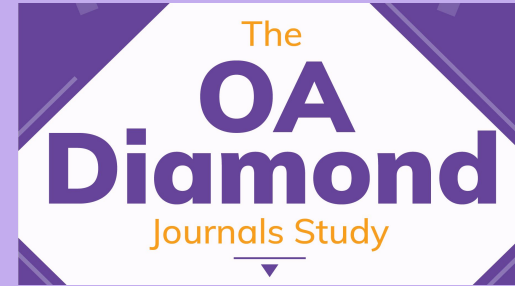


Funding the future: the role of diamond in sustainable, full and fair open access



slides available at:
<https://tinyurl.com/oai12-diamond>

Jeroen Bosman & Bianca Kramer, Utrecht University Library
OAI12 [online] September 6, 2021



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Abstract [225 words]

In 2020, cOAlition S commissioned a study to gain insights into the OA publishing landscape of diamond journals and platforms, which are free to readers and authors. The research, conducted by a group of 10 organizations lead by OPERAS, aggregated data from an online survey that gathered around 1600 responses from journal editors across the globe, a quantitative analysis of data from bibliographical databases and a qualitative analysis based on focus groups of journal editors and interviews with infrastructure providers.

The findings of the study point to a wide archipelago of relatively small journals serving diverse communities, with a mix of scientific strengths and operational challenges (including compliance with funder mandates) and an economy that is characterized by a large dependency on volunteers, universities and governments, modest publishing costs and a variety of funding models.

In this presentation, we will **discuss the various recommendations of the study to increase the capacity of community-driven/governed journals and platforms, connecting them and technically supporting them in a coordinated way**. We call upon funders to **consistently finance the operations of diamond journals and platforms and invest in the future of diamond OA**.

We connect this plea for support for diamond open access to the bigger theme of the conference by suggesting **some concrete ways towards full and fair open access based on a much larger role of diamond**.

◆ Why diamond? ◆

open: open access

fair: no reader costs *and* no author costs, globally

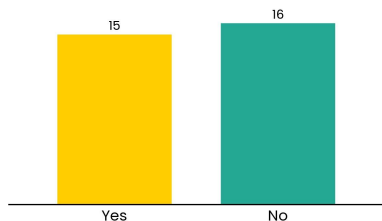
financially sustainable: acceptable cost levels

and: owned and governed by the research community??

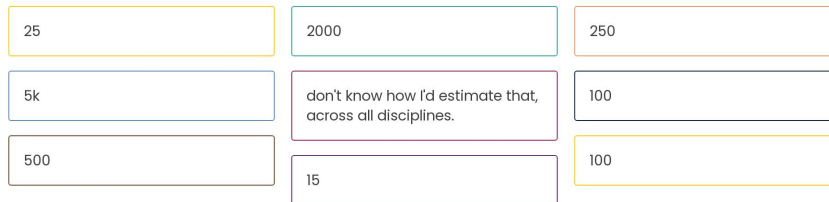
◆ A few questions in advance ◆

Results of an informal live poll of ~30 early career researchers

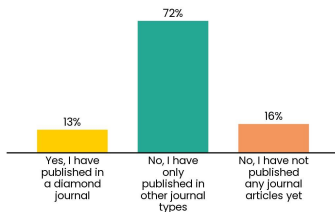
Do you know any diamond journals?



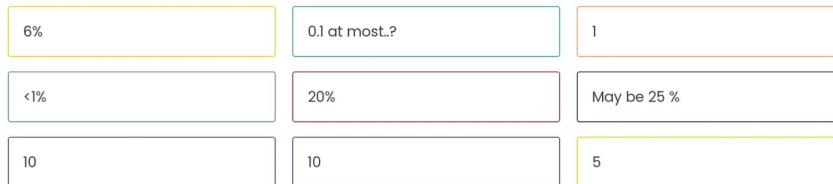
How many diamond journals do you think there are, globally?



Have you ever published in a diamond open access journal?



What % of articles worldwide is published in diamond open access journals?



◆ Plan S ◆



05

The Funders support the diversity of business models for Open Access journals and platforms.

https://www.coalition-s.org/plan_s_principles/

◆ The call ◆

Exploring collaborative non-commercial publishing models for Open Access: Apply to perform a study

“Call for an informed study containing an analysis and overview of collaborative non-commercial (aka “Diamond”) publishing journals and platforms.

The objective is to identify ways to support publishing initiatives wishing to implement Diamond business models.”

<https://www.coalition-s.org/exploring-collaborative-non-commercial-publishing-models-for-open-access/>



◆ The study consortium ◆



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Funders



◆ Study approaches ◆

Database analysis

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- ROAD database of open access journals
- Walt Crawford's GOA dataset of open access journals

Survey

- survey of diamond journals with 95 questions and 1619 valid responses
- multilingual global dissemination with some bias towards Europe and Latin America

Focus groups and interviews

- 3 English & Spanish focus groups with journals
- 10 interviews with platforms and infrastructures

