%) and 101 (23.8%) IPs replied that this part of their operations does not entail any challenges.

	n	%
Administrative constraints	53	9.8
Financial constraints	125	23.1
Lack of expertise	151	27.9
Lack of human resources	233	43.1
Technical limitations of existing infrastructure	126	23.3
This is not a challenge	131	24.2
Other	10	1.8

N = 541 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q42 (all).

Table 43 Challenges - Supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs.

As in most operational aspects already examined, over 212 (40.3%) IPSPs reported the lack of human resources as a primary challenge in achieving and maintaining interoperability (Table 44). The high number of responses stressing technical limitations (27.2%) is quite surprising, as the publishing systems and CMS software IPSPs reported using (Q36) meet basic interoperability standards. The limited availability of expert staff (25.5%) as well as financial (24.1%) and administrative constraints (11.2%) may also pose a problem. The prioritisation of challenges is similar in IP responses, with 39% of respondents reporting lack of human resources. Lack of expertise (26.4%) technical limitations (25.9%), and financial constraints (25.2%) appear in converging percentages, while administrative issues are reported in a lower share (10.7%). Again, SP responses follow a slightly different pattern, with lack of human responses (45.1%) still being the most frequent response, albeit followed by technical limitations (31.9%) and lack of expertise (22.1%). A total number of nine IPSPs report that other factors may also hinder interoperability.

	n	%
Administrative constraints	59	11.2
Financial constraints	127	24.1
Lack of expertise	134	25.5
Lack of human resources	212	40.3
Technical limitations of existing infrastructure	143	27.2
This is not a challenge	113	21.5
Other	9	1.7

N = 526 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q42 (all).

Table 44 Challenges - Trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services.

A separate question with free-text options was added to help respondents describe in more detail other challenges they may be facing. 39 IPSPs included 'Other' in their responses, even if the majority (56.4%) practically selected the 'no challenge' option. Where a response was given, technical limitations and human resources are equally represented (17.9% of total responses). Financial constraints and lack of expertise also share a common number of responses (10.3%). Among the few cases where an explanation was indeed provided in the free text box, only two responses were relevant to actual challenges - the cost of Crossref membership and the under-use of services (due to the community's over reliance on Impact Factor, according to the respondent's justification). A similar trend is noticed in the six SP responses: lack of human resources (3), lack of expertise (3), technical limitations and financial issues (1) were reported by a small minority of respondents. Regarding IPs, the results appear in the following order: Technical limitations (6), lack of human resources (4), financial (3), administrative constraints (2).

7. Visibility (including indexation), communication, marketing, and impact

Visibility and discoverability

Enhancing the visibility and discoverability of publications and their content, including through indexing in bibliographic databases and search engines, stands as an important objective for publishers and service providers operating in the scholarly communication domain. This task poses a significant challenge for participants in institutional publishing. The survey participants displayed a divergence of opinions regarding their satisfaction with the extent to which their published content is incorporated into scholarly search engines and various indexes (Table 45). Approximately 45.4% of respondents indicated that their content is currently well-indexed, while the remaining 54.6% expressed a desire for improved indexing.

	n	%
Our content is already very well indexed	286	45.4%
We would like to see (better) indexing in these search engines (please specify)	344	54.6%
Grand Total	630	100.0%

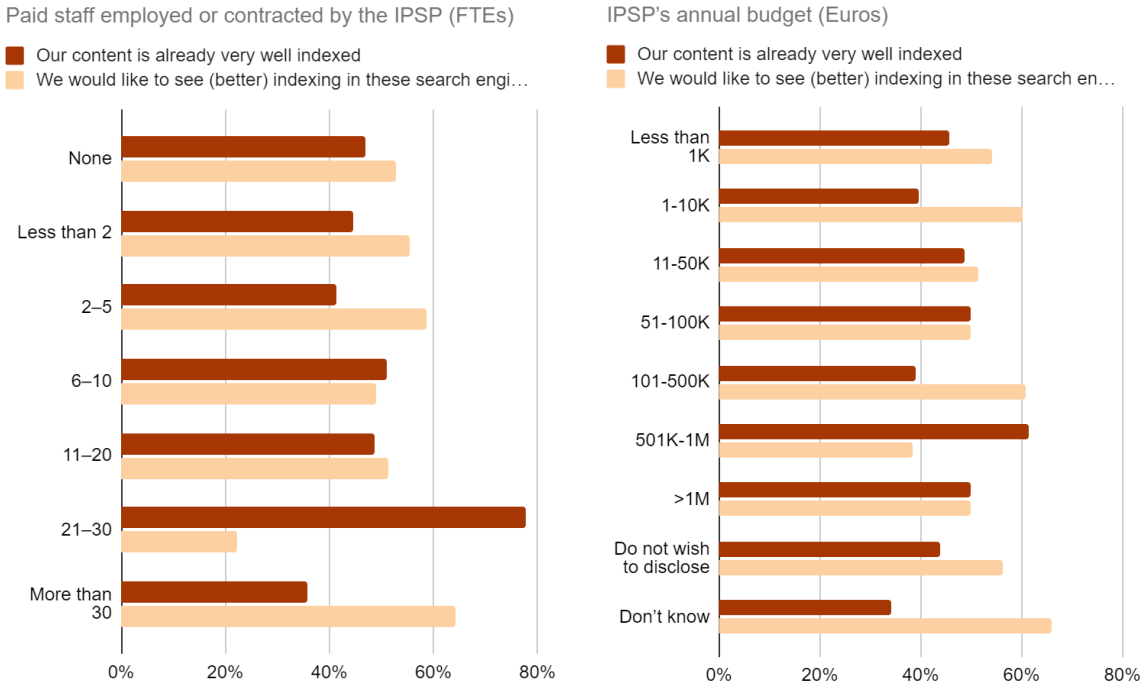
N = 630 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 (all).

Table 45 Satisfaction with indexing of published content.

Examining additional variables uncovers interesting patterns among the respondents. However, generalising these findings proves challenging due to the data's skewed nature and the absence of responses from certain IPSP groups or types. Furthermore, interpreting these patterns presents its own set of difficulties, as we rely solely on the satisfaction levels reported by our respondents, lacking insight into their ambitions for indexation or their actual current coverage in indexes relevant to their work.

The share of IPs satisfied with their coverage appears somewhat lower (44.9%) compared to the SPs group (where 47.5% are satisfied).

When examining the size of IPSPs, whether measured by budget size or the number of employed staff, a discernible pattern emerges (Figure 60). Dissatisfaction appears to be more pronounced among smaller IPSPs. Notably, larger IPSPs, specifically those with 21 to 30 employees or budgets ranging between 500K to 1M EUR, generally exhibit a high level of satisfaction regarding their coverage in indexing databases. However, and intriguingly, this trend does not hold true for the largest IPSPs, those with more than 30 paid staff or budgets exceeding 1M EUR (Figure 60).



N = 630 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 (all), Q7, Q11.1.

Figure 60 Satisfaction with indexing of published content in relation to number of paid staff and annual budget size.

Furthermore, there appears to be a distinct regional disparity in the perceived success of indexation across various European regions (Table 46). When examining regions with substantial representation in our survey responses, it becomes evident that

dissatisfaction is most pronounced among IPSPs from Eastern Europe, where a significant 67.9% of respondents expressed an ambition for improved indexing within relevant indexes and search engines.

	Eastern Europe		Northern Europe		Southern Europe		Western Europe		Grand Total	
Our content is already very well indexed	26	32.1%	46	44.2%	144	48.5%	69	49.3%	285	45.8%
We would like to see (better) indexing in these search engines	55	67.9%	58	55.8%	153	51.5%	71	50.7%	337	54.2%
Grand Total	81	100.0%	104	100.0%	297	100.0%	140	100.0%	622	100.0%

N = 622 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 (all).

Table 46 Satisfaction with indexing of published content by region.

However, it becomes evident that the region itself may not be the most suitable unit for analysing and interpreting this issue. Within the same region, countries can exhibit substantial variations, likely attributed to factors such as the significance placed on inclusion in relevant indexes within national evaluation and funding criteria, as well as already existing indexation levels, which may, in turn, depend on the professionalisation of publishing and the predominant language used. For example, for the top ten countries with the most responses to this question, there are significant differences even within the same regions. To illustrate, in Northern Europe, the United Kingdom has a satisfaction rate of only 22.2% among IPSPs, while Finland has a much higher rate of 60%. In Eastern Europe, Poland reports a 25% satisfaction rate, whereas Romania stands at 47.1%. In Southern Europe, Serbia records a satisfaction rate of 44%, while in Italy a high share of 61.7% of respondents is satisfied.

Those respondents who reported that they would like to see (better) indexing in search engines were asked to specify their preferences by naming specific indexing services. In response, 198 respondents took the opportunity to either comment on the topic or list the indexing services they find relevant to their work (Table 47). In their comments, they shared various common frustrations and aspirations related to indexing. Some noted that indexation is not yet satisfactory for all of their publications, while others expressed concerns about the timeliness or accuracy of indexing, and the lack of dedicated resources and expertise, especially regarding metadata quality, which are essential for improving discoverability. Some respondents also mentioned the challenges posed by non-English content and books. Some of those challenges are specified in more detail in answers to one of the following questions.

Interestingly, two respondents pointed out a specific issue with PKP's Open Monograph Press and its content's visibility in Google Scholar.

Among those who provided names of specific databases, many mentioned multiple databases. The mentions include resources of different types: commercial citation indexes, subject-specific bibliographic databases, general or academic search-engines, open infrastructures (like DOAB or DOAJ) and names of commercial

companies offering a range of services. The most frequently cited were Web of Science (89 mentions), Scopus (83), Google Scholar (34), Directory of Open Access Journals (21), PubMed (14), ERIH Plus (7), Google (7), EBSCO (6), and Directory of Open Access Books (5). Additionally, respondents mentioned 35 other databases.

When it comes to the most commonly mentioned indexing services like WoS, Scopus, Google Scholar, and DOAJ, it's interesting to see how their importance varies by region (Table 47). It is worth noting that indexing in some of these databases is not just about increasing content visibility and usage. Often, researchers make their decision on the publishing venues based on their perceived impact, and they use indexation or metric indicators as proxies for importance of published works. Furthermore, indexation is often used as a measure of a publisher's or editorial board's quality and success, although efforts are being made to improve such inadequate assessment practices. In certain regions or countries, the sustainability of IPSPs relies heavily on being included in specific indexes. This inclusion not only attracts submissions from the wider pool of authors, but also plays a crucial role in IPSPs' ability to secure grants or subsidies.

	WoS		Scopus		Google Scholar		DOAJ		
Geographic region	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	Region Total
Eastern Europe	13	52.0%	12	48.0%	7	28.0%	3	12.0%	25
Northern Europe	13	31.0%	16	38.1%	5	11.9%	8	19.0%	42
Southern Europe	44	56.4%	37	47.4%	10	12.8%	5	6.4%	78
Western Europe	15	31.3%	14	29.2%	12	25.0%	5	10.4%	48
Database Total	89	44.9%	83	41.9%	34	17.2%	21	10.6%	

N = 198 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43.

Table 47 Specific databases IPSPs would like to see (better) indexing in.

Countries in Southern and Eastern Europe place significant importance on being included in databases within Web of Science and Scopus. This is particularly notable in countries like Serbia and Spain, where a substantial proportion, 65.2% and 53.3% respectively, of those who mentioned any database, specifically referred to WoS. Additionally, 47.8% in Serbia and 46.7% in Spain mentioned Scopus as a priority. This is consistent with the currently prevalent journal evaluation systems in these countries, as described in the country reports (Serbia, Spain), where the allocation of national public subsidies heavily depends on WoS or Scopus coverage as indicators of quality, prestige, and international recognition.

Conversely, IPSPs in Western European nations like France and the Northern European United Kingdom mention these international citation indexes with considerably lower frequency. Specifically, 19% in France and 16.7% in the United Kingdom mentioned WoS, while 19% in France and 25% in the United Kingdom brought up Scopus. The infrequent mentions of these databases could potentially be attributed to either a

limited emphasis on them or the already comprehensive coverage of IPSPs' content within them.

On the other hand, countries from Northern Europe put considerable focus on inclusion in DOAJ, while it appears that some Southern European countries either do not consider DOAJ as highly significant or our respondents are already sufficiently indexed in DOAJ. Only a small percentage of IPSPs in Serbia (4.3%) or Croatia (5%) mention DOAJ. A significant portion of Open Access journals from these countries (according to the country reports for Croatia and Serbia) is not indexed by DOAJ. Our respondents could not mention DOAJ either because they are among those that are already indexed, or because they don't find indexation in DOAJ equally important as indexation in WoS or Scopus.

Within the survey participants, those who identified as IPs were also queried about whether their institution independently handles the indexing of their publications in scientific information databases. As shown in Figure 61, it appears that a significant majority do so. Interestingly, there is also a notable portion who responded that they are unsure. This uncertainty in responses may be attributed to the diverse roles held by the survey respondents within their institutions. Not all of them are directly engaged in all facets of publishing. Additionally, it is possible that some do not attach great significance to this particular issue (and therefore have no knowledge about it).

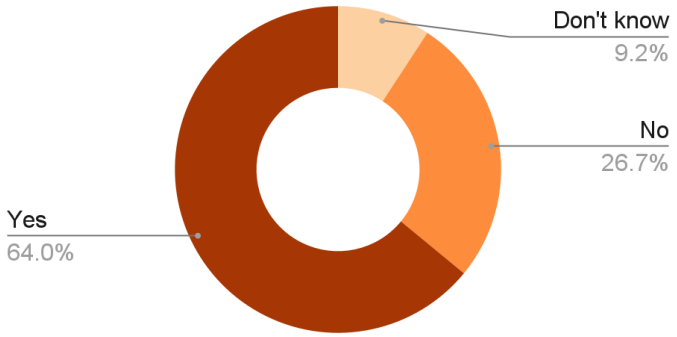


Figure 61 Does the IPSP manage indexation in scientific information databases.
N = 520 of 546; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q44 (IPs).

The level of satisfaction among those who manage indexation themselves and those who do not varies: institutions who don't take care of it on their own are more often unsatisfied and would like to see (better) indexing (Table 48). It would be worth investigating whether someone else is managing their indexing (and they tend to be unsatisfied with the service provided), or there simply isn't anyone taking care of it.

	Manages indexation themselves		
	Yes	No	Don't know
Our content is already very well indexed	49.2%	30.2%	45.8%
We would like to see (better) indexing	50.2%	65.5%	43.8%
No answer	0.6%	4.3%	10.4%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

N = 507 of 546; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 and Q44 (IPs).

Table 48 Satisfaction with indexing among those who are or are not managing their indexing.

When looked at from the other angle, in both groups (those who are satisfied with their current indexation and those who are not) the majority of respondents are taking care of it by themselves, but it is more prevalent in the satisfied group (Table 49).

Manages indexation themselves	Our content is already very well indexed	We would like to see (better) indexing
Yes	71.9%	59.9%
No	18.4%	32.6%
Don't know	9.6%	7.5%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%

N = 507 of 546; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 and Q44 (IPs).

Table 49 Shares of IPs who manage their indexing among those who are or are not satisfied with indexing of their content.

IPs were asked to specify the most important challenges they face when applying for indexation, considering their priorities. While all the options presented were indeed considered important by a certain percentage of IPs (even the lowest-ranked option had at least 20% of respondents considering it very important or important), some challenges stand out as more important Figure 62. Addressing these challenges should be a priority in future capacity-building efforts and support initiatives.

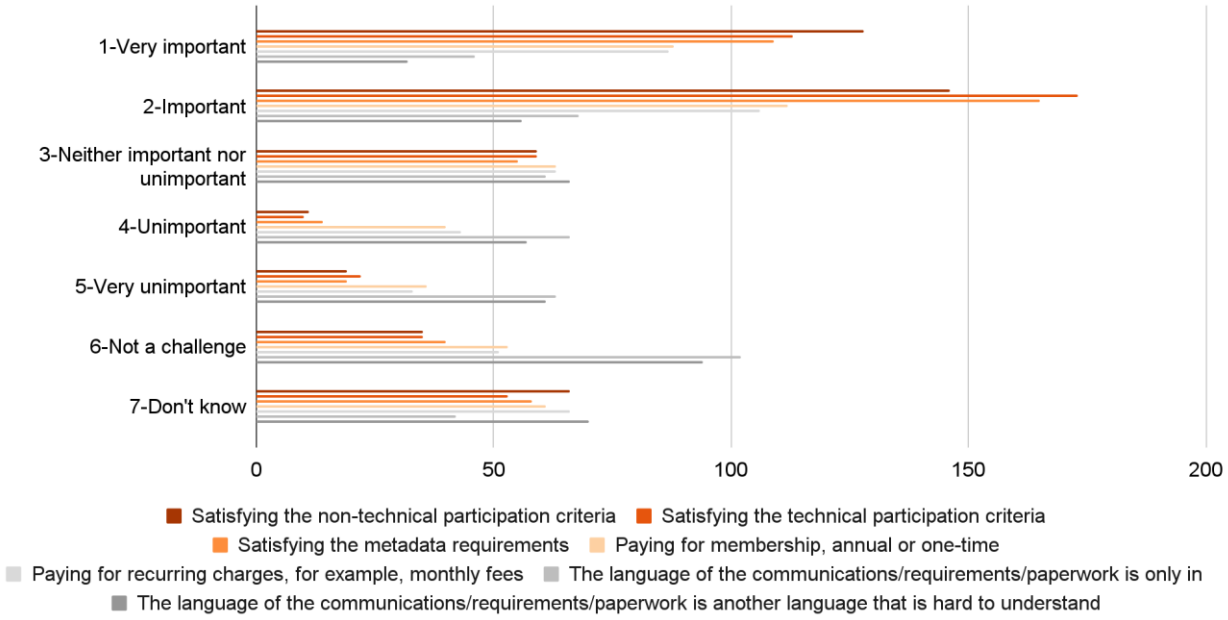


Figure 62 Importance of specific challenges in applying for indexation.
N = 480 of 546; source: DIAMAS survey - Q45 (IPs).

Satisfying both technical and non-technical participation criteria along with meeting metadata requirements proves to be a major challenge for approximately 60% of IPs. Finances-related challenges are also highly ranked: paying for memberships (44.2%) or recurring charges (43%). An additional 35.2% find that the requirements and paperwork are too technical. The least prominent challenges, both related to language, are reported by 25.5% or fewer IPs.

While widespread frustration with technical, non-technical, and metadata requirements is expected and understandable, other challenges warrant closer examination. One hypothesis is that the significance of language-related and finance-related challenges could be explained by regional differences. In some regions, limited funding or the predominant use of less widely spoken languages might present significant barriers to achieving greater visibility through international indexes and databases. To explore this further, a more detailed analysis was carried out of IPs who are dissatisfied with their indexing. Proportions of those who consider these challenges (very) important were compared to those who do not find them important (or not challenging at all). Interestingly, the highest ratio of those challenged by finances is found in Southern and Western Europe. By contrast, with regards to language, Western and Northern Europe show the highest ratio of those not challenged by linguistic barriers, while this barrier is most pronounced amongst Eastern European IPs (Table 50).

	Financial challenges		Language challenges	
Geographic region	IS a challenge	IS NOT a challenge	IS a challenge	IS NOT a challenge
Eastern Europe	15	11	4	14
Northern Europe	13	13	3	22
Southern Europe	62	31	24	46
Western Europe	15	9		19
Grand Total	106	64	31	102

N = 264 of 343; source: DIAMAS survey - Q43 and Q45 (IPs), Q2.

Table 50 IPs dissatisfied with their indexing who find financial and language issues challenging or not by region.

Unfortunately, analysing the responses doesn't shed much light on why financial barriers are considered so significant. When reviewing the free-text answers, all comments – except for one respondent who complained about not having access to a specific database for verification of indexing – lack elaboration on this matter. Furthermore, in the previous question, respondents listed databases that they considered important, and these listings included only databases or indexes that do not impose any admission or membership fees. One respondent mentions that in most cases, this requires acquisition of PIDs for articles, namely DOIs, which, in the case of those provided by Crossref, imposes a financial burden on journals or the platforms that host them. Consequently, it remains unclear what specific fees or charges the respondents are referring to in their answers.

Communication

Newsletter/social media/networking profiles to inform the community about updates

Two-thirds (66%) of the respondents indicate that their institutions have a newsletter, one or more social media accounts, and a networking profile (Figure 63). This shows that digital communication tools are relatively well integrated within IPSP strategies as a communication, advocacy, and engagement medium.

There is, however, a higher percentage of engaged IPs (68.5%) than engaged SPs (55.8%). A significant number of the surveyed SPs (52, 40.4%) do not have any of these tools to communicate and engage with their communities through other channels, should they engage. 12 IPs and five SPs do not know how their institutions inform their communities.

The fact that most IPSPs use digital communication does not help to understand how these different digital communication tools are used. Setting up a networking profile is different from leveraging it. Therefore, follow-up questions could help establish how central communication is within the different IPSP strategies and for what purpose. This is critical to fulfil some of the DIAMAS objectives: to standardise and enhance

current institutional publishing practices and support policies and strategies in OA publishing.

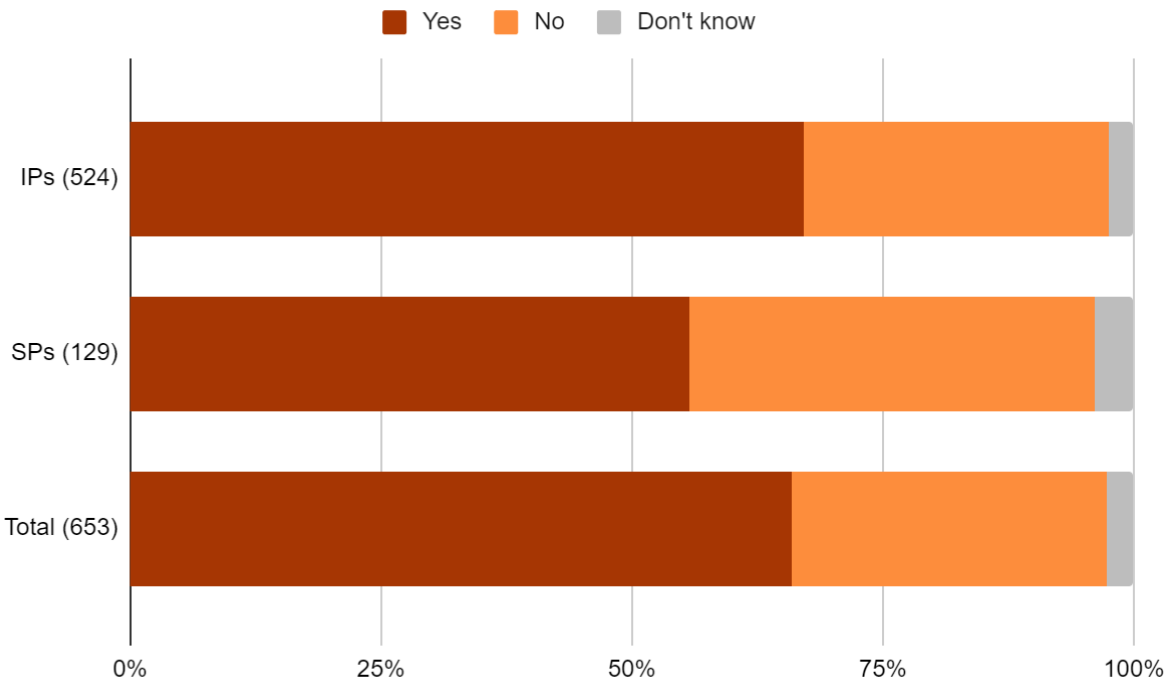


Figure 63 PSP has a newsletter/social media/networking profiles.
N = 653 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q46 (all).

Data protection and privacy

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

A majority of the survey respondents have a data protection policy, with an overall total of 65% of yes - 68.5% of the IPs and 66.9% of SPs (Figure 64).

Ninety-two IP representatives do not know about data protection policy (17.6%), only 14 for SPs (10.8%).

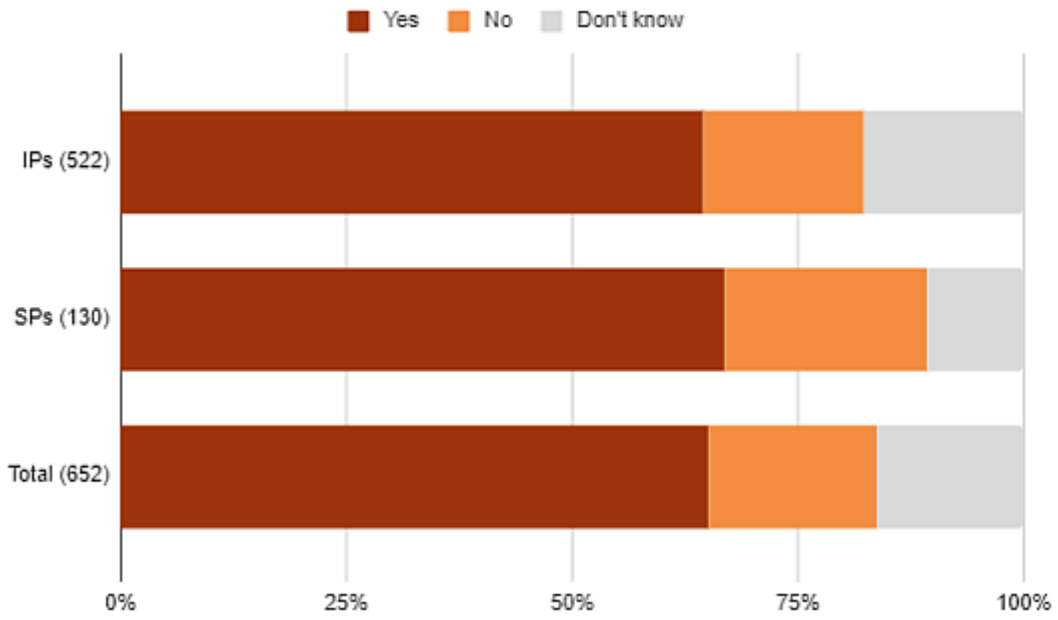


Figure 64 IPSP has a data protection policy or not.
N = 652 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q47 (all).

