

The Federation of European Microbiology Societies (FEMS) is an organization representing 54 microbiology societies across Europe who in turn serve 30,000 members, almost all of whom are active researchers in microbiology. FEMS' mission is to advance microbiology and aims to unite microbiologists in Europe, and around the world, to enhance collaboration and support internationalization. FEMS wishes to address elements of cOAlition S' consultation on Plan S:

- FEMS actively supports increasing OA as it ensures equal access to the products of research and is a key factor to improving the speed of science communication;
- Whilst FEMS has used the hybrid OA platform for some years across its publication portfolio, it is actively working toward launching new OA journals to meet the needs of its community that wishes to or needs to publish OA;
- FEMS serves authors whose funders are not part of cOAlition S and do not have access to funding for APCs: for these researchers, FEMS subscription journals serve a valuable function as they provide authors with the possibility to publish for free;
- FEMS is concerned that Plan S may discourage researchers who have different funding sources, including across cOAlition S funders, from working and publishing collaboratively.