



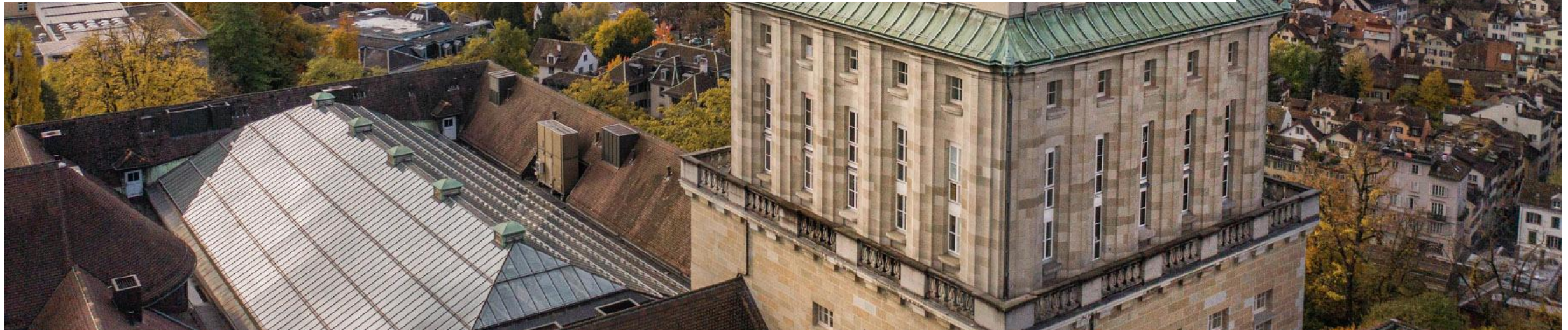
Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>



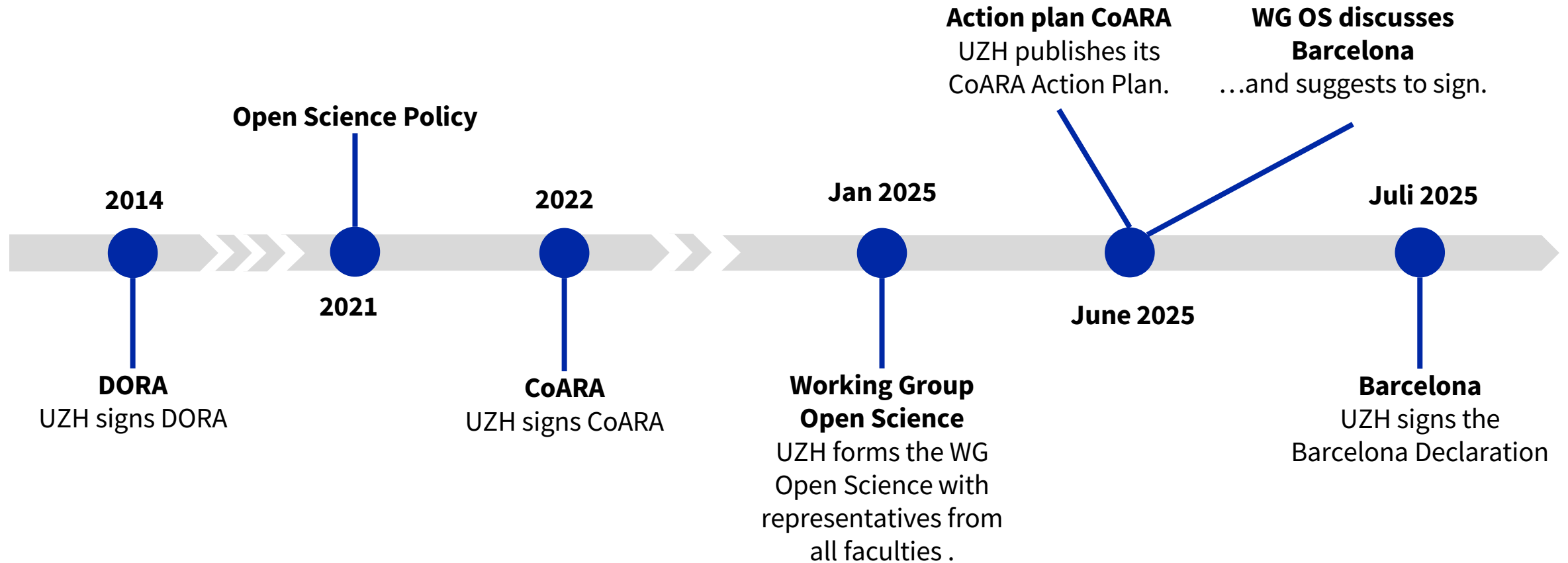
# Signing Barcelona: Context, Consideration and Next Steps for UZH

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# Background



# The Working Group Open Science

The decision to sign the Barcelona Declaration was made by the members of the Working Group Open Science.

**Members** include

- representatives of all faculties
- early-career researchers
- the directors of the two libraries (R. Mumenthaler, P. Bucher)
- Vice-Presidents Ch. Schwarzenegger and E. Stark
- OS Office (A. Malits, M. Röthlisberger)

The Working Group is organized by the Open Science Office (Open Science Services, University Library).

## **Objectives of the WG Open Science**

- Recommendations regarding UZH initiatives on Open Access and FAIR data management (for the attention of UZH's Executive Board)
- Promotion and strengthening of exchange across faculties and disciplines
- Identification of potential synergies
- Anticipation of future scenarios

# Pros (and Cons) discussed in the WG

UZH is a comprehensive university that combines a wide range of different academic disciplines under one roof, including humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, law, and business and economics.

## Why open research information?

- **Biased databases:** Commercial databases such as Web of Science are biased and do not cover all disciplines in which UZH researchers work. This concerns particularly SSH disciplines and research published in languages other than English.
- **Closed systems:** Big publishers are increasingly closing down their infrastructures because they don't want AI to have access to their databases; this will decrease their value (also for researchers).
- **Research assessment:** Researchers will have access to the databases that will be used for their assessment. Note that most members of the WG don't use WoS anyway but use google scholar or other open platforms.

## The bigger picture

- Barcelona is a **follow-up of CoARA and DORA**, both of which UZH has already signed
- By signing, UZH follows other **LERU** universities
- Signing the declaration will path the discussion within UZH for a shift of finances.

# Next steps

- Draft an action plan for the implementation
- Assess the extent to which WoS and Scopus is used at UZH (faculties, central services, students) and weigh up costs vs benefit of closed infrastructures
- Institutional repository ZORA will be expanded (to include other research output besides publications)
- Participation in the NAIF project (interoperability across repositories)
- Assess the quality of open databases for UZH output