OA Books with OAPEN & DOAB

Monday April 28, 2025

Niels Stern, OAPEN Managing Director and DOAB Co-Director
Silke Davison, Community Manager

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Agenda

- Who are OAPEN and DOAB?
- Why support OAPEN & DOAB?
- Questions and discussion
- How you can use the OA Book Toolkit
- Final things to note

Advantages of Open Access (OA) Books

1. Free for anyone, reducing barriers to knowledge
2. Enable equitable access to educational resources
3. Increase visibility and impact of research, bridging the academic community and public
4. Foster interdisciplinary collaboration, accelerating scientific discovery and innovation
5. Save money for your institution!

Who are OAPEN and DOAB?

Niels Stern, OAPEN Managing Director and DOAB Co-Director

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Who is OAPEN?

- Open infrastructure for open access (OA) books
- Supporting the global transition to OA for academic books
- Providing services for publishers, funders, researchers , libraries
- OAPEN operates three platforms:
  - OAPEN Library (2010) library.oapen.org
  - Directory of Open Access Books (2013) doabooks.org
  - OAPEN OA Books Toolkit (2020) oabooks-toolkit.org

Mission and values

Mission

- Increase discoverability of peer-reviewed OA books
- Promote and build trust in OA book publishing

Values

- Independent, not-for-profit
- Cannot be sold or acquired
- Guided by the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure (POSI)
  - Conducted self-audit in May 2023 (to be reviewed in 2025)

Strategic ambitions

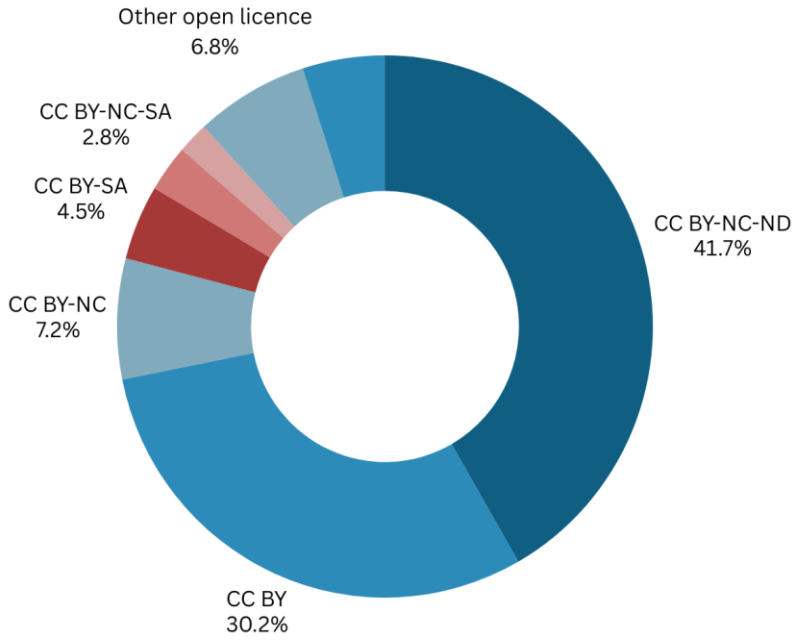
+

OAPEN Strategic Plan 2025 – 2028 | OAPEN

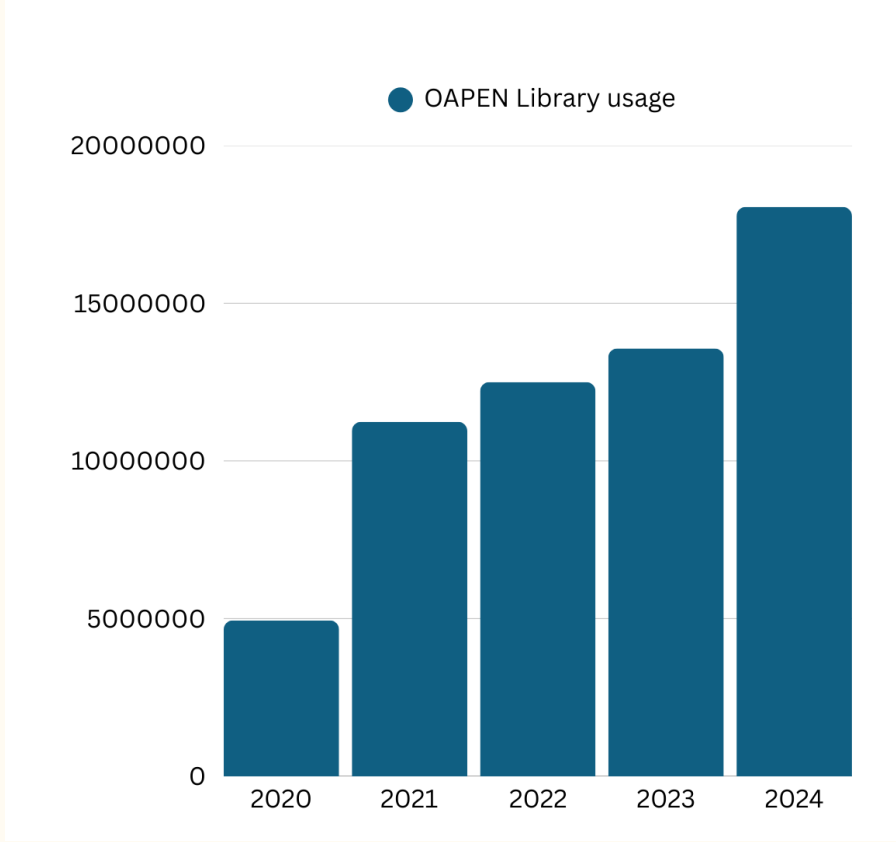
The OAPEN Library – a global digital library

- Launched in 2010 – celebrating 15 years!
- Free, full-text downloads for 40,000+ -OA titles
- 450+ publishers
- 75+ languages
- Offers hosting, distribution, preservation (Portico & CLOCKSS), usage services for publishers
- Built on open-source software DSpace 6
- Server hosted in CERN's Data Center
- Over 1.5 million monthly COUNTER downloads

