

How can we individually and collectively champion open and ethical scholarly publishing systems?

Workshop - Science Europe Open Science Conference
October 2022

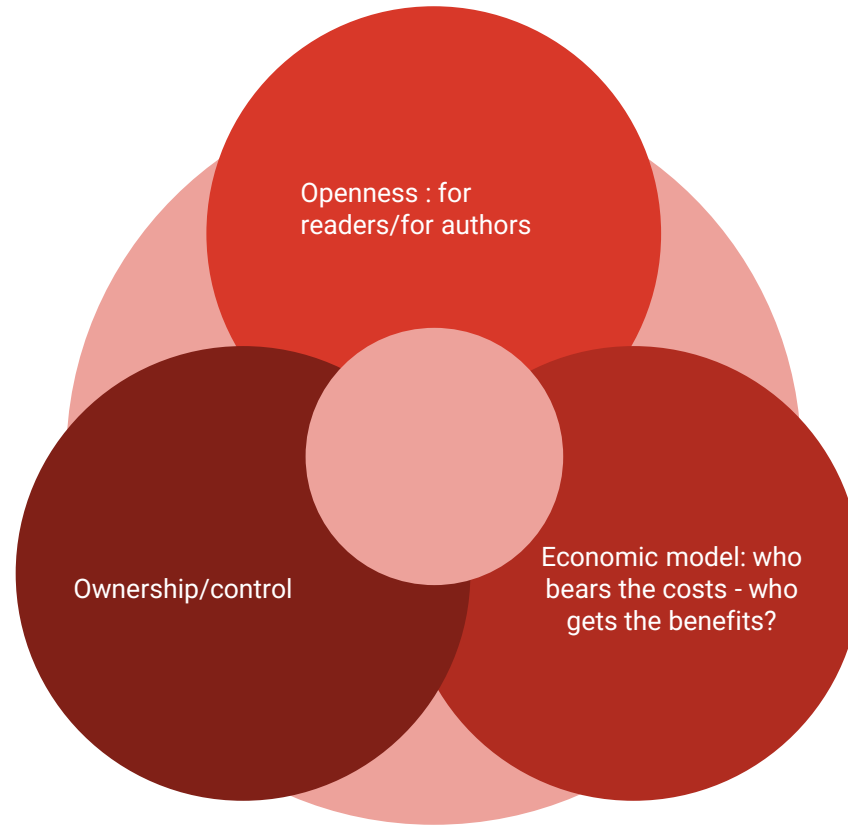
Fernando Racimo - Véronique De Herde

What makes a publishing model open *and ethical* ?

Which features to consider?

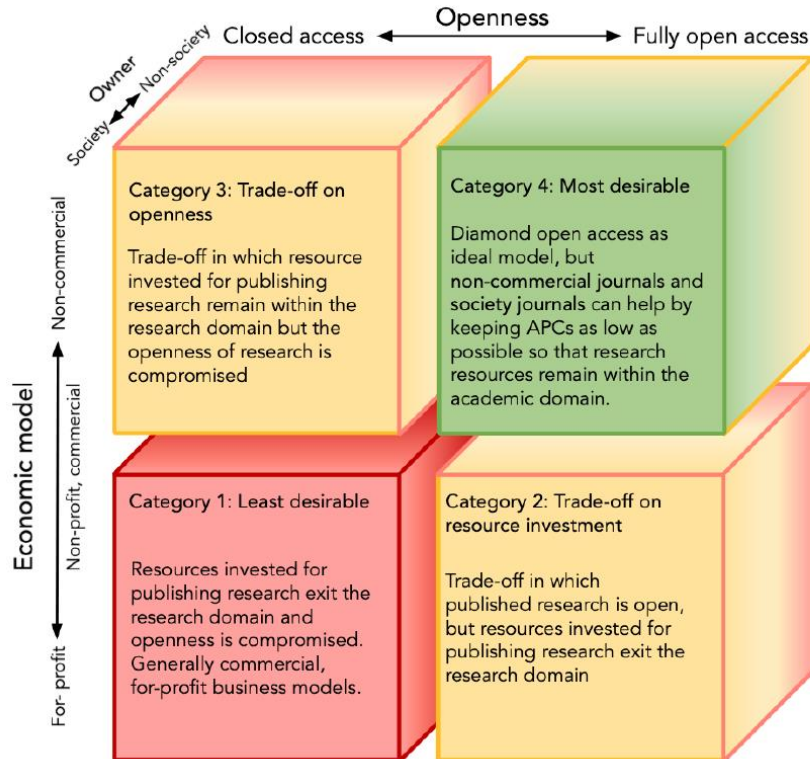


Ethical dimensions of publishing



Racimo et al (2022)
Ethical publishing, how
do we get there? in
PTbio
<https://zenodo.org/record/6224306#.Y0Z13HZBw>
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Ethical dimensions of publishing

