



DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals

Who are we? Why are we important?

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Content

Part 1:

What is DOAJ ?

Why are we important?

Part 2:

DOAJ criteria

Maintaining the DOAJ database



What is DOAJ?



Community-curated index of peer-reviewed open access journals

- Small, independent, not-for-profit organisation founded in 2003
- Virtual organisation with team members all over the world
- >100 volunteers processing applications & 21 ambassadors

DOAJ DOAJ funding and governance

Funding:

- not-for-profit, funded by voluntary donations
- 82% of support comes from public academic institutions and funders
- 18% is from supporting publishers.

Governance:

- Advisory Board
- Council
- Editorial Subcommittee

DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

Find open access journals & articles.

 Journals ArticlesIn all fields 

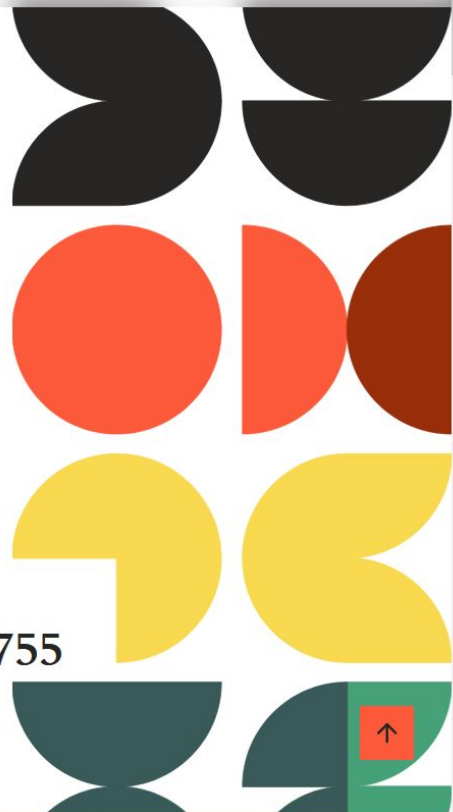
SEARCH

80

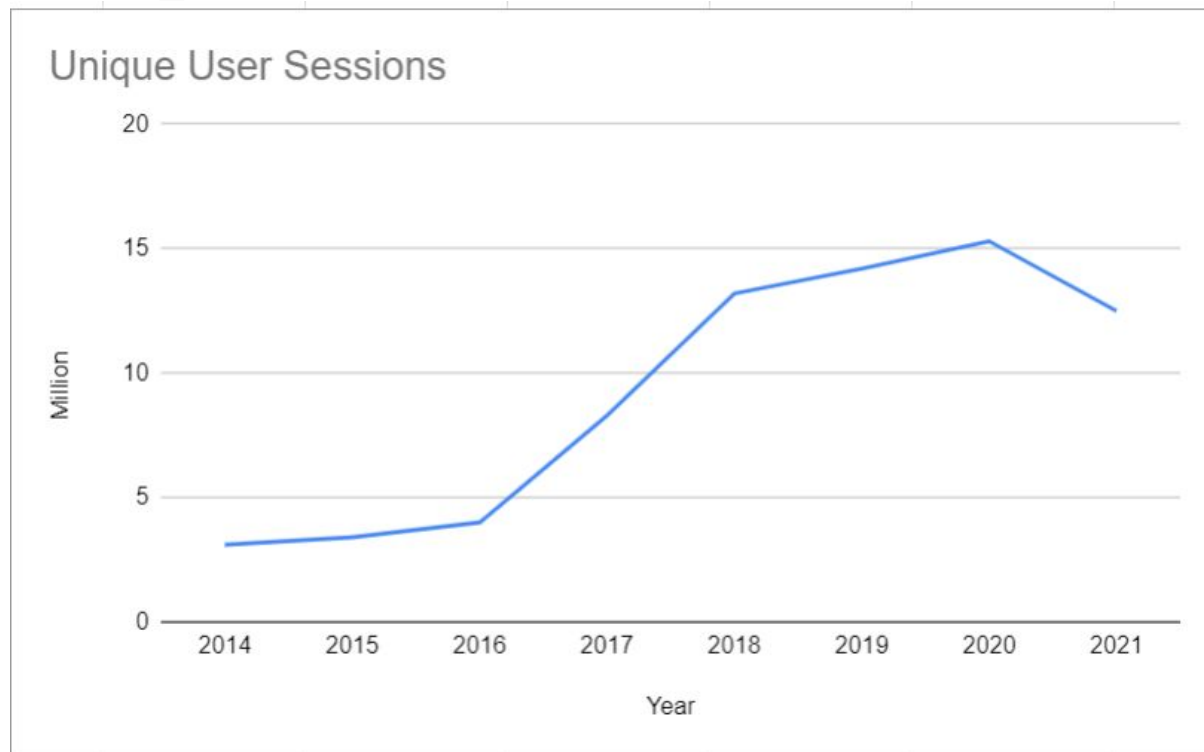
LANGUAGES

130COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED**12,713**JOURNALS
WITHOUT APCs**18,420**

JOURNALS

8,116,755ARTICLE
RECORDS

Unique users 2014-2021





Why are we important?

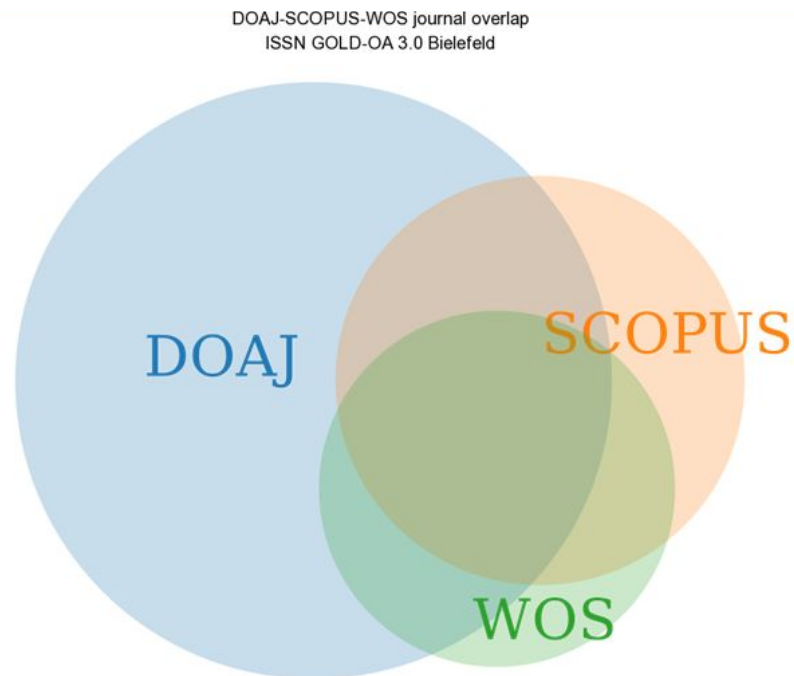




DOAJ mission:

‘to increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation, usage and impact of quality, peer-reviewed, open access scholarly research journals globally, **regardless of discipline, geography or language.**

DOAJ's coverage of open access journals compared to Scopus and WoS



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Most journals indexed in DOAJ

1. Indonesia (2071)