Growth and bibliodiversity

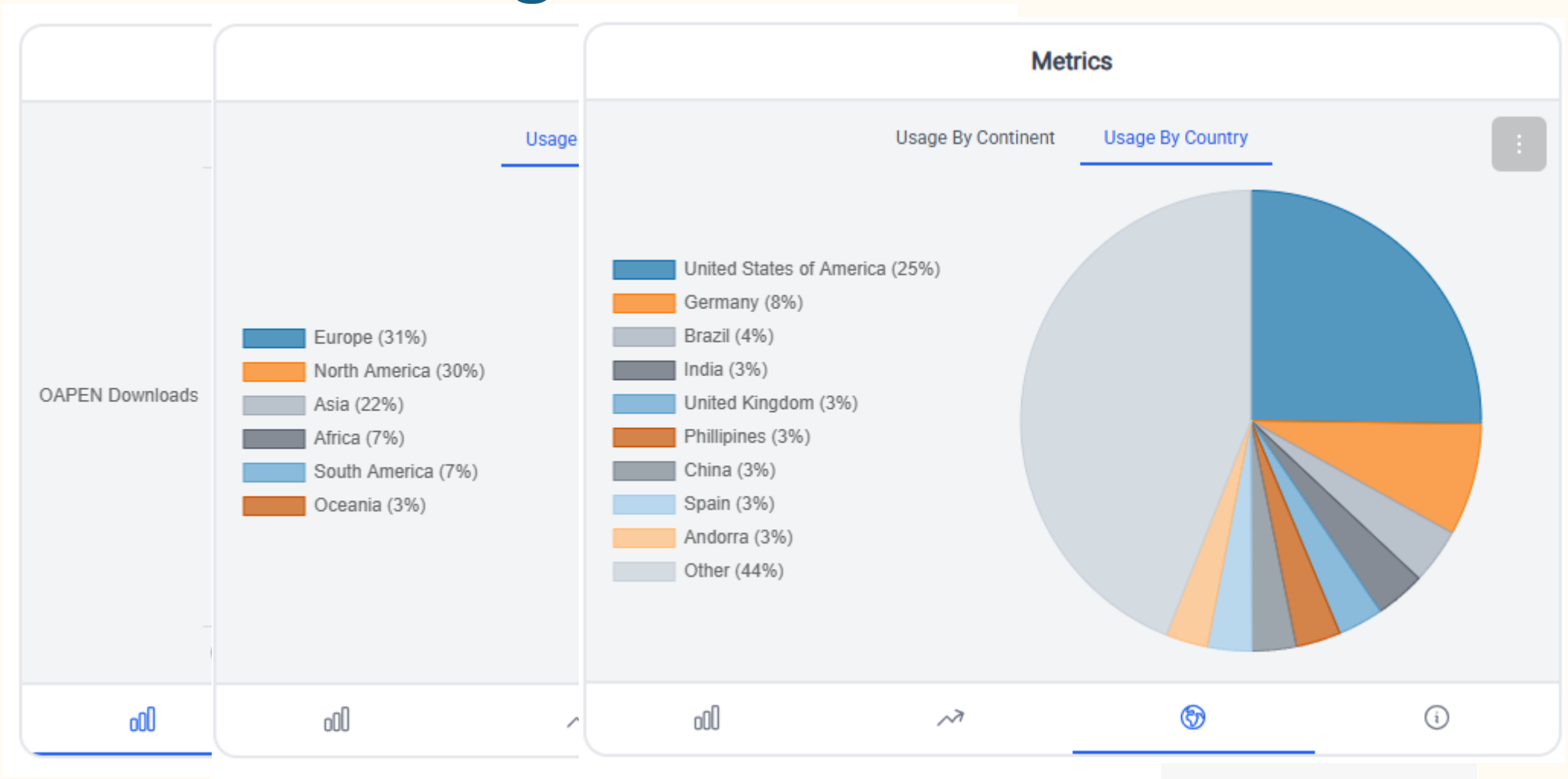


Global & growing usage of the OAPEN Library



IRUS-UK data for January to December 2024

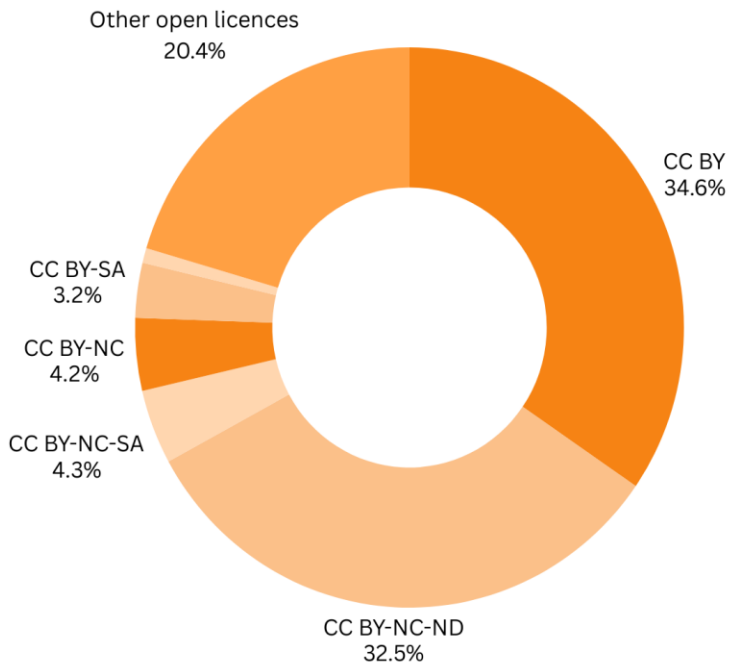
Title level usage data



Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

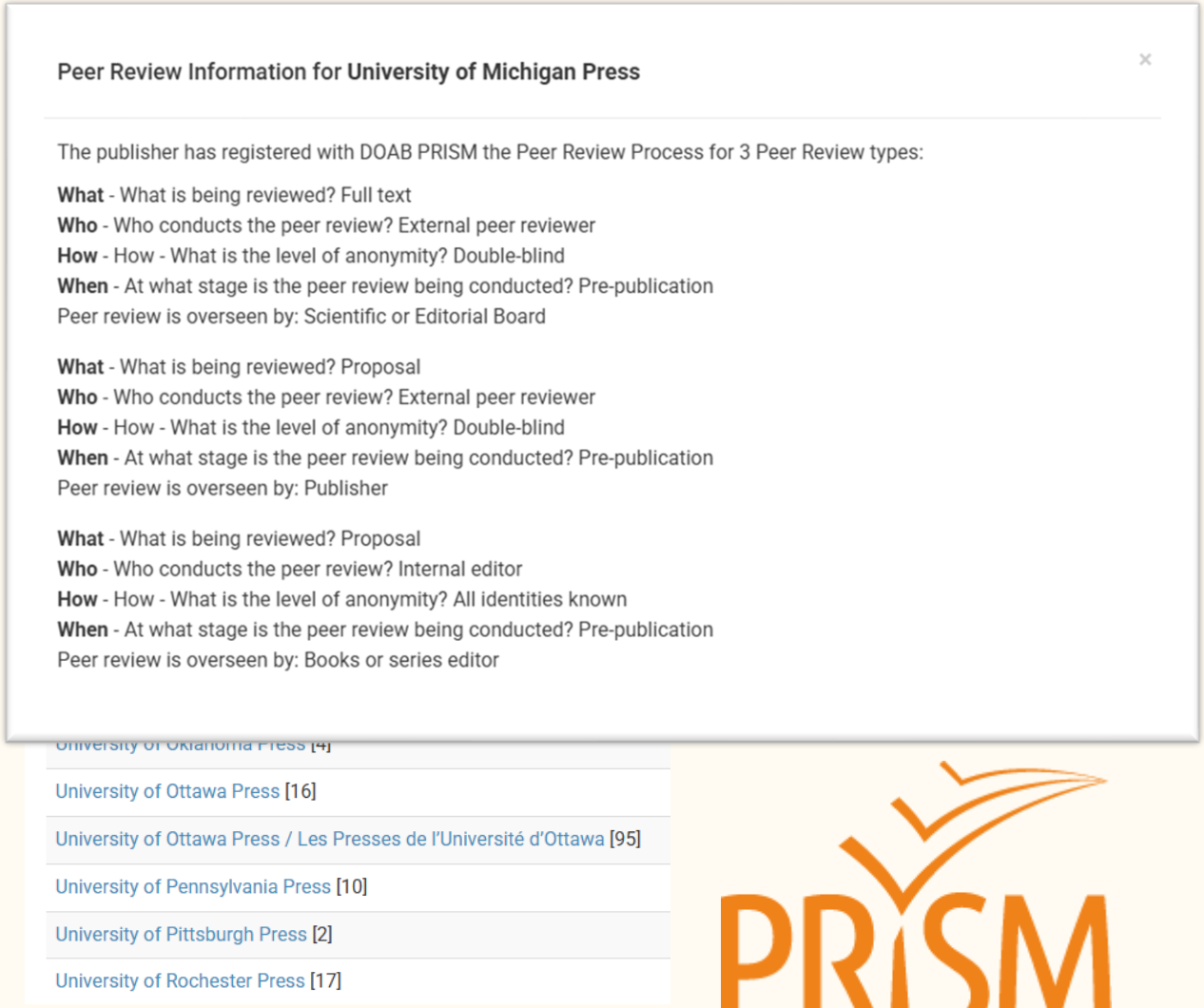
- Launched in 2013
- Free, searchable index of 93,500+ OA titles
- 750+ publishers
- 95+ languages
- Free for publishers to participate upon meeting inclusion criteria
- Metadata freely available under CC0
- Built on open-source software DSpace 6
- Server hosted in CERN's Data Center
- Co-managed with OpenEdition