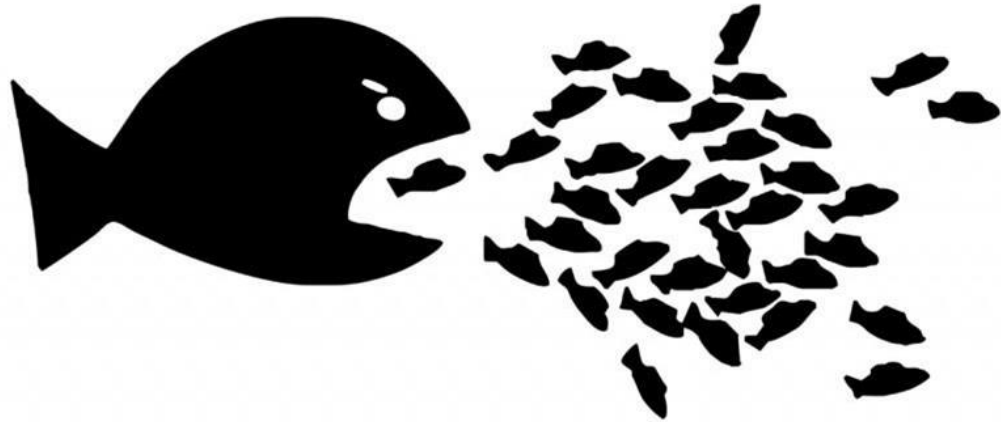


cc-by N.Aubert-Bonn, in Racimo et al (2022) Ethical publishing, how do we get there? in *PTbio*
<https://zenodo.org/record/6224306>
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Why not publish ethically?

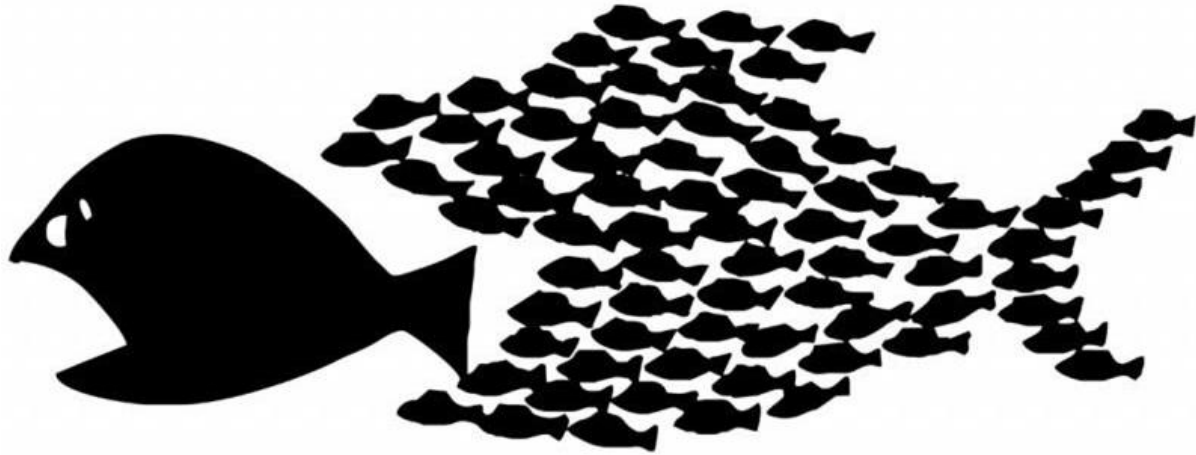


What can we do?