Quantitative and qualitative analysis

◆ The report & materials ◆



Findings

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4558704>



Recommendations

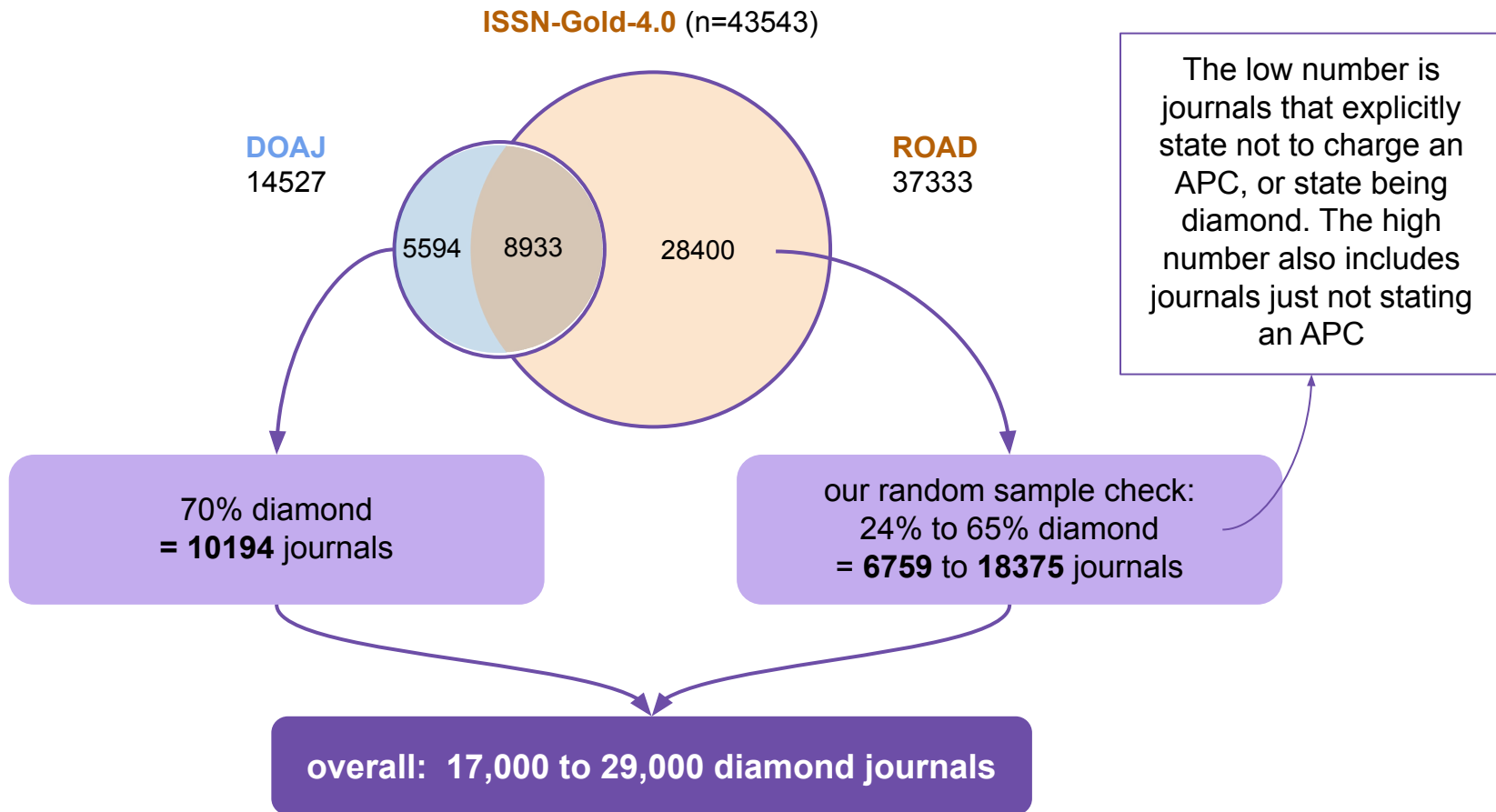
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4562790>



Survey Dataset

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4553103>

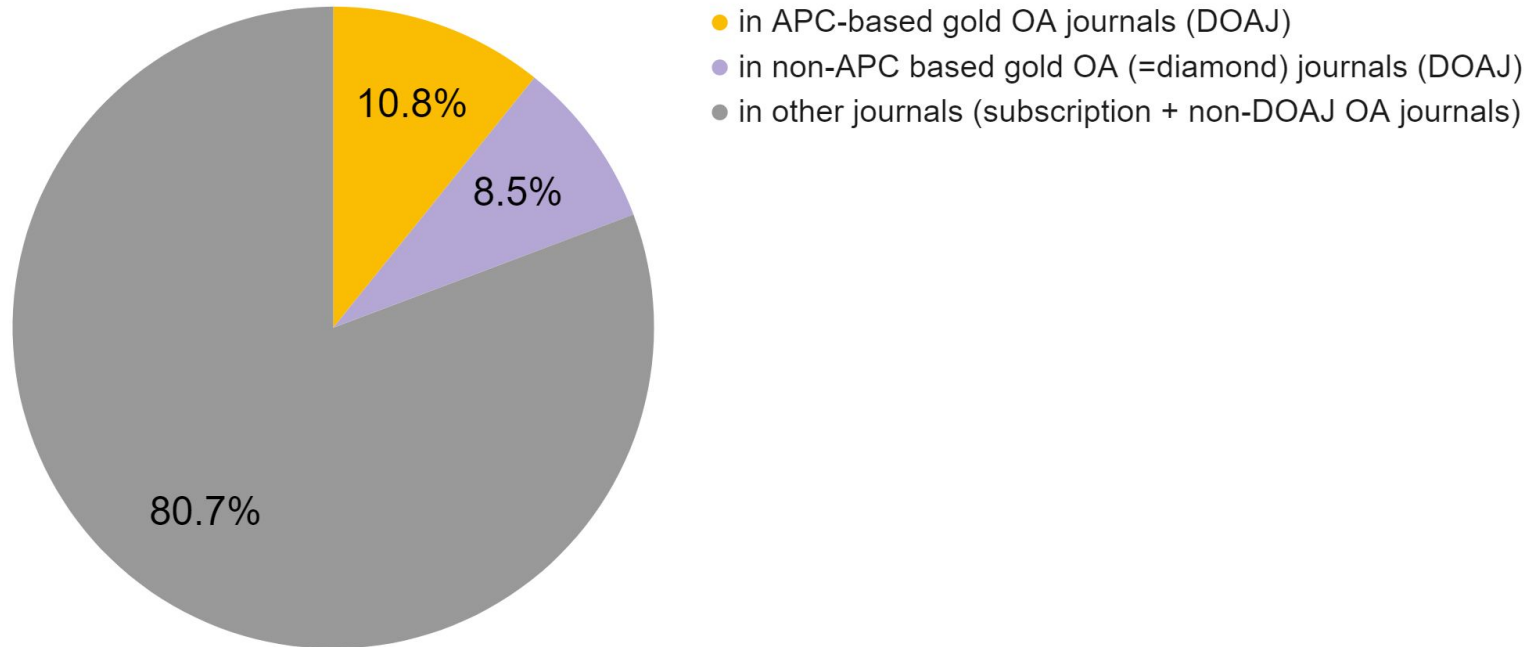
◆ Landscape ◆ diamond journals calculation



◆ Landscape ◆ diamond articles share of total

➤ 1.1.3 How many articles are published by OA diamond journals in total?