PRIVACY POLICY (GDPR OR NON-EU EQUIVALENT)

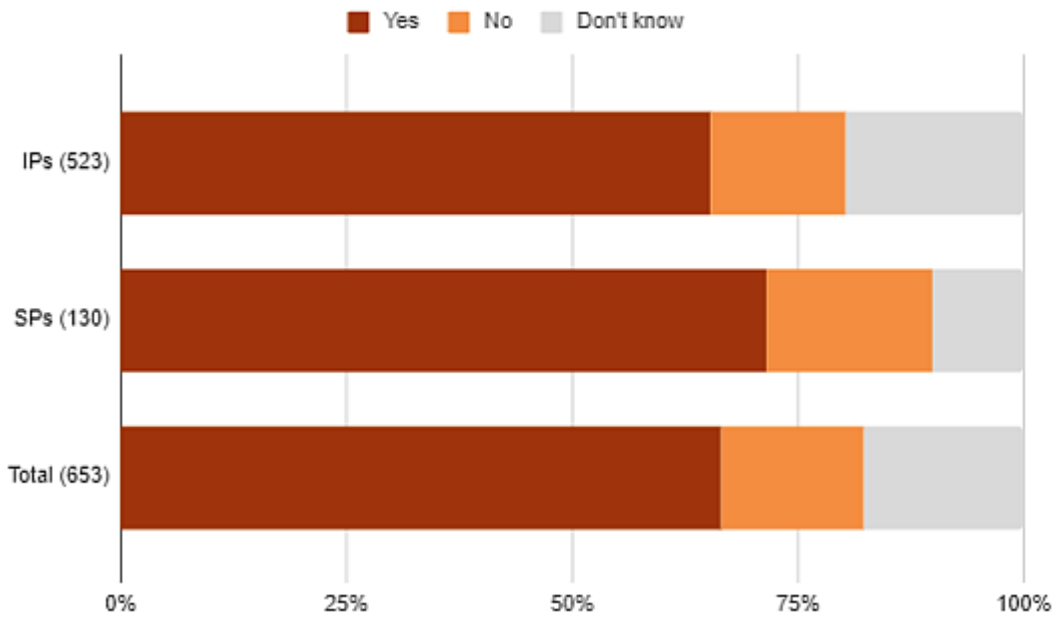


Figure 65 IPSP has a privacy policy or not.
N = 653 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q48 (all).

Again, most survey respondents have a privacy policy, with 66.6% yes - 65.4% IPs and 71.5% SPs (Figure 65).

103 IP representatives reported not knowing about privacy policy (19.7%), compared to 13 SPs (10%).

The answers to questions 47 and 48 look alike, because privacy and data protection policies can cover similar areas.

More than ten years after the first proposal for the GDPR, both privacy and data policies are integrated into the practices. An expertise and ongoing practices, contrary to other policies (cf. Q52), from which the minority of IPSPs without existing policies (18.7 and 15.6%) could benefit.

Reach and Impact

One of the issues highly contested from multiple viewpoints relates to the display of various usage and impact metrics. Despite numerous instances of misuse and misinterpretation of these metric indicators, as well as a lack of transparency in some tools used for calculation and display, they continue to hold significant importance for authors, editors, publishers, funders and evaluators.

Given this context, it was important for this survey to determine how frequently IPSPs display various metric indicators and which ones they tend to use most often.

The percentages of those who display metrics (42.5%) and those who do not (45.5%) appear to be quite similar, with an additional 12% stating that they don't know (Table 51). These percentages are also similar between the groups of IPs and SPs.

Among the options offered, we can see different types of metrics. These metrics can indicate impact (which can be based on citations or alternative metrics), usage, or efficiency of editorial workflow and decisions (like submission, acceptance and publication dates or rejection rates). The granularity of these metrics can also vary, as they may relate to specific content items like articles or the entire publication. Additionally, these metrics may require different levels of effort, technical expertise, and support, or they may involve financial resources. Some metrics are relatively low-demanding from a technical perspective, such as recording submission, acceptance, and publication dates, while others may necessitate special software or plugins, like widgets displaying the geographical distribution of visitors. Finally, some metrics represent proprietary solutions that could require substantial funding, such as Altmetric, PlumX Metrics, or Dimensions citation badges.

	n	%
Article-level usage metrics, such as visits, views, downloads	184	66.9
Submission, acceptance, publication dates	176	64.0
Publication-level usage metrics, such as visits, views, downloads	119	43.3
Publication-level impact metrics, such as Impact Factors	104	37.9
Article-level impact metrics, such as citation counts	100	36.4
Altmetrics, such as Altmetric, Plum X Metrics	64	23.3
Rejection rates	42	15.3
Widget showing geographical spread of visitors	33	12.0
Dimensions citation badges	29	10.5
Other (please specify)	16	5.8

N = 275 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q49.1(all).

Table 51 Alternative: metrics displayed by IPSPs.

It is evident that the most frequently used metrics are those that are widely recognized, easily understandable, require minimal technical support, and do not involve fees. These include article-level usage metrics (66.9%), submission, acceptance, and publication dates (64%), and publication-level usage metrics (43.3%).

For a significant share of respondents, though not a majority, impact metrics hold importance, with 37.9% displaying publication-level impact indicators and 36.4% showing some form of article-level impact indicators. Metrics that are relatively new and rely on commercial service providers (such as Altmetric, PlumX Metrics, or Dimensions) are used by only a minority of IPSPs.

Interestingly, rejection rates, even though they represent an indicator controlled by an IPSP and require no fees or technical expertise, are displayed by only a minority. This could be attributed to a reluctance to publicise such information, and further investigation is needed to understand the reasons behind this reluctance.

The prevalence of certain indicators' use and display generally shows no discernible patterns across different groups and types of IPSPs, except for cases consistent with the findings and expectations above (see the section Visibility and discoverability and the description of the significance placed on the inclusion into citation indexes).

As already shown in this report, there is a strong focus on inclusion in citation indexes within Southern European countries, it is not surprising that there is a noticeable peak of IPSPs from that region displaying publication-level impact metrics, such as Impact Factors (Table 52).

Geographic region	Non-answer	No	Yes
Eastern Europe		75.6%	24.4%
Northern Europe		76.2%	23.8%
Southern Europe		52.0%	48.0%
Western Europe	2.4%	71.4%	26.2%
Grand Total	0.4%	62.3%	37.3%

N = 276 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q49.1(all).

Table 52 Display of publication-level impact metrics, such as Impact Factors by region.

Another expected outcome is the widespread use of indicators provided by commercial service providers among IPSPs with larger budgets (Table 53).

The service's annual budget (EUR)	Non-answer	No	Yes
Less than 1K		88.9%	11.1%
1-10K		78.8%	21.2%
11-50K		83.3%	16.7%
51-100K		80.0%	20.0%
101-500K		52.6%	47.4%
501K-1M		44.4%	55.6%
>1M		75.0%	25.0%
Do not wish to disclose	4.8%	85.7%	9.5%
Don't know		75.0%	25.0%
Grand total	0.6%	75.6%	23.8%

N = 164 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey - Q49.1(all), Q11.1.

Table 53 Display of Altmetrics, such as Altmetric, Plum X Metrics by annual budget size.

8. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB)

Dimensions of EDIB addressed by IPSPs

Overall, addressing Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) dimensions is far from a standard practice among IPSPs (Figure 66). First of all, it can be observed that the share of IPSPs answering 'not applicable' or 'don't know' is relatively large, which may indicate confusion or lack of awareness among the IPSP with regard to this topic.

The most commonly implemented EDIB dimensions are language (30%), gender (29%), age (26%), and educational and professional background (25%), followed by ethnicity (22%), socio-economic background (21%) and sexual identity (20%). The least often implemented dimensions are religious background (19%), disability (17%), and caring responsibilities (16%).

A relatively small share of IPSPs are actively developing EDIB measures. Dimensions most frequently indicated as being in progress and/or considered are language (14%)

and disability (13%), while only few were developing measures to address religious background (7%) or caring responsibilities (7%). IPSPs also frequently indicated that they have no plans to address these latter two dimensions (17% and 16% respectively), whereas only a small share have no plans to implement language (12%) or gender (11%) related measures.

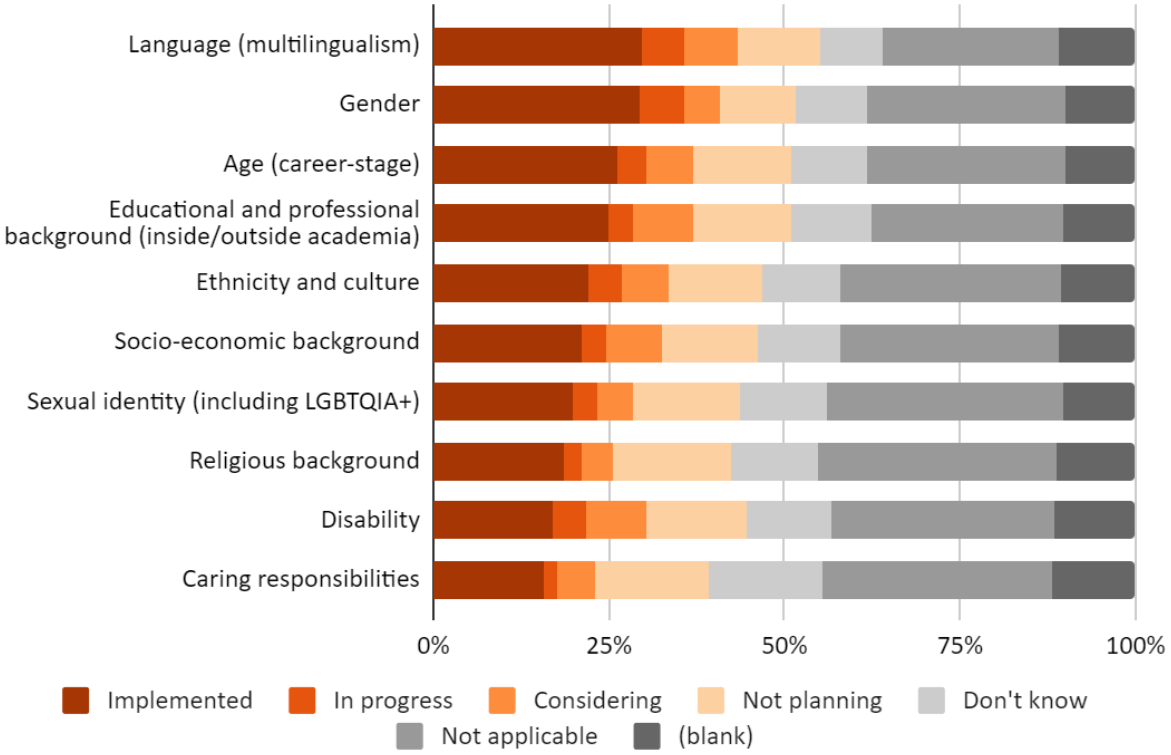


Figure 66 Dimensions of equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging addressed. N = 627 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q50 (all).

The survey shows a great diversity between IPSPs in addressing EDIB dimensions. More than half of the IPSPs (54%) are not able to indicate a single EDIB dimension being implemented, and another 10% and 9% of the IPSPs implemented just one or two of the dimensions (Figure 67). Nevertheless, 27% of the IPSPs address three or more dimensions and a group of 59 (9%) IPSPs indicated that they are implementing all 10 EDIB dimensions.

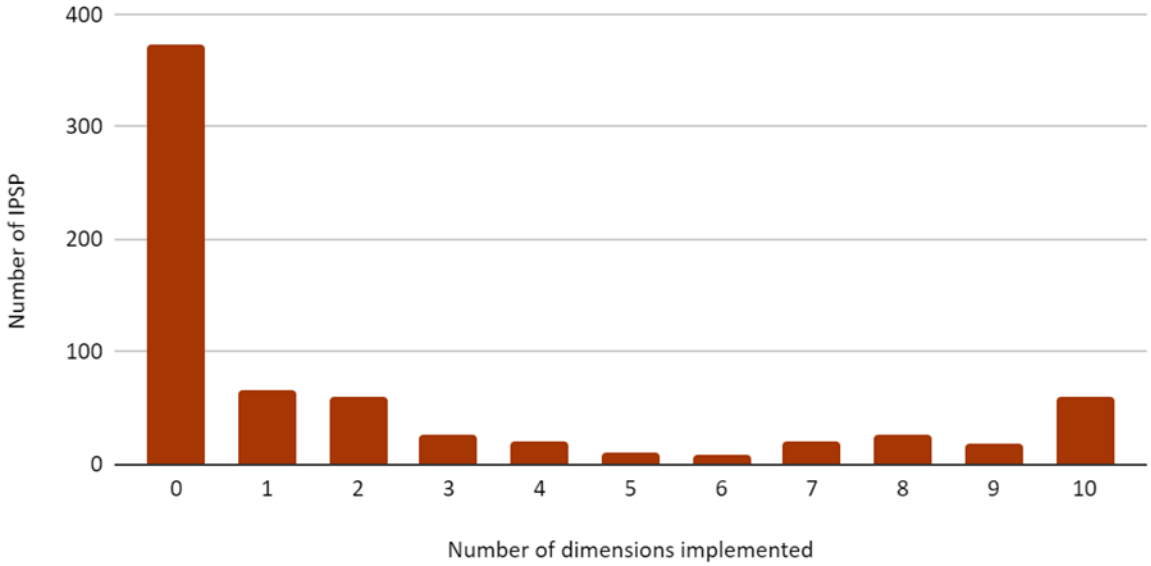


Figure 67 Dimensions of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging implemented.

Measures to ensure and promote the selected dimensions of equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging

The most commonly implemented measures for ensuring and promoting EDIB dimensions are code of conduct and non-discrimination/positive discrimination policy (28%)(Figure 68). Other measures are less frequently implemented: recommendation for the use of inclusive language (19%), followed by data collection, monitoring and annual reporting (15%). The least frequently implemented measures are training, awareness-raising, anti-bias tools (13%) and tailored support, personal coaching (11%). From 14% (tailored support, personal coaching) to 18% (recommendation for the use of inclusive language) of the IPSPs indicated measures that are in progress and/or considered. Tailored support, personal coaching and training, awareness-raising, anti-bias tools are the two measures for the implementation of which IPSPs indicated most frequently no plans (21% and 20% respectively).

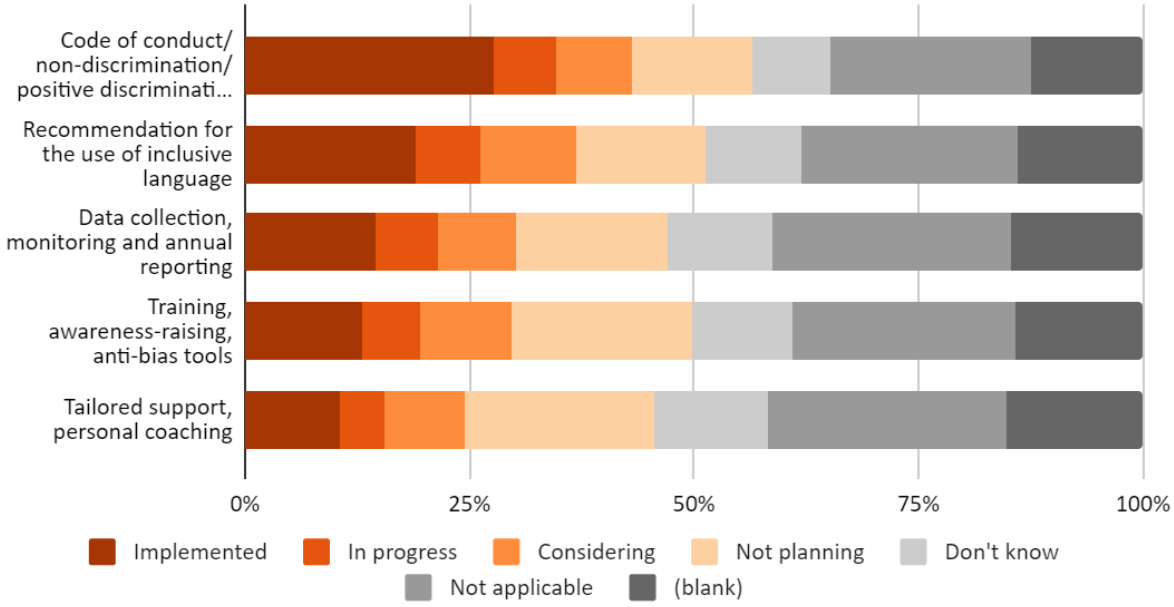


Figure 68 Measures to promote Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging.
N = 610 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q51(all).

Almost two-thirds (63%) of the IPSPs do not implement any of the five EDIB measures proposed in the survey questionnaire, and around one-third (37%) implemented between one and five measures (Figure 69). A group of 27 (4%) IPSPs indicated implementing all five EDIB measures.

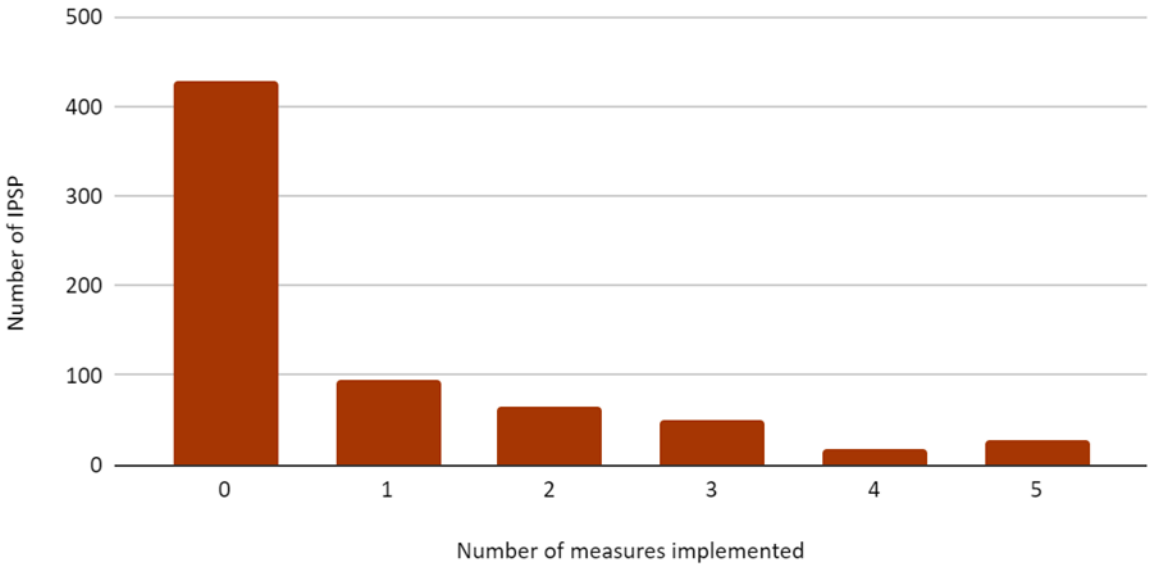


Figure 69 Measures to promote Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging by IPS .
N = 610 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q51(all).

Platforms and published accessibility policy

The vast majority of responding IPSPs have not addressed accessibility issues: only 21% have a published accessibility policy, while 13% have an unpublished policy (Figure 70).

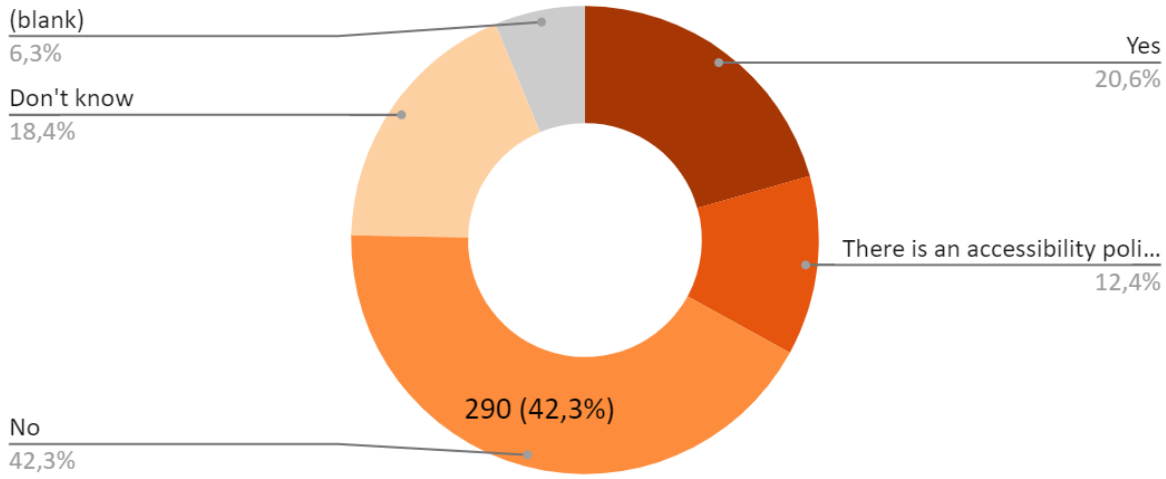


Figure 70 IPSP platforms with a published accessibility policy.
N = 643 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q52 (all).

Only very few IPSPs indicated meeting specific accessibility standards (Figure 71Figure 71 Accessibility requirements met by IPSP's platform.): OpenAIRE guidelines (9%), WCAG (5%), DINI certificate (1%), UAAG (1%), and ATAG (0%). However 13% were in progress and/or considering implementation of the OpenAIRE guidelines and 11% the WCAG standard, while 6%-9% indicated no plans of meeting the standards. The share of respondents not knowing whether their IPSP platform met the standards was relatively large (44%-49%).

The vast majority (87%) of the IPSPs did not indicate meeting any of the five accessibility standards proposed in the questionnaire. However, 11% indicated meeting at least one of the requirements (Figure 72). A small group of 11 IPSPs indicated meeting two, and two indicated meeting four of the five requirements.

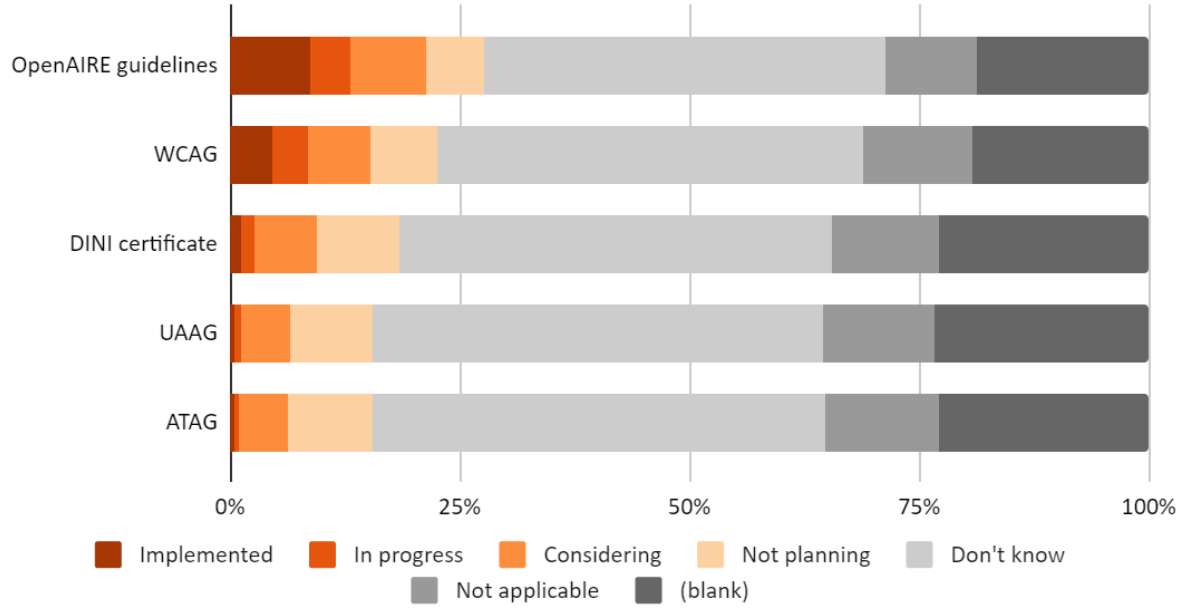


Figure 71 Accessibility requirements met by IPSP's platform.
N = 592 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q53 (all).