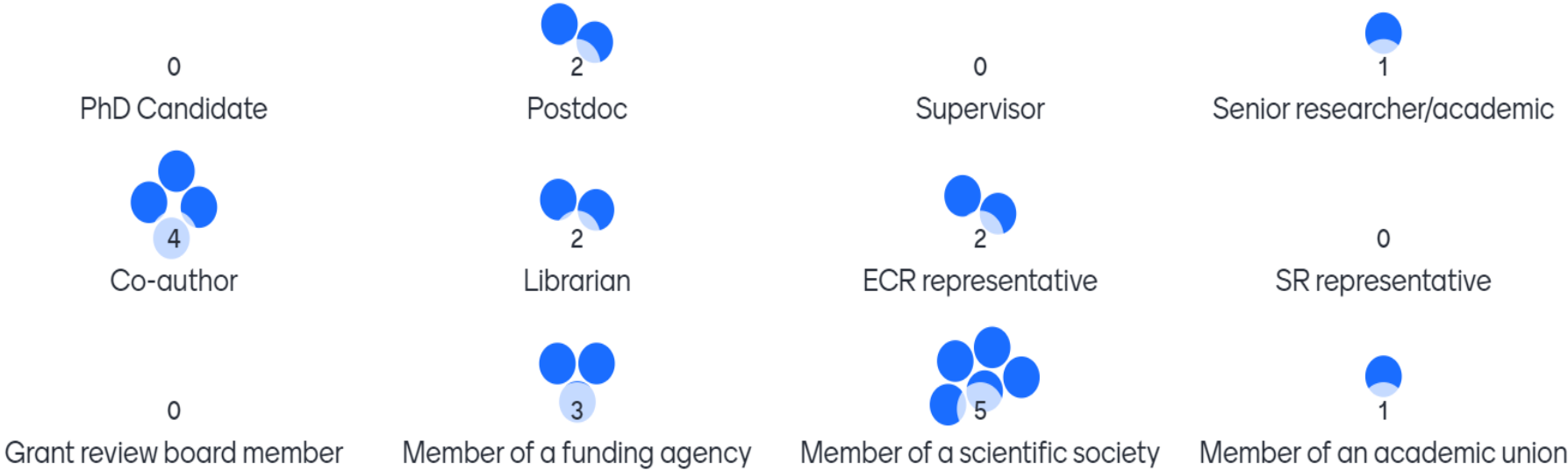


What can we do?

ORGANIZE



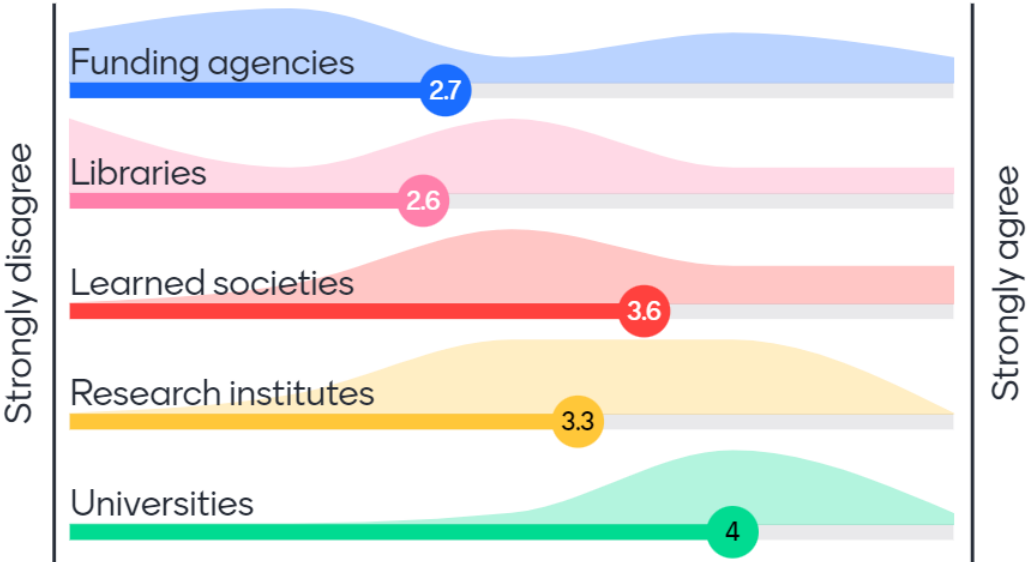
What roles do you hold in the academic system ?



Within those roles, which concrete actions can we undertake?

