

“Rethink and reassess the role of community in post-pandemic open science”

Dominique Babini, @_CLACSO



 OPEN ACCESS WEEK 2020

Equity and inclusion:
Community-owned infrastructures for open science
A joint COAR/EIFL/OpenAIRE Webinar

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 OpenAIRE  COAR  eifl



In this OAWeek 2020 we share three of our main concerns from a developing region perspective

- Underfunding of community-owned infrastructures because scarce funds directed to APCs
- Researchers rewarded only when publishing in “mainstream” journals with “prestige industry” indicators, making invisible other contributions
- Weak international dialogue, cooperation and interoperability among community-owned infrastructures

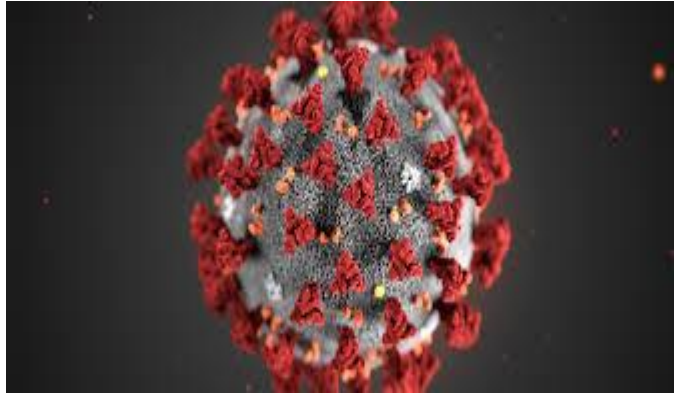


from where we speak

- CLACSO (1967): a community of 780 research centers in 52 countries, mainly universities:

Promotion and development of community-governed open science practices

- Research related activities
 - ✓ extended collaboration and co-creation of knowledge with societal actors beyond the scientific community
- Community-governed scholarly communications
 - 20 years promoting and sharing good practices with a community of 1.070 editorial and library staff
 - ✓ Decentralized repository: 107.000 full-texts (bibliodiversity needs peer-review)
 - ✓ Editorial book catalog with 3.000 OA books with no BPC (books need describing evaluation of contents)
 - ✓ CLACSO-REDALYC collection of 980 SSH peer-reviewed journals with no APCs
 - ✓ CLACSO-TV and CLACSO-Radio + 1.800 open access videos and podcasts
- Promotion of review in research evaluation procedures



COVID-19

new problems and needs
+
old problems and needs
+
lessons learned during the pandemic
+
opportunities with open science

A new exclusionary landscape is emerging.

A flip from **pay-to-read to pay-to-publish** models

Where once again:

- less-resourced researchers **excluded**
- Countries, academic institutions and the research community **do not have any control** beyond commercial agreements

This is the story of the suscription model

“The current moment should act as a catalyst for transforming the current flawed system of research communications into a global knowledge commons; **a commons that is more efficient, inclusive, and governed by the scholarly community; a commons with no barriers to access or to publish research**”

Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) executive board members, Kathleen Shearer, Eloy Rodrigues, Bianca Amaro, Wolfram Horstmann, William Nixon, Daisy Selematsela, Martha Whitehead and Kazu Yamaji (2020). *COVID-19 has profoundly changed the way we conduct and share research. Let's not return to business as usual when the pandemic is over!*

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2020/09/24/covid-19-has-profoundly-changed-the-way-we-conduct-and-share-research-lets-not-return-to-business-as-usual-when-the-pandemic-is-over/>

These challenges need as much local as international research



OA Week 2020: equity and inclusion

- “Openness can be a powerful tool for building more equitable systems of sharing knowledge. Rebuilding research and scholarship to be open by default presents **a unique opportunity to construct a foundation that is fundamentally more equitable**”
- “We need to examine who these spaces and systems are designed for, **who is missing, who is excluded by the business models we use, and whose interests are prioritized**. As we work together to rebuild these structures, we need to commit to moving from conversations to concrete commitments and to hold one another accountable for making real progress”



<http://openaccessweek.org/profiles/blogs/2020-theme-announcement-english>

is diversity, equity, and inclusion present to promote social justice in scholarly communications?

- how our infrastructure is built
- how we organize community discussions to the governance structures we use
- Inclusion/exclusion of diversity of voices and formats
- connections across and between communities
- promotion of science as a common good and human right
- advance progress to build more equitable foundations for opening knowledge

How does **community governance** contribute to equity and inclusion in OA scholarly communications in Latin America?

Diversity of voices, contents and formats:

- Community of university and societies **journals editorial teams** manage:
 - OA journals with no APCs (mainly OJS)
- Community of university **library teams** manage:
 - Institutional repositories for diversity of contents and formats
 - Institutional journal portal (OJS; e.g. of univ. with more than 100 journals each: National Autonomous Univ. of Mexico, Univ. of Sao Paulo, Univ. of Chile)

Only peer-reviewed contents:

- Community of national **science policy organizations**
 - National collections/lists of selected peer-review journals
 - National repository harvesting peer-reviewed collections from inst.repositories

Community governance of Latin America regional OA initiatives (funded by: universities + science organizations)

- **For + 2.000 quality peer-reviewed journals (no APCs) indexed by:**
 - Latindex Catalog (funded: National Autonomous University of Mexico + national focal points)
 - SciELO (funded by BIREME-FAPES-CNPQ (Brazil) + national focal points)
 - Redalyc-AmeliCA (funded by Autonomous University of Mexico State + journal teams in the region)
- **Peer-reviewed contents from Latin America repositories**
 - La Referencia (interoperability of national collections of repositories from 10 countries , only peer-reviewed collections)
 - 2,2 million digital objects, mainly journal articles, posgraduate theses, research reports)

