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# Why index your journal in DOAJ? What do you need to know?

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# Overview

- Introduction to DOAJ
- Benefits of indexing diamond OAjournals
- Basic criteria for inclusion in DOAJ
- The importance of licensing
- Applying for inclusion in DOAJ - the new application form
- Preservation initiative for diamond OAjournals
- Problems encountered in Slovak journal applications

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# Directory of Open Access Journals

- Founded 2003 to support the growing OAcommunity
- Aim to include all OAjournals that meet quality standards
- **Raise profile, visibility and impact of OAjournals**
- Independent, not-for-profit service funded entirely by donations
- Editorial work supported by global team of volunteers
- All DOAJ services provided **free of charge** - including review, journal listing, metadata distribution

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## Worldwide coverage

**80**

LANGUAGES

**125**

COUNTRIES  
REPRESENTED

**11,635**

JOURNALS  
WITHOUT APCs

**16,139**

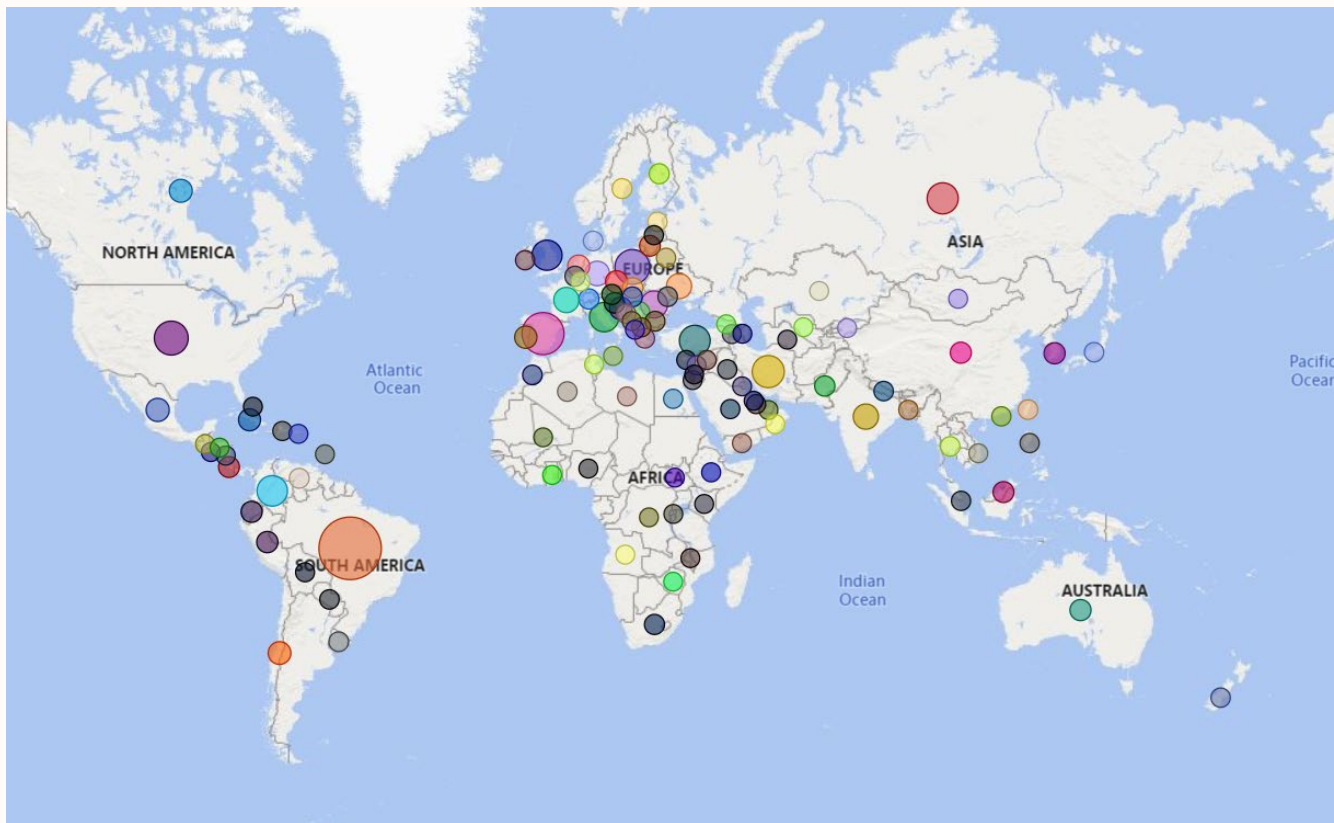
JOURNALS

**5,874,821**

ARTICLE  
RECORDS

**DOAJ**

## 2. workshop (nielen) pre OA časopisy



**Geographic spread of diamond OA journals in DOAJ March 2021**

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## Benefits of DOAJ indexing

1

Demonstrate your journal meets good publishing standards

3

Attract more authors and readers from around the world

5

First step towards inclusion in Scopus or Web of Science

2

Increase discoverability of your journal in search engines and indexing services

4

Enhance the reputation and impact of your journal

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# DOAJ basic criteria

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# Openness

- All journal content must be free and open access
- Immediate access - no delay or embargo
- No registration requirement
- DOAJ's definition of open access journals:

Journals where the copyright holder of a scholarly work grants usage rights to others using an **open license** (Creative Commons or equivalent) allowing for immediate free access to the work and permitting any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose.