Growth and diversity in DOAB



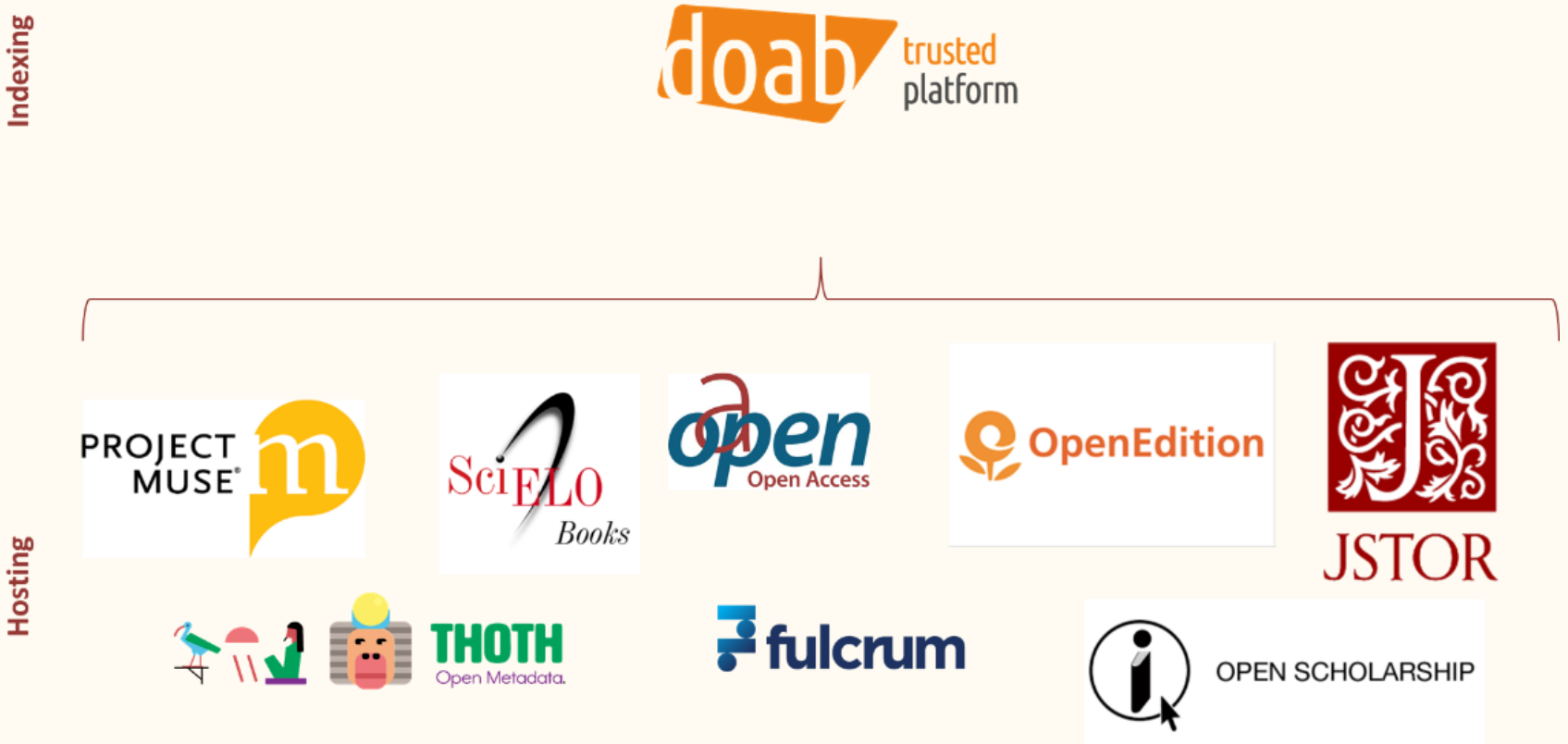
Peer Review Information Service for Monographs (PRISM)

- Provides publishers with the opportunity to display information about their peer review procedures on publisher and title level
- Supports transparency around the quality assurance process of academic book publishing
- PRISM widget available



DOAB Trusted Platform Network

A seamless way for publishers to list their OA books in DOAB



Technical developments in summary

- Migration to CERN
- Technical audit review performed by Curtin University Institute for Data Science
  - Consultation with key partners
  - Replication of code
  - Documentation of code
  - Recommendations
- Upgrade to next DSpace version

Enabling open access to books

An expanded collaboration agreement between CERN and the OAPEN (Open Access Publishing in European Networks) Foundation sees the Laboratory directly hosting the OAPEN Library and the Directory of Open Access Books in its Data Centre

6 MARCH, 2024

(Image: CERN)

Why support OAPEN and DOAB?