Global article numbers by journal type, based on DOAJ counts and total article numbers in Dimensions and LENS, 2017-2019



◆ Landscape ◆ APC & diamond articles DOAJ

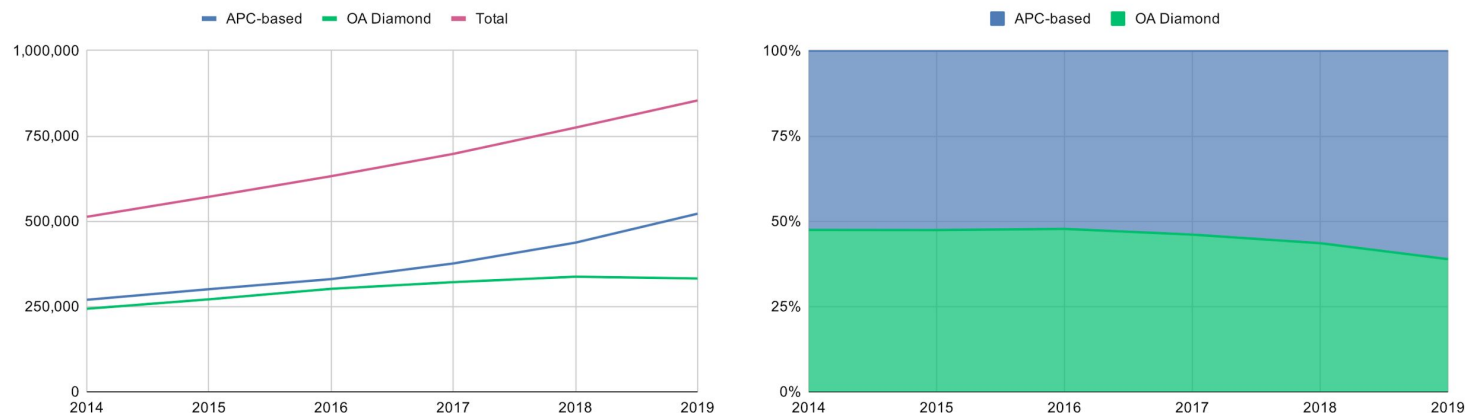
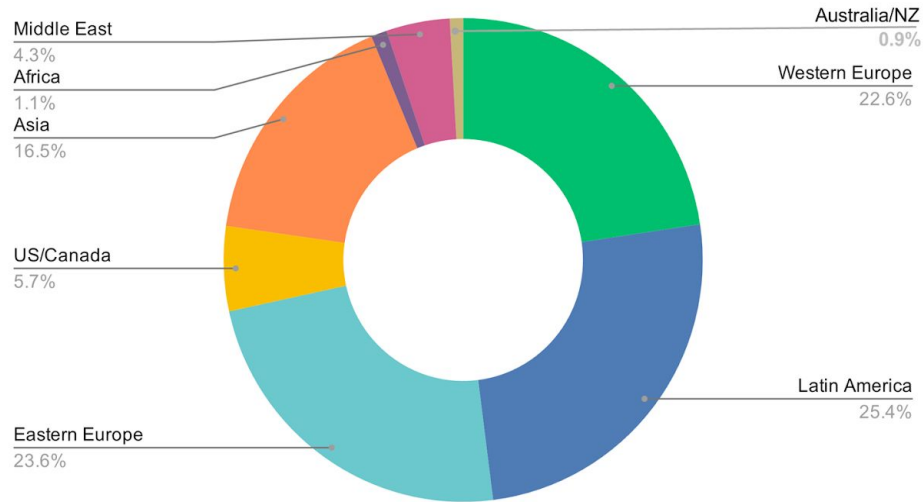


Figure 10. DOAJ article numbers from 2014-2019 by open access model, absolute (left) and as shares of DOAJ total (right). Source: GOA(5)

◆ Landscape ◆ publisher locations

DOAJ - OA diamond journals (n=11,064)



DOAJ - APC-based journals (n=4,132)

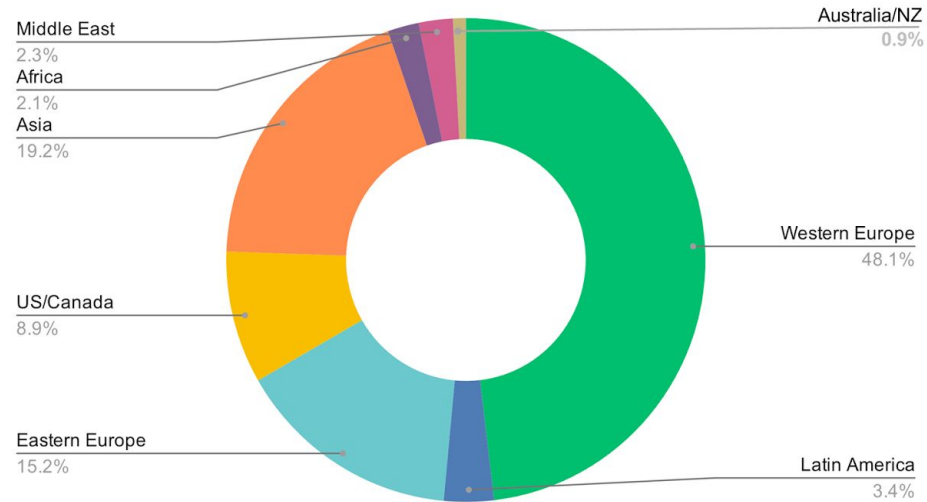
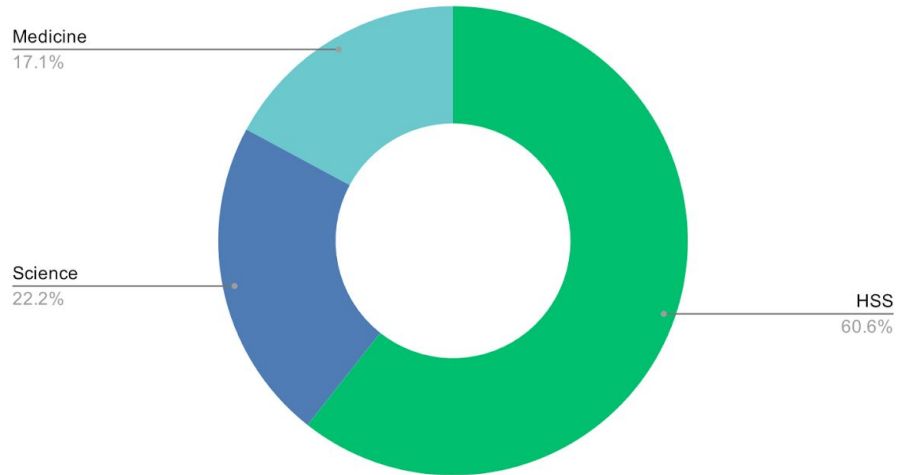


