



10 YEARS  
2003–2013

## Directory of Open Access Journals – a request for financial support

For 10 years the Directory of Open Access Journals ([www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)) has been serving open access journals, universities, libraries and the larger open-access community. In one way or another, it is fairly likely that many of the member institutions in your consortium already use and benefit from the DOAJ.

DOAJ, originally launched at Lund University, Sweden, is run by a not-for-profit company, Infrastructure Services for Open Access ([www.is4oa.org](http://www.is4oa.org))<sup>1</sup>. Open access publishing has gathered momentum and more people are turning to DOAJ to find quality, true open access content. We are already responding to these expectations with a development roadmap<sup>2</sup> and we have ambitious and exciting plans but we need the financial support to make them happen.

Therefore I am writing to you to ask your consortium to consider signing up for a DOAJ Membership. The annual fee for a large consortium is £8000 (GBPs).

### Your donation will help us to achieve our development targets and help to promote open access

So far this year, DOAJ has relaunched its site, introduced a series of new features to improve search and retrieval and carried out a huge publisher survey. However, perhaps the most significant development has been the initiation of a process to develop tighter criteria for those journals wishing to be - and stay - included in the Directory. This was done based on feedback from the newly-established DOAJ Advisory Board that is comprised of experts from the OA movement and the library community (<http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=news&nId=8&uiLanguage=en>). There was also an open consultation period inviting public comment. The whole process pointed to the need for a much more detailed and extended application form which DOAJ wants to implement in the last quarter of this year. You can see a preview here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1u0F-fVbEHySkTRXvJLkfd1s\\_ace9-nTzRYIWdJwSR68/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1u0F-fVbEHySkTRXvJLkfd1s_ace9-nTzRYIWdJwSR68/viewform)

DOAJ is also exploring a range of issues, for future development, that will increase the quality, quantity and reputation of open access journals:

Through tighter criteria, help the open access community and associated stakeholders to judge whether a specific journal is compliant with good publishing practice;

Cheap, efficient and manageable solutions for open access journals to implement persistent identifiers (DOIs) and cheap, efficient and manageable solutions for the permanent archiving of open access journals in collaboration with leading archiving initiatives and organizations;

Directly engage the community by selecting and training Associate Editors to assist with DOAJ upkeep.

<sup>1</sup> IS4OA was founded by Dr. Alma Swan (Director of SPARC Europe,) Caroline Sutton (Co-Action Publishing and past president of OASPA) and Lars Bjørnshauge (DOAJ Founder)

<sup>2</sup> You can see our roadmap here <https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B1Fw8p9XB3C6OGtUZzZTVFFCSkk/edit?usp=sharing>

- **Our work has global reach**

Launched with 300 journals, DOAJ now lists nearly 10 000 journals covering all disciplines, published in 120 countries and accepting articles in more than 50 languages. DOAJ is firmly established as the authoritative white-list of open access journals. Furthermore, a steadily growing number of the 10 000 journals provide article-level metadata to DOAJ: at the beginning of September the number of article-level records exceeded 1.5 million! All that metadata is freely available for harvesting and numerous aggregators, libraries and other service providers do so regularly, integrating it into their catalogues, discovery services and more.

#### **How to donate**

You can register for DOAJ Membership by going to the 'Support DOAJ' page on our site <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=membership&uiLanguage=en> and choosing either a one-off payment or a recurring annual payment for consortia. All online payments are taken via PayPal, one of the most popular, safest yet simplest online payment systems on the web. You will not have to have or create a PayPal account.

#### **Become a DOAJ Member, join us!**

Since 2006, DOAJ has been funded primarily by the community via annual membership fees. If you too support us, you will be in great company! More than 100 universities/academic libraries, a dozen library consortia and some commercial aggregators (subscription agents and discovery service providers) are already supporting the operations and development via yearly membership fees. A number of open access publishers sponsor DOAJ as well. The full list is here: <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=loadTempl&templ=members&uiLanguage=en>

Thank you for your attention this far. I cannot emphasize enough how important our work is, how much it is valued by the open access publishers and how much we have to do to continue supporting high quality in open access publishing. I do hope that your consortium can support DOAJ's work or, at the very least, that you can pass this email to the person who can make that decision.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I am always happy to hear from you.

Thank you in advance

Lars Bjørnshauge

Managing Director

DOAJ

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Watch the slides from a presentation at the COASP-meeting in Riga September 18-20<sup>th</sup>:

<http://www.slideshare.net/doaj>