Silke Davison, Community Manager

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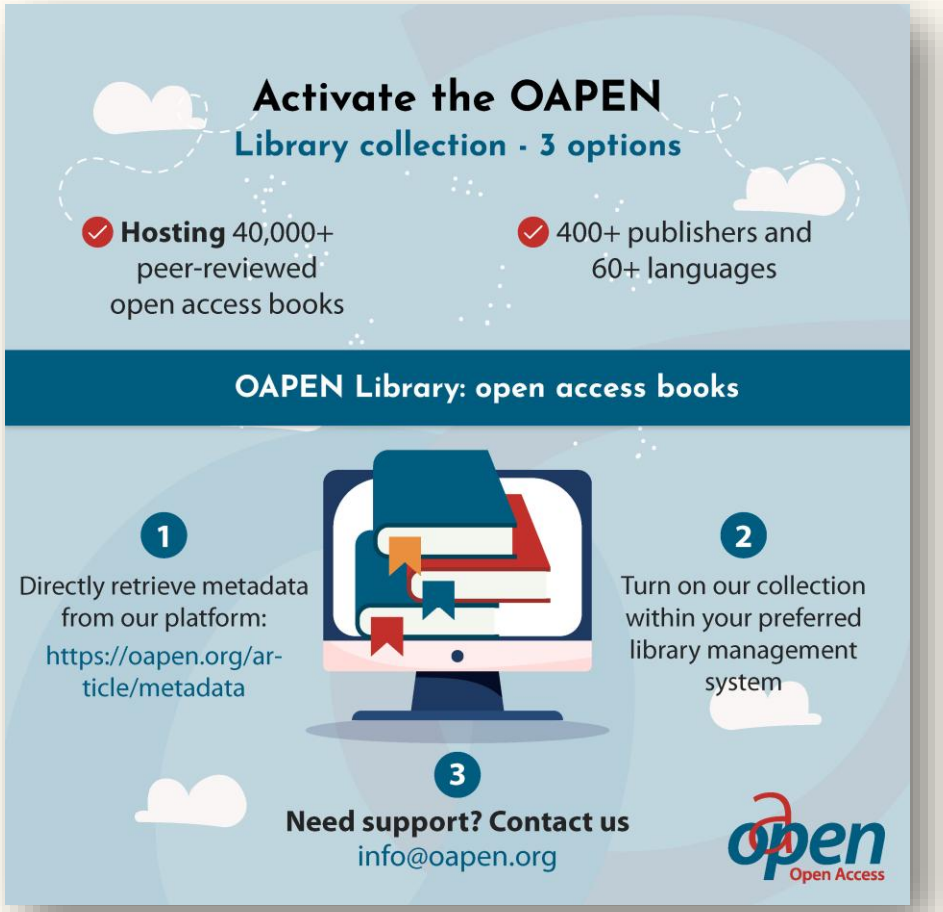
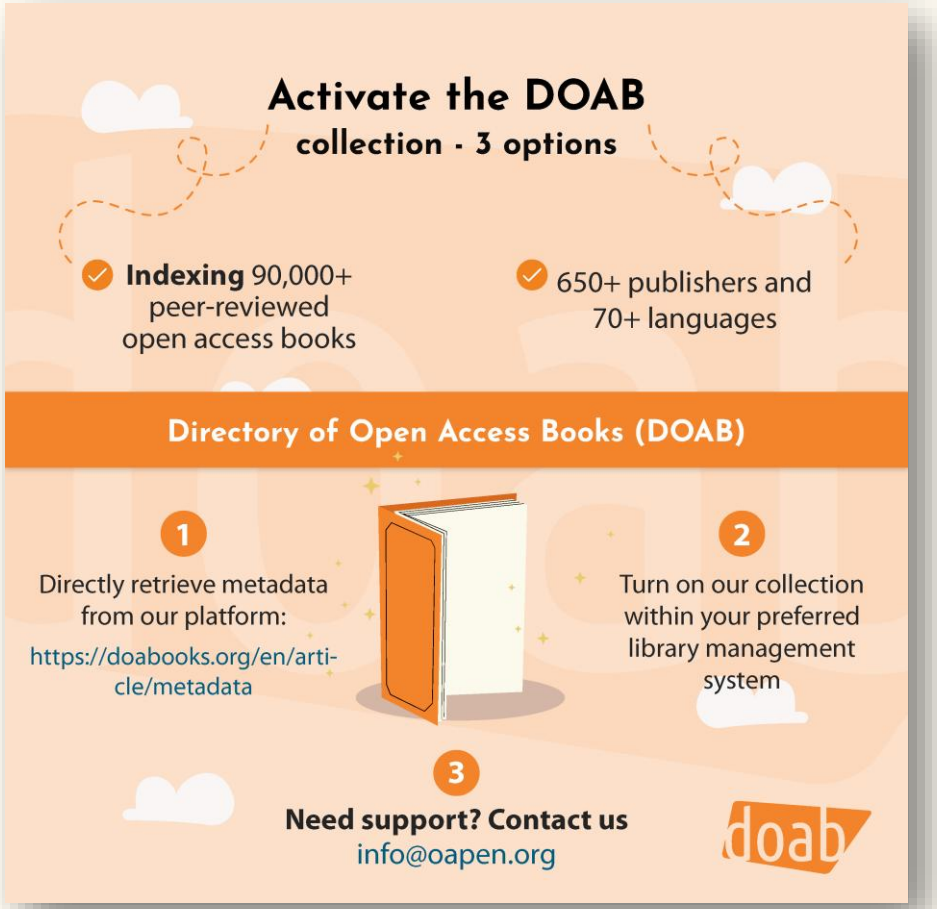
Thousands of books to your 'shelves' for free



Metadata | OAPEN



Metadata | DOAB

Metadata Export Module for OA books

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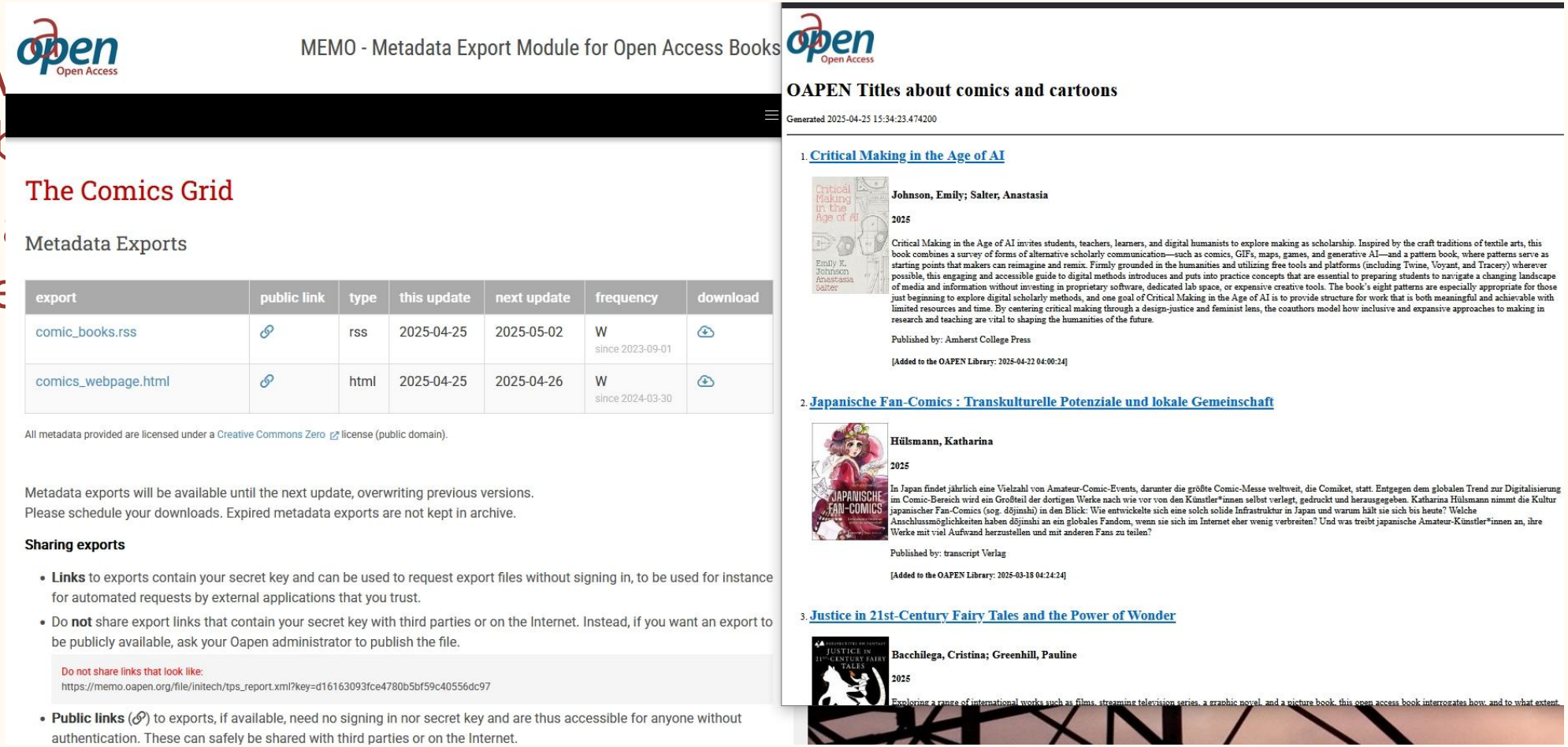
  update fre



MEMO - Metadata Export Module for Open Access Books

The Comics Grid

Metadata Exports

export	public link	type	this update	next update	frequency	download
comic_books.rss		rss	2025-04-25	2025-05-02	W since 2023-09-01	
comics_webpage.html		html	2025-04-25	2025-04-26	W since 2024-03-30	

All metadata provided are licensed under a Creative Commons Zero license (public domain).