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## Coverage and currency

- Journals must be **actively** publishing scholarly research
- Any research area
- Any language (**no English needed**)
- Publish at least 5 research articles per year
- New journals need to demonstrate a publishing history of more than 1 year, or have published at least 10 articles

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## Journal information

- All journals require a registered and confirmed **ISSN**
- Dedicated homepage for journal
- Information available and easily findable on:
  - Aims and scope
  - Open access policy
  - Instructions for authors
  - Editorial board, including affiliations for all members
  - Editorial process (**peer review**)
  - Copyright and licensing terms
  - **Author charges (even if zero)**

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# Copyright

- OAbest practice is for authors to retain copyright of their articles
- But DOAJ will accept journals where copyright is transferred to the publisher
- Ensure your policy is clearly stated
- Provide link to your publishing agreement if you use one
- **All rights reserved** not appropriate for OAcontent










# Importance of licensing

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## Why is licensing necessary?

- Free access does not always mean open access
- Open access means there is the right for readers to reuse content
- Use licensing to:
  - Inform readers how they may reuse content
  - Inform readers of any reuse that is not allowed
  - Protect the author and journal against unauthorised use
- DOAJ recommends use of **Creative Commons** licenses (or equivalent)
  - **No charge** for using CC licenses

LICENSES	TERMS
	 <b>Attribution</b> Others can copy, distribute, display, perform and remix your work if they credit your name as requested by you
	<b>BY</b>
	<b>ND</b> <b>No Derivative Works</b> Others can only copy, distribute, display or perform verbatim copies of your work
	<b>SA</b> <b>Share Alike</b> Others can distribute your work only under a license identical to the one you have chosen for your work
	<b>NC</b> <b>Non-Commercial</b> Others can copy, distribute, display, perform or remix your work but for non-commercial purposes only.
	

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# Applying for inclusion in DOAJ

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## How to apply

- Apply using the online application form at <https://doaj.org/apply/>
- **New form** designed to make the process easier and quicker
- But journals must still meet strict quality standards



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## New application form

- Open access compliance
- About the journal
- Copyright and licensing
- Editorial information
- Business model
- Best practice (not required for inclusion)
  - Persistent identifiers (like DOIs)
  - **Digital preservation**

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# Help and documentation

Guide to applying

<https://doaj.org/apply/guide/>

Reference version of the application form

<https://doaj.org/static/doaj/docs/2021-02-17-DOAJQuestions.pdf>

Information in other languages

<https://doaj.org/apply/guide/#in-other-languages>

# Preservation of diamond OA journals

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## Project overview

- Diamond OAjournals are most at risk of disappearing from the web
- Project group of five organisations dedicated to preservation of OAcontent
- Aim to create a hub where preservation agencies can harvest consistent metadata and full-text content
- Offer free and low-cost options for preservation and access
- Help to preserve journals that don't have the funds to join existing preservation services

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## Who is involved?



**DOAJ**

**PKP**  
PUBLIC  
KNOWLEDGE  
PROJECT



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## Problems to solve

1

Journals can vanish from the web, taking with them the research they published, leading to “reference rot” and broken URLs.<sup>[1]</sup>

2

Some archiving and preservation solutions come with financial and technical barriers that may prevent journals from taking part.

3

There is an initial investment in time and tech required by each service to set up a new journal before content is ingested. This can be expensive.

4

Communications with thousands of small publishers and a lack of standard practices makes archiving difficult.

5

Awareness among journal owners, editors and publishers about why archiving and preservation are important is low.

<sup>1</sup>. *Open is not forever: a study of vanished open access journals* et al. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.11933>

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## Common issues and shortcomings of (CZ&SK) journals

- Absence of a clear OApolicy
- Unclear information about copyright & licenses (ownership and re-use conditions)
- No participating in international (open) initiatives and services
- Short-term approach -> Who knows what will happen tomorrow?
  - LTP versus web harvesting services (Webarchiv)
- Absence of systematic anti-plagiarism policies and practice
- Inconsistent language versions of the journal's website
- Poor online presentation quality (unclear/inaccurate/confusing information; unprofessional website)

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# Thank you! | Děkujeme!

Contact me at [iemima@doaj.org](mailto:iemima@doaj.org)

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