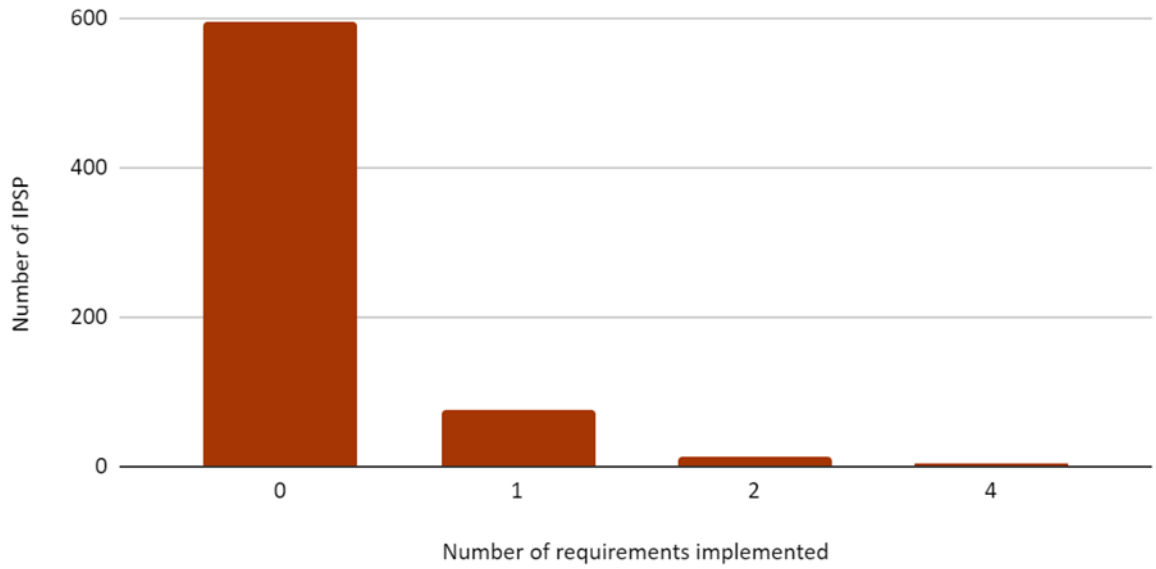


Figure 72 Implementation of accessibility requirements by IPSP's platform.
N = 592 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q53 (all).

Challenges in meeting accessibility standards, and their importance

The majority of IPSPs indicate lack of resources as a very important or important challenge in meeting accessibility requirements (60%), followed by technical limitations of existing infrastructure and lack of expertise (50% and 51% respectively) (Figure 73).

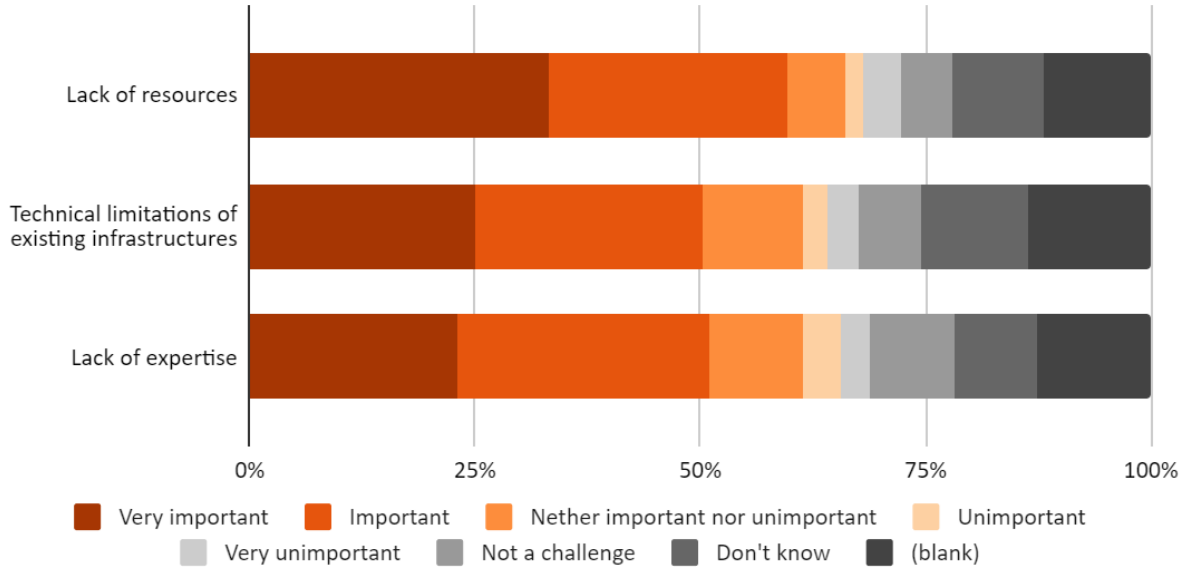


Figure 73 Importance of challenges in meeting accessibility standards.
N = 615 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q54 (all).

Measures taken to ensure and improve gender equality in services provided by IPSPs

The most frequently implemented measure for ensuring gender equality is the use of gender impartial language in all communications by the IPSP (23%), followed by a gender equality plan (18%) (Figure 74). Policy requiring authors to inform whether the research data are gender-sensitive is rarely implemented (8%). Between 15% and 18% of IPSPs are in progress and/or considering implementation of gender equality measures. However a considerable share of IPSPs also have no such plans (15%-21%).

Around two-thirds (69%) of IPSPs did not indicate implementing any of the three proposed measures for ensuring and promoting gender equality, while 19% implemented at least one and 8% implemented two of the measures (Figure 75). A small group of 29 (4%) implemented all three measures.

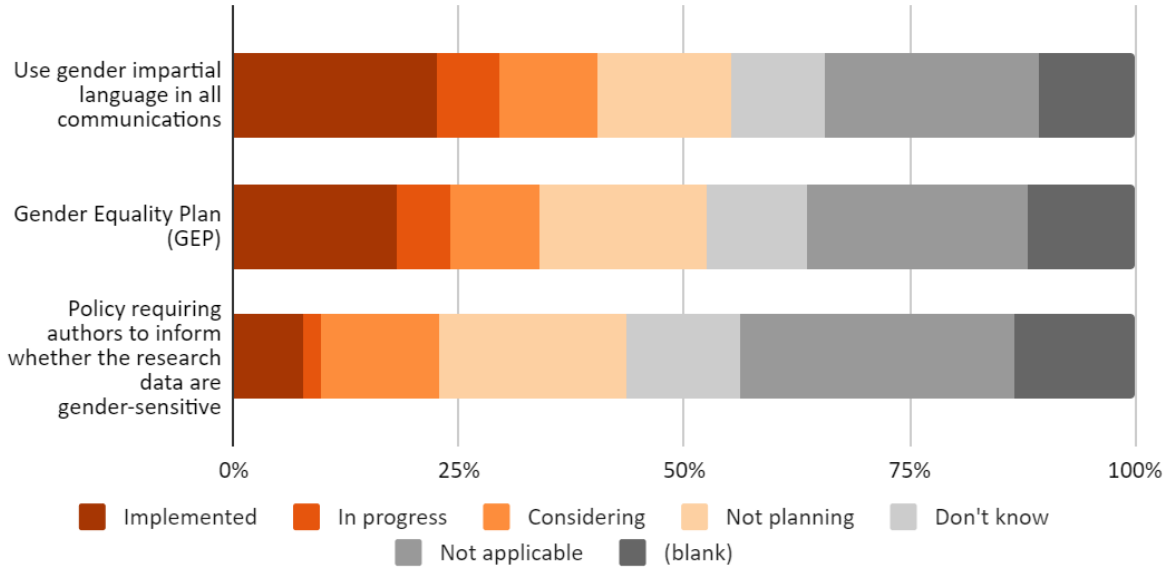


Figure 74 Measures taken to ensure and improve gender equality.
N = 619 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q55 (all).

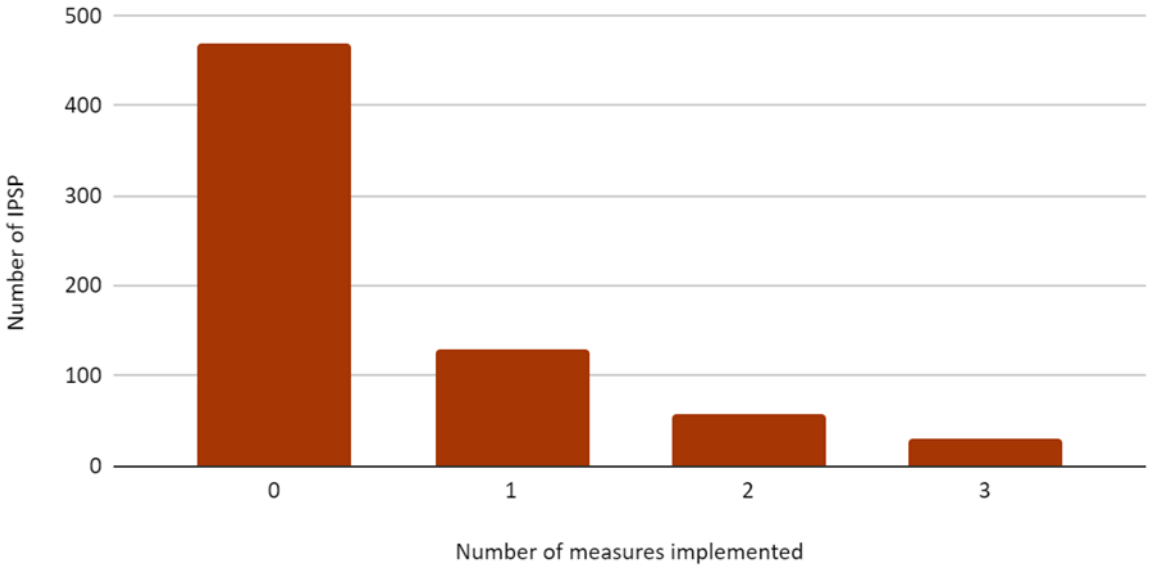


Figure 75 Implementation of measures to ensure and promote gender equality.
N = 619 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q55 (all).

Languages that IPSPs are able to provide and/or support services in

IPSPs indicated a total of 54 different languages in which they are able to provide services (Table 54). The most frequently provided languages are English (83%), French (21%), Spanish (18%), German (17%) and Croatian (15%). The rarest service languages, each provided by only one respondent, include Asturian, Georgian, Montenegrin, Romani, Rusyn/Ruthenian, Scots and Swahili.

Language	Number of IPSPs		Language	Number of IPSPs
English	570		Lithuanian	9
French	144		Belarusian	8
Spanish	125		Latvian	8
German	114		Basque	7
Croatian	102		Galician	7
Italian	93		Icelandic	7
Serbian	92		Welsh	7
Polish	41		Irish	6
Portuguese	41		Albanian	5
Swedish	40		Estonian	5
Bosnian	38		Luxembourgish	4
Catalan	34		Moldovan	4
Russian	32		Romansch	4
Finnish	27		Arabic	3
Ukrainian	27		Faroese	3
Dutch	24		Frisian	3
Romanian	24		Greenlandic Inuktitut	3
Danish	21		Maltese	3
Norwegian	21		Chinese	2
Slovene/Slovenian	21		Asturian	1
Greek	19		Georgian	1
Bulgarian	18		Montenegrin	1
Czech	14		Romani	1
Hungarian	13		Rusyn/Ruthenian	1
Macedonian	13		Scots	1
Slovak	12		Swahili	1
Turkish	10			
N = 644 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q56 (all).				

Table 54 Languages in which IPSPs provide and/or support services.

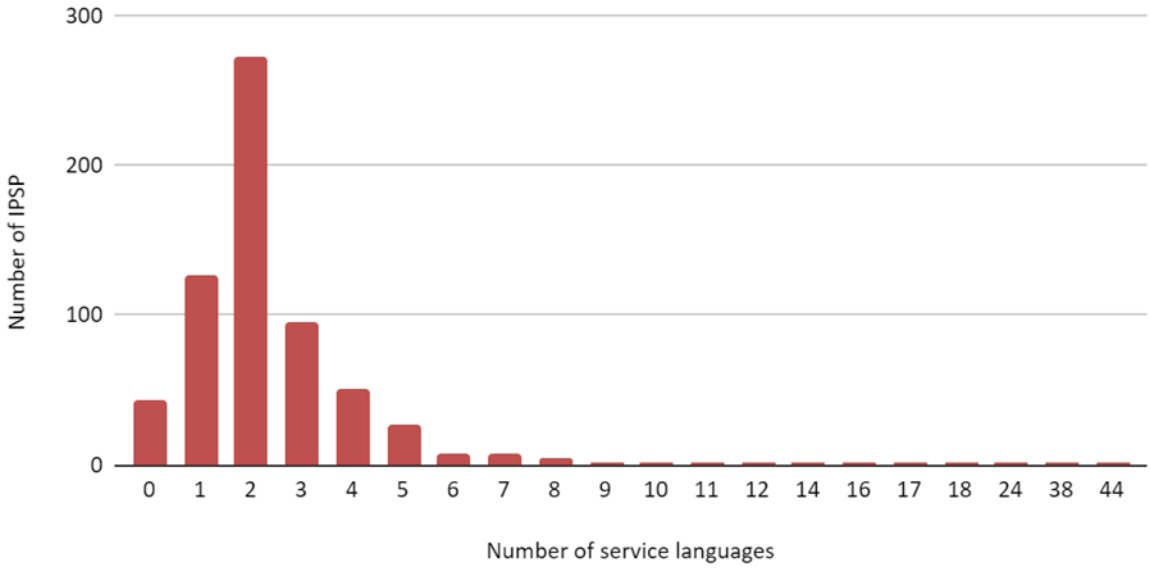


Figure 76 Languages in which IPSP provide and/or support services.
N = 644 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q56 (all).

At least three-quarters (74%) of the IPSPs provide services in two or more languages, whereas 19% provide services only in one language and 7% participated in the survey without indicating languages (Figure 76). The clear majority of multilingual IPSPs provide services in two languages (42%), followed by three languages (15%), four languages (8%) and five languages (4%). At the other end of the spectrum, two IPSPs provide service and support in 44 different languages.

Support for multilingual publishing of full text output

A considerable share of IPSPs support publishing of full texts in multiple languages (Figure 77). The most frequently implemented form is bilingual publishing of different language versions in the same document (33%), followed by simultaneous publishing of different language versions as separate documents (26%). The rarest option is sequential publishing of different language versions in different journals (13%). 5-10% of IPSPs are in progress and/or consider implementing multilingual publishing of full texts, while a considerable share (30%-37%) indicate no such plans.

Support for multilingual publishing of abstracts

A large majority (71%) of IPSPs already implement multilingual publishing of abstracts (Figure 78).

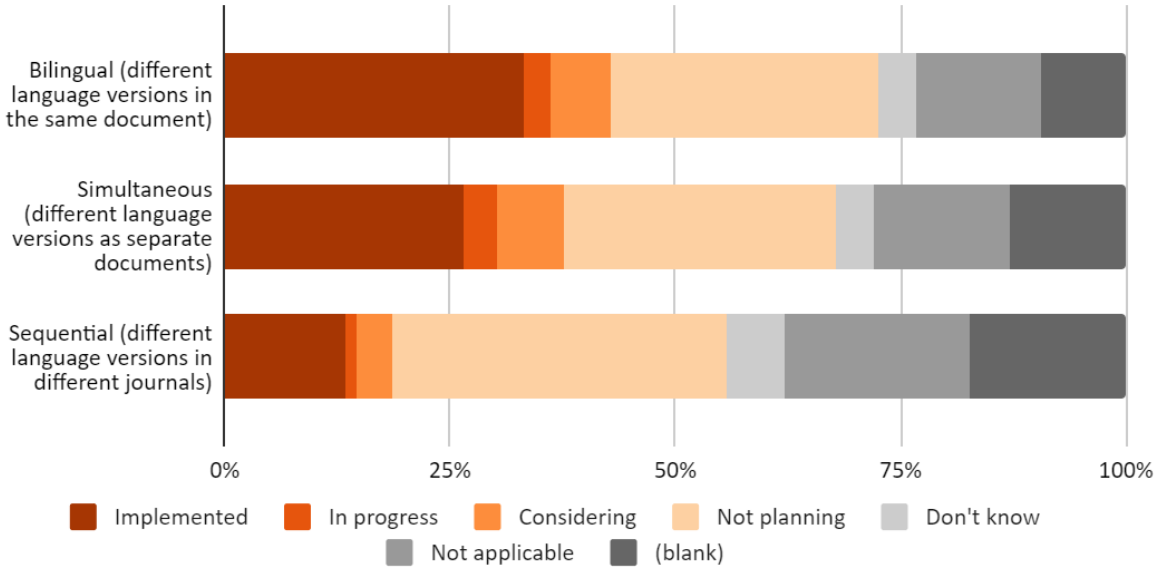


Figure 77 Support for multilingual publishing of full text output.
N = 642 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q57 (all).

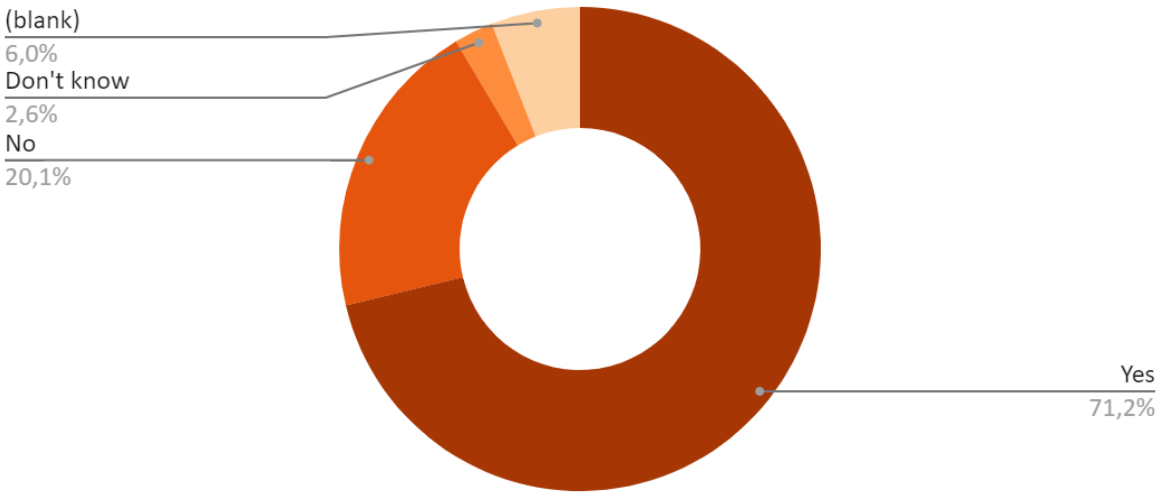


Figure 78 Support for multilingual publishing of abstracts.
N = 644 of 685; single answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q58 (all).

Almost half (45%) of IPSPs support publishing full text outputs in multiple languages in at least one of the proposed forms. Of these, one-quarter (25%) support multilingual publishing in only one, and 12% in two of the three forms proposed in the questionnaire. A group of 55 IPSPs (8%) supported publishing in all three forms. If abstracts are included as a fourth form, then almost three-quarters (74%) of IPSPs support multilingual publishing of abstracts and/or full texts (Figure 79).

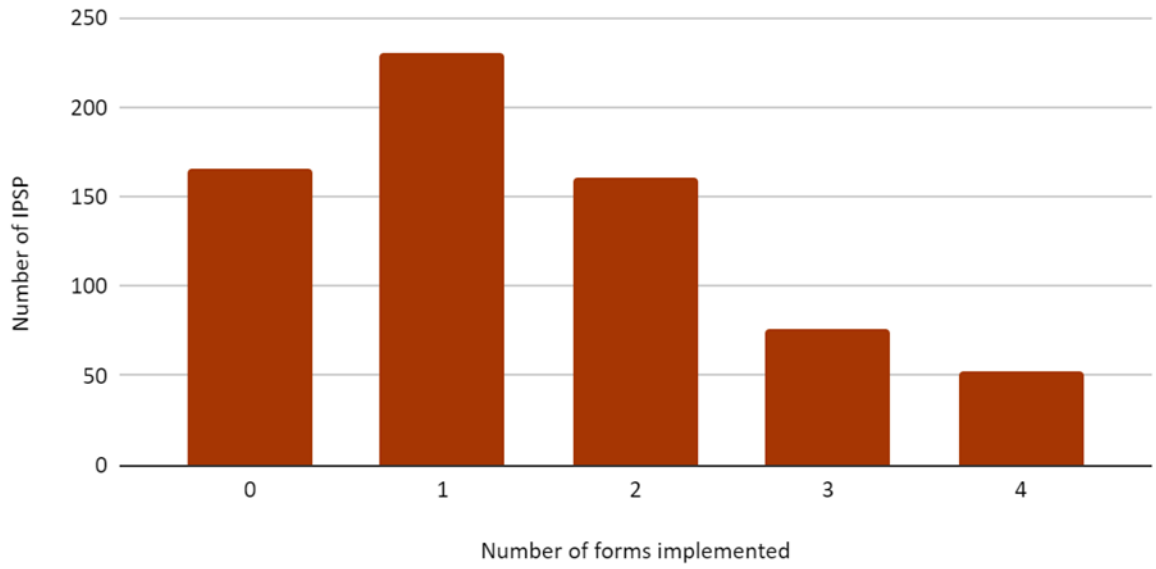


Figure 79 Implementation of forms of multilingual publishing of full texts and abstracts. N = 649 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q57, Q58 (all).

Other measures taken to promote language diversity and reduce language bias

The most commonly implemented measure for promoting language diversity and reducing language bias is providing abstracts in English, where the original language is other than English (51%) (Figure 80). Also translating metadata into English where the original language is other than English (31%) and providing translation and/or language-check services to authors (28%) are relatively frequent measures. Using toolkits or training to address language bias in peer-review (7%) and improving machine translation literacy (e.g. writing machine-translation friendly abstracts) (7%) is not yet common.

Implementation is in progress and/or considered most frequently for improving machine translation literacy (14%). However an even larger share of IPSPs have no plans to implement machine translation (33%) or using toolkits or training to address language bias (34%). 11% of IPSPs are not planning to provide abstracts in English even where the original language is other than English.

More than half (58%) of IPSPs have implemented at least one of the five proposed measures for promoting language diversity and reducing language bias: 19% implemented at least one, 21% two, and 14% three measures (Figure 81). 18 IPSPs (3%) have implemented four measures and 14 (2%) have implemented all five (in brackets the share of 685 IPSP implementing the measures).

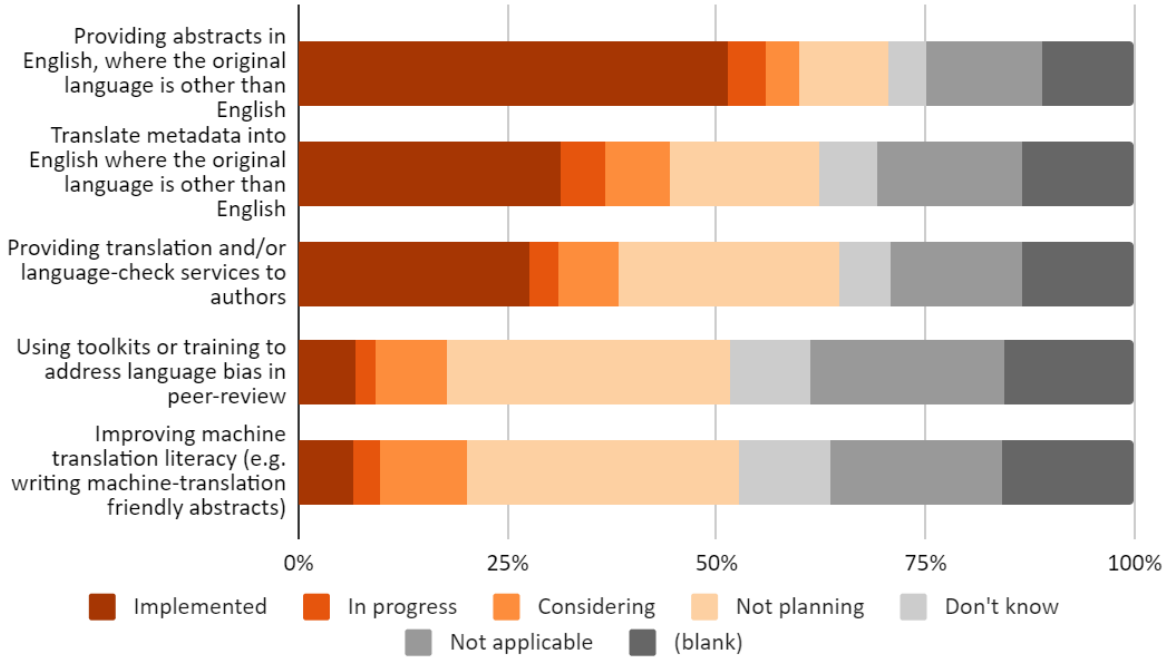


Figure 80 Other measures taken to promote language diversity and reduce language bias. N = 621 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q59 (all).

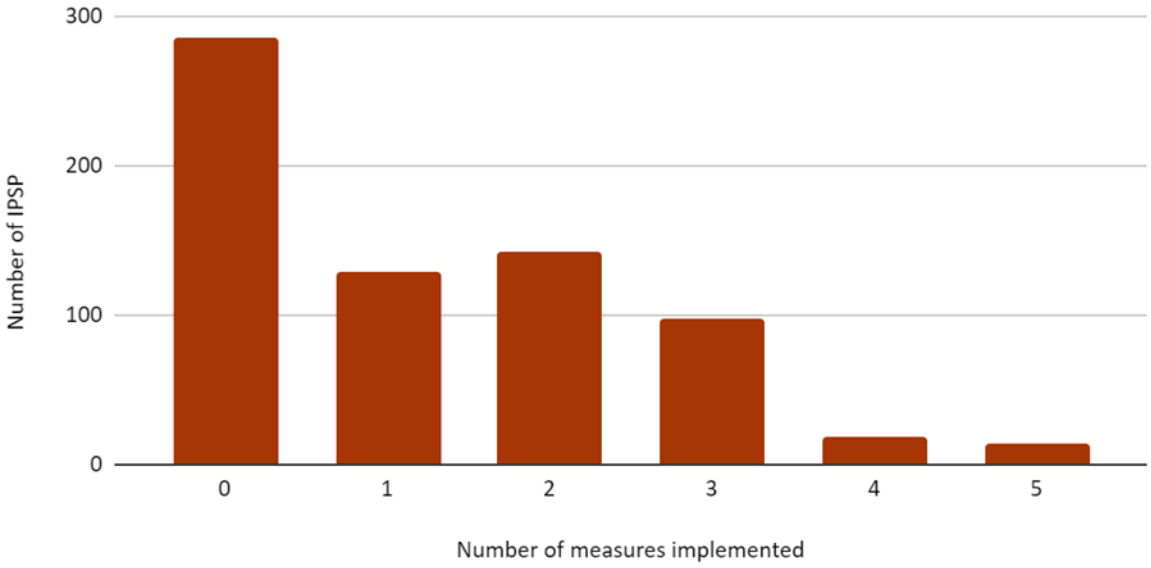


Figure 81 Implementation of other measures to promote language diversity and reduce language biases. N = 621 of 685; multiple answer question; source: DIAMAS survey – Q59 (all).