2. United Kingdom (1979)
3. Brazil (1632)
4. United States (1053)
5. Spain (938)
6. Poland (791)
7. Iran, Islamic Republic of (708)
8. Russian Federation (556)
9. Switzerland (533)
10. Italy (489)

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We are a signatory of the Helsinki Initiative

#InAllLanguages

Danish journals in DOAJ

- Currently 42 Danish journals indexed
 - Oldest accepted 2007
 - >95% SSH journals

- Collaboration with *Royal Danish Library, Aalborg University & Copenhagen Business School* to help more Danish journals apply
 - 12 accepted applications
 - **>28 %** increase in Danish indexations since Dec 2021

Provides a Quality filter

It is estimated that

- Research output grows by 4% every year. The number of citations is growing by 5.6% each year, and doubling every 12 years.*
- The number of journals grows by 3-5% every year

**Nature*:

<https://www.nature.com/nature-index/news-blog/the-growth-of-papers-is-crowding-out-old-classics>

Provides a Quality filter

- Every application is reviewed by our editors to ensure the journal meets our Basic criteria
 - <https://doaj.org/apply/guide/#basic-criteria-for-inclusion>
- **Our criteria have become the unofficial standard for open access journals**
- It is sometimes a requirement for a journal to be indexed in DOAJ for you to get funding

Focus on the positive

- DOAJ highlights quality OA journals to publish in and read
- Coauthors of The Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing
- Founding member of Think. Check. Submit

Think

Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal or publisher? Is it the right journal or book for your work?