Metadata exports will be available until the next update, overwriting previous versions.
Please schedule your downloads. Expired metadata exports are not kept in archive.

Sharing exports

- **Links** to exports contain your secret key and can be used to request export files without signing in, to be used for instance for automated requests by external applications that you trust.
- Do **not** share export links that contain your secret key with third parties or on the Internet. Instead, if you want an export to be publicly available, ask your Oapen administrator to publish the file.

Do not share links that look like:
https://memo.oapen.org/file/initech/tps_report.xml?key=d16163093fce4780b5bf59c40556dc97

- **Public links** (🔗) to exports, if available, need no signing in nor secret key and are thus accessible for anyone without authentication. These can safely be shared with third parties or on the Internet.

OAPEN Titles about comics and cartoons

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1. Critical Making in the Age of AI

Johnson, Emily; Salter, Anastasia

2025

Critical Making in the Age of AI invites students, teachers, learners, and digital humanists to explore making as scholarship. Inspired by the craft traditions of textile arts, this book combines a survey of forms of alternative scholarly communication—such as comics, GIFs, maps, games, and generative AI—and a pattern book, where patterns serve as starting points that makers can reimagine and remix. Firmly grounded in the humanities and utilizing free tools and platforms (including Twine, Voyant, and Tracery) wherever possible, this engaging and accessible guide to digital methods introduces and puts into practice concepts that are essential to preparing students to navigate a changing landscape of media and information without investing in proprietary software, dedicated lab space, or expensive creative tools. The book's eight patterns are especially appropriate for those just beginning to explore digital scholarly methods, and one goal of Critical Making in the Age of AI is to provide structure for work that is both meaningful and achievable with limited resources and time. By centering critical making through a design-justice and feminist lens, the coauthors model how inclusive and expansive approaches to making in research and teaching are vital to shaping the humanities of the future.

Published by: Amherst College Press

[Added to the OAPEN Library: 2025-04-22 04:00:24]

2. Japanische Fan-Comics : Transkulturelle Potenziale und lokale Gemeinschaft

Hülsmann, Katharina

2025

In Japan findet jährlich eine Vielzahl von Amateur-Comic-Events, darunter die größte Comic-Messe weltweit, die Comiket, statt. Entgegen dem globalen Trend zur Digitalisierung im Comic-Bereich wird ein Großteil der dortigen Werke nach wie vor von den Künstler*innen selbst verlegt, gedruckt und herausgegeben. Katharina Hülsmann nimmt die Kultur japanischer Fan-Comics (sog. dōjinshi) in den Blick: Wie entwickelte sich eine solch solide Infrastruktur in Japan und warum hält sie sich bis heute? Welche Anschlussmöglichkeiten haben dōjinshi an ein globales Fandom, wenn sie sich im Internet eher wenig verbreiten? Und was treibt japanische Amateur-Künstler*innen an, ihre Werke mit viel Aufwand herzustellen und mit anderen Fans zu teilen?

Published by: transcript Verlag

[Added to the OAPEN Library: 2025-03-18 04:24:24]

3. Justice in 21st-Century Fairy Tales and the Power of Wonder

Bacchilega, Cristina; Greenhill, Pauline

2025

Exploring a range of international works such as films, streaming television series, a graphic novel, and a picture book, this open access book interrogates how, and to what extent,

Library Working Group on Metadata

Metadata for Libr

Metadata feeds

OAPEN enables libraries and aggrega
metadata is available in the following

- ONIX (3.0) – XML
- MARCXML – based on the MARC
- KBART – tab delimited text file
- CSV – comma delimited text file
- CSV – comma delimited text file
- JSON – JavaScript Object Notati
- RIS – Research Information Syst

MARC21 metadata provided by

Penn State University Libraries provid
three files:

- CC-licenced titles
- "Free-to-read" titles
- Titles where only a limited numb

Download the data here: https://dx.d

ScholarSphere | PennState University Libraries

DOAB MARC files

NOTE: Monthly updates to these files were paused in June 2024 because
resume when the migration is complete and the data is stable, hopefully

These are MARC records created from metadata supplied by DOAB (Dire
Free-to-read ebook titles in the DOAB database. There are three files:

DOAB-CCONLY-20240508.mrc (65,307 records): these records describe D
metadata. They are tagged as "Open Access" in the MARC records.

DOAB-NOCC-20240508.mrc (13,737 records): these records describe DO
metadata. They are tagged as "Free-to-read" in the MARC records.

DOAB-NODOWNLOADS-20240508.mrc (851 records): these records desc
available in DOAB. There are no download links in these records; the link
downloadable chapters.

Total number of records: 79,895

The files will be updated monthly. Questions or suggestions for improve
jhe2@psu.edu.

Open Access metadata, Part Two

Silke Davison

THU 21 MAR 2024

Read this article at hypotheses

This blog post was written in collaboration with Jeff Edmunds, Digital Access Coordinator at the Penn State University Libraries. It's a companion piece to the original blog post, 'Open Access metadata: OAPEN partners with Penn State University Libraries' (linked below).

In October of 2023, OAPEN announced a collaboration with Penn State University Libraries whereby OAPEN's metadata was being transformed into MARC records, cleaned up and improved, and then made freely available for download (with a CC license assigned) via Penn State's institutional repository, ScholarSphere.

Since September 2023, the MARC files have been downloaded hundreds of times (averaging 200-300 times per month) from many parts of the globe. The visualization below demonstrates exactly how far and wide these MARC files have been downloaded.

About

OAB MARC files

OPEN ACCESS

eff Edmunds

OAB

ARC records

pen Access ebooks

C BY 4.0 (Attribution)