Figure 11. Journals by location of publisher. All regions are based on the assignment of Walt Crawford in GOA(5). Source: DOAJ, GOA(5)

◆ Landscape ◆ journals x discipline

DOAJ - OA diamond journals (n=9,848) from GOA(5)



DOAJ - APC-based journals (n=4,090) from GOA(5)

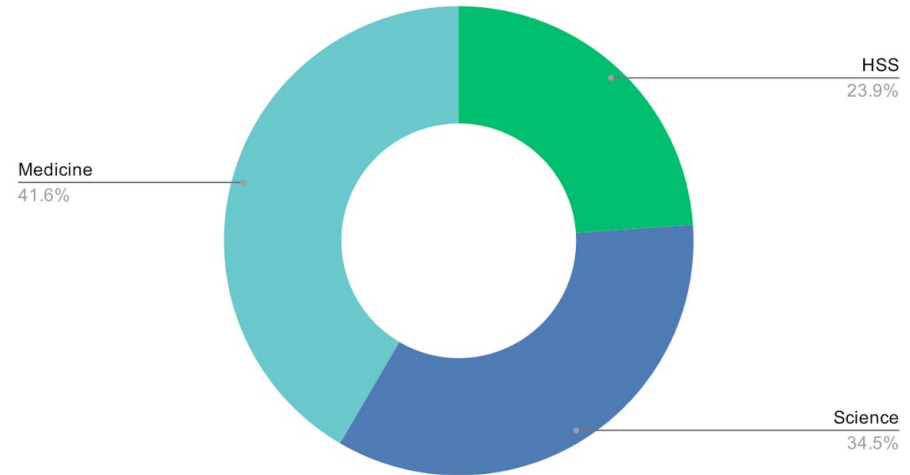


Figure 13. Journals by discipline. Note: Disciplines are based on the assignment of Walt Crawford in GOA(5). Source: DOAJ, GOA(5)

◆ Dynamics ◆ ownership

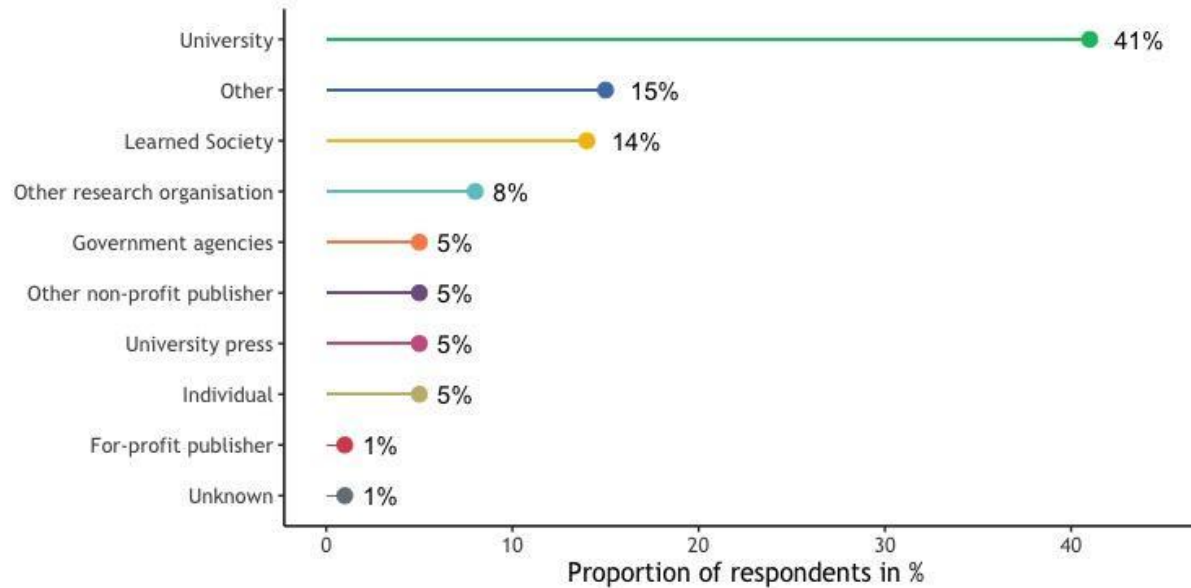


Figure 1: Who owns the journal in the survey? (Q34)