Overall, the vast majority of IPSPs implemented at least some of the 18 different kinds of EDIB measures included in the survey questionnaire (Table 55), while only 11% implemented none of these measures (Figure 82).

EDIB Measures	Number of measures available
Q51 EDIB measures	5
Q52 Accessibility policy (public or private)	1
Q55 Gender equality measures	3
Q57 Multilingual publishing of full text forms	3
Q58 Multilingual publishing abstract forms	1
Q59 Language diversity and bias measures	5
Total	18

Table 55 Number of different EDIB measures included in the survey questionnaire.

The majority of IPSPs (58%) implemented from one to five measures but 38 (6%) implemented ten or more (only one implemented all 18 measures) ().

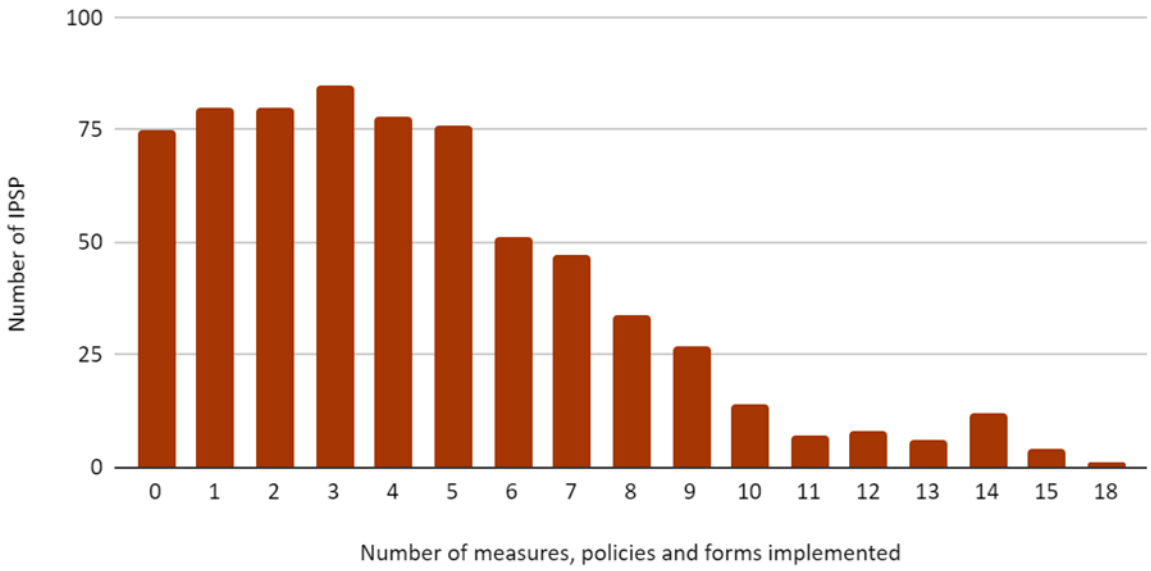


Figure 82 Implementation of measures, policies and forms to promote EDIB dimensions, accessibility and multilingualism.
N = 655 of 685; source: DIAMAS survey –Q51, Q52, Q55, Q56, Q57, Q58, Q59 (all).

9. Open text feedback

The last question in the survey was "Is there any feedback you would like to provide on the survey?" This was a free-text question with the idea of gathering information that could be useful for the analysis, and for later work.

Of the 685 surveys in the analysis, 557 left this answer open and unanswered, leaving 128 (19%) responses to this question. When trying to code these answers to find patterns, 29 responses are 'NO' or a variation of this. Additionally, there is one response that is 'Yes' only, without any more information, and three instances of the response being only '/'. These four responses are considered empty.

This leaves 95 (14%) who have filled in this question with answers that can be coded. These answers have been classified using keywords, some responses may be coded with more than one keyword as long responses may touch upon more than one aspect. The responses have been coded as follows in Table 56:

Response	Number of such responses	% of non-empty responses	Comment
Length	11	12%	Commenting on or complaining about the length of the survey
Thanks	17	18%	Thanking for the initiative or expressing positive expectations
Unclear	17	18%	Commenting on questions being unclear
Translation	3	3%	Commenting on problematic details in the translation
Clarifications	34	36%	Explaining dilemmas or difficulties during the survey, and how this was solved/why certain responses were chosen
Other	20	21%	Various comments, not necessarily relevant for the survey

Table 56 Open text feedback by type of response.

Seven responses have been given more than one code; all of these have two codes. These are 'clarifications' and 'unclear' (3); 'length' and 'unclear' (2); 'length' and 'thanks' (1); and 'thanks' and 'clarifications' (1).

11 responses complain about the length of the survey. This is a very legitimate complaint as the survey was long and complex. It must be assumed that many more potential respondents did not finish their response, or even start it, due to the amount of work associated with filling in the survey.

17 use this opportunity to express positive comments about the survey. For example, the survey sparked reflection with one respondent, making them aware of various aspects of their operations.

17 comments on various questions being seen as unclear, or where premises are difficult to align with the realities of the respondent's situation.

Three IPSPs comment on minor problems with the translation. There have been a number of instances where acronyms or names have been translated. For example, URN (Uniform Resource Name) being translated as if it was the noun 'urn'. Some such errors are self-evident, while others could create confusion.

34 commented on various difficulties in answering the questions, some present dilemmas or explain how they have chosen to reply.

20 made various comments on various aspects, not necessarily relevant to the survey itself.

An important message received through these comments is that it is very difficult – and the project has not fully succeeded – to create a large survey that will fit all potential respondents well. Specialised surveys targeted at smaller and more selected audiences could be made to fit the audiences better. That was not an option for this project, but could be for later projects or follow-ups from this project.

C. Country reports

Countries are grouped into regions specified in the Scoping document (Bargheer et al., 2022) In order to protect the confidentiality of the survey, it was agreed that there must be at least five responses to perform any analysis at the country level, based on numbers in the survey. However, data from these countries could be used as part of the larger survey analysis. This is especially the case for Northern Africa and Southwest Asia, with a total of six responses for these two regions any analysis at country or regional level was impossible. For those countries with five responses or less, there is generally only a report of the number of responses received, and numbers from DOAJ and GOA8.

For countries with less than 10 responses, it was agreed that the validity of any detailed analysis could be called into question. Therefore, it was seen as best to generally avoid detailed survey analysis for these countries. However, the population of these countries or the DOAJ/GOA8 figures may reflect that these countries were themselves relatively small, so responses would be expected to mirror that. For this reason, it was left to the judgement of the individual authors.

Country reports were written by individual authors or small groups of authors with knowledge about the country and ability to read in relevant languages. Most authors are members of the DIAMAS project. However, two authors were invited from outside the project to ensure a country report was made available for all countries with 10 or more responses. These authors are credited in the Guest Authors section on page viii of this document.

Authors were encouraged to write longer reports for countries with 10 or more responses. These longer reports, although not mandatory, will be made available as a separate project output in order to expand upon this deliverable at a future date.

The connection between countries and IPSPs/journals could deserve some comment. One phenomenon one should be aware of, is that the location of a journal is not necessarily stable, this is especially true for international journals, which may change their registered country according to where the editors have their base. Journals may also change publisher, this again could lead to a change of country. Comparing journal information in different lists will reveal this to be a phenomenon that has to be taken into account. And, an IPSP may have activities in more than one country. This may be most predominant among larger SPs - in the survey we find some such SPs whose activities are global. But also IPs may have activities beyond their own institution - we find e.g. Swedish journals published by IPs in Denmark and Norway in our survey. Dividing the publishing landscape into countries is thus an exercise with some inherent problems. We trust that these caveats are not important enough to distort our findings, though.

Another aspect is, of course, that scholarly publications have an authorship and readership beyond the country it is listed in. And having an international editorial board is increasingly a necessity to be seen as of acceptable quality, for a journal or book series.

Still, we have seen it as convenient to divide this into countries. We believe that there will be differences due both to scholarly cultures varying between countries, and to differing financial and organisational and institutional circumstances in different countries.

Eastern Europe

Bulgaria

Nine responses received. Bulgaria has 88 journals in DOAJ: 33 with the DOAJ seal, 71 that let the authors retain all rights, and 52 are diamond journals. Bulgaria has 33 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 28 of which publish diamond journals.

Czechia

Eight responses received. Czechia has 143 journals in DOAJ, three with the DOAJ seal, 111 that let the authors retain all rights, and 118 are diamond journals. Czechia has 67 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 58 of which publish diamond journals.

Hungary

Six responses received. Hungary has 74 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 53 that let the authors retain all rights, and 68 are diamond journals. Hungary has 34 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 34 of which publish diamond journals.

Moldova

Three responses received. Moldova has 41 journals in DOAJ, one with the DOAJ seal, 32 that let the authors retain all rights, and 36 of the 41 are diamond journals. Moldova has 22 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 20 of which publish diamond journals.

Poland

31 responses received. Poland has 842 journals in DOAJ, 21 with the DOAJ seal, 413 that let the authors retain all rights, and 650 are diamond journals. Poland has 249 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 219 of which publish diamond journals.

The history of Open Access publishing in Poland has witnessed notable developments, including an increasing awareness and interest in diamond publishing. Beginning with the formation of the Open Science Coalition in 2008 (Bednarek-Michalska, 2017, pp. 13-28), which engaged scientists, librarians, and non-governmental organisations, the

country's commitment to OA gained momentum. Support from esteemed institutions such as the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland (KRASP) in 2013 further solidified the endorsement of OA principles in scientific publishing. In 2015, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education issued recommendations for the development of OA, including the adoption of institutional OA policies. Poland's proactive approach to OA is exemplified by the 2018 Act on Higher Education and Science, mandating OA for articles in journals funded through the 'Support for Scientific Journals' program. As Poland advances towards a national-level OA policy, these historical milestones underscore the country's commitment to promoting open and equitable access to research.

The DIAMAS Survey collected 31 responses from Poland, predominantly comprising 23 public institutions, with five not-for-profit organisations and three companies. The survey highlighted the diverse sizes and scopes of these entities, with only two university publishers employing over 30 people. While most journals are published in social sciences (23) and humanities (20), their linguistic diversity is evident, with 26 journals published in Polish, two in English, and 26 being multilingual. Bilingual full-text publishing, different language versions in various journals, and simultaneous language versions as separate documents are common practices. However, only 13 IPSPs translate metadata into English, and few provide language services to authors.

Poland's OA publishers are actively engaged in international organisations, with a minority participating in CoARA and COPE, among others. National scholarly communication associations boast greater membership engagement. The IPSPs primarily focus on publishing journals (30), academic books (26), and conference outputs (20). While fixed subsidies from parent organisations form a stable source of funding for most (23), content and print sales contribute minimally (13). Only a few IPSPs utilise article processing charges (APCs) for revenue. The reliance on in-kind support for facilities, IT services, and HR management is evident.

Governance structures are guided by internal documents like statutes (26) and by-laws (20), with representative involvement from the wider community (10) being the predominant model. Poland's approach to open access and open science is still evolving, with no comprehensive policy in place. The majority of IPSPs follow their own or their parent organisation's open access policies. OA policies primarily address copyright, open licences, and the use of identifiers, with Creative Commons licences (CC BY and CC BY-NC-ND) being prevalent.

Peer review practices vary, with double-anonymized peer review being the most common method. The majority of respondents have specific policies on research integrity and publication ethics. IPSPs engage significantly in editorial management, peer review coordination, monitoring, and adherence checks.

In terms of technical services, IPSPs provide full editorial workflows, metadata and quality control, hosting and software services, and partial editorial workflow services.

Maintenance and updates are primarily managed in-house, while OJS stands out as the most popular publishing system.

PIDs, including CrossRef-DOI, ISBN, and ISSN, are widely employed, but there is room for improvement in metadata release and data format diversity. Financial constraints pose a challenge across various aspects of IPSP operations, along with a lack of human resources and technical limitations.

Visibility enhancement, marketing, and indexing are areas of concern for many IPSPs. While many employ newsletters and social media for community engagement, metrics, especially article-level usage metrics, are vital for IPSPs. Inclusivity measures are implemented in various dimensions, such as age, caring responsibilities, disability, and gender. However, some IPSPs find these measures not applicable in their context.

Accessibility policies are not universally adopted, with only nine out of 27 respondents having a published accessibility policy. Compliance with WCAG and other accessibility standards varies among IPSPs. Gender-sensitive research data reporting and Gender Equality Plans are not widely implemented. Challenges related to meeting accessibility standards include a lack of expertise, resources, and technical limitations. Finally, only a small number of IPSPs have implemented measures to use gender-impartial language in all communications.

Romania

17 responses received. Romania has 377 journals in DOAJ, two with the DOAJ seal, 168 that let the authors retain all rights, and 311 that are diamond journals. Romania has 200 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 183 of which publish diamond journals.

Romania has taken significant strides toward embracing Open Access, marked by a notable signal from civil society with the introduction of a document recognised at both national and international levels – "Understanding Open Access" in May 2012, acting as a catalyst for the ensuing initiatives, see (Landoy, Ghinculov et al., 2016, p. 647). The same year, the Romanian Academy further solidified its commitment by endorsing "Open Science for the 21st Century." Currently, Open Access and Open Science initiatives in Romania are guided by national strategic documents, including the National Strategy on Research, Innovation, and Smart Specialization for 2022-2027, the White Paper on the Transition to Open Science (2023-2030), and the National Plan for Research, Development, and Innovation 2022-2027. Romanian scientific publishing is gauged and influenced by the Centre for Science Policy and Scientometrics (Centrul de Politica Ştiinţei şi Scientometrie) under the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), offering guidelines to the preferred foreign and local outlets Romanian researchers should publish in.

Strategically, open access to publications, transparency and equity in APCs and access costs to scientific databases are considered paramount by the community, followed by

the development of specific infrastructure and the adaptation of the evaluation process. Romania established a rich OA publishing landscape, with most journals freely accessible and a well-developed network of institutional repositories.

Preparations for the DIAMAS survey involved identifying 270 IPSPs (the DOAJ list was cleaned and deduplicated). Survey invitations were sent through Qualtrics, resulting in only 17 validated responses from IPSPs in Romania, comprising 15 IPs and 2 SPs. As the response rate is only 8%, the results described below should be considered cautiously, as they cannot be applied to the entire community of institutional publishers.

Among respondents, English emerged as the predominant language, with all IPSPs publishing in English. In addition, 10 IPSPs publish in Romanian and seven in French. Four IPSPs practise multilingual publishing, and 11 offer abstracts in multiple languages.

Half of the respondents were affiliated with parent organisations. Most IPSPs identified themselves as public (11/17) or private, not-for-profit organisations (4/17). Editorial services were provided by almost all respondents, with 60% offering production services. Most Romanian respondents publish 3-5 journals with 11-50 articles per year, primarily in humanities and social sciences.

Key findings regarding budgeting indicated that half of IPSPs work without an approved annual budget. For 40% of respondents, the annual budget is less than 10K EUR, with annual income monitored or formally administered by half of them. In-kind support from parent organisations primarily involves human resource management and general financial and legal services. In terms of funding reliance, surprisingly, only 30% of respondents strongly depend on fixed and permanent subsidies from parent organisations. Responses regarding the stability of different types of funding over the last three years varied, with a slight prevalence of voluntary author contributions as a stable income.

Areas for potential upskilling, collaboration, or shared services with other organisations were identified in editorial, production, IT, and communication services.

Governance structures predominantly rely on governing boards, and representative involvement from the wider community is balanced. Most IPSPs in the sample follow their own Open Science/Open Access journal policies, addressing copyright, self-archiving, and using open licences as the main aspects. Accordingly, most IPSPs support self-archiving of journal articles (12/15) and sharing the full text via academic sharing services (8/15) without embargo (6/10). Additionally, 6/13 IPSPs make references openly available according to I4OC principles.

Regarding licensing, 13/16 IPSPs use Creative Commons licences for journals and 2/16 for books. Regarding open peer review, 2/15 respondents have it implemented, 1/15 is experimenting, and 7/15 would consider implementing it later. Peer review is

predominantly double-anonymous, and one IPSP applies open review reports. In terms of data sharing policy, 5/17 IPSPs have such a policy as part of the institutional Open Science/Open Access policy, and 2/17 have it at the journal level.

Romanian IPSPs demonstrate significant involvement in editorial management (15/17), primarily in editorial board recruitment (12/17) and other aspects such as reviewer sourcing, coordinating and monitoring peer review, and plagiarism scanning. Only one IPSP has no role in editorial management. IPSPs' participation in managing editorial quality is similar to their involvement in editorial management. They define quality criteria (12/17) and create guidelines (12/12). While 12/17 IPSPs have research integrity or publication ethics policies, 5 IPSPs need to be made aware of their existence.

In terms of technical services, IPSPs mostly provide full editorial workflow and hosting. Services are mainly maintained in-house by a dedicated publishing department and the IT department or personnel (6/14). The IT department also maintains the technical infrastructure in-house or is outsourced. The main publishing system used in Romania is Open Journal Systems (OJS), followed by WordPress.

Although using ISSN (7/9) and CrossRef DOI (5/9) is a prevalent practice among Romanian respondents, it is also clear that not all of them are currently assigning PIDs as only 9/17 respondents answered the question about PIDs. Yet, 7/17 are releasing metadata under CC BY or another Creative Commons licence and 1/17 under Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC0).

Regarding content formats, PDF is the dominant format (17/17), followed by HTML (6/17). Archiving or backup policy is employed by 11 out of 17 IPSPs who responded, and the published content is actively preserved in the National institutional library or infrastructure (7/14).

IPSPs' technical challenges stem from financial constraints, technical limitations, and lack of expertise and human resources. Financial constraints primarily affect providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services, archiving, backing up or preserving content and software, and supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs. At the same time, a lack of human resources is also responsible for providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services.

Romanian IPSPs responding to the survey are equally satisfied/not satisfied with the current level of indexing. IPSPs are mainly involved in indexation management. Challenges in applying for indexation include technical and non-technical participation criteria and metadata requirements.

Most IPSPs don't have a newsletter, social media or networking profile to inform the community about updates (10/17), but they have a data protection and privacy policy (11/17). Only four IPSPs are publicly displaying metrics. The prevalent metrics already in place are the data about submissions, acceptance and publication dates.

Regarding EDIB services offered, age (career stage), gender and language are prioritised by IPSPs. The main measure taken by IPSP to ensure and promote the dimensions of EDIB is the code of conduct. 6/17 IPSPs have an accessibility policy, but it is not published. Accessibility standards are mainly unknown to Romanian IPSPs, being reduced to what the software provides by default. According to the responses, the main challenge that IPSPs face is a need for more expertise and less technical limitations of existing infrastructure.

For the Romanian scholarly communication community, what lies beyond the surveys' scope is a variety of practices set within the boundaries of Open Access. These practices need coherence, and DIAMAS efforts will offer valuable insights into a possible unified framework in which the best practices will set solid foundations for the Romanian Open Science practitioners.

Slovakia

One response received. Slovakia has 51 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 38 that let the authors retain all rights, and 41 of the 51 are diamond journals. Slovakia has 34 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 34 of which publish diamond journals.

Ukraine

Ukraine has 438 journals in DOAJ, 19 with the DOAJ seal, 352 that let the authors retain all rights, and 226 are diamond journals. Ukraine has 203 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 125 of which publish diamond journals.

Ukrainian OA journal publishing continues despite the war. The registry of Ukrainian scholarly journals lists 2160 titles and the number of DOIs issued didn't seem to drop during the war.

12 responses were received from Ukrainian IPSPs. A majority of them operate independently but are owned or governed by the parent organisation (a university or the Academy of Sciences). Some IPSPs are departments of the parent organisation. When asked about services offered, the majority of IPSPs provide editorial, IT, production, communication, administrative, legal and financial services, training, support and/or advice.

Half of IPSPs report having an approved annual budget. For those IPSPs that have a parent organisation, the most common in-kind services provided were facilities and premises, salaries of permanent and temporary staff, and general IT services. Over one third of IPSPs also received human resource management services, general financial and legal services, and service-specific IT services from their parent organisations.

Responses show a very high reliance on fixed and permanent subsidies from the IPSPs' parent organisations. Time limited grants or subsidies (private or public) from outside

the organisation, permanent public government funding, collective funding, voluntary author contributions, content and print sales and any other income were marked as non-applicable for the majority of IPSPs.

Training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice and communication services are among the top areas in which IPSPs would consider collaborating with other organisations, followed by editorial, IT and production services, administrative, legal, and financial services.

All IPSPs use persistent identifiers and almost all use open licences, with CC-BY being the most popular licence. The vast majority allow for self-archiving and address metadata rights in their Open Access and Open Science policies. One third of IPSPs address third-party copyright in policies and one fourth of IPSPs report publishing negative research results. Almost half of IPSPs accept submissions that have been publicly shared as preprint or working paper for all their journals. But just one journal enables open peer review, although the majority would consider implementing open peer review at a later stage.

Providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services is mentioned as a major challenge for all IPSPs, particularly financial constraints, technical limitations of existing infrastructure, lack of human resources, and lack of expertise. Financial constraints are also mentioned among the challenges of supplying and enriching metadata/PIDs. A majority of IPSPs would like to see better indexing in scholarly search engines/indexes. Lack of expertise and resources are mentioned as major challenges in meeting accessibility standards.

For more specific challenges related to the ongoing war see (Zhenchenko, Izarova et al., 2023) who discuss changes in editorial structure and work, which are particularly evident in fewer articles published, a switch to working remotely owing to relocation of staff, changes in the frequency of publication, changes in the topics covered in the articles, and staff cuts.

Northern Europe:

Denmark including Faroe Islands

We received 10 responses from Denmark. Denmark has 51 journals in DOAJ, four with the DOAJ seal, 41 that let the authors retain all rights, and 50 are diamond journals. Denmark has 22 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 21 of which publish diamond journals. A reasonably large share of Danish institutional publishing appears to be represented by these responses.

In the survey, the institutional publishing landscape in Denmark is dominated by universities and university-based publishing services, although there are also activities in other sectors. IPSPs are generally small to mid-sized, with only one of them above the 11–20 journals bracket. Three report publishing more than 100 journals, but two of

these are not publishing journals themselves, but only providing international publishing services. The one that stands out is a national publishing platform for journals with more than 100 journals, in itself representing a solid fraction of all journals in Denmark. Among the respondents, there are only three stand-alone journals. It can be safely concluded that this group is underrepresented in the survey. Among the survey respondents there is one commercial entity, an international service provider. Although two report having 21-30 FTEs, one of these responses looks incorrect – more likely this is the number of FTEs including the mother organisation. Other respondents report 2–5 or less than two.

Humanities is the field best represented, followed by social sciences.

Danish respondents seem less reliant upon fixed and permanent subsidies than other respondents in the survey, and periodically negotiate support from the parent organisation. This is also the case for permanent public government funding, where 80% of Danish respondents say this is 'not applicable'. Among the three respondents who have provided information on the size of the budget, one is in the 1-10K EUR bracket and one in the 11-50K EUR bracket. One respondent, an international service provider, reports a budget over 1M EUR.

Nearly everything published by respondents is published OA, except for one respondent reporting 5-10% OA for books and conference outputs. Danish respondents report a lower need for better indexation than the survey total. 11.1% of Danish respondents report having a research data sharing policy at any level, compared to 58.4% for the survey total.

Estonia

Two responses received. Estonia has 35 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 28 that let the authors retain all rights, 22 of the 35 are diamond journals. Estonia has 13 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 12 of which publish diamond journals.

Finland including Åland Islands

Open science has been a very visible part of science policy in Finland in the last ten years, which has impacted the environment for scholarly publishers active in the country. A national policy on open access publishing has been in place since 2020, striving for full open access to journal articles. The government funding model for Finnish higher education institutions incentivises research publications (journal articles as well as books) being available open access, giving institutions 20% extra funding for each peer-reviewed publication if it is available OA (including gold, hybrid and green OA). Continuous development of open science policies is handled through national Open Science coordination funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture operated by the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV).

A thorough study of the peer-reviewed journal landscape in Finland is provided by Linna et al. (2020). The study found that of the 336 journals identified, 53% were publishing immediate OA, with a further 6% as delayed OA, and 2% of journals offering a hybrid OA option. Diamond OA is the dominant model of OA publishing among journals, with the study only identifying seven journals in the country that ask for an APC. Looking at what is visible through the lens of indexing in DOAJ, Finland has 66 journals in DOAJ of which almost all (59) are diamond journals. Of the journals in Finland listed in DOAJ a large majority (49) are institutional publishers (via GOA8), of which almost all (46) publish diamond journals. The national register of publication channels (JUFO portal) currently includes 195 Open Access journals from Finland. Overall it can be concluded that journals from Finland are more likely to be included in DOAJ.

According to Late et al. (2020), learned societies publish around 70% of 402 peer-reviewed publication channels in Finland, mostly in the fields of humanities and social sciences. Commercial publishers produce only 2.6% of Finnish journals and books. Finland has had a national journal platform based on OJS hosted by TSV at Journal.fi since 2015 (Pölönen, Syrjämäki et al., 2021). In 2023, 140 journals were publishing on the platform. It is possible for any peer-reviewed journal published in Finland to make use of the platform, but the journal has to be at least delayed OA to be eligible, thus incentivising journals to adopt that level of openness at a minimum. The platform is free for TSV member societies and a nominal fee is asked from other publishers. There is also a similar service for the publication of OA books based on OMP, Edition.fi, which launched in 2020 and currently has a handful of publishers providing content on the platform.