ataset

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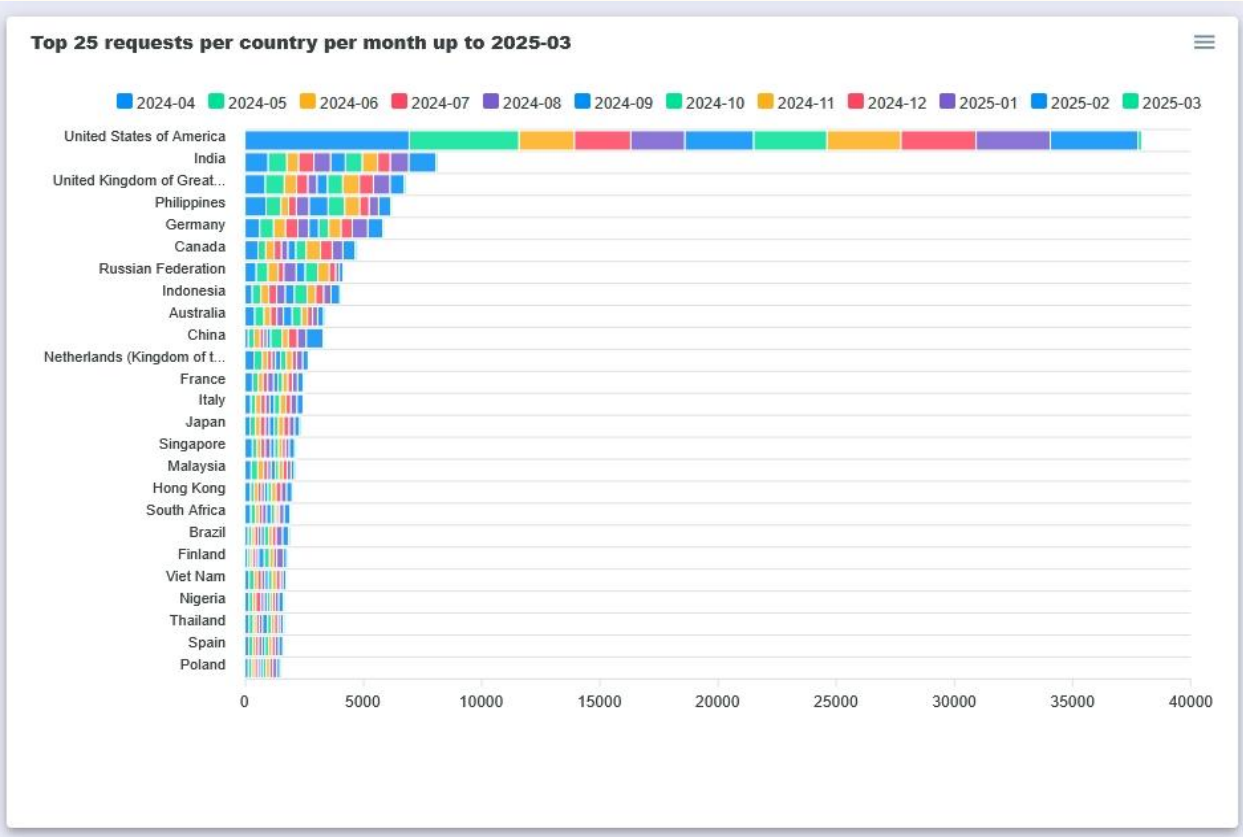
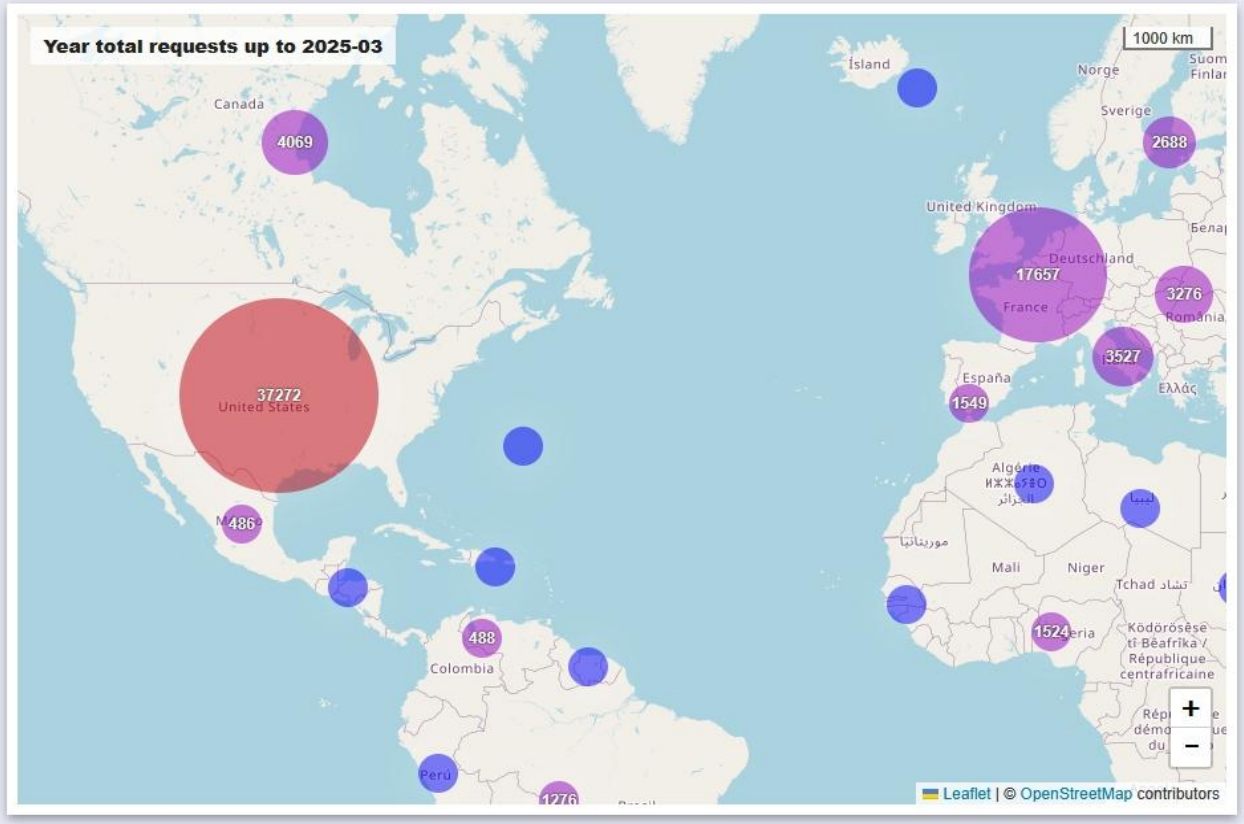
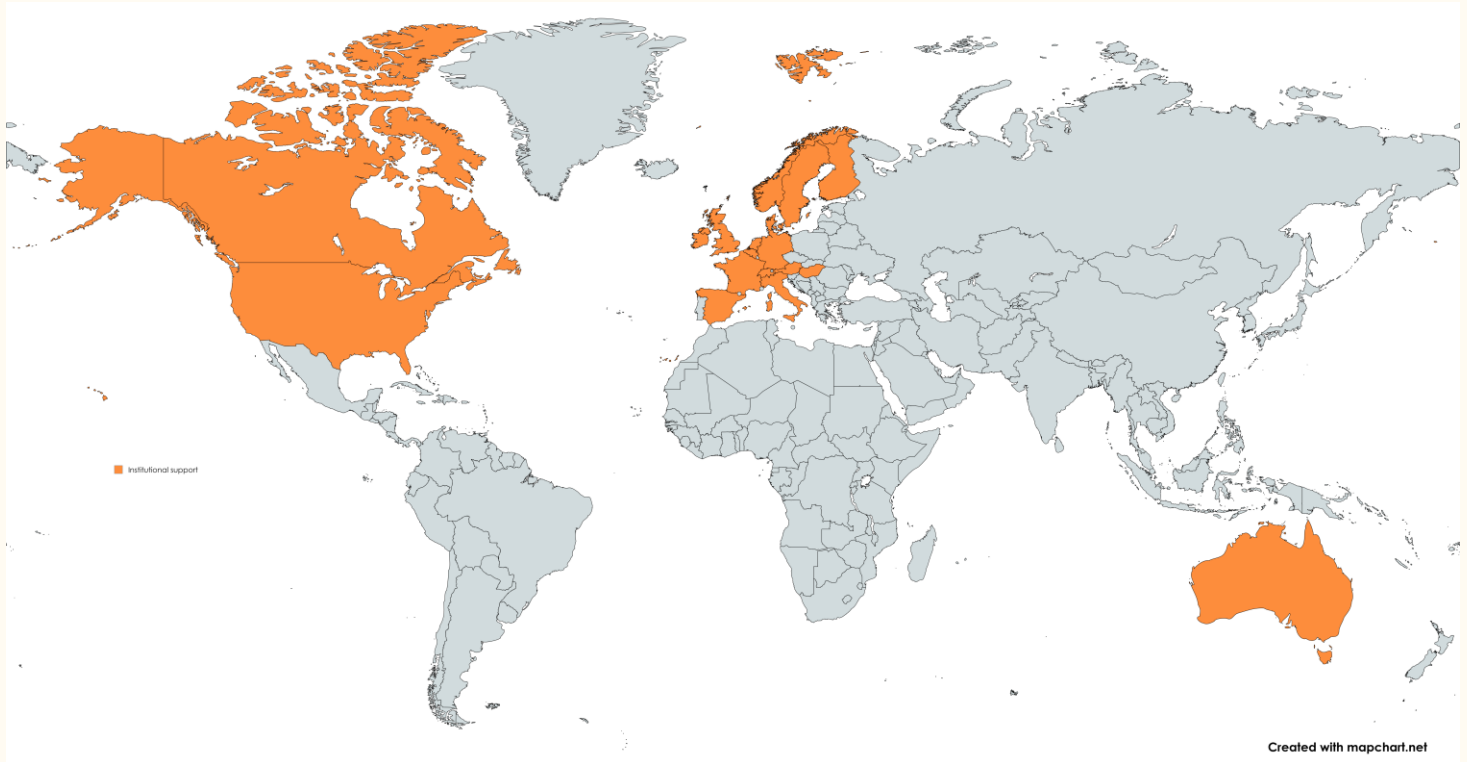
OAPEN Library COUNTER usage dashboard