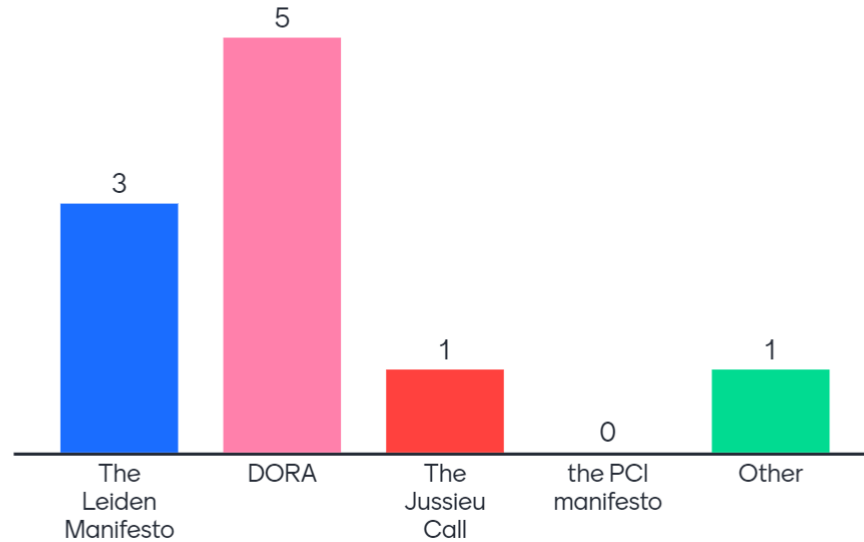


Which type of institutions still need to be convinced about transitioning to ethical publishing?



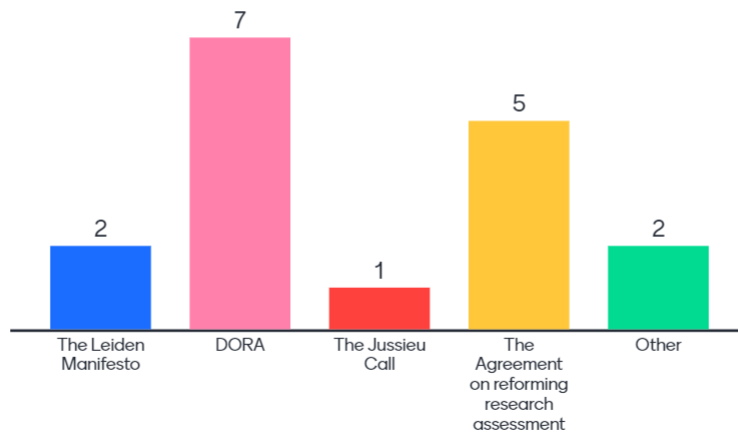
Which declarations did I openly support?

Mentimeter



Which declarations did my institution openly support?

Mentimeter



Peer review - do you agree with these practices?

Sharing my response to a recent review request from Nature Neuroscience.

I cannot, however, review for *Nature Neuroscience* any longer due to the enormous open-access APC fee that was recently announced (<https://group.springernature.com/cn/group/media/press-releases/springer-nature-announces-gold-oa-options-for-nature-journals/18614608>). The \$11,528 (by today's exchange rate) is significantly above the average APC of the biggest for-profit publishers, which has been estimated at being around \$2,660 (<https://undark.org/2021/01/14/big-science-publisher-is-going-open-access/>). '\$11,528' is not just a large number. It is one semester of a graduate student stipend, most of an fMRI study, funds for 4 graduate students to attend the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. These charges take away money (often from government grants) that would otherwise be spent in those ways.

The 'Editorial Assessment Charge' piloted in 6 other Nature journals is also a worrying development. Charging more than \$2,000 upon submission is not only excessive, but adds barriers where none should exist.

Peer review - do you agree with these practices?

· Sep 23, 2021

Today, I received 2 review requests from for-profit journals (I guess from editors who must not follow me on twitter). After declining, I sent this to the respective first and last authors of the 2 papers. [#UndergroundPeerReview](#)

Thu 9/23/2021 10:33 PM

To: [redacted]

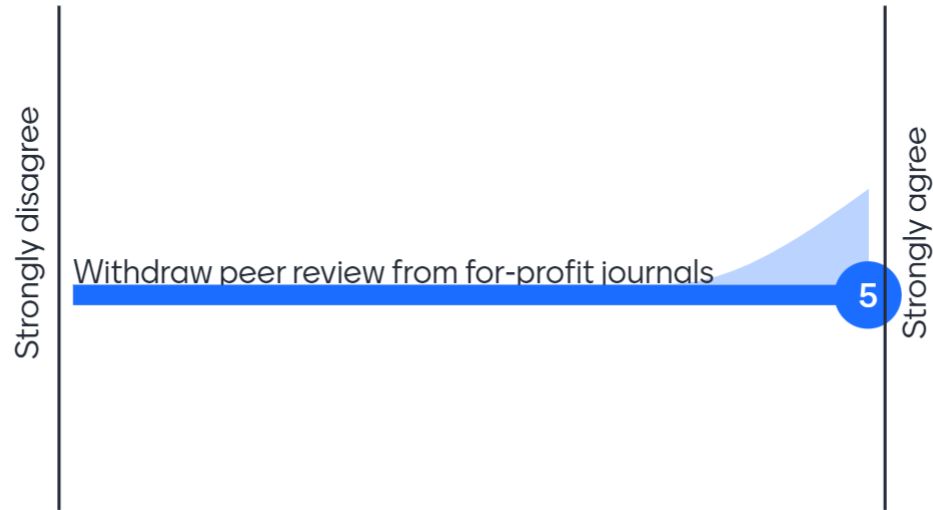
Dear [redacted]