◆ Dynamics ◆ typology of journals

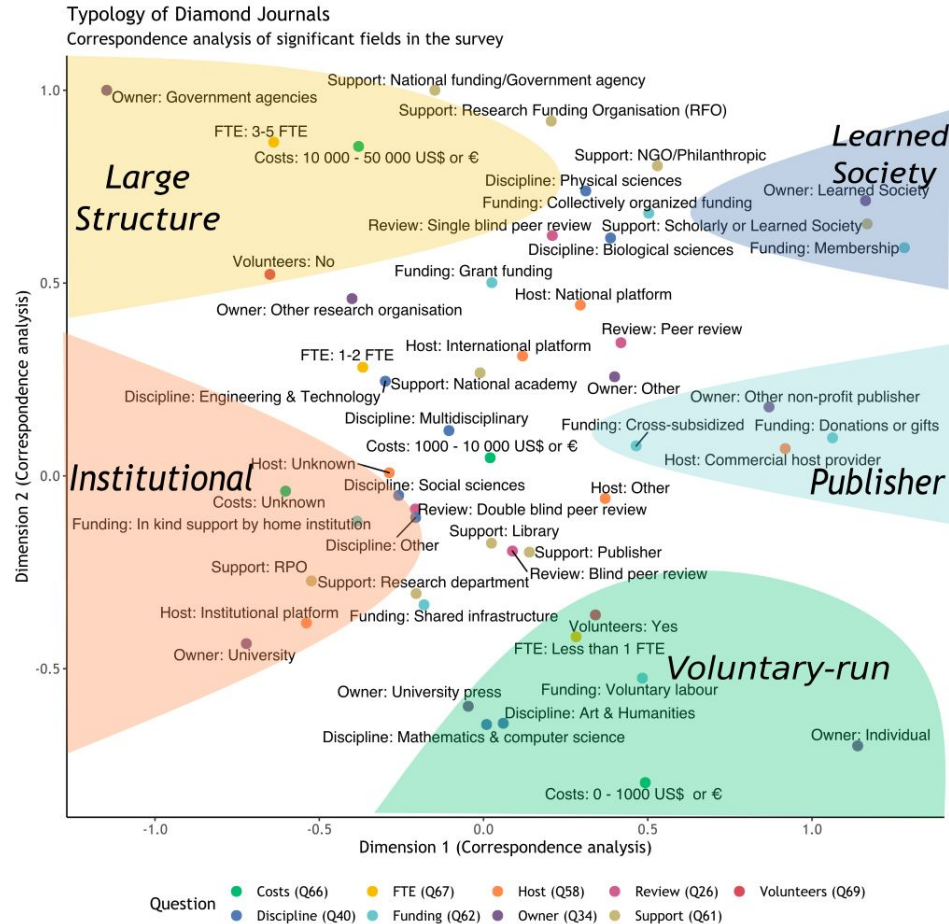


Figure 24. Typology of diamond journals through a correspondence analysis of nine questions from the survey. We manually identified five types of journals: voluntary-run (red), institutional (orange), publisher (blue), learned society (violet) and large structure (yellow).

◆ Dynamics ◆ challenges

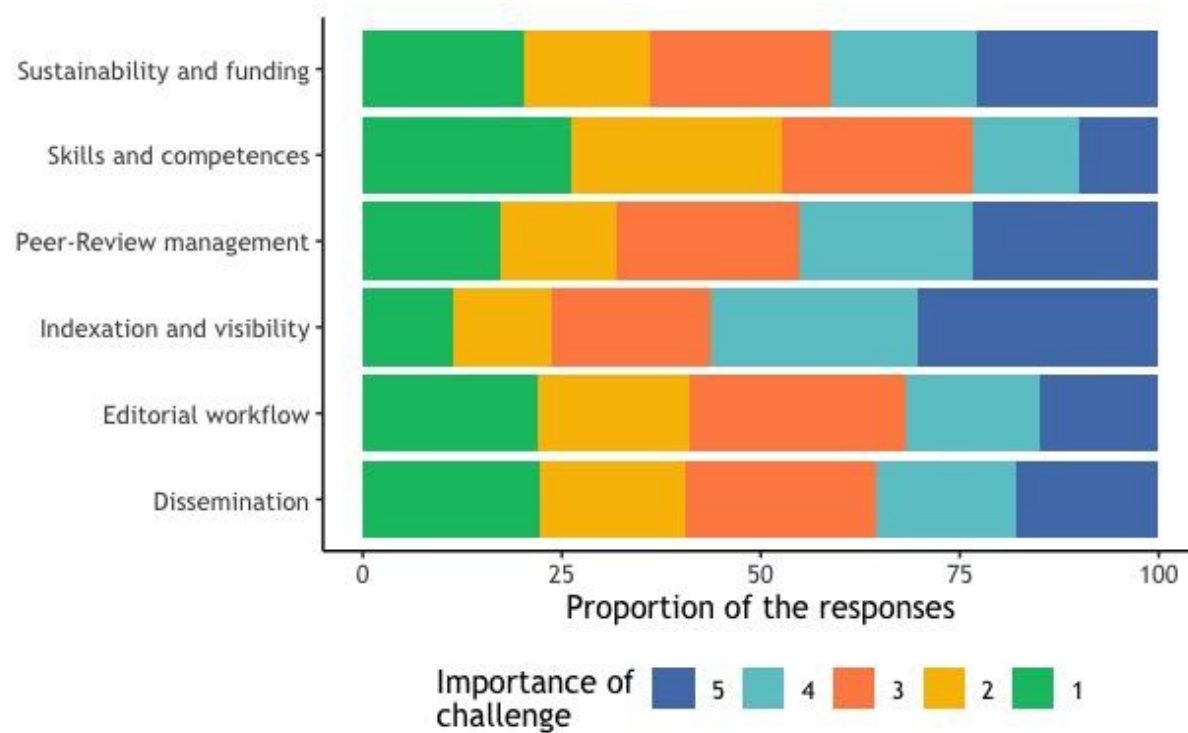


Figure 22. Importance of the challenges by share of respondents
(1=not important, in green, 5=very important, in dark blue)