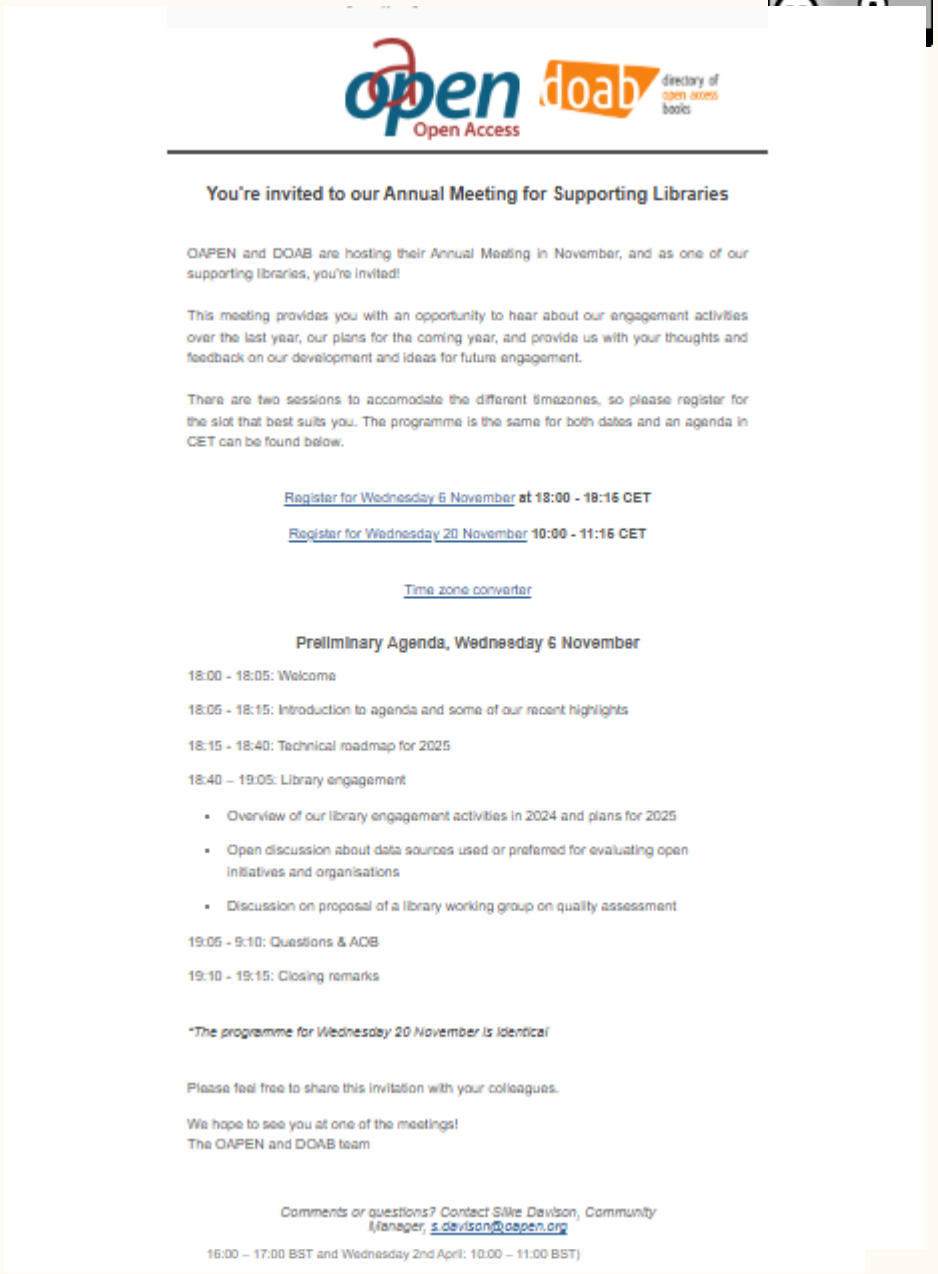
What does our supporter base look like?

- Support from 300+ libraries in 18 countries across 3 continents
- 160+ have an OAPEN Library dashboard



Additional supporter benefits

- Free hosting, dissemination, preservation, and usage services for affiliated publishing entities
- Use our logos to advertise your support
- Demonstrate your commitment to an open scholarly communications ecosystem
- Enable knowledge to be accessed beyond institutions who can afford expensive subscriptions
- Help keep services (and metadata!) free for everyone
- You can ensure our development and sustainability as vital OA books infrastructure



You're invited to our Annual Meeting for Supporting Libraries

OAPEN and DOAB are hosting their Annual Meeting in November, and as one of our supporting libraries, you're invited!

This meeting provides you with an opportunity to hear about our engagement activities over the last year, our plans for the coming year, and provide us with your thoughts and feedback on our development and ideas for future engagement.

There are two sessions to accomodate the different timezones, so please register for the slot that best suits you. The programme is the same for both dates and an agenda in CET can be found below.

Register for Wednesday 6 November **at 18:00 - 18:15 CET**

Register for Wednesday 20 November **10:00 - 11:15 CET**

Time zone converter

Preliminary Agenda, Wednesday 6 November

18:00 - 18:05: Welcome

18:05 - 18:15: Introduction to agenda and some of our recent highlights

18:15 - 18:40: Technical roadmap for 2025

18:40 – 19:05: Library engagement

- Overview of our library engagement activities in 2024 and plans for 2025
- Open discussion about data sources used or preferred for evaluating open initiatives and organisations
- Discussion on proposal of a library working group on quality assessment

19:05 - 9:10: Questions & AOB

19:10 - 19:15: Closing remarks

**The programme for Wednesday 20 November is identical*

Please feel free to share this invitation with your colleagues.