27 responses were received from Finland, 22 identified as institutional publishers and five as service providers. The publication languages reported by the respondents represent a high degree of multilingualism, with eight different languages represented where the most common were English (22), Finnish (19), and Swedish (13). 19 of the respondents were members of COPE, and two of AEUP. The type of legal entities of the IPSP or the parent organisation was split between 'Private not-for-profit' (17) and 'Public Organisation' (10). The number of paid staff directly employed or contracted in FTE was less than two FTE for over half of the respondents (15). A clear majority of the respondents published only a single scholarly journal (17). As for academic book publishing volumes most organisations published between 1-10 books (7). The budgeting practices seem organised with 20 IPSPs starting each year with an approved annual budget. Responses were collected for all budget bands but most fell within the 1-10K EUR bracket (7). A high degree of respondents (20) rely on external services for publishing, particularly IT services (16), which is likely explained by the widespread use of the national journal platform journal.fi that many use as their primary digital workflow and publishing system. Respondents raised interest in a variety of different collaboration areas, the most frequent response (16) was 'training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice'. The responses to the funding-related questions were quite inconclusive with a high number of responses being 'not applicable' to the different funding mechanisms that were asked about.

Finland has a relatively unique public funding system for supporting non-profit peer-reviewed journal publishing, one of the most inclusive in Europe. It can rely on a public funding subsidy that is distributed by TSV and that can be applied for by any peer-reviewed journal (Laakso & Multas, 2023). In addition to this governmental funding, which provides some basic income in case of deficit, there have long been both formal and informal negotiations for developing a new funding model particularly suited to the circumstances of diamond OA journals where there might be very little other income to support publication activities. The disciplines covered by the respondents were heavily skewed towards humanities and social sciences with over half of respondents selecting either option.

Finland has contributed to the trend of internationally oriented OA university presses, with the two largest universities in the country operating such functions: Helsinki University Press and Tampere University Press (now also on the Edition.fi platform).

The Association for Scholarly Publishing in Finland funds development projects of publishers in the country through competitive funding rounds, and has in the last two years also handed out grants of a few thousand EUR that academic publishers can use for any purpose they see fit to support their activities.

Iceland

Three responses received. Iceland has seven journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, three that let the authors retain all rights, all seven are diamond journals. Iceland has five institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), five of which publish diamond journals.

With only three responses, it is not possible to provide many comments on the information collected in the survey. However, information openly available on the internet was collected as a basis for identifying possible respondents to the survey.

While DOAJ lists seven journals from Iceland, the initial work for the survey indicates that there are 27 Icelandic journals. There are no clear indications as to how many of these are OA. The University of Iceland is the major publisher, with eight of these journals. The rest are mainly stand-alone journals published by other scholarly institutions. No commercial publishing activity has been clearly identified.

Ireland

Ireland has 22 journals in DOAJ, one with the DOAJ seal, 17 that let the authors retain all rights, 19 are Diamond journals. Ireland has eight institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), eight of which publish Diamond journals.

10 responses were received from Ireland. However, on closer inspection two responses were received from the same IPSP. The two duplicate responses are interesting to look

at in a little more detail as they differ in some of the answers. Most notably is self-declaration of IP or SP, where the first response identifies the IPSP as an IP and the second as an SP. When comparing this to the question about whether an IPSP publishes or provides a service, this particular IPSP only publishes. Therefore, the first set of responses from the IP perspective have been used in this country report.

When taking the duplicate response into account, the Irish responses represent five IPs and four SPs. English is the dominant publication language, but four IPSPs also publish in Irish. German, Bulgarian and Italian are also represented.

The majority of Irish IPSPs in the survey are based in universities, either as part of an academic department or library, or independently run but owned and supported by the university. Staffing is low, with most IPSPs reporting less than two FTE or none. Only one IPSP has 6-10 FTE. Memberships of other organisations are low. However, all university-based IPSPs state that they are members of a national publisher/scholarly communication association. This is likely to be the recently established Irish Open Access Publishers (IOAP) community of practice, which has been instrumental in bringing institutional publishers together.

All but one IPSP publish or provide a service for journals, the remaining IPSP only publishes books. Four other IPSPs publish books and one provides services for book publishing. Conference proceedings are also published by five IPSPs. Grey literature and other forms of publishing are less well represented. Irish IPSPs are small to medium sized publishers with only one publishing over 20 journals per year. Two of the IPSPs represent standalone journals, although one considers itself a service provider rather than a publisher. IPSPs that publish books tend to publish 1-10 titles a year, with only one publishing 11-20. Irish IPSPs are predominantly humanities and social science publishers or multidisciplinary. Those that selected 'multidisciplinary' qualify this by selecting a number of STEM subjects.

Only three IPSPs have a fixed budget, two of these are below 50K EUR, with one over 100K EUR. For these IPSPs, monitoring of annual income is obligatory. For the most part, IPSPs rely on in-kind services, such as facilities, IT services, and salaries of permanent staff. This includes IPSPs with a fixed budget, which might account for the low budgets. Six of the IPSPs also rely on the use of external services and much of this is voluntary or in-kind. When asked about the potential for collaboration, most IPSPs selected all of the options. Indeed, collaboration is already happening as part of the IOAP community of practice.

Most IPSPs in Ireland rely on a subsidy from parent organisations, with most viewing these subsidies as stable or very stable. All but one IPSP reports a very high reliance on non-monetary or in-kind support, and monetary support was also important to most IPSPs. When asked if IPSPs were expected to make a profit, only one answered yes, and this is to invest in their own operation or create a financial buffer. Looking at challenges, IPSPs were almost unanimous in the need for security of/stable funding from their parent institution, even if this was just a small guaranteed amount for some.

Regarding governance, most Irish IPSPs do not have formal documents describing activities or governance models.

There were few responses to the question on how much of the IPSPs' content is open access. However, the majority of those that did answer publish 100% on OA, another respondent answered in a comment to a previous question that they want to move to 100% OA as soon as they could.

Hosting and metadata are the two most common technical services offered. A range of different publication systems are used, OJS being the most common. Most IPSPs assign PIDs to all or some of their published content. CrossRef or Datacite DOI being the most commonly used PID alongside ISSN/ISBN where appropriate. However, only three IPSPs release metadata with an open licence.

Regarding equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging, only one or two IPSPs have implemented some of the options in the survey. The majority were not planning, didn't know or answered 'not applicable' to most options.

Latvia

Five responses received. Latvia has 18 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, nine that let the authors retain all rights, 12 of the 18 are diamond journals. Latvia has nine institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), seven of which publish diamond journals.

Lithuania

Seven responses were received. Lithuania has 96 journals in DOAJ, 33 with the DOAJ seal, 75 that let the authors retain all rights, 77 are diamond journals. Lithuania has 17 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 17 of which publish diamond journals.

Most major universities filled out the survey. To save costs, IPSPs would consider collaborating with other organisations on editorial services, production services, IT and communication services, training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice.

All IPSPs' Open Science/Open Access policies addressed copyright, self-archiving, use of open licences, metadata rights and use of identifiers; and some IPSPs also addressed embargoes, third-party copyright and publication of negative research results.

Some IPSPs mentioned financial constraints and lack of expertise in providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services. Technical limitations of existing infrastructure, lack of human resources and lack of expertise also created a challenge for some IPSPs of supplying and enriching metadata and PIDs, or making

metadata available for use. Lack of expertise and technical limitations of existing infrastructure, lack of human resources, financial and administrative constraints were mentioned as a challenge by some IPSPs when trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services. Lack of human resources, lack of expertise, technical limitations of existing infrastructure were also mentioned as a challenge of archiving, backing up or preserving content and software by some IPSPs. And, finally, lack of resources is a challenge for most IPSPs in meeting accessibility standards.

Norway

15 responses to the survey were received from Norway. Norway has 127 journals in DOAJ, 21 with the DOAJ seal, 120 that let the authors retain all rights, 109 are diamond journals. Norway has 42 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 35 of which publish diamond journals.

The oldest academic journal in Norway that is still being published, started in 1870. Until the 1950's, scholarly publishing was done by institutions, even if technical and mercantile functions were performed by commercial entities like publishers, booksellers etc. In 1950, Universitetsforlaget (later renamed internationally to Scandinavian University Press) was formed. This publisher was owned by the major universities and the students' welfare unions. Over time many journals were taken over by this publisher. These were Norwegian journals published for various institutions, but also Nordic journals. After buying a Swedish publisher, the Swedish and Nordic profile was strengthened. Universitetsforlaget started by publishing compendia and lecture notes, rapidly expanding into textbooks and scholarly books. University and student welfare union ownership meant that Universitetsforlaget evolved into the foremost scholarly publisher in Norway. Following financial problems in the 1990's, Universitetsforlaget was 'cut up', with various parts being sold off, and a reformed Universitetsforlaget becoming an imprint of a major publisher. The new Universitetsforlaget took over the journals publishing in Norwegian (and other Nordic languages) and the book publishing in social sciences and humanities. International journals were taken over by Taylor & Francis.

A result of this history is that a commercial publisher, Universitetsforlaget, has a strong position in scholarly publishing in Norway especially in social sciences and humanities, and is still publishing many titles owned by institutions. They publish a number of journals, either as subscription journals or as diamond OA journals; they have only one APC-based journal. Cappelen Damm Akademisk publishes a number of scholarly journals, a mix of APC-based and diamond OA titles.

Norway has a financing scheme for Norwegian-language scholarly OA journals in social sciences and humanities, NÅHST. Journals are invited to compete for three-year funding, and a committee of researchers select titles to be included in NÅHST. 37 journals were granted support for the upcoming period (2024-2026). A vast majority of the selected journals are published by commercial publishers and are all diamond.

Responses to the survey find that the institutional publishing landscape in Norway is dominated by a) a handful of university-based publishing infrastructures, probably publishing near half of all scholarly journals in Norway – most are medium-sized (11-20 or 21-50 journals); and b) two commercial publishers publishing a large number of scholarly journals, most of them owned or controlled by institutions. There is no national publishing service/platform in Norway. Stand-alone journals are typically associated with institutions that are not primarily scholarly in their activities, or that are more profession oriented.

Among the respondents there are only three stand-alone journals. It can be safely concluded that this group is underrepresented. Among the survey respondents there are three commercial entities. These are commercial publishers, all engaged in publishing scholarly journals for institutions. One respondent reports to have 11-20 FTEs employed, two 6-10 FTEs, five 2-5 FTEs, while six report less than two and one reports no FTE.

Humanities is the field best represented, followed by social sciences.

Norwegian respondents seem less reliant upon fixed and permanent subsidies than other survey respondents, this is also the case for periodically negotiated support from the parent organisation. The same is the case for permanent public government funding, where 85.7% of Norwegian respondents say this is 'not applicable'. Among the three respondents who have given information on the size of the budget, one is in the 11-50K EUR bracket, two respondents report a budget over 1M EUR.

Nearly everything published by respondents is published OA, except for one respondent reporting 60% OA. This is a commercial publisher with a large portfolio of subscription journals, published electronically – but without a hybrid option. Norwegian respondents report a greater need for better indexation than the survey total; 62% want improvement compared to 54% in the survey total. 50% of Norwegian respondents report having a research data sharing policy, compared to 58.4% for the survey total.

There are indications that diamond OA is increasing in Norway (Frantsvåg, 2022).

Sweden

15 responses were received from Sweden. Sweden has 56 journals in DOAJ, six with the DOAJ seal, 50 that let the authors retain all rights, 42 are Diamond journals. Sweden has 23 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 23 of which publish Diamond journals.

The survey results indicate that a reasonably large part of Swedish institutional publishing is represented by these responses.

Survey responses indicate that the institutional publishing landscape in Sweden is dominated by universities and university-based publishing services. They are small to mid-sized, none of them above the 11–20 journals bracket. Among the respondents there are only two stand-alone journals. It can safely be concluded that this group is underrepresented. No commercial entity is represented among the survey respondents. None have more than 10 FTEs employed, most less than two.

Social sciences is the field best represented, followed by humanities.

Swedish respondents seem more reliant upon fixed and permanent subsidies, and periodically negotiated support from the parent organisation than for the survey in total. This is also the case for permanent public government funding. No respondent has a budget over 100K EUR, four of the seven have a budget in the 51–100K EUR range. Generally, Swedish respondents point to financial problems to a lesser degree than the survey total, but at least as much as others when it comes to resources and competences.

Nearly everything published by respondents is OA. Swedish respondents report a higher need for better indexation than the survey total, especially when it comes to indexation in DOAJ.

When it comes to EDIB, Swedish respondents have implemented measures for most aspects investigated to a lesser degree than the survey total. The percentage of respondents that are in progress or considering EDIB measures is also, for most aspects, considerably lower than for the survey total. We must conclude that such questions seem to have received less attention in Sweden than is the case for the majority of respondents in the survey.

United Kingdom

Journal publishing in the UK has been dominated by vendor consolidation, vertical integration and lock-in with UK institutions spending 96.3M GBP with the top five journal publishers: Elsevier, Springer, Wiley, Taylor & Francis (Informa), and Sage. In July 2023, 96.1% of UKRI (UK Research and Innovation) funded research articles are compliant and eligible for UKRI OA funds through Transitional Agreements (TAs), or compliant via the green route. There is a growing concern among institutions and funders about the impact of larger publishers' commercial strategies on long term sustainability and equity, including the ability for less well-resourced countries or institutions to publish.

However, in the last 10 years the UK has seen a rise in the number of New University Presses and scholar-led publishers. A 2017 report highlighted a new wave of university presses. In tandem, a small but notable number of academics and researchers set up their own publishing initiatives, often demonstrating innovative and unique approaches either in workflow, peer review, technology, or business model (Adema & Stone, 2017, p. 102). Both New University Presses and scholar-led publishing have used the diamond

OA model from the outset. There are also examples of consortial university publishing where universities with existing collaboration agreements have launched collaborative university presses. These presses have been successful in using the combined strength of participating universities to pool resources in order to promote diamond OA.

The UK also features a number of 'service providers' based or established in UK institutions, which either offer diamond OA publishing or services, which can be used by open access publishers to publish diamond journals. Many libraries in the UK are running OJS servers, but do not consider themselves as publishers. There are approximately 180 OA journals in the UK using OJS. Many of these use library hosting services and/or are based within academic departments.

A number of new university presses in the UK have now come together to launch the Open Institutional Publishing Association (OIPA), which aims to be a community of practice for new university presses, library publishing and departmental publishing in the UK. It will hold its first membership meeting in November 2023.

Twenty responses were received from UK IPSPs, this included four that did not formally complete the survey, but after contact approved the data for analysis. The majority of IPSPs are located within UK universities. Of these, four responded that they only served their parent institution. There was also a standalone journal reporting to a community network and a learned society.

The majority of IPSPs employ less than 10 FTE. Two employed no staff and only one IPSP employed over 30 FTE, this is an established university press. When asked about services offered, there was a fairly even split with most IPSPs providing communication, editorial, IT, production, and training, support and/or advice. Other services provided were curation and preservation, and journal set-up and advice. All IPSPs published in English, one IPSP also published in Welsh. Other languages were offered by just 4/20 of the IPSPs.

Most IPSPs in the UK had very little membership engagement with the options provided in the survey. Ten IPSPs reported that they were members of a national publishing scholarly communication association, which may relate to OIPA call for expressions of interest and membership applications at the same time that the survey was issued.

It would appear that definitions of IP and SP are fairly fluid. For example, all SPs provide services for academic journals, however, one also publishes them. Two IPs report that they only provide a service for academic journals. Indeed one of these IPs reports that it only provides services and does not publish anything, yet it self-identifies as an IP, not a SP. Nearly 80% of UK IPSPs report that they publish between two and 20 titles. Of the 14 IPs that publish academic books, only one publishes over 100 titles a year, this is the established university press. The majority published between 1-10 titles a year with just over half publishing 100% of their scholarly journals on OA and just under half

publishing all of their books on OA. The majority of IPSPs do not rely on APCs or print sales.

Just over half of IPSPs start the year with an approved annual budget, one additional IPSP reported that this is part of the society budget as a whole. Amounts are evenly spread between 1-10K EUR and over 1M EUR. However, seven IPSPs do not have an approved annual budget. For those IPSPs that have a parent organisation, the most common in-kind services provided are general IT services, facilities and premises, human resource management, general financial and legal services and salaries of permanent staff. Regarding fixed and permanent subsidies from their parent organisation. IPSPs are fairly evenly spread for the survey question on profit/surplus. Although more IPSPs were permitted to make losses/overspend than any other category.

When asked about external funders, most of the funders listed were UK based. However, it was reported that two Spanish funders funded one of the SPs. It is interesting to note that two national funders from outside of the UK and a number of international funders were also listed.

Most IPSPs do not have experience of failed collaboration. Three examples were given, one involving an external contractor failing to deliver on a website, loss of editorial staff in an academic school leading to the cessation of a journal title, and one open access business model failing to raise enough funds. One IPSP commented that OIPA was being established to promote collaboration between IPSPs.

There was a mixed response for questions about the governance model, with a 60/40 split between those that do and those that do not have a model. Regarding the governing board, there was a much clearer trend with 14 saying that they did and only four saying they didn't.

Regarding open science/open access practices, four IPs follow parent institution open science/open access policy for both journals and books with a further IP following the institutional policy for journals only. 10 IPSPs follow their own policy. However, three IPSPs answered that they follow the parent organisation policy as well as their own. Only one IPSP does not use CC licences, and one didn't know. Four IPSPs were either implementing or were experimenting with open peer-review. A further seven said that they would consider implementing open peer review at a later stage.

All IPSPs offer one or more technical services, with hosting and user interface being the most common. When asked about metadata released openly with a standard metadata description schema, nine IPSPs did not know, which indicates that more awareness might be required in this area. Five IPSPs did release metadata openly, either CC BY or CC0. Providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services is seen as much more of a challenge, particularly lack of human resources and financial constraints. When asked about specific challenges of applying for indexation the majority of UK IPSPs found that paying for membership or recurring fees; satisfying

metadata requirements, and non-technical and technical participation criteria important or very important.

Although most UK IPSPs have data protection and GDPR policies, there is a need for the remaining IPSPs to understand why they might need one. Of the various options offered for EDIB, disability, ethnicity and gender had the highest number of implemented policies, or those that were in progress or being considered. However, as many as half of the IPSPs are either not considering this, do not know or answered 'not applicable'. The number of UK IPSPs engaged in EDIB is likely to increase in the future with the launch of OIPA in the UK as many of the founder members are keen to progress EDIB policies and support as an organisation allowing individual IPSPs to adopt.

Southern Europe

Response rates varied significantly. Some countries with few responses are probably also relatively small when it comes to institutional publishing.

Albania

One response was received. Albania has five journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, three that let the authors retain all rights, four are diamond journals. Albania has three institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), two of which publish diamond journals.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Four responses received. Bosnia and Herzegovina has 43 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 25 that let the authors retain all rights, 39 are diamond journals. Bosnia and Herzegovina has 33 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 29 of which publish diamond journals.

Croatia

The publishing landscape in Croatia is significantly shaped by universities and learned societies, championing the non-profit model and driving early adoption of open access (OA). This commitment has led to the creation of HRČAK, a national platform hosting 405 active scholarly, professional and popular OA journals (536 in total, with only 155 in DOAJ) with 285,000 articles. The presence of Croatian journals in DOAJ decreased after more than half of the journals ceased in 2016, together with corresponding back issues, mostly because of non-valid reapplication and/or non-transparent rights and licensing. Government subsidies, allocated based on evaluation, further underscore Croatia's dedication to unhindered knowledge sharing. The preference for not resorting to APCs highlights the community's strong support for the diamond OA model and the free dissemination of knowledge. The transition to publishing OA books/monographs in Croatia is much more limited, with only a few active institutional publishers, such as

MorePress at the University of Zadar and FF Open Press at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb.

The DIAMAS survey, targeting 251 IPSPs in Croatia, achieved a robust response rate of 77. Among the respondents, an intriguing shift towards editorial teams was observed, with 40/77 respondents hailing from editorial offices, while merely nine represented institutional publishing departments. This adjustment might be attributed to the survey's complexity, encouraging institutions to enlist knowledgeable editors for accurate responses.

Almost half of Croatian IPSPs fall under universities, faculties, and learned societies. However, only four institutions possess dedicated web pages for publishing activities, and 29% are standalone journal websites. This journal-centric focus may skew the representation of other IPSP publications.

Voluntary efforts significantly influence the Croatian IPSP landscape, with 54% of respondents not employing paid staff. This complex interplay of factors shapes Croatia's distinctive and challenging scholarly publishing ecosystem.

41/69 IPSPs use Croatian as the primary publication language (only three of them publish exclusively in Croatian), while 11 exclusively publish in English. Multilingualism is a notable trait among IPSPs, with 80% publishing in multiple languages (besides Croatian and English, most often in languages of culturally, historically and geographically close countries like German, Serbian, Bosnian, Italian, or Slovene), reaching broader audiences. The scientific community's commitment to extensive outreach remains evident despite linguistic complexities and the need for human translators.

Most Croatian IPSPs align with the Croatian Association of Scholarly Communication (ZNAK). The European Association of Science Editors (EASE) is notable, mainly due to its active Croatian chapter. Despite many IPSPs embracing the principles of the COPE in their policies, actual COPE membership remains modest.

IPSPs mainly handle academic journals, academic books, and conference outputs, with services extending to other research outputs, media, digital products, and non-academic content. Almost all IPs report publishing academic journals. On average, a Croatian IPSP publishes 1-5 scholarly journals, 11-100 scholarly articles, 1-10 academic books, and 1-20 conference proceedings annually.

Scholarly journals in Croatia primarily rely on government funding from the Ministry of Science and Education, awarded through an annual call. Excluding one IPSP with a budget above 1M EUR, the average IPSP budget is below 10K EUR. Given this, the heavy reliance on voluntary work is not unexpected. Financial monitoring is mandatory, especially for IPSPs receiving government subsidies, as they must submit annual financial reports to the Ministry.

IPSPs describe the type of in-kind support of the parent organisation, primarily in facilities, IT services, and staff salaries. Human resources management, general financial, and legal services are not supported.

Regarding services, editorial services are primarily provided voluntarily or as in-kind contributions. In contrast, production services and IT services are mostly outsourced. Communication services, administrative, legal and financial services and training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practices are not represented enough and are often marked as 'None/N/A'. IPSPs' external services rely mainly on the University Computing Centre SRCE (HRČAK, central installation of OJS) and the National and University Library (Crossref DOI).

Dominant funding types are fixed and permanent subsidies from the IPSPs' parent organisation and permanent public/government funding. Most IPSPs consider fixed and permanent subsidies from the parent organisations and permanent public and government funding stable or very stable. Delays and remittances do not influence the perception of the reliability of government funds. In contrast, voluntary author contributions, content and print sales, article processing charges, and other incomes from event organisations, commercial revenue and loans are considered very unstable by many IPSPs.

An insight into external funding sources confirms the government as the main funder of the Croatian IPSPs, primarily through the Ministry of Science and Education, followed by private companies, universities, counties, cities, national foundations, state agencies, and learned societies. It is certainly interesting to see the various minor funders, such as tourist boards, state companies, co-editors, co-publishers, churches, etc., supporting IPSPs in their publishing endeavours.

Croatian IPSPs strongly rely on non-monetary or in-kind support, but there is also a high to very high dependency on monetary income. In general, it is not expected that Croatian IPSPs generate profit, surplus, shareholder value, or to subsidise other activities of the organisation. Limited losses and overspending are permitted and not permitted in the same proportions.

Three main challenges to financial sustainability are the lack of continuity/permanency/stability of funding, irregularity and delays, and insufficient funding. Changes in government funding eligibility without notice, price increases in printing and copy-editing, and the online submission system provision are among the noted challenges. Suggestions to address these challenges include enhancing financial literacy, collaborating with more institutions, and promoting scientific publishing.

IPSP activities are often guided by internal documents such as statutes or by-laws. Governance models predominantly rely on governing boards, and representative involvement from the wider community is balanced.

Although most Croatian IPSPs publish in OA and have institutional repositories, only 59/77 IPSPs responded to the question on the percentage of OA content, with only 49/59 selecting 100% journals published in open access. The sliding scale question format led to mix-ups, reflecting some inaccurate data points. Checking IPSP websites for verification reveals that all of them actually publish 100% of their journals in OA.

Despite Croatia's involvement in OA publishing since the 1990s, a comprehensive national OA/OS policy is still in progress. Nonetheless, support for OA exists through different national laws and strategies. Notably, the government mandates OA and inclusion in the HRČAK portal for subsidised journals and graduation and doctoral theses archived in OA repositories. Over 90% of the respondents reference some form of OA/OS policy, which reflects the integration of OA principles into scholarly publishing practices over decades. The absence of formal policies does not seem to hinder progress in the OA/OS domain.

Croatian IPSPs exhibit positive trends in copyright and licensing practices, although some awareness gaps persist. Creative Commons licences are commonly used (with CC BY being the most common), with 16 IPSPs applying them to books. Self-archiving is largely permitted, often without embargoes, due to the prevalence of OA content. However, there's a lack of understanding of the benefits of preprint sharing.

Research data sharing in Croatia is developing. While negative responses dominate, some IPSPs include data sharing in OA/OS policies and implement it at the journal level. Despite challenges, these instances highlight positive developments.

The contributorship model is being implemented in some Croatian IPSPs using the CRediT taxonomy, which outlines contributor roles. Though, the prevalence of ‘no’ and ‘don't know’ responses may indicate a lack of familiarity with the contributorship model.