2013-UNESCO first Regional Latin American and Caribbean Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research (23 countries) - Statement

- Both Gold and Green routes are suitable form of OA for the region.
 - a) For Green routes, **inclusive and cooperative OA solutions** should be promoted to avoid new enclosures on knowledge access and dissemination.
 - b) Regarding Gold route, and considering that – i) only 30% of OA journals in the world presently require article processing charges (APCs); ii) **APC are mainly fixed by international publishers and entrepreneurs, and fixed at international prices which are unaffordable for the average developing country**; iii) research in Latin America and the Caribbean is mainly government funded; and iv) the region has a decade of experience with OA regional gold initiatives (SciELO and Redalyc) with more than 1.000 journals with no APCs - it is therefore **recommended that the Gold OA route in the region continues its present emphasis on sharing costs.**

And what about the community of researchers?

more engagement needed from researchers in community-governed infrastructures, its management and contents

We have an opportunity with open science

Main challenge for open science: improve research evaluation

Research community in less privileged institutions and countries trapped in evaluation systems based in the “prestige industry” indicators



FOLEC

Latin American Forum for
Research Assessment



[What is the FOLEC?](#)

[Latest news](#)

[CLACSO on research assessment](#)

[Materials](#)

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The Latin American Forum for Research Assessment (FOLEC) is a regional space for debate and exchange on the meanings, policies and practices of the research evaluation processes of scientific work in the region, from a perspective that strengthens the open, common and public domain of knowledge and its connection with democratizing and sustainable approaches and models of science, committed to the problems of our societies. From a broad and plural viewpoint, it seeks to share experiences and find agreements to build and promote regional evaluation instruments and advance towards guidelines that compromise the scientific systems of the different countries.

A significant precedent was the holding, in November 2019 in Mexico City, of the first Latin



[+] Full calendar



concepts from UNESCO Preliminary Report on the first draft
of the Recommendation on Open Science (September 2020)

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374409>

“Assessment of scientific contribution and career progression
rewarding good Open Science practices is a prerequisite for
transition to Open Science.”

“reward researchers for sharing, collaborating and engaging with
society”

concepts from UNESCO Preliminary Report on the first draft of the Recommendation on Open Science (September 2020)

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374409>

“Considering Open Science as a global public good, Open Science services should be viewed as essential research infrastructures, **governed and owned by the community, and funded collectively by governments, funders and institutions** reflecting the diverse interests and needs of the research community and society”

Selection of concepts taken from the UNESCO Preliminary Report on the first draft of the Recommendation on Open Science (September 2020)

- **extends collaboration with societal actors beyond the scientific community**, open to diversity of knowledge holders, inclusion of excluded and marginalized knowledge in solving problems of social importance
- **different forms of knowledge creation and communication**, not limited to publishing in peer reviewed international journals, multilingualism
- **supporting collaborative publishing models with no article processing charges (APCs) or book processing charges (BPCs)**
- **ensuring equity among researchers from developed and developing countries**, enabling fair and reciprocal sharing of scientific inputs and outputs and equal access to scientific knowledge to both producers and consumers
- **diversified information technology infrastructure for Open Science**, including high performance computing and data storage where needed, and robust, open and community managed infrastructures, protocols and standards to support bibliodiversity and engagement with society
- platforms for exchanges and **co-creation of knowledge between scientists and society**
- **community-based monitoring** and information systems

We need the community of researchers and research organizations apply

e.g.

- DORA and Leiden principles in research evaluation
- indicators provided by open access venues to complement traditional evaluation indicators
- peer-review of contents in repositories (COAR next generation repositories)
- article level metrics from quality open access journals
- describe quality assessment of each output within the lifecycle of research, so this information is available when metadata is produced

Reinforce international cooperation and interoperability for community-based infrastructures and initiatives in open access publishing (texts and data).
The voice and advocacy of community-owned initiatives needs to be stronger



Among others...

Sharing three of our main concerns from a developing region perspective and ways forward

Underfunding of community-owned infrastructures because scarce funds directed to APCs

- Prioritize funding and resources dedicated to non-APC/BPC community-based infrastructures/initiatives and quality certification of its contents

Researchers rewarded only when publishing in “mainstream” journals with “prestige industry” indicators, making invisible other contributions

- Reward quality and relevance independent of publication venue
- Reward doing peer-review of contents from community-based infrastructures

Weak international dialogue, cooperation and interoperability among community-owned infrastructures

- Call for more international collective action, have a stronger and collective voice

The COVID-19 crisis has confirmed that a strong knowledge system is key to a just, peaceful and sustainable world. It shows that solving challenges like this must draw on research from around the world, building on experiences of dealing with previous disease outbreaks, making decisions based on understanding of local contexts, and sharing insights and research results from different countries.

Building islands of excellence is not enough. What we need is a knowledge system that includes every voice and fosters every talent.

John Young (INASP,2020). COVID-19's effects on the global research system

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2020/10/09/the-covid-19-crisis-has-confirmed-that-a-strong-knowledge-system-is-key-to-a-just-peaceful-and-sustainable-world/>



Thank you !!!

www.clacso.org

clacsoinst@clacso.edu.ar

@_CLACSO