



Science Europe

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Public Feedback on the Guidance on the Implementation of Plan S

The Swedish Research Council works actively to achieve the goal of open access to scientific publications. However, we find that at present there are several uncertainties in the solutions for realising this goal, and that a transition as rapid as Plan S may threaten the quality of research. In a report to the Swedish Government, the Swedish Research Council proposed 2025 as an appropriate time for the transition.

The transition to open access must be done in a way that safeguards the scientific quality of publications, and also ensures that scientific publications can be used for evaluating researcher merit in a way that is fair. To achieve this, a more developed dialogue with researchers is required, as they are the most important actor group in the planned system shift. The Swedish Research Council will be the driving force behind higher education institutions and funding bodies creating a system where research is valued on its own merits, and not according to the prestige of the journal. We are also involved in the dialogue conducted at national level with major publishers, to facilitate the transition to “read and publish” agreements.