◆ Sustainability ◆ funding sources

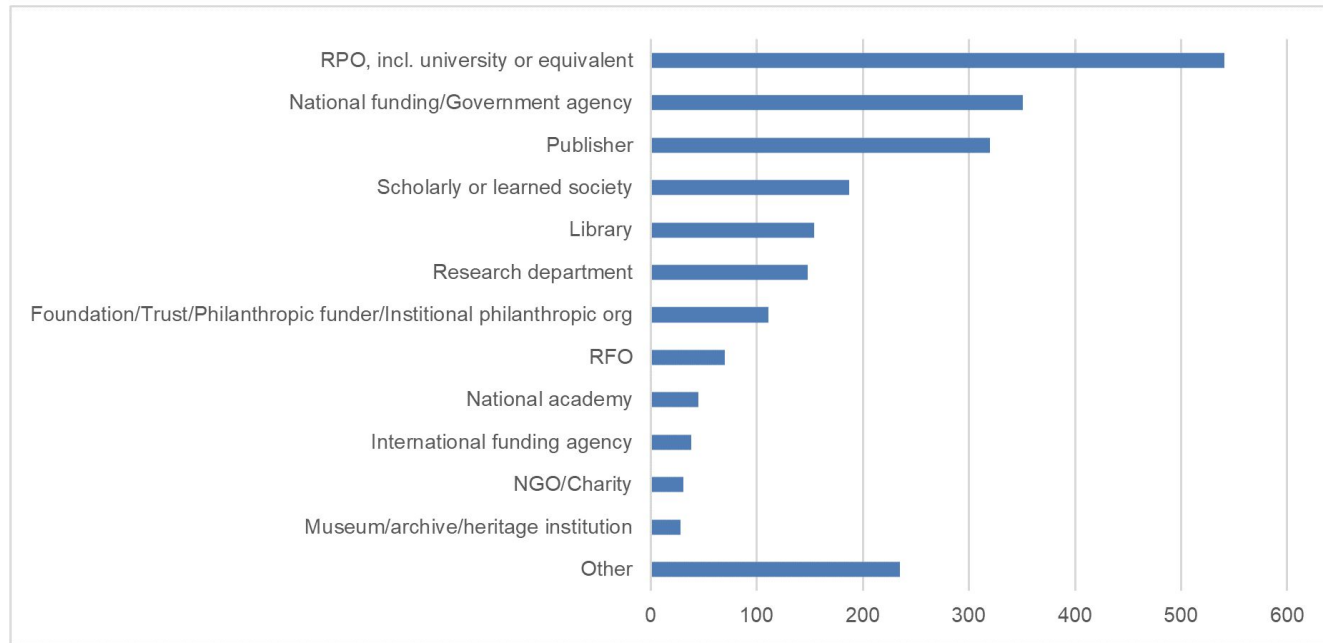


Figure 14. Who has funded the journal over the last two years? (n=1,421); survey Q61