The context of respondents' roles should be considered when analysing the answers regarding IPSPs' participation in editorial management. IPSPs demonstrate significant involvement in editorial management (71%), primarily in editorial board recruitment and other aspects such as reviewer sourcing, coordinating peer review process, basic checks, and plagiarism scanning. Only two IPSPs have no role in editorial management. It is important to mention that editorial independence is valued in Croatia, so these findings warrant cautious interpretation. IPSPs' participation in managing editorial quality is similar to their involvement in editorial management. They define quality criteria and create guidelines.

A double-anonymous peer review is preferred (77%), followed by a single-anonymous peer review (26%). A few implement open identities (6/43), and one applies open review reports. While these responses suggest improvement, some misunderstandings about open peer review may persist.

While 57% of IPSPs have research integrity or publication ethics policies, 36% lack such policies, raising concerns. Additionally, five IPSPs are not aware of their existence.

IPSPs mostly provide full editorial workflow, hosting, and user interface. Metadata and quality control, software and partial editorial workflow are represented less. Services are mainly maintained in-house by a dedicated publishing department and the IT department or personnel. The IT department also maintains the technical infrastructure in-house or is outsourced.

Technical services efficiency reveals IPSPs' focus on full editorial workflow, hosting, and user interface maintained mainly in-house. However, improving the assignment of PIDs and refining metadata sharing practices require attention.

The main publishing system used in Croatia is OJS, followed by the customisation or own development of existing open source solutions. Furthermore, OMP, WordPress, Editorial Manager and Scholar One are in use among open source publishing systems. Concerning commercial software, Indigo and Manuscript Manager are in use.

The situation with PID assignments for Croatian publishers could be improved. There is a national DOI office within the National and University Library Zagreb, but it only serves journal publications, and DOIs are assigned only to the original scientific articles. The national repository network Dabar provides URN-NBNs, also managed by the National and University Library Zagreb, thus assigning this type of PIDs to books and conference outputs. Consequently, although using CrossRef DOI is a prevalent practice among Croatian IPSPs, it is also clear that not all of them are assigning PIDs, and those who use it do not assign it to all published content. As DOIs are considered a standard practice in OA publishing and crucial for enhancing discoverability, some serious measures are required in Croatia.

Only 42% of IPSPs share metadata under CC BY or another Creative Commons licence. Most IPSPs stated they either do not release metadata in such a way or they do not know about metadata sharing policy. Clarifying the present HRČAK metadata policy (CC BY or CC0) would benefit other IPSPs, as it is the main and most visible and interoperable source of journal metadata.

Regarding content formats, PDF is the dominant format in the Croatian publishing landscape (99%). One of the reasons may be that the national HRČAK portal did not support formats other than PDF until recently. Also, such a large representation of PDF as the only format in most IPSPs could be a consequence of the existence of printed versions of publications. It is hoped that HTML and other formats will be better represented in the future, and the recent work with Croatian editors to accept the XML format is welcome.

Two thirds of IPSPs have an archiving or backup policy in place, and the published content is actively preserved in the national library, the national infrastructure provided by SRCE, and the institutional library or infrastructure.

IPSPs' technical challenges stem from financial constraints, lack of human resources, expertise, and technical limitations. Financial constraints primarily affect infrastructure and services, while a lack of human resources is responsible for inadequate resources, missing or low quality metadata and PIDs and the lack of interoperability with other services. Lack of expertise is a challenge equally distributed among services.

Although Croatian IPSPs strive for the inclusion of their journals in Web of Science Core Collection and the Scopus databases, other indexes such as DOAJ, DOAB, ERIH PLUS, PubMed, search engines such as Google Scholar, scientific networks such as ResearchGate, and book repositories and search engines such as Google Books and OAPEN are also mentioned. 46% of IPSPs are satisfied with the current level of indexing. IPSPs are mainly involved in indexation management (66%). The main challenges in applying for indexation include technical participation criteria.

Most IPSPs have a newsletter, social media or networking profile to inform the community about updates, data protection and privacy policies. 42% of IPSPs are displaying metrics publicly. The prevalent metrics are the data about submissions, acceptance and publication dates, followed by article/publication level usage metrics such as visits, views, downloads, and publication-level impact metrics, such as Journal Impact Factor.

Among the offered dimensions of EDIB, the language and educational and professional background are prioritised by IPSPs, followed by age, gender and ethnicity and culture. The main measure taken by IPSPs to ensure and promote EDIB principles is a code of conduct and non-discrimination or positive discrimination policy. It should be noted that the highest numbers of responses are in the ‘not applicable’ and ‘don't know’ choices.

33% of IPSPs don't have a publicly available accessibility policy. Accessibility standards are mainly unknown to the Croatian IPSPs except for OpenAIRE guidelines implemented in some institutional repositories. The main challenge that IPSPs face in meeting accessibility standards is a lack of resources and expertise.

Among gender equality measures, the Gender Equality Plan (GEP) is implemented by 25% of IPSPs.

In conclusion, the DIAMAS report illuminates the intricate landscape of scholarly publishing in Croatia, showcasing its commitment to diamond open access while addressing challenges and embracing opportunities for improvement.

Cyprus

One response received. Cyprus has two journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, both let the authors retain all rights, One is a diamond journal. Cyprus has two institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), one of which publishes diamond journals.

Cyprus has made significant steps in transitioning to the open science paradigm over the past decade through the adoption of national and institutional OS policies aligned with international developments. The National OA policy was approved in 2015 by the Council of Ministers, while the update of the policy that was initiated in 2019 resulted in the adoption of the new and revised policy in 2022. During this period, institutional policies have also been adopted, while training and awareness-raising events have taken place on a regular basis, targeting various stakeholder groups involved in the transition to OA/OS (policy makers, researchers, librarians, IT specialists). RPOs have also been actively involved in EU-funded projects related to the promotion of OA/OS, while the University of Cyprus has recently joined OPERAS, and is also the National Open Access Desk (NOAD) of OpenAIRE for Cyprus.

Despite the initiatives taken over the past years, the OA publishing landscape is still embryonic as OA diamond journals are limited in number. These have in turn been established primarily by researchers (benefiting from institutional support), while they are open to submissions from researchers outside Cyprus. At the same time, researchers have also been involved through various roles (e.g., editors in chief) in OA journals published in other countries, thereby showing their support for OA publishing.

Greece

Five responses received. Greece has 44 journals in DOAJ, three with the DOAJ seal, 40 that let the authors retain all rights, 32 of the 44 are Diamond journals. Greece has 20 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 19 of which publish Diamond journals.

Various initiatives have been developed over the past 20 years towards the promotion of OA/OS. Among the most recent ones is the establishment of a Working Group (of consultative nature) in 2017 to support the General Secretariat of Research and Innovation in the adoption of a national Open Science strategy. While the work was not completed, the Hellenic Open Science Initiative (HOSI) has gathered representatives from research centres to actively support the transition to the OS paradigm via the adoption of concrete measures. A significant number of RPOs have also been involved under various roles (coordinators or partners) in EU-funded projects that support the adoption of OA/OS policies and the development of the necessary infrastructures. RPOs have also been active in the organisation of awareness-raising activities and training especially for researchers.

In terms of OA publishing, the National Documentation Centre (EKT) through its e-publishing platform, based on OJS, hosts close to 70 diamond journals, primarily (but

not limited to) social sciences and humanities making it the biggest platform in Greece. The e-publishing platform also hosts academic books and conference proceedings. The platform, in addition to hosting, offers publishers additional services like training, advice on copyright issues etc. free of charge. Universities have also been hosting OA journals, which have been established by faculty members with the majority using OJS.

The transition to OA books/monographs is more hesitant, despite the fact that the Kallipos initiative has led to the publication of more than 1000 OA university textbooks.

Italy

Despite the existence of the National Plan for Open Science (PNSA), Italy continues to grapple with the absence of a comprehensive national operative strategy that actively champions Open Access and Open Science. As a result, open access to scientific publications runs the risk of becoming increasingly associated with the business model of large commercial publishers, namely, paid Open Access (transformative agreements). However, Open Access Scholarly publishing is gaining strength and interest from different actors, in most cases from the institutional world. There are efficient journal platforms that maintain, develop and promote centralised e-publishing platforms dedicated to university-owned open access journals. Good examples are within big Universities (Piattaforma riviste Unimi, Rosa, AlmaDL Journals, Sirio@Unito). Italy has 100 publishers indexed in DOAJ, 513 journals in DOAJ, 53 with the DOAJ seal, 409 that let the authors retain all rights and 455 are Diamond journals. At the moment 15 university presses in Italy are in line with the Diamond Open Access model (at least for authors internal to the institution).

In this still changing landscape, it is useful to mention two communities that play a significant role in the promotion of OA scholarly publishing: a) AISA -Italian Association for the Promotion of Open Science, a nonprofit organisation whose mission is to advance open science at the scholarly publishing level, since its creation in 2015; b) the Association Coordination of Italian University Presses whose purpose is to explore issues related to the positioning, function and promotion of university and high-quality science publishing: it includes 14 university presses (not all of them responding to the diamond model).

An important step at the policy level to implement Open Science policies and practices in the Italian scholarly publishing sector is the mentioned National Plan for Open Science (PNSA), recently published by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). This plan complements and enriches what was prepared by the National Plan for Research Infrastructures (PNIR), and both are an integral part of the National Program for Research 2021-2027 (NRP), whose actions promote and strengthen the scientific research landscape in Italy. In particular, PNSA aims to create coordination among all the actors involved for the development of an institutional publishing infrastructure of open science results built through the interconnection of repositories operated and/or maintained by the various actors that contribute to national scientific production.

The objective of the Plan is also to establish coordination among all the stakeholders involved, namely the Ministry of University and Research (MUR), research institutions, universities, the National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR), and research infrastructures, engaging the actors of the system in clear and measurable goals. In this scenario, the role of the Italian Computing and Data Infrastructure (ICDI), is recognized, which is the technical forum bringing together research infrastructures operating in Italy, public research institutions, universities, and other institutional members to support synergies in Italian contributions to the construction of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). ICDI also acts as the mandated organisation in the EOSC Association, designing a national infrastructure for scientific data. The Competence Center of ICDI, in collaboration with the service www.Open-Science.it, provides information and reference tools on Open Science aimed at the scientific community.

These initiatives reflect the strong interest within the Italian scientific community in creating a fertile ground at the national level, regarding new modes of scholarly communication and new possibilities for scholarly publishing, through concrete promotion at the national level.

The survey gathered responses from 52 Italian IPSPs, 45 identified themselves as IPs, and the remaining 7 as SPs. Service providers represent 13.5% of the Italian responses. The feedback from these IPSPs mirrors the aforementioned scenario, particularly highlighting the work still to be done for the integration of Diamond publishing within the public institutional framework. The largest part (78.8%) of the IPSPs or their parent organisations were either public organisations (28) or private not for profit organisations (16). The rest were either private companies (7), private companies entirely owned by the parent institution (3) or an informal group of volunteers (1).

These IPSPs ranged widely in size, from small, isolated journals to big publishers. The majority of IPSPs (57.7%) employed less than 10 staff, with an additional 32.7% employing no staff. Only five IPSPs (9.6%) employed more than 10 staff members. Among these, two organisations had more than 30 employees. One of these two is a major Italian private academic publisher.

Italian IPSPs show limited involvement in international and European professional networks and organisations like COPE, OASPA, AEUP, EASE, and similar entities. 6 IPSPs reported membership in a national publisher scholarly communication association.

53.8% of IPSPs (28/52) reported having an approved annual budget, with an additional IPSP reporting that the annual budget is approved by its parent organisation. In terms of budget volume in EUR, the most common amount (11/28) is in the range of 11-50K EUR, though the situation is rather diversified with a significant number of IPSPs either in the lower or higher ranges.

When asked about reliance on different forms of funding over the last 3 years, 21/52 (40.4%) IPSPs reported reliance on fixed and permanent subsidies from parent organisations, in most cases high (6) or very high (12) reliance.

The financial sustainability of IPSPs presents a multifaceted challenge, encompassing issues related to funding sources, operational efficiency, and the changing landscape of scholarly communication. Stable funding from parent organisations is crucial, with considerations for ongoing financial stability being pivotal for IPSPs. Despite a majority of Italian and institutional funders, a wide variety of funders (private foundations, private companies, museums and cultural institutes, international organisations) could be observed.

When asked to what extent IPSPs rely on non-monetary or in-kind support, most IPSP that expressed a preference had a high (7) or very high (17) reliance. Similarly for monetary income, where more IPSPs had a high (7) or very high (8) reliance than low (4) or very low (5).

For those IPSPs that have a parent organisation, the most common in kind support offered by the parent organisation consists in facilities and premises (81.2%), general IT services (78.1%), salaries of permanent staff (68.8%), Human Resource management, general financial and legal services (56.2%), service-specific IT services (50%). Other services mentioned are printing and shipping.

Most IPSPs reported that they rely on external services (76.9%). Those IPSPs that declared to use external editorial services (23/52) receive them on a voluntary basis (17) and/or outsource them (5) and/or as in-kind contribution (6). External production services are used by 32/52 IPSPs, provided on a voluntary basis (17) and/or as in-kind contribution (6) and/or outsourced (5). IT services are reported to be externalised for 28/52 IPSPs, mostly outsourced (17) and/or received as in-kind contribution (8) and/or on a voluntary basis (5) .

It is worth noting that disposition towards collaboration with other organisations was surveyed, revealing higher interest for collaboration in production, communication, training, and IT services (24, 24, 21, and 21 responses, respectively). In contrast, Editorial services received 17 responses, and administrative, legal, and financial services garnered only 9 responses, indicating relatively lower consideration for collaboration in these areas.

In terms of content, IPSPs primarily focus on journals, spanning social sciences, humanities, engineering, and natural sciences. Almost all responding IPSPs (50/52, 96%) either publish and/or provide publication services for academic journals with academic books being the second most published type of output.

Language preferences reveal the dominance of Italian, used in a majority of publications. English and Italian services are common, but multilingual publishing is limited, mostly bound to the publication of abstracts in English when the original

language is other than English, with some considering bilingual publishing and others contemplating simultaneous different language versions.

Out of 40 respondents to the question, 29 IPSPs (72.5% of respondents) publish 100% of their scholarly journals in Open Access, while the level of open access publishing in other products - academic books, conference proceedings, grey literature, has lower percentages.

25 IPSPs (53.2% of respondents) declared following their own policy for Open Science/Open Access of journals, 14 (29.8%) declared that they followed their parent organisation's policy, 12 (25.5%t) declared following the national policy. Another 3 IPSPs (6.4%) are in the process of adopting a policy either own or national as soon as it will become operational.

IPSPs provide one or more technical services, with a prevalence of full editorial workflow management, metadata and quality control, and hosting. Maintenance and updates of the services provided is often reported to be managed in-house by a dedicated publishing department or by an IT department. However, the share of full or partial outsourcing is significant in the responses. A similar pattern of distribution among the options emerged when respondents were asked about the maintenance and update of the technical infrastructure.

Open Journal System (OJS) is by far the prevalent response (65.3%) to the question on which publishing system IPSPs use. For books, Open Monograph Press (OMP) was the option preferred by 7 IPSP, in line with the share of book publishers among the respondents.

When asked about the assignment of PIDs, only three IPSPs responded they do not assign them while 5 don't know. Mostly PIDs are assigned for all publications of the IPSP (31), then for all journals (8) or at least for some journals (2). DOI were the most commonly used PIDs with CrossRef DOI (18), DataCite DOI (12) and Other DOI (14). ISSN identifiers (31 responses) and ISBN (23) were similarly common among responses. 2 IPSPs used Handle and 1 URN as PID.

Metadata released openly with a standard metadata description schema did not appear as a very common practice. 19 IPSPs declared to release metadata openly with a standard schema mostly under CC BY or another Creative Commons licence.

Not surprisingly, PDF is a publishing format adopted by all IPSPs who responded to the question (49). HTML (15), EPub (11), Video formats (10), Sound (3), XML (3), csv (2) are also formats used by IPSPs.

For most IPSPs archiving, backing up or preserving content is a challenge. Lack of human resources, financial constraints, technical limitations of existing infrastructure

are the obstacles most frequently reported when asked about challenges for providing adequate resources for the infrastructure and services, supplying and enriching metadata and PIDs, trying to achieve and maintain interoperability with other services. A consistent sign of the need of resources and training to improve such services. Rarely these are not considered challenges. IPSPs aim to improve indexation, facing hurdles related to metadata requirements and participation criteria.

Regarding EDIB, proactive measures are observed in certain dimensions. However, the survey underscores the complexity of comprehensively addressing diverse needs. Tailored and context-specific strategies are essential to foster a truly inclusive scholarly publishing environment in Italy.

The overview provides valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities faced by Italian IPSPs. As the scholarly communication landscape evolves, addressing issues such as financial sustainability, multilingualism, and enhanced visibility will be pivotal for Italian IPSPs to thrive in this dynamic publishing environment.

Kosovo

No responses received. Kosovo has no journals in DOAJ.

Malta

No responses received. Malta has two journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, one that lets the authors retain all rights, both are diamond journals.

Montenegro

One response received. Montenegro has nine journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 7 that let the authors retain all rights, five are diamond journals. Montenegro has seven institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), four of which publish diamond journals.

North Macedonia

Two responses received. North Macedonia has 15 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 10 that let the authors retain all rights, nine are diamond journals. North Macedonia has 12 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), seven of which publish diamond journals.

Portugal

Portugal has 166 journals in DOAJ, 6 with the DOAJ seal, 86 that let the authors retain all rights, 142 are diamond journals. Portugal has 93 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 88 of which publish diamond journals.

The Portuguese landscape report was completed by 18 IPSPs; 13 of them responded as IPs and 5 as SPs. These IPSPs were largely connected to public institutions (72.2%) and a minority (22.2%) are private or not-for-profit organisations. Half of them have a parent organisation.

More than half of the IPSPs interviewed have no paid staff directly employed by them (55.6%), while almost one-third (27.8%) have between 2 and 5 employees. Only 11.1% of the Portuguese participants had more than 30 people hired. In general, those IPSPs provide editorial services (77.8%), but also IT services (61.1%), production and communication services (50% of the sample).

A majority of IPSPs (16/18) provide publication and/or services for academic journals. Nine of them also provide publication or services for academic books. Half of the IPSPs publish from two to ten scholarly journals a year (based on information about 2022), while almost 40% of them published only one journal.

Social sciences are the most common area in which these IPSPs provide services and publication, with 58.8% of the cases. Humanities come in second place, with 47.1% of the participation, followed by 41.2% of multidisciplinary publications.

Less than half per cent of the participants start the year with an approved budget (47.1%). In the cases where there is a parent organisation, it generally provides in-kind support in three types: general IT services; Human Resource management, financial and legal services; and service-specific IT services. The most common technical services provided by the IPSPs are the full editorial workflow and hosting (58.8%); then user interface cited 41.2% of the time.

More than half of the participants use external services, including editorial ones, either in kind or voluntary. Portuguese IPSPs were mostly open to collaboration when considering IT services (58.8%), but also communication, editorial and production services (47.1% each).

Regarding the funding situation for IPSPs, the survey revealed low stability. The only types of funding appointed as stable or very stable were rather small. Among the stable or very stable forms, there were time-limited grants or subsidies from outside the organisation (stable for 14.3% of the participants and very stable for 7.1%); permanent public government funding (stable for 21.4% of the sample and very stable for 14.3% of them); voluntary author contributions (very stable for 7.7%) and content and print sales (stable for 7.7% of the respondents). These were the only categories in which the participants indicated stability in funding sources. The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), the country's public science funding agency, was the most indicated name of an external funder.

The arguments related to challenges for the financial sustainability of the services included a lack of responsiveness from the parent organisation regarding the

expansion of human resources, an excessive reliance on editors due to the independent nature of one of the IPSPs, a dependence on the national funding agency, and the evaluation of the research centre (parent organisation). In general, the survey participants are not expected to produce a profit or surplus in their organisations.

The majority of the sample reported following a national policy for open science/open access for journals (61.5%). 23.1% of the respondents follow the parent organisation policy, and 46.2% have their own policy. The reality for books is less developed than for journals, but still, 50% of the respondents said they follow a national policy for books, while 33.3% reported having their own policy.

75% of the respondents affirm publishing the totality of their journals in open access and a vast majority of IPSPs (93.8%) confirmed their implementation of open licences for all of their journals. 87.5% of IPSPs allow for self-archiving by authors.

The majority of the participants have not yet enabled open peer review practices and the recognition for contributor roles is still at an initial level.

Considerations of equity, diversity and inclusion dimensions are not yet common among Portuguese IPSPs. Only one participant has implemented them, and another one is considering them. All of the questions on these topics received fragmented answers, with no majority of respondents having implemented specific practices of diversity, inclusion and equity in a range of areas such as language, gender, ethnicity, culture, professional background, age, caring responsibilities, religious background, sexual identity, disability, among other topics.

Serbia

210 journals from Serbia are indexed in DOAJ, four with the DOAJ seal, 147 that let the authors retain all rights; 182 are diamond OA journals. According to GOA8, Serbia has 185 institutional publishers in DOAJ, 170 of which publish diamond journals.

The main actors in scholarly publishing in Serbia are scholarly institutions, learned societies and small non-for-profit organisations established and managed by scholars. The scholarly publishing landscape is marked by the prevalence of OA and free-to-read journals (the number of local subscription-based journals has always been insignificant). It is estimated that more than 400 scholarly journals are published in Serbia, which is a fairly large number compared to the size of the research community (17,512 researchers, according to the official statistics (2023)).

About two-thirds of journals have explicit OA policies and the vast majority do not charge publication fees. Public subsidies for publishing are provided by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation: for journals, monographs and conferences, through annual calls, but applicants are not required to make the subsidised outputs open access. Although Serbia has a national open science policy since 2018, there are no policy incentives for diamond OA publishing. So far, the

national library consortium (KoBSON) and EIFL have played a major role in diamond OA advocacy and training for local OA publishers.

No definitive lists of scholarly journals, monographs and conferences are publicly available on the national level, nor are there any nation-wide aggregators or publishing platforms. Until 2014, the Serbian Citation Index (SCIndeks), developed by the non-profit organisation Centre for Evaluation in Education and Science (CEON/CEES), operated as a national aggregator and publishing platform for journals, but it changed its role and business model when the support by the ministry responsible for science was discontinued.

Major service providers in scholarly publishing include: CEON/CEES (service SCIndeks; more than 100 journals), National Library of Serbia (service doiSerbia, supported by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation; 51-100 journals), University of Belgrade - Faculty of Philology (service doiFil) and the University Library of Kragujevac (DOI UBKG). While CEON/CEES offers a wide range of services, supporting both content display and editorial workflows, the other three providers act as DOI agencies providing landing pages for articles.

The only nation-wide study addressing open access journals in Serbia was published in 2017 (Ševkušić, Janković et al., 2017).

The DIAMAS survey, which targeted 280 Institutional Publishing Service Providers (IPSPs) in Serbia, received 79 responses. Survey invitations were sent via Qualtrics and were followed by repeated individual email invitations to institutions and an invitation posted on the website of the national library consortium. Three survey-a-thons were organised to help publishers respond to the survey. Two entities responded twice - as a journal and as a publisher.

According to the survey data, 73 (92.4%) respondents represent IPs, whereas 6 (7.6%) self-identify as SPs. One response is obviously incorrect. It is noteworthy that three-quarters of major local SPs responded to the survey. A higher response rate was expected among standalone journal publishers, and it would have been higher if the invitation had been directed to editorial boards, but this was not done to avoid duplicate responses. Despite this, the sample offers a good insight into the local OA publishing landscape.

The majority of respondents come from public organisations (73.4%according to the survey data, 69.6% after eliminating incorrect responses). The majority (32; 40.5%) of the individuals who responded to the survey are part of the editorial staff, but the number of librarians (16; 20.3%) is also significant.

Nearly 40% of the surveyed IPSPs (30) do not have any paid staff responsible for publishing activities. As expected, the majority of them (28) are IPs. A significant number of IPSPs (27; 34.6%) have 2-5 paid staff members involved in publishing.

All respondents mentioned English as one of the publication languages used and this has to do with the national guidelines for scholarly journals defined by the ministry responsible for science, according to which journals must provide at least abstract-level metadata in English. For 43 (54.4%) IPSPs, Serbian is the primary language, while in 27 (34.2%) it is English. There are nine (11.4%) IPSPs that publish in English only. Nearly half of the IPSPs use Serbian and English. Other common languages include French, Russian, Croatian, Bosnian and German. The survey does not reveal the long tail of languages used, as it looked only into the five main languages, nor does it reveal the tendency in local scholarly journals to fully switch to publishing in English, observed in previous research. (Ševkušić et al., 2017; Ševkušić, Kosanović et al., 2020).

The survey data about membership in international organisations are inaccurate. Although 18 respondents claimed membership in a 'national publisher/scholarly communication association', this information cannot be confirmed based on available data. According to the official membership information, there is only one OASPA member from Serbia (two claimed membership in the survey), three COPE members (five in the survey), no EASE members (one in the survey), and there is only one signatory of DORA.

IPSPs in Serbia mostly publish journals, book and conference outputs. The survey data are not fully reliable due to several incorrect responses. Most IPSPs publish one (34; 43%) or 2-5 journals (47; 46.8%). SPs are evenly spread across size categories, with the largest one publishing more than 100 journals. Nearly 80% of IPSPs publish 11-100 articles and 1-10 books per year, while more than 70% publish 1-20 conference outputs. Three service providers publish journals only.

The majority of IPSPs (56; 70.9%) use external services. While editorial services, communication and administrative, legal and financial services are often provided in kind or on a voluntary basis, production and IT services are more commonly outsourced, and IPSPs are the most likely (28; 35.9% and 30; 38.5%, respectively) to consider collaboration with other organisations in order to obtain these services. Editorial services (23; 29.5%) are another area where collaboration is welcome. The most commonly used external services include DOI assignment (by the national Library of Serbia and CEON/CEES), hosting (by the national academic network AMRES or through commercial providers), the provision of journal management platforms (e.g. CEON/CEES Aseestant), as well as copyediting, translation and prepress services.