Check

Use our check list to assess the journal or publisher.

Submit

Only if you can answer 'yes' to the questions on our check list.



DOAJ

Benefits of being indexed in DOAJ

- Increased readership
- Increased scientific impact for the journal(s)
- Promotion of the journal
- For integration into discovery services and library catalogues (Primo, Serials Solutions, EBSCO, OCLC, Google Scholar etc)

Source: <https://bit.ly/2ADZQYg>



Criteria for Inclusion



- There is **a set of minimum criteria** which your journal has to meet to be accepted for indexing. (Also available in Danish)
- There are **additional criteria** for some journal types
- There are **extra criteria** which may make the journal eligible for the **DOAJ Seal** for best practice

DOAJ What type of journal can apply?

- The journal can cover **any research subject area, be in any language and from any country**, but the primary target audience should be researchers
- Actively publishing scholarly research

What type of open access?

- There are many different types and definitions of open access. DOAJ adheres to this one:

‘Open Access is the condition where **the copyright holder of a scholarly work** grants **usage rights to others** using an open license (Creative Commons or equivalent) that allows for immediate, free access to the work and permits 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.**’

Editorial quality control

- Journals should have an editor and an editorial board
- All journals accepted into DOAJ must have a rigorous review process for research content
- Endogeneity should be minimised

Copyright & Licensing

- Copyright and licensing are two separate things
 - Copyright = who owns the work (creator by default)
 - Licensing = what others are (not) allowed to do with the work
- Be careful to avoid copyright/licensing clash
 - Copyright statements should not contradict licensing terms
 - Copyright agreements should not contravene rights expected for Open Access content

For more info see: <https://doaj.org/apply/copyright-and-licensing/>

- On journal websites, copyright can apply to two distinct areas:
 - to the published scholarly content
 - to the website as an entity
- It must be clear to the user who owns the copyright of the published papers
- Copyright may be retained by the author or transferred to the publisher
- DOAJ prefers that all rights are retained by the author but we will accept journals that require transfer of copyright



DOAJ Copyright & Licensing

- DOAJ's definition of open access allows users:
 - to reuse material for any 'lawful purpose'
- Licences inform readers:
 - how they may use the published content (*'read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, link to, crawl, index, pass them as data to software'*)
- They protect the journal & the author against unauthorised use
- DOAJ recommends the use of Creative Commons (CC) licensing but will accept publisher's own license*

LICENSES



TERMS



BY

Attribution

Others can copy, distribute, display, perform and remix your work if they credit your name as requested by you



ND

No Derivative Works

Others can only copy, distribute, display or perform verbatim copies of your work



SA

Share Alike

Others can distribute your work only under a license identical to the one you have chosen for your work



NC

Non-Commercial

Others can copy, distribute, display, perform or remix your work but for non-commercial purposes only.

DOAJ Required journal information

Journals should have a dedicated website with the following information:

- ISSN(s)
- Description of editorial process (peer review)
- Editorial board (including professional affiliations)
- Copyright and licensing terms
- Details of charges incurred to publish an article
- Aims and scope of the journal
- Instructions for authors
- Contact details
- Journal content