We hope to see you at one of the meetings!
The OAPEN and DOAB team

Comments or questions? Contact Silke Davison, Community Manager, s.davison@oapen.org

16:00 – 17:00 BST and Wednesday 2nd April: 10:00 – 11:00 BST)

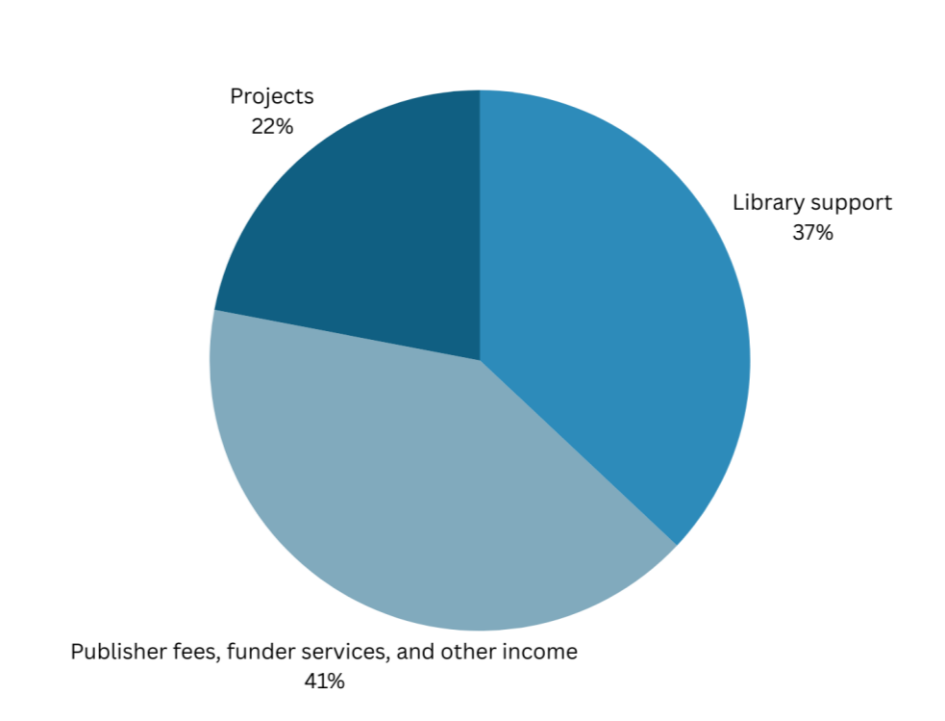
OAPEN and DOAB 2024 Highlights

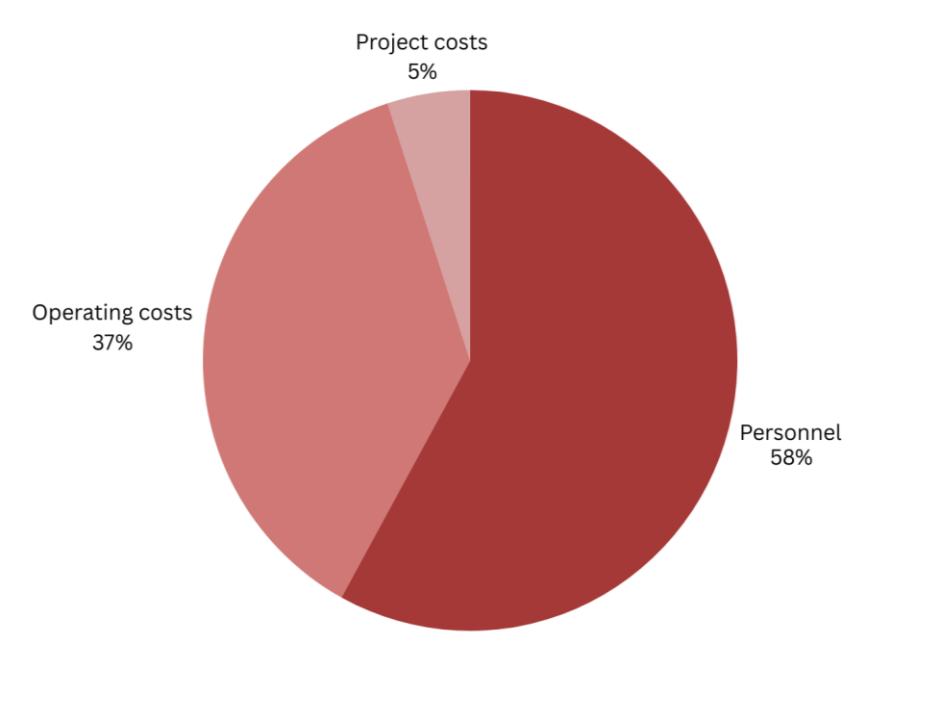
What does it cost to support?

Institution Tier	OAPEN & DOAB supporter fee* (USD)
Baccalaureate | Baccalaureate/Associate's | Associate's	$1,200
Master's	$2,400
Doctoral	$4,850

**Consortia with 10+ supporting members are eligible for a discount to our standard fees*

OAPEN incomings and outgoings





Questions and discussion

Open to all

CC BY

How you can use the OA Books Toolkit

Niels Stern, OAPEN Managing Director and DOAB Co-Director

CC BY

Purpose of the OA Books Toolkit

- A collection of ~50 short articles focusing on different topics about OA book publishing for all stages of the research (and policy) life cycle
- A free information resource for researchers (and policymakers)
- Intended to help users understand OA book publishing and tackle common myths
- All articles CC BY and easily integrated into library guides

Live demonstration

oabooks-toolkit.org

What else?

Silke Davison, Community Manager

CC BY

Open Access Books Network (OABN)

THE OPEN ACCESS BOOKS NETWORK

A community for everyone to discuss and learn about OA books

Bringing together:

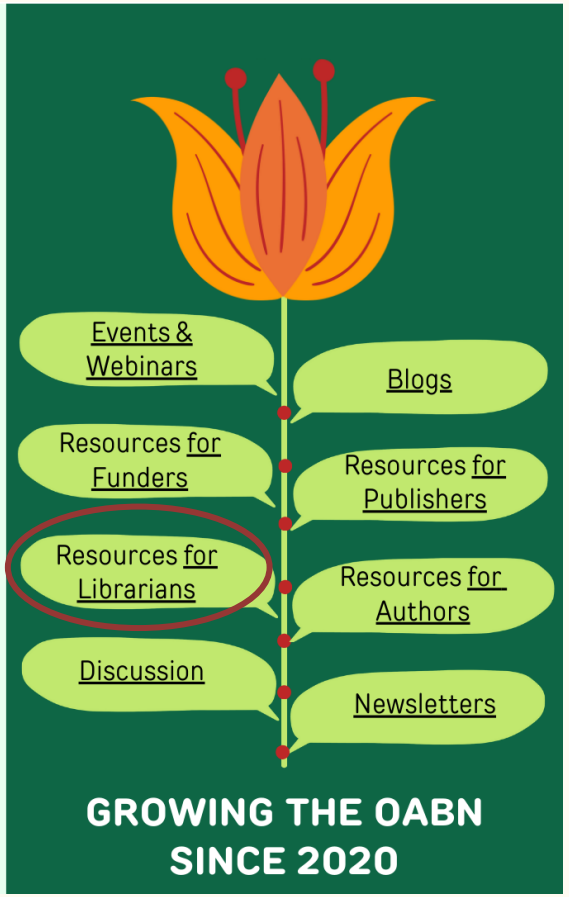
- publishers
- **librarians**
- researchers and authors
- funders and policymakers
- infrastructure providers
- and anyone interested in OA books

Connect with us:

- Visit our website: https://openaccessbooksnetwork.hcommons.org/
- Join our mailing list: https://oabooksnetwork.eo.page/signup
- Find us on Knowledge Commons
- Follow us on Bluesky: oabooksnetwork@bsky.social
- Join our OPERAS Working Group: https://operas-eu.org/special-interest-groups

Propose your own event, blog, series, or something else by emailing info@oabooksnetwork.org

Coordinated by: SPARC Europe, OpenBook Publishers, OA Open Access



For Librarians – Open Access Books Network

Contact and connect with us

Niels Stern

OAPEN Managing Director &

DOAB Co-Director

stern@oapen.org

Silke Davison

Community Manager

s.davison@oapen.org

- Sign up for the OAPEN newsletter
- Sign up for the DOAB newsletter
- Follow @oapenbooks.bsky.social and @doabooks.bsky.social on Bluesky
- Connect with OAPEN and the OA Books Toolkit on LinkedIn
- Join the Open Access Books Network mailing list
- OAPEN and DOAB strategic plans

Final questions and next steps

Open to all