◆ Sustainability ◆ funding mechanisms

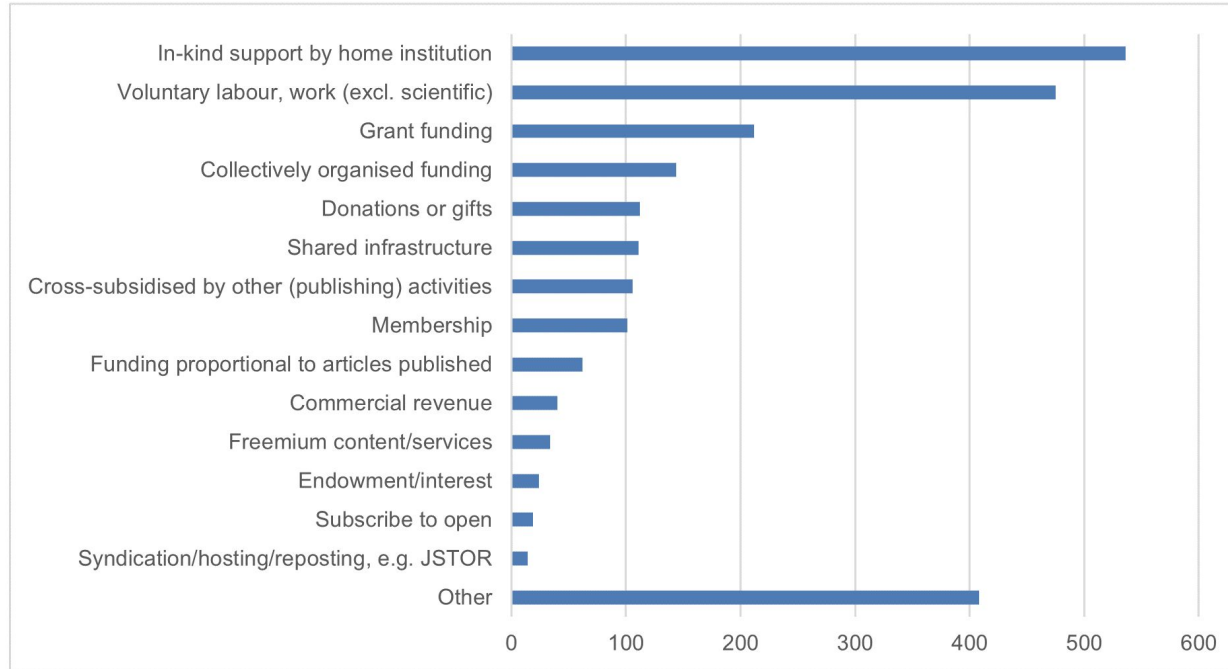


Figure 15. Funding mechanisms (n=1,408); survey Q62

◆ Sustainability ◆ costs

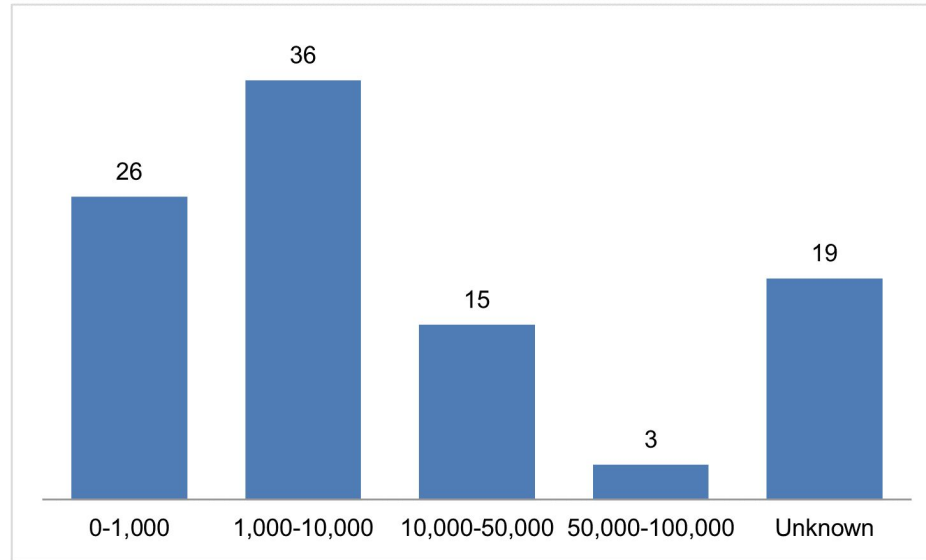


Figure 1. Previous year annual costs (US\$/€) of journals, percentage (n=1,370); survey Q66

◆ Sustainability ◆ est. per article cost x size

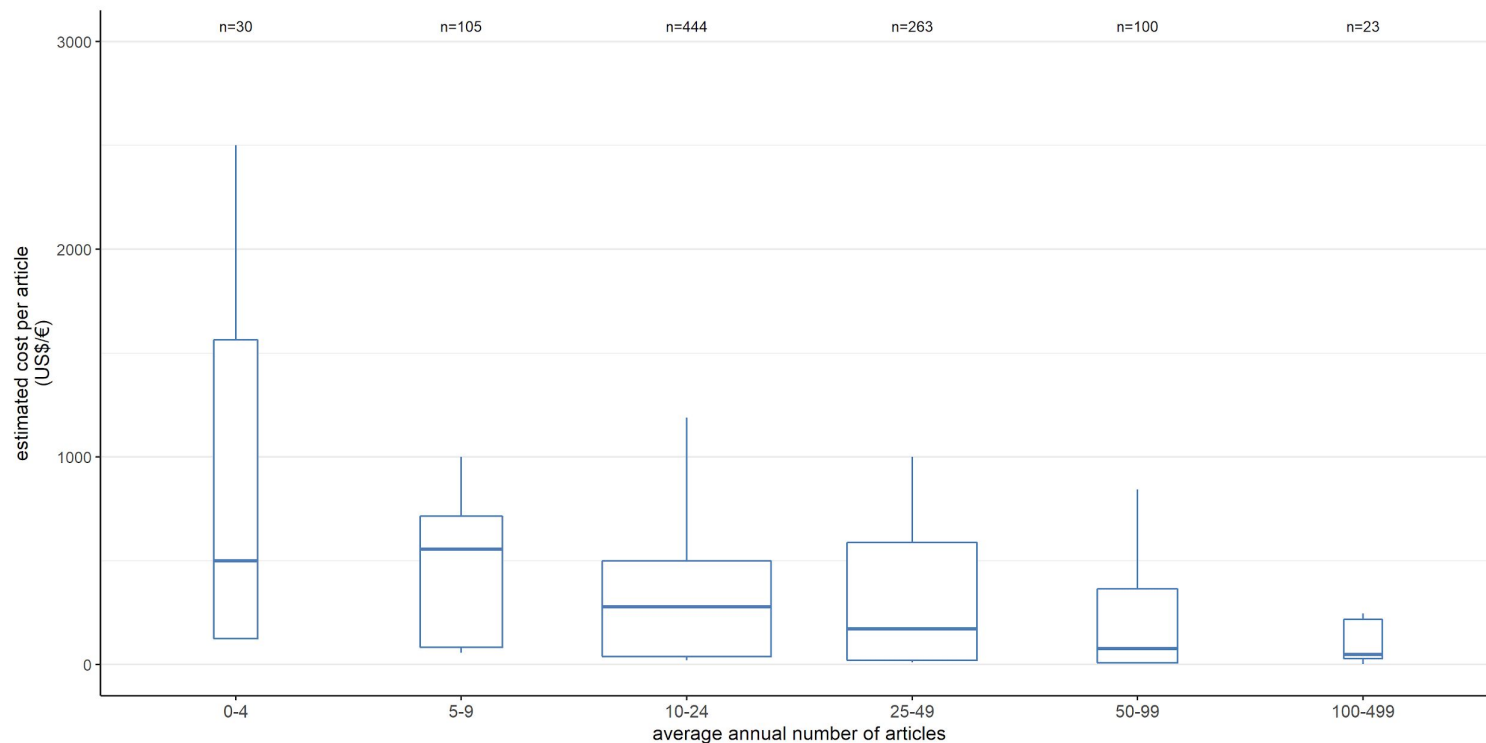


Figure 5. Distribution of estimated cost per article for diamond OA journals by journal size