I just received a review request for one of your manuscripts by a for-profit journal. As a rule I don't provide unpaid labor to for-profit journals, so I had to decline the request. However, I found the preprint of your manuscript very much worth a read, so I'd be happy to write a review for it on the comments section of your biorxiv preprint, or alternatively, be a suggested reviewer of your manuscript in PCI Evol Bio or PCI Genomics: <https://evolbiol.peercommunityin.org/> <https://genomics.peercommunityin.org/>

Let me know if you're interested! I can probably have something written within 30 days. And sorry for having to decline: it's my general belief that publicly withdrawing our free labor from this type of journals is one of the most effective ways forward for making them lose their value over time among the scientific community, and encourage stronger support for society or non-profit journals and preprint review systems that invest the money back into science instead of the pockets of shareholders.

Best,
[redacted]

Do you agree with these practices?



Learned societies - how to transition? Which obstacles - which added value?

Lack of resources and collective support structures

when financed with subscriptions (for printed issues) - how to stimulate subscriptions for open access?

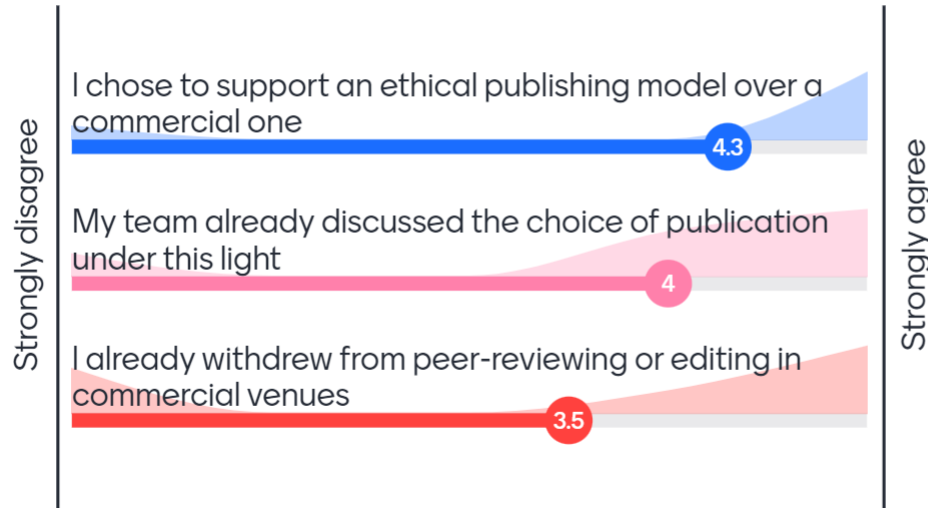
added value: best value for their members (what are learned societies for if not to serve the needs of their community?)

Transactional costs can be high, disproportionate to scale eg. they could work collectively with things like OA switchboard

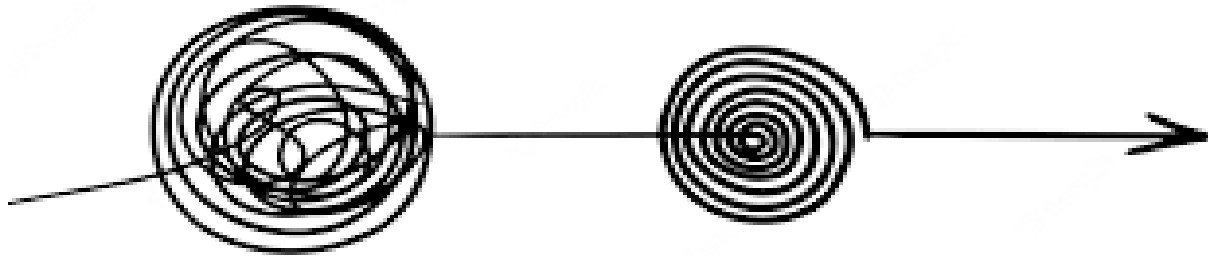
obstacles: current publishing profits
added value: use their members to review and curate the literature

Choices of publishing venue: where do you stand?

Mentimeter



A complex shift by individual and collective practices' alignment



Thank you for your attention!