The full scope of the in-kind support provided by the parent organisation is difficult to assess, as less than one-third of the respondents provided information, but it usually includes facilities, IT services and human resources management.

Nearly 60% of IPSPs (46) have an approved annual budget. However, less than half of them shared the information about its approximate amount. Most IPSPs have a budget of 1-10K EUR (21; 26.6% of the total sample) and less than 1K EUR (7; 8.9% of the total sample). There are no IPSPs with a budget higher than 50K EUR and the 11-50K EUR group includes three IPs and one SP. In most IPSPs (61; 77.2%) the income and

expenses are monitored and formally administered. IPSPs are usually not expected to create a profit.

Dominant funding types include subsidies, permanent government funding and grants, which tend to be stable for nearly 50% of the respondents, while collective funding and author contributions are not common forms of funding. Apart from the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation and some research institutions and local public authorities, few other funders are mentioned and they include Horizon and ERASMUS+ programmes and several private companies.

Major challenges to sustainability are related to public funding: the risk of discontinued support, as subsidies are provided through annual calls; excessive dependence on public subsidies; and insufficient funding. Several IPSPs also mentioned unstable submission rates and difficulties in providing volunteer support, while the major SP highlighted the influence of the big international databases and service providers, who act as competition.

Most IPSPs have internal documents such as statutes or by-laws (66; 85.7%) and policies (35; 52.2%). Governance models predominantly rely on governing boards and the IPSPs that include representation from the wider scholarly community account for nearly 40%.

While journals are mostly fully OA, a significant share of academic books are not OA. Conference outputs are more likely to be OA than books. As for journals, most publishers follow either the national OA policy or the parent institution's policy, or they have their own policy (most respondents provided links to journal policies; more than 300 journals in Serbia have OA policies). Although the national and institutional policies mandate OA to publicly funded books and conference outputs, it is impossible to assess their effectiveness, all the more since the survey data relating to the openness of these outputs are unreliable.

More than 80% of IPSPs allow self-archiving in open repositories and sharing on social networks. The majority use Creative Commons licences (59; 77.6%) for all journals, but less than 20% (14; 18.4%) use licences for books. CC BY and CC BY-NC-ND are the most common licences (29; 47.5% and 20; 32.8%, respectively). However, the share of those who have data policies, accept submissions previously published as preprints, and would consider introducing open peer review is still small and it ranges between 20% and 30%. The compliance with I4OC for journal outputs (more than 60% of IPSPs) is ensured thanks to two service providers (National Library of Serbia and CEON/CEES). Although some IPSPs claim that they follow the I4OC principle for books, it is unlikely that any of them can ensure this. A small number of IPSPs use the CRediT taxonomy (10; 12.8%) and many are not even familiar with the concept (24; 30.8%).

About 80% of IPSPs are involved in the editorial management of journals, especially in recruiting editorial board members (nearly 90%) and reviewers (more than 60%),

coordinating peer review, basic checks on the adherence with the scope of the journal and compliance with author and reviewer guidelines (around 50%). This corresponds to their involvement in managing editorial quality (nearly 70%) and creating guidelines (85%).

Double-anonymous peer review prevails (44; 77.8%), and this has to do with the fact that until recently this peer review model was required by the national guidelines for scholarly journals. Single-anonymous peer review accounts for less than 20%. The information about open peer review and editorial review is probably not reliable. In all scholarly books, reviewers' identities are open, but this is not reflected in the survey data.

Most IPSPs (60; 76.9%) have research integrity or publication ethics policies.

IPSPs usually provide the full editorial workflow (51; 65.4%) and hosting (30; 38.5%) and take care of metadata and quality control (39; 50%). Most IPSPs provide multiple services. Services are mainly maintained in-house by an IT department (28; 41.8%) or a dedicated publishing department (22; 32.8%). However, a significant number of respondents outsource services fully (6; 9%) or partially (21; 31.3%). The technical infrastructure is also prevailingly maintained in-house by IT departments (29; 45.3%), publishing departments (22; 32.8%), or other departments (9; 14.1%), though more than one-third of the respondents outsource infrastructure fully or partially. Half of the respondents use OJS as the publishing platform. The survey data do not reveal the real scale of the usage and the role of locally developed or customised publishing platforms, such as OJS-based SCIndeks Aseestant (six IPs and one major SP), doiSerbia. Previous research (Ševkušić et al., 2017) shows that many journals use multiple platforms, which makes the analysis even more difficult.

The survey data on the implementation of PIDs do not reveal the full PID usage landscape. The usage of ISBN, ISSN and DOI (in journals only) is mandatory for the recognition of publications in the national research evaluation system, and the survey data on ISBN and ISSN seem to understate the actual usage of these identifiers. The most commonly used PID is CrossRef DOI (53; 81.5%), but other DOIs are also used (nearly 20%).

Although the survey data suggest that some IPSPs share the metadata under CC licences, in reality few of them have a metadata policy.

All IPSPs provide content in the PDF format. Nearly 30% of the respondents provide content as HTML, while the share of those providing full text in XML is still very small (6; 7.7%).

Less than half of the respondents have a backup policy in place. The published content is preserved by the National Library of Serbia (nearly 90%). A small number of IPSPs use services like LOCKSS or CLOCKSS. Financial constraints primarily affect infrastructure

and services, while the lack of human resources is a major challenge for the missing or low quality metadata and PIDs and the lack of interoperability with other services.

More than half of the respondents would like to have better coverage in search indexes and databases but only some of them mention specific services (mostly the Web of Science and Scopus). IPSPs are actively involved in indexation management (53; 74.6%). Meeting the metadata requirements and technical and non-technical criteria are perceived as major challenges in applying for indexation.

Nearly 40% of IPSPs do not have a newsletter, social media or networking profile. The survey data about data protection and privacy policies should be taken with reserve. There is a national law on privacy and data protection and it is possible that some IPSPs refer to the law and others to institutional policies.

Less than half (35; 44.9%) of the respondents display metrics. The prevalent metrics are the data about submissions, acceptance and publication dates (this is required by the national guidelines for scholarly journals and the survey figures seem to understate the presence of this information). Article/publication level usage metrics such as visits, views, downloads, and publication-level impact metrics, such as Journal Impact Factor are also used.

The share of IPSPs that address various dimensions of EDIB ranges between 40% and 50%, depending on the dimension. Less than half IPSPs have a code of conduct/non-discrimination/positive discrimination policy and the share of those who are implementing measures to ensure and promote equity diversity inclusion and belonging ranges between 15% and 30%. The high share of the 'not applicable' and 'don't know' answers (15-50%) might suggest that some IPSP are not familiar with these concepts.

Less than 20% of IPSP claim to have an accessibility policy. None of the accessibility standards are implemented by local IPSPs and they are largely unfamiliar with these standards. The lack of expertise is either a very important or important challenge in this area for about 65% of the respondents.

Slovenia

Eight responses received. Slovenia has 73 journals in DOAJ, two with the DOAJ seal, 54 that let the authors retain all rights, 69 are diamond journals. Slovenia has 34 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 31 of which publish diamond journals.

Spain

Spain has 53 public universities and 36 private ones, according to the Universities, Centers, and Degrees Statistics (EUCT) published by the Ministry of Universities in

2022. Their publishing departments provide the bulk of scholarly communication in the country, in a compact and well-structured sector.

Institutional publishers and scientific journal publication services are strongly represented in the Spanish University Publishers Union (Unión de Editoriales Universitarias Españolas or UNE), which, with 72 registered members, aims at coordinating editorial efforts among its members, facilitate co-editions of university publications across institutions, and promote the dissemination and promotion of the editorial assets of its members.

In addition to universities, some research institutions, like the Spanish National Research Council (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas or CSIC), also play a significant role. The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) is the largest research institution in Spain, with more than 4,000 researchers.

There appears to be no clear link between the number of journals and the quantity of papers published by Spanish IPs. According to the data extracted from the survey, there are universities with a number of journals ranging between 51 to 100 for a total of more than 500 papers, and other institutions editing no more than 20 journals with the same number of published papers.

Most survey respondents consider themselves IPs, while only four position their work within editorial services (SPs).

The survey was distributed to the complete FECYT journal database (approximately 1,700 journals) and the UNE database (72 members). All emails sent informed the target audience of the survey: Institutional Publishers and Service Providers (IPSPs). The importance of reaching editors was communicated, so that journals could forward the survey to the editorial representatives of the supporting institution.

A detailed analysis of the entities that publish journals contained in the FECYT database indicates that a total of 124 publishing entities, including universities, research centres, and professional associations, publish most of the identified journals.

The survey was sent to 1,772 email addresses (1,700 FECYT journals plus the 72 UNE associates), reaching a total of 124 IPSPs.

Only four of the 74 (5.4%) respondents consider themselves SPs, while the remaining 71 (95.4%) define themselves as IPs. Most of the 74 IPSPs who responded to the survey claim to be involved in editing and/or providing services in a multidisciplinary environment. Among them, 19 (25.6%) are editors in the specific disciplines of Social Sciences and/or Humanities, and 7 (9.4%) are editors in Natural Sciences and/or Engineering.

18 (24.3%) IPSPs were not affiliated with any parent organisation, while 9 (12%) stated that they do not have access to this information. The remaining 48 (64.8%) rely on a parent organisation for support, which may encompass facilities and premises, human

resource management, general financial and legal services, general IT facilities, and salaries of permanent staff.

Out of the total survey participants, one works with texts in English, and three publish exclusively in Spanish (Castilian). The remaining 70 respondents confirm that they work with publications in Spanish and at least one other language. These additional languages include both regional languages within Spain (Galician, Basque, and/or Catalan) and international languages such as French, English, German, Italian, Portuguese, or Russian. English is the second most used language after Spanish. It is noteworthy that almost all journals that have versions in both Spanish and Catalan also provide their services in English. Many of the journals published in Spanish and Catalan also offer versions in Galician, while no more than five (6.7%) are additionally published in Basque, alongside other national languages.

Multilingualism thus seems to be a well-established practice in open access scientific journal publishing in Spain.

When discussing membership associations, 28 (37.8%) IPSPs stated that they do not belong to any association or coalition, 13 (17.5%) were unsure about their association membership, and 24 (32.4%) claimed to be part of an international organisation.

Among the 32.4% who reported being part of an international association, there is no single one standing out significantly. The most mentioned are OASPA, OPA Europe, the Federation of European Publishers (FEP), CoAra, DORA, and EASE.

69 out of the 74 respondents (92%) focus on publishing academic journals, with some also involved in book publishing and texts or other content resulting from conferences and professional meetings. Fewer IPSPs reported other publishing products such as research-derived items, datasets, digital scholarship, or software. A limited number of respondents mentioned publishing materials directed toward the media, in addition to digital outputs and non-academic content. Only seven (9.4%) respondents claimed to publish some form of non-academic content.

Most IPSPs indicated that they cover various fields of knowledge, making them multidisciplinary. Only five (6.7%) respondents specified that their publishing scope is limited to a single discipline: humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences.

Most academic journal publishers in Spain, 58 out of 74 respondents (78.3%), start the fiscal year with an allocated annual budget. They confirm that both their revenues and expenses are monitored, as it is mandatory.

When detailing the activities carried out by external maintenance (75.6% make use of them, while 18.9% handle all editorial work in-house), IPSPs mention editorial and production services, IT and/or communication support, administrative, legal, and financial services, training, and/or advice on publishing policies and best practices. There is a wide range of contracted assistance, and the percentages do not provide a clear overall picture of which activities are generally outsourced. It is noteworthy that

the term 'volunteer' appears repeatedly, and that the idea of collaborating with other organisations is sometimes considered, with no unanimity.

External funding often comes from national or local political entities. Mentioned funders include the Government of Spain or specific ministries like the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the Ministry of Innovation and Universities. Additionally, financial support from initiatives such as María de Guzmán, managed by FECYT, as well as municipalities, provinces, and/or autonomous communities where IPSPs operate, are mentioned. In a couple of cases, other management entities, both public and private, like CEDRO or the University-Company Foundation, are cited.

Only seven (9.4%) of the respondents confirm that they expect to generate profits or surpluses, stating that they plan "to invest in our own operation or create a financial buffer".

The majority of the 74 entities that responded to the survey do have a document describing their governance: 75.6%, a total of 56 IPSPs, answered this question affirmatively, confirming that they have some form of statutes or association regulations (internal rules). Meanwhile, 10 (13.5%) of them stated that they have no governance model, and five (6.7%) were unsure of how to respond.

Out of the 74 surveys received, 62 (91.8%) indicate that 100% of their academic/scholarly journals are published in OA, while the level of OA publishing in other products - academic books, conference proceedings, grey literature, non-standard research outputs, datasets, digital studies, software... - has much lower percentages, sometimes as low as 1%.

The publication of scientific journals in OA appears to be a widespread and common practice among Spanish IPSPs. Many of these publications can be considered diamond OA.

Institutional publishers mostly have OA policies. Only nine (12.1%) out of the 74 participants stated that they do not follow any open science/open access policy. Among the 65 (87.8%) IPSPs that do have OA policies, there is a similar share in terms of whether the policy they follow aligns with a national policy, their parent organisation's policy, or their own policy.

In Spain, 58 out of 74 respondents (78.3%) claim to be involved in the editorial management of their publications, either through hiring, management, coordinating the peer review process, or through checks on compliance with guidelines, ethical consent, or plagiarism control. Most editors appear to be involved in editorial quality management through some form of guidance or instructions to maintain quality.

Regarding peer review, and considering the total responses, there is some diversity. The majority (27/74, 36.4%) conduct only a double-blind peer review, although there are also editors who add an editorial review to it. Single-blind peer review, confirmed by a total of 10 (13.5%) respondents, is the second most used modality.

In response to the question of whether they have a specific research integrity policy for publication, the majority (53/74, 71.6%) answer affirmatively, while nine (12.1%) state that they do not have any such policy, and another nine are unaware.

When discussing technical support, only two (2.7%) IPSPs that participated in the survey state that they offer a full editorial workflow. The other 72 (97.2%) offer, in addition to a full editorial workflow, a range of other services such as hosting, software, metadata, quality control, or user interface. Both the services and the technical infrastructure of the IPSPs, according to their responses, are managed internally: through an in-house department with technical staff, through the editorial department itself, or across different departments. In contrast, external contracting for both functions, whether partial (28, 37.8%), primary (10, 13.5%), or total (6, 8.1%), is less common.

Only four (5.4%) participants claim to use customization software or own development, but just three of them (4%) specify the type of development they work with. When it comes to a proprietary system and OJS, the number rises to five (6.7%), while only one (1.3%) says that they use other open-source software without specifying which one, and another one mentions using WordPress.

The majority of IPSPs that responded to the survey (62/74, 83.7%), say they use OJS, either exclusively or in combination with other systems such as Drupal, Janeway, Dataverse, WordPress, etc.

Regarding identifiers, 59 out of the 74 respondents (79.9%) state that they use them, either for publications, for all journals, or for some journals, while four (5.4%) say they do not use any identifiers. The main identifiers they refer to are CrossRef DOI, ISSN, ISBN, Datacite DOI, Handle, URK, and URN.

Almost all respondents (only seven, 9.4%, claim not to use a licence) state that they use a CC BY licence or CC BY along with some other Creative Commons licence, while four (5.4%) publish their content under CC0.

The 74 IPSPs that responded to the survey publish their content in PDF, either exclusively or in combination with other formats such as HTML, XML, JSON, ePub.

The archiving policy leaves no room for doubt, except for six (8.1%), the rest claim to have some archiving policy. PKP PN is the most used: 16 (21.6%) of the total.

Financial problems, administrative constraints, and a lack of personnel are, according to the responses, the main challenges facing Spanish IPSPs.

Most of the respondents confirm being responsible for the management (inclusion) of their products in scientific information databases. Many claim to be satisfied with the level of inclusion of content in academic indexes and search engines, mentioning Scopus, Clarivate, Scimago, or Google Scholar as their preferences for improving the indexing of their editorial outputs.

Regarding communication, eight out of the 74 IPSPs who responded to the survey (10.8%) claim to have an informative newsletter, and two (2.7%) cannot confirm it.

Regarding data protection policy, only one of the participants indicated that they do not have one, and two (2.7%) cannot confirm it. All those with a privacy policy adhere to the guidelines of the GDPR of the European Union.

When it comes to metrics, 17 (22.9%) confirm that they do not offer any type of measurement publicly, and two (2.7%) have no information. Of those who do offer metrics or public measurements, the majority focus on submission, acceptance, and publication dates, as well as usage metrics (both for papers and publications in general) related to visits, page views, and downloads. Impact metrics, rejection rates, and alternative metrics (such as Altmetric, PlumX Metrics) are barely mentioned in the survey, as are samples of geographic distribution.

Among the dimensions offered in terms of EDIB, IPSPs prioritise language and gender equity. In these two aspects, around 30-40% of the respondents consider that they have implemented some measures, or that these are in progress and/or under consideration. Other elements, such as sexual identity, ethnicity, culture, socioeconomic background, educational and professional backgrounds, caregiving responsibilities, or disability, do not generate as much interest among the editors. These elements are not considered a problem in Spain.

Most respondents use 'don't know/no answer', or 'not applicable' to talk about these aspects, although there are IPSPs (few) that openly acknowledge not having planned any policies in this regard.

There is a significant group of IPSPs, 32 (43.2%), that have implemented accessibility measures, although they do not highlight specific requirements such as ATAG, WCAG, UAAG, OpenAIRE guidelines, or DINI certification. Some mention compliance with the Royal Decree 1112/2018 of September 7, 2018, on the accessibility of websites and mobile applications in the public sector.

Western Europe

Austria

Even though the DIAMAS survey was answered by only a few IPSPs in Austria, conditions for OA and institutional publishing are currently extremely favourable, and Open Access/Open Science has been receiving a great level of attention and support for some time now. In 2012, the Open Access Network Austria (OANA) was founded as a central information source and contact point for OA, and recommendations were already formulated in 2015 on how to shift all scientific publishing in Austria to OA by 2025.

In addition, Austria has had an Open Science Policy since February 2022 and with Open Science Austria, a platform from the Austrian University Conference that advances the topic of Open Science with an interdisciplinary perspective. Looking at the key numbers determined by DIAMAS for all participating European countries with regard to publishing in Open Access and diamond Open Access, the already well advanced transformation is approved, even if the complete conversion to Open Access has not yet been completed. The DOAJ lists 59 journals for Austria, six of which have the DOAJ seal. 46 of the 59 journals let the authors retain all rights, already 50 of the 59 are diamond journals. A total of 37 IPs are listed in the DOAJ for Austria, of which 31 publish diamond OA journals. Besides these numbers four institutions from Austria are members of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Universitätsverlage (AG Universitätsverlage) as the central network for German-language university presses.

Five IPSPs, all public organisations, participated in the DIAMAS survey, which publish mainly (4/5) in German and English, besides which one IPSP also publishes in French, Greek and Italian. Four of the five identify themselves as IPs, the other as an SP. Four of the five have a parent organisation of which two are providing their services only to the parent organisation, which might be influenced by the small size of the IPSPs (four out of five have fewer than two employees). Two IPSPs support external publishing and one participant did not answer the question. The services provided include IT support (4) and/or Editorial (3) and Production (2) support. Perhaps also due to their small size, the participating IPSPs are members of only a very small number of the 13 queried international coalitions and initiatives on Open Access.

The publications made available from the IPSPs are mainly academic journals (2) and academic books (3). Regarding the publication outcome for 2022, three out of five publish between 21-50 journals, two only publish a single academic journal. One out of five publishes academic books, one 11-20, and one 51-100.

Almost all the participants are active in the humanities (4) and/or social sciences (3), sometimes in combination with a multidisciplinary approach (4).

Belgium

Belgium has some 12 universities, four each in Flanders, Wallonia and the Brussels region. Many universities have university colleges or so-called 'Hogescholen' attached to them. While the universities have a strong research focus, the university colleges are more teaching oriented. In addition to the higher education sector, there are also a few dozen technology institutes. There are two academies of arts and sciences (ARB and KVAB), promoting arts and sciences. FWO (Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Vlaanderen or Research Foundation - Flanders) is the main funding organisation for the Flemish community, and F.R.S.–FNRS (Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS) for the French community. BELSPO is an organisation that prepares, implements and evaluates federal science policy on behalf of the Government. The Universities of Liège

and Leuven/Louvain have university presses. The Flemish Royal Academy KVAB publishes scholarly publication series through a commercial publisher.

Both FWO and FRS have open access mandates, requiring green OA but providing some financial support for financing gold OA through grant budgets (for FRS, only for full OA journals and with a maximum of 750 EUR, for FWO no limitations are specified). Since 2018 there is a federal law for secondary publishing rights. It gives authors the right (with retroactive effect) to make the results of their research freely available for social and human sciences after a period of twelve months and for other sciences after a period of six months, in the form of the author accepted manuscript, if at least half of this was funded with public funds. As yet there is very limited uptake of transformative agreements. In Flanders there is the Flemish Open Science Board (2019) that invests 5M EUR in Open Science (mainly RDM), and Open Science KPIs have been agreed upon, one of which strives for an 80% Open Access rate for journal articles resulting from Flemish public funding.

DIAMAS research found that Belgium has 53 journals in DOAJ, two with the DOAJ seal, 41 that let the authors retain all rights. Almost all (50/53) journals in DOAJ are diamond journals. Belgium has 22 institutional publishers in DOAJ (according to GOA8), 22 of which publish diamond journals.

The DIAMAS survey received eight valid responses from Belgium, five of which self-identify as IPs and three as SPs. The number of responses mean that the data should be treated with caution but do give evidence of practices and opinion in a part of the Belgian institutional publishing sector.

Respondents in the survey indicated they use either English, French or Dutch as primary language, with the majority publishing in all three languages, and some also in German, Spanish and/or Italian. Two IPSP publish in French but not Dutch, and one only in Dutch.

Membership of organisations and signing of charters is very low, with just a couple being members of publisher organisations (including OASPA) or signing DORA. Two organisations/initiatives with slightly higher uptake are AEUP and CoARA , which each have three out of eight IPSPs as members or signatories.

More than half of the IPSPs are part of a parent organisation, with three operating independently but owned or governed by the parent organisation, and two being part of a library. Most have at least some paid staff, with half of the respondents employing more than five FTE.

Most Belgian IPSPs in the survey focus on a subset of publishing activities, with a clear difference between IPs and SPs: the latter focus more on IT, communication, and training/support/advice and the former on average more on editorial functions and production.

Regarding portfolios: seven IPSPs say they publish and/or service journals, four say they publish and/or service books, with a further five involved in conference output and four (not necessarily the same) working on grey literature, non-academic outputs or other output formats. In terms of the size of journal portfolios, most IPSPs in the Belgian subset of the survey results are quite small, with five or fewer journals, with two publishers having 21-50 journals. The four IPSPs that are engaged in (supporting) book publishing publish less than 50 books a year, with half of them publishing 10 books or less.

Unsurprisingly, in terms of disciplines, the majority of IPSPs are active in humanities, social sciences and multidisciplinary publishing, with for instance only two out of eight active in the natural sciences.

Five out of eight IPSPs (both IPs and SPs) indicated to use a range of external services, most often via in-kind contributions.

Most types of funding are viewed as not applicable for half or more of the responding IPSPs. Subsidies from the parent organisations are the funding sources that IPSPs most often report being somewhat or highly dependent on. Overall though, the funding picture is scattered with all sources used, but no clear pattern or reliance on a specific type. The different sources of funding are perceived as stable for most IPSPs. Of the five IPSPs that also rely on non-monetary/in kind support, all but one indicate that reliance is high to very high, regardless of whether they see that as problematic or not.

Five organisations (including one SP) state that they would consider collaboration with other organisations: most often on IT services, communication, and training and support.

Regarding the formal description of activities, five IPSPs say they have formal statutes or by-laws, but only one says there is external legislation or policy requiring that. All but one organisation state they have OA policies for journal publishing: they either follow a national policy, and may also have a policy of their own or in their parent organisation.

Even though seven out of the eight respondents are involved in journal publishing, four say that preprints are not applicable to them. The others accept preprinted submissions for some or all of their journals. Very few IPSPs impose embargoes. Three organisations provide open metadata and two do not. Almost all work with Creative Commons licences for journals and one also for books, the majority offering CC BY, and sometimes also CC BY-NC or CC BY-SA. One IP only offers CC BY-SA licences. Open peer review is not currently offered, but one respondent is considering it. CRediT contributor roles are apparently not known or not considered, as no IPSP is using these. Over half of respondents are involved in editorial management, performing all or most of the tasks involved in that. Double blind peer review is by far the most common practice, with a minority also offering single-blind peer review.

All but one of the Belgian IPSPs responding provide at least one type of technical service, with hosting and full editorial workflow being the most common one, closely followed by metadata and quality control and user interfaces. Publishing systems used are mixed, with OJS used by four respondents. Dataverse, Editorial Manager, Janeway and Lodel are also mentioned. PDF is the most popular format for publications by far, with about half also using HTML. The majority of IPSPs do have an archiving policy, with most using national or institutional library infrastructure.

It appears that in general, and for most types of activities, at least some IPSPs face challenges. These are mostly varied though, with IPSPs indicating at the same time different types of constraints and different challenges. Some challenges do jump out. For instance, there are often financial and human resource constraints to providing adequate infrastructure and services. Indexing seems to be a relatively minor issue among respondents, with four out of six IPSPs saying their content is already well indexed - the other looking to be indexed in DOAJ and databases like Scopus, respectively. Challenges in indexing are varied, with more than one IPSP mentioning an issue with communications/requirements/paperwork being only in English.