◆ Sustainability ◆ main takeaways

Wide diversity of
funding models

Dependency on
narrow funding
streams

Strong dependance
on volunteering

over 60%
< 10k euro

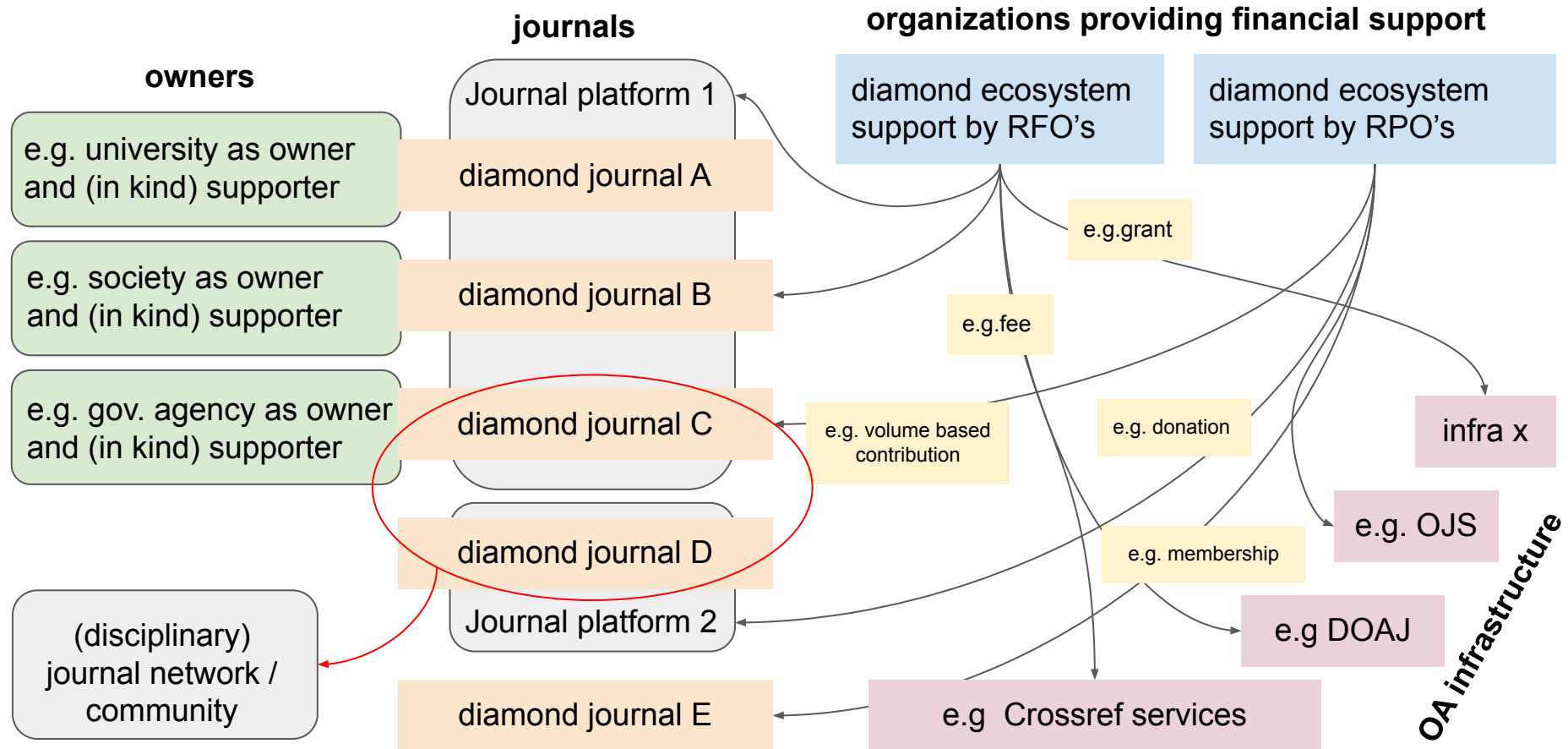
70% run on
1-2 FTE

40% break-even and
25% operate at a loss

◆ Recommendation: Invest in the future

- Invest in both operations and development (e.g. through **development funding**)
- Help journals **meet industry standards**, and **develop shared services or infrastructure**
- Help create and support **communities of practice** to **share expertise**
- Thereby help provide a **viable alternative** to the current system, supporting **diversity** and encouraging **academic independence**, and **innovation**

◆ OA diamond ecosystem ◆



◆ Potential (funding) solutions

Proportional funding:

Institutions pay proportional to how much they publish roughly

Subscribe to open (S2O):

Journal does not charge as long as enough libraries maintain a subscription

Platform/infra funding:

Institutions or funders pay for infrastructure or fixed/variable cost of a full diamond platform

Dedicated platforms:

Funder or institution creates a publication platform for their own authors

Recognize / reward editorial work:

Institutions reward editing work as regular research tasks

Move away from journal-based metrics like IF

Maintain volunteer and in-kind contributions

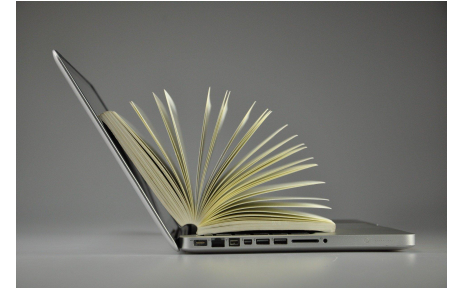
◆ Broadening and deepening OA ◆



support diamond OA (platforms, S2O, granular donations)



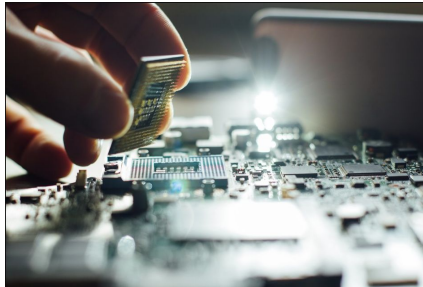
retrospective open access



OA for books/chapters/textbooks



discuss metadata & licenses in negotiations



provide technical advice (PIDs, licenses)



explore repository based publishing

+ raise awareness on importance of rewards & recognition for changing publishing practices

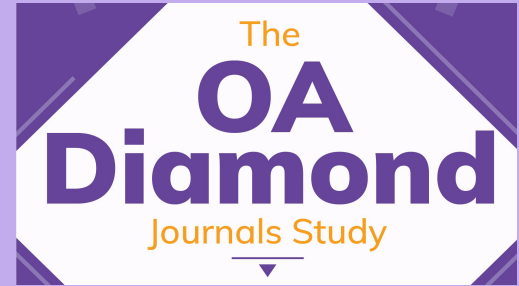
◆ What do *you* think? ◆

What would you like to see your library, university or funder do to support diamond open access?



Go to **menti.com** and enter the code **9620 8210**

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