Most IPSPs have a privacy policy and a data protection policy. Regarding EDIB issues, most IPSPs are not (yet) planning measures or policies, or consider these not applicable. All but one have their services available in English, as well as either in Dutch (2) or French (2) or both (3). Only two IPSPs provide their services only in Dutch or French, respectively. Quite a few do publish texts in multiple languages.

France

France has a longstanding tradition of supporting institutional and diamond publishing, a practice outlined in the position paper titled "Le modèle d'accès ouvert Diamant: Politiques et stratégies des acteurs français." Infrastructures play a pivotal role in bolstering the diamond model, with its origins tracing back to 1999 when four learned society journals collaborated to pool resources for hosting and disseminating their content online. The grassroots platform, initially known as Revues.org, steadily expanded over the years and sought sustainability through institutional support. Later, it transformed into OpenEdition, becoming a national research infrastructure. This transformation allowed the hosting and dissemination of 521 diamond journals and 10,000 books on OpenEdition platforms, recently complemented by other platforms (e.g. Réseau Repères for new diamond Open Access journals (85 journals), Centre Mersenne for 24 journals in mathematics, Episciences for 27 overlay journals). In addition, France boasts 38 university presses and more than 60 other publishing departments within research institutions, publishing a total of 279 journals with various business models, according to the recent Dandurand report. Today, France has 311 journals in DOAJ, 40 with the DOAJ seal, 133 let the authors retain all rights, 279 are diamond journals. France has 163 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 160 of which publish diamond journals.

Since the adoption of the first National Plan for Open Science by the French Ministry of Research in 2018, most universities and research institutions have adopted

institutional policies. These policies encompass not only the green route of open access but also their publishing activities through their presses and other publishing units. This robust support for institutional open access and diamond publishing extends to both journals and books. As a result, a specific national landscape has emerged, underpinned by a strong national policy. This is reflected locally through institutional open science charters and implemented by institutional presses, as well as a blend of institutional and national infrastructures.

In the domain of social sciences and humanities (SSH), which plays a pivotal role in this model, the SSH institute of CNRS (INSHS) has shifted its general funding policy in support of all SSH journals, towards progressively more OA journals, a part of which fall under the diamond model, whether they are published by public or private publishers. Given the national prominence of CNRS, this shift is a critical factor providing structural support to the diamond model in France.

However, as far as policies are concerned, support for institutional publishing and the diamond model has emerged more recently and faces certain limitations due to the specific national context, resulting in what could be referred to as the 'French paradox.' On the one hand, supporting diamond is an explicit objective of the Second Open Science National Plan, and several important regional and national institutions, such as CNRS, have adopted firm policies in favour of the diamond model, naturally subscribing to the Action Plan for Diamond Open Access (The French research funding agency, ANR, is one of the four organisations that co-authored the Action Plan). On the other hand, the involvement of public institutions in publishing is restricted and closely monitored at the governmental level to prevent 'unfair competition' with the commercial sector and safeguard the interests of private publishers. This situation inadvertently imposes strong constraints and paradoxical directives on IPSPs, hampering the potential development of the diamond model in France.

In France, the diamond model is widely perceived as having a strong connection with the promotion of cultural diversity and bibliodiversity. This perspective is outlined in the Jussieu call for Open Science and Bibliodiversity, which has been endorsed by numerous French institutions and integrated into their open science charters. This connection is particularly significant due to the emphasis on SSH in diamond OA, where publications in the national language have a particular position. It is also influenced by the historical significance of the French language as a dominant language for scientific publications before it was overtaken by English in many disciplines.

The survey received 60 responses from French IPSPs, making France the fourth most significant contributor in terms of the number of respondents. The responses from French IPSPs closely reflect the situation described above, especially the deep integration of diamond publishing in the public institutional landscape. In particular, 71% of French IPSPs declared being part of a parent institution, compared to 56% for all respondents. Almost half of the respondents in the French IPSP panel represent the publication services or presses of traditional universities and research institutions,

many of which are either part of institutions or operate independently while being governed by the institution. The types and sizes of IPSPs represented in the French sample are highly diverse, ranging from long-established institutions to brand new initiatives. They vary in size from isolated journals with fewer than one FTE staff to national infrastructures hosting over 600 journals and employing more than 50 FTEs. However, despite some exceptions, the medium size of French IPSPs is similar to that of other countries, with the majority relying on one to five FTEs.

Surprisingly, compared to other countries, French IPSPs offer a broader spectrum of services to their users. Specifically, 71.7% provide administrative, legal, and financial services, 70% offer communication services, 81.7% provide editorial services, 63.3% handle IT services, 91.7% are engaged in production, and 71.7% offer training, support, and advice. An impressive 85% of them report using external services, which possibly explains their ability to provide a wide range of services despite the relatively small size of their teams.

In terms of production size, it is noteworthy that the production of books is relatively low, with 54% of IPSPs reporting the publication of one to 10 books per year. In contrast, 35% of IPSPs state that they manage the production of 6 to 20 journals.

The strong integration of French IPSPs in the public sector results in several characteristic features confirmed by the survey. A sizable 81% of them have a formally administered budget, while 68% have an approved annual budget. Almost all of them benefit from in-kind support from their parent institution, particularly in terms of IT (95%), administrative and financial management (93%), and seconded personnel (83%). Therefore, they consider the resources they receive from their parent institutions to be more stable compared to other countries. For instance, 76% of them believe that the permanent subsidies provided by their parent institution have remained stable or very stable over the last three years.

Relative to other countries, the governance of French IPSPs is less formalised, with only 53% of them having a governing board, and merely 9% undergoing external audits of their accounts. This less formalised governance structure can be explained by their integration into the administrative framework of their parent institution. Many of them do not have a distinct legal existence and are fully merged into the institution's organisational chart, often as a ‘department’, a ‘service’, or a subsection of larger departments. On the other hand, the academic ethos of institutions implies that activities are continually monitored by the larger scientific community through involvement in scientific committees. This applies to a larger proportion of French IPSPs (60%) compared to other countries (38%).

The integration of French IPSPs into national policies via their parent institutions is striking. For journals, 70% of them report following a national policy, while 44% adhere to the policy of their parent institution. Given the network of relatively robust public infrastructures at their disposal, French IPSPs deliver content that is technically up-to-date. A sizable 60% of them use Lodel, a CMS software capable of managing SSP (Single Source Publishing). Furthermore, a larger proportion of them are able to deliver

content in various formats, including Epub (32%), HTML (78%), and XML (35%). An impressive 87% of them use Crossref DOIs, which is 10 percentage points above the survey average. French IPSPs are also more actively involved in managing or monitoring the editorial quality of journals (98%) as compared to their counterparts in other countries (74%).

The engagement of French IPSPs in international and European professional networks and organisations, such as COPE, OASPA, AEUP, EASE, and others, is relatively limited. However, this trend is not unique to France and consistent with the situation in other countries. Notably, there is one critical area in which French IPSPs significantly lag behind their European counterparts: the realm of EDIB.

When it comes to EDIB policies, French IPSPs generally score significantly below the European average on various dimensions. For instance, only 12% of them have implemented a policy addressing issues related to ethnicity and culture, whereas the European average stands at 24%. Similarly, 17% have policies addressing gender bias compared to the European average of 32%. In the context of religious background, only 7% have established policies (compared to 21% in Europe), and for sexual identity, a mere 10% have policies (versus 22% in Europe), among other dimensions.

Moreover, when asked about their consideration or progress on these EDI topics, French IPSPs also exhibit significantly low scores. In fact, a considerable number of them view most EDIB dimensions as 'not applicable" or do not consider them worthy of attention. The sole exception to this pattern is multilingualism, particularly in alignment with the earlier mentioned Jussieu call for bibliodiversity in open science.

Strikingly, 54% of French IPSPs report that they do not have a published accessibility policy, a situation that could potentially lead to legal issues in France, especially since 2019, when it became mandatory for public websites to adhere to accessibility standards. Their actual compliance with accessibility standards, including WCAG, ATAG, UAAG, is remarkably low. This is particularly concerning, given that French IPSPs will be legally required to achieve 75% compliance by December 2023 and full compliance by 2027.

Germany

Open Access and, in particular, diamond OA publishing are increasingly becoming the focus of politicians, research institutions and scientists in Germany. The Gold OA figures of the commercial publishers Springer and Wiley with DEAL contracts (since September 2023 also Elsevier) show a large penetration of Open Access generally. In the years 2020 to 2022 authors in Germany published more than 75,000 publications in the journals of DEAL publishers. However, the concept and the associated costs of DEAL contracts are not suitable for implementing a sustainable OA transformation. To counter the rising costs of commercial publishers for OA publications, funders such as

the German Research Foundation (DFG), which most recently signed the Action Plan for Diamond Open Access, are therefore increasingly focusing on institutional publishing.

The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Federal States (KMK) call in their joint guidelines for the federal and state governments for OA to become the standard for publicly funded research and explicitly support the strengthening of diamond OA.

In order to obtain a better overview of the complex OA and diamond OA publication landscape and its needs, there are various initiatives and surveys in Germany which, like DIAMAS, are dedicated to this topic. A current example in Germany is the comprehensive study 'Mapping the German diamond open access journal landscape' (Taubert, Sterzik et al., 2023), which addresses, amongst others, the problem of the sustainability of small and medium-sized diamond journals.

But what are the current numbers for diamond OA and institutional publishing found by DIAMAS research? According to the diamond OA List Germany (DOAG) (Bruns et al., 2022), there are 298 diamond OA journals in Germany. The DOAJ lists 370 OA journals in Germany, 90 of which have the DOAJ seal. 286 of the journals let the authors retain all rights and 236 are diamond OA journals. Furthermore, Germany has 98 institutional publishers (via GOA8) in DOAJ, 90 of which publish diamond journals. Regarding the software in use as of August 2023, there are 34 institutions in German-speaking countries that offer OJS hosting for local and regional researchers (https://ojs-de.net).

A tool that displays open access services at German universities and research institutions is the oa.atlas. Currently, it lists 396 institutions that have journal publication funds and 179 that have monograph publication funds.

The KOALA project (Konsortiale Open Access Lösungen aufbauen) approaches the cost issue from a different angle and has developed a consortial model in which participating institutions (university libraries) jointly fund OA journals and book series.

The 30 university presses that are members of the non-profit AG Universitätsverlage, which is the central interest representation of numerous university presses in Germany, Austria and South Tyrol/Alto Adige, primarily publish scientific publications, monographs and journals, from their own institutions.

43 responses were received from German IPSPs, of which 34 (79.1%) identified themselves as IPs and nine (20.9%) as SPs. This composition almost completely matches the numbers from all survey respondents, of which 79.7% identified themselves as IPs and 20.3% as SPs, which is also a prerequisite for the comparability of the national numbers with the responses from all survey participants. The survey invitation was sent out via Qualtrics to previously identified IPSPs. In addition individual invitations were sent to thematically suitable mailing lists, as well as IPSP contacts

personally known to project members, for example, the members of the AG Universitätsverlage.

Regarding the organisational form, participating German IPSPs are slightly more affiliated with a parent organisation compared to all survey respondents (67.4% compared to the survey total 56.2%). A clear difference to the total survey respondents is that institutional publishing in Germany is significantly more often linked to the library of the parent organisation (44.8% vs. 19.6% in the survey total). The organisational form of IPSPs as a department of the parent organisation, on the other hand, occurs significantly less frequently in Germany (3.4% compared to 24.8%).

The most frequently published language in Germany is English (97.7%), which matches the international response numbers for publishing in English (95.7%) and confirms English as the still established academic lingua franca in Europe. Regarding the disciplines covered by the participating IPSPs the proportion for the natural sciences is in Germany around 10% higher compared to the international numbers (37.2% compared to 26.9% in the survey total). At the same time the figures for the humanities and the social sciences in Germany (44.2% and 48.8% respectively) are lower when compared to the full survey responses (54.2% and 55.2% respectively).

The engagement of German IPSPs in organisations and networks is rather low, which is consistent with the survey total. The only special feature of the German responses compared to the overall international figures is the higher number of members in the AEUP, the Association of European University Presses (12.5% compared to 6.1% for the survey total).

In terms of the services provided in comparison to the survey total, IPSPs in Germany offer more frequent IT support (81.4% compared to 69.3% in the survey total), production support (90.7% compared to 72.3% in the survey total) and training, support and/or advice (65.1% compared to 44.7% in the survey total) to users, while editorial services are somewhat less provided (69.8% compared to 79.4% in the survey total).

In the context of the services provided for different publication outputs and the roles assumed by the IPSPs, one further finding for the German IPSPs is that while the IPSPs in the full survey responses tend to only publish academic books or journals with a smaller number of IPSPs, which provide only services for both, a larger proportion of the German IPSPs publish and provide services at the same time (academic books: publish and service 48.1% compared to 28.9% in the survey total; academic journals: publish and service 43.9% compared to 27.6% in the survey total).

The financial situation and the feedback on challenges from German IPSPs is, on the whole, very similar to the full survey feedback. 47.5% of German IPSPs confirm a high or very high reliance on funding from their parent organisation. Contrary to the international feedback, even fewer IPSPs in Germany have an approved annual budget

than the international survey participants (No approved annual budget GER 60.5% vs. 33.6% in the survey total).

Consideration of collaborative working with other IPSPs is similar for Germany and the full responses. However, differences emerge regarding the areas in which a collaboration would be considered. The German participants are especially interested in working together within production services (50% compared to 42,4% in the survey total), whereas the total of the IPSPs considers cooperation for communication services (37.5% compared to 23.8% from German IPSPs) and training, support and/or advice on publishing policies and best practice (44.9% vs. 26.2%) as particularly important.

The advanced transformation towards Open Access and Open Science is also reflected in the small number of IPSPs (both in Germany and the survey total) that do not follow a national, institutional or individual Open Access/Open Science policy for journals (7.7% in Germany and 4.1% for the survey total) or books (10.3% for Germany and 12% for the survey total).

Luxembourg

For a small country such as Luxembourg, it is not possible to paint a realistic and reliable picture using the single response to the DIAMAS survey. That does not mean that there is no relevant institutional publishing and diamond OA activity in Luxembourg.

Luxembourg has one university (University of Luxembourg), it has the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research, the Luxembourg Institute of Health, a National Research Fund and a National Library. The national library is the host institution for the national consortium in Luxembourg, for instance in negotiating a small number of national read and publish deals.

Luxemburg has two diamond journals in DOAJ, one of which is published by a research centre at the university of Luxembourg. That university has a preference for green OA using its repository Orbilux. However, one of the university's faculties also launched Melusania Press that tries to bridge traditional and innovative publishing, preferring diamond OA and using Manifold to power its publishing. Melusina has ongoing institutional support which does not make it necessary to levy APCs. It does generate some revenue selling print versions of the digital-born publications.

Netherlands

The organisation of higher education and research in the Netherlands is characterised by relative stability, high concentration, and a fairly level playing field. There are 14 universities and 36 universities of applied sciences. Both subsectors are well organised in respectively Universiteiten van Nederland (UNL) and the Vereniging Hogescholen.

The Netherlands also has a Royal Academy (KNAW) and a university library organisation (UKB). In terms of funding, status and research size and output, most universities are comparable. Research funding is either basic funding from universities themselves or grant based funding from national funding organisations (NWO and ZonMW) and EC funding programmes, as the main funders, next to private and charitable funders and commercial contract income.

Publishing by researchers at Dutch institutions is in most fields geared towards publishing in journals, mainly in English language journals, and conference proceedings. In some fields (notably humanities, parts of the social sciences, and for instance for policy studies), the Dutch language is still crucial and other publication types (books, reports) are used.

There has been a strong push for OA in the Netherlands since 2015, with a national target of 100% OA for scholarly journal articles, set by the government and agreed upon by all stakeholders. For open access of journal articles there was and is a preference for gold open access. This is supported by a strong investment in read and publish agreements, often negotiated and organised nationally for all universities. All universities have institutional repositories. For short scholarly works (articles, chapters) there is a legal possibility to share the full text after a reasonable amount of time. In 2022, 89% of articles were open access.

Traditionally there were few institutions with a full blown university press, but institutions and libraries specifically have become more active in OA publishing and in recent years more institutions have created OA publishing units. Six university presses (Delft, Radboud-Nijmegen, Groningen, Leiden, Maastricht, Tilburg) are loosely cooperating in the New University Presses working group.

DIAMAS research found that the Netherlands has 415 journals in DOAJ, 11 with the DOAJ seal, 98 let the authors retain all rights, 116 are diamond journals. The Netherlands has 34 institutional publishers in DOAJ (as reported in GOA8), 29 of which publish diamond journals.

The DIAMAS survey received 17 valid responses from the Netherlands, 11 of which self-identify as IPs and six as SPs. These are modest numbers, but they represent a fair share of institutional publishing activity.

Respondents in the DIAMAS survey indicated they publish in a range of languages, with the majority publishing in English and German, but also some working with for example German and French.

Membership of organisations and signing of charters is very low, with just a couple being members of publisher organisations or signing DORA. There are two exceptions: eight of the 17 IPSPs say they are OASPA members and six are members of a national publisher organisation. More than half of the IPSPS are part of a parent organisation,

with five being part of a library in that organisation. In terms of legal status, about half are public organisations and about half again are private but not-for-profit. Most are quite small in terms of paid staff, with over half reporting to have no or less than two FTE in paid staff.

Regarding portfolios: 15 IPSPs state that they publish and/or service journals, nine mention that they publish and/or service books, with a further eight involved in conference output and four (not necessarily the same) working on grey literature, non-academic outputs or other output formats. Only six IPSPs publish and/or service only a single publication type while the others have a more mixed portfolio, with most covering 3-4 publication types.

In terms of the size of journal portfolios, IPSPs in the Dutch subset are spread out: half of them are quite small, with five or fewer journals, the other half medium to large, with one claiming to serve over 100 journals.

The funding picture is very scattered, with all types of funding sources used, but no clear pattern or reliance on a specific type. The funding picture is diverse, as is the assessment respondents provide about the stability of funding. For all types of funding, some say that in their case it is stable while others say it is unstable. A clear majority also state that their reliance on non-monetary or in kind support is very high, regardless of whether they see that as problematic or not.

Significantly, many organisations state that they would consider collaboration with other organisations: out of the 17, for all activities except administrative/financial/legal ones 11 or more would consider collaborating: IT services, production, editorial services, communication, training.

All organisations have OA policies for journal publishing: they either follow a national policy, and may also have a policy of their own or in their parent organisation. Issues addressed in the policies followed are mostly copyright and licences, and also in a majority of cases self-archiving, identifiers and embargoes.

There are only a few organisations not accepting pre-printed submissions, and none that do not allow self-archiving. And also, only very few impose embargoes (one for journals and two for books).

All Dutch IPSPs responding provide at least one type of technical service, with metadata and quality control, user interfaces, and software and hosting being the most common. OJS is by far the most often used publishing system, with 11 installations among the 17 IPSPs answering.

In terms of challenges faced it appears that in general, for most sorts of activities, the majority of IPSPs do face some challenges. They are mostly varied though, with different organisations experiencing different types of constraints (human resources, financial resources, expertise etc.) for the same challenge (e.g., indexing, providing

metadata, guaranteeing interoperability). Some challenges stand out. For instance, there are often financial constraints to providing adequate infrastructure and services, and also there is often a lack of human resources available to provide sufficient metadata and achieve interoperability with other services.

Though most IPSPs have a privacy policy, only half have a data protection policy. Only a small to a very small minority have implemented measures or policies addressing EDIB issues. Language and gender issues are addressed by five IPSPS, but caring, disability, ethnicity and sexual identity issues only by three at most.

Switzerland

The funding system of OA publications in Switzerland is insufficiently designed to support diamond journals; it is largely based on APCs and hybrid OA. While the IPSPs mostly receive stable funding from their parent organisations, funding is the biggest concern for Swiss diamond journals.

Almost half of the diamond journals in Switzerland are hosted by HEIs (higher education institutions), a further 20% by academic societies.

Switzerland has 666 journals in DOAJ, 252 with the DOAJ seal, 617 let the authors retain all rights, 73 are diamond journals. The Swiss landscape study counts 186 diamond journals, Hahn, Hehn et al. (2023a, p. 6). Switzerland has 25 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 20 of which publish diamond journals.

19 Swiss IPSPs participated in the DIAMAS survey. 11 of the 19 respondents identified themselves as IPs, eight as SPs. The majority of IPSPs describe themselves as a private not-for-profit organisation (10/19). Another seven are public organisations.

In addition to hosting, most IPSPs provide full editorial workflow, software and metadata control.

OJS is the most widely used system for publishing diamond journals. All IPSPs make content available in PDF. 13 out of 18 make content available in HTML and only three in XML while seven provide image or video formats and 6 sound files.

Creative Commons licences or other open licences are common for Swiss IPSPs. Eight out of 16 recommend CC BY, seven CC BY-SA, four CC BY-NC and CC BY-NC-ND, three CC BY-NC-SA. PIDs are assigned by most of the Swiss IPSPs with DOIs, ISSN and ISBN provided most often.

The result on indexing is rather modest considering the importance of indexing for the visibility of the journals. Half of the Swiss IPSPs consider their content to be very well indexed, the other half would like to see better indexing. Unfortunately, the number and

distribution of the few responses to corresponding questions in the DIAMAS survey do not allow any conclusions to be drawn about the obstacles to better indexing.

Swiss IPSPs allow self-archiving in open repositories and no IPSP imposes embargo periods for self-archiving.

The majority of the Swiss IPSPs consider multilingualism implemented or in progress. All IPSPs publish in English and the majority in French and in German. Some publish in Italian and Spanish, one in Romansch, the smallest national language.

Northern Africa and Southwest Asia

Six countries outside Europe were included as countries affiliated to the ERA; Tunisia, Morocco, Armenia, Georgia, Israel and Türkiye. From these countries we received a total of six responses. We had no completed responses from Türkiye with the survey being postponed until autumn 2023 due to the major earthquake in early 2023. A separate report will be prepared with the intention to incorporate the Turkish survey data into the main dataset to be published in an anonymised data set.

The remaining six responses will be included in the data used in the analyses, but there will be no separate country or regional reports based on these responses.

Data from DOAJ indicate that Diamond OA is the predominant way of publishing OA in these regions.

Northern Africa

Tunisia

One response received. Tunisia has five journals in DOAJ, one with the DOAJ seal, three that let authors retain all rights, all five are diamond journals. Tunisia has five institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), five of which publish diamond journals.

Morocco

Three responses received. Morocco has 31 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 12 that let the authors retain all rights, 30 of the 31 are diamond journals. Morocco has 23 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 23 of which publish diamond journals.

Southwest Asia

Armenia

One response received. Armenia has 12 journals in DOAJ, none with the DOAJ seal, 12 that let the authors retain all rights, all 12 are diamond journals. Armenia has seven institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), seven of which publish diamond journals.

Georgia

One response received. Georgia has four journals in DOAJ, one with the DOAJ seal, two that let the authors retain all rights, all four are diamond journals. Georgia has four institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), four of which publish diamond journals.

Israel

No survey responses were received from Israel. Israel has nine journals in DOAJ, one with the DOAJ seal, seven that let the authors retain all rights, eight of the nine are diamond journals. Israel has three institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), three of which publish Diamond journals.

Türkiye

Due to the earthquake in Türkiye, it was decided to postpone the surveying of possible Turkish respondents. The survey will be distributed to Turkish respondents during autumn 2023, and a separate report will be prepared. The intention is to include the Turkish survey data with the main survey data to be published in an anonymised data set.

Türkiye ranks 11th in DOAJ's list of countries as to the number of journals listed there, with 466. Two of these journals hold the DOAJ seal, 205 let the authors retain all rights, and 437 are diamond journals. This indicates that institutional publishing is a major part of Turkish OA publishing. Türkiye has 171 institutional publishers in DOAJ (via GOA8), 166 of which publish diamond journals.

Rest of the world

In addition to responses from the defined geographical area, we received a handful of responses from outside the area. Three of these responses were from Service Providers providing services for institutional publishing within our defined area and these responses have been retained and included in the analyses.

Appendices

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Consortium overview

AMU	UNIVERSITÉ D'AIX MARSEILLE	FR
PVM	PROTISVALOR MEDITERRANEE SAS	FR
OPERAS	OPEN ACCESS IN THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA THROUGH SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION	BE
CNRS	CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE CNRS	FR
EIFL	STICHTING EIFL.NET	NL
FECYT	FUNDACIÓN ESPAÑOLA PARA LA CIENCIA Y LA TECNOLOGIA, F.S.P., FECYT	ES
TSV	TIETEELLISTEN SEURAIN VALTUUSKUNNASTA	FI
LIBER	STICHTING LIBER	NL
UB	UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA	ES
UniZD	SVEUČILIŠTE U ZADRU	HR
FFZG	SVEUČILIŠTE U ZAGREBU FILOZOFSKI FAKULTET	HR
Science Europe	SCIENCE EUROPE	BE
EUA	ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ	BE
OASPA	STICHTING OPEN ACCESS SCHOLARLY PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION	NL
UiT	UNIVERSITETET I TROMSØ - NORGES ARKTISKE UNIVERSITET	NO
CNR	CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE RICERCHE	IT
UGOE	GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITAT GOTTINGEN STIFTUNG OFFENTLICHEN RECHTS	DE
SPE	STICHTING SPARC EUROPE	NL
UU	UNIVERSITEIT UTRECHT	NL
EKT	ETHNIKO KENTRO TEKMIRIOSIS KAI ILEKTRONIKOU PERIECHOMENOU	EL
IBL PAN	INSTYTUT BADAŃ LITERACKICH POLSKIEJ AKADEMII NAUK	PL
ESF	FONDATION EUROPÉENNE DE LA SCIENCE	FR
Jisc	Jisc LBG	UK
DOAJ	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES FOR OPEN ACCESS C I C	UK