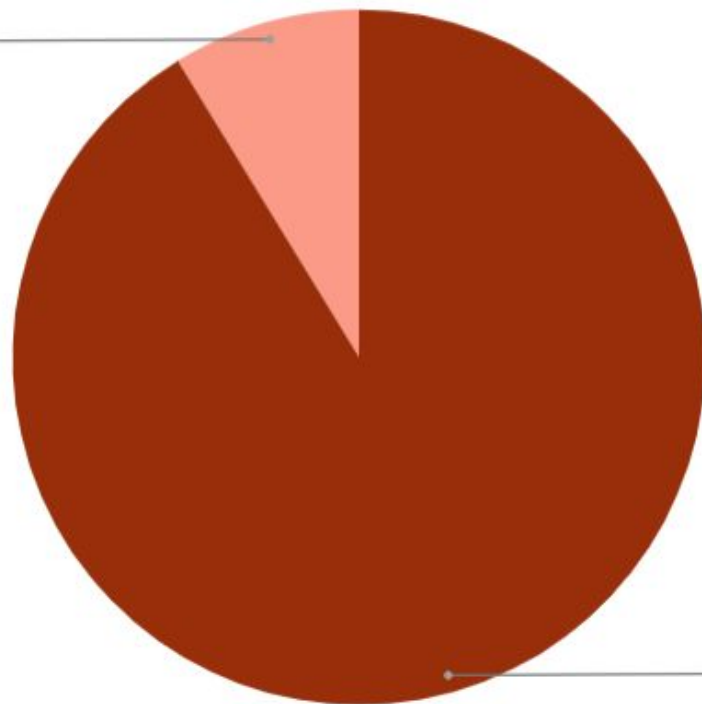


DOAJ Seal for Open Access Journals

- Awarded to journals that meet **additional best practice** recommendations
- Based on seven criteria relating to accessibility, openness, discoverability, reuse, and authors rights
- All criteria must be met to be awarded the Seal
- **Journals do not need to meet Seal criteria to be accepted into DOAJ**

Less than 9% of journals have been awarded the Seal

1476
8.7%

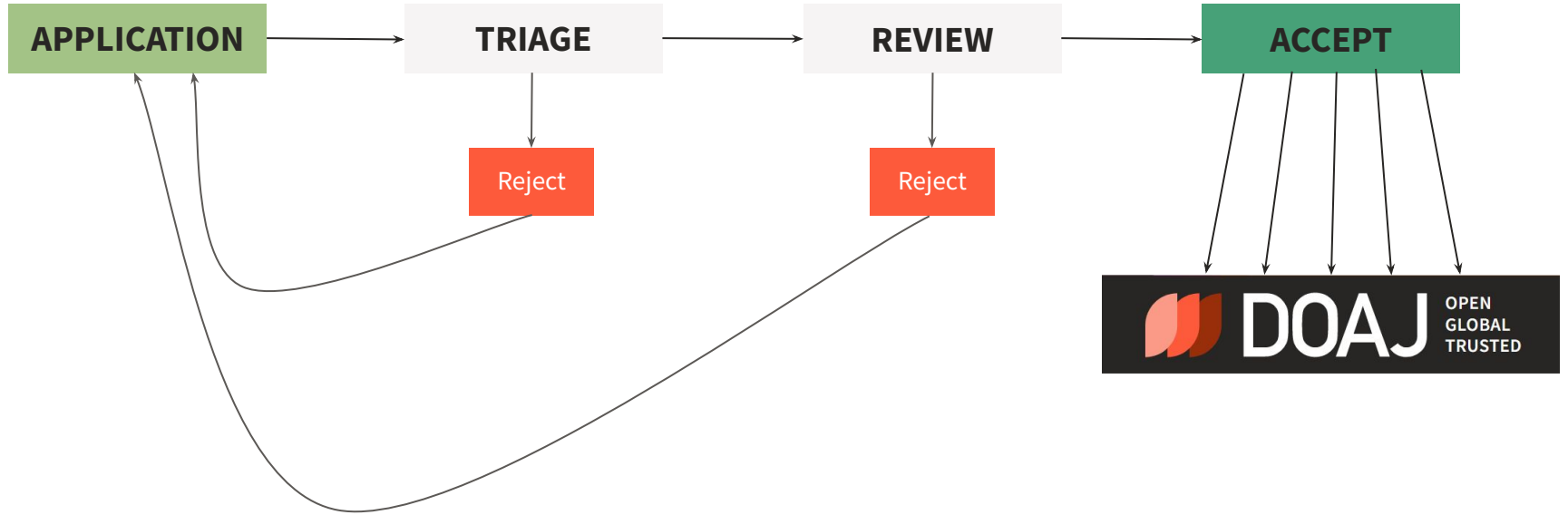


15,399
91.3%

DOAJ Why do we have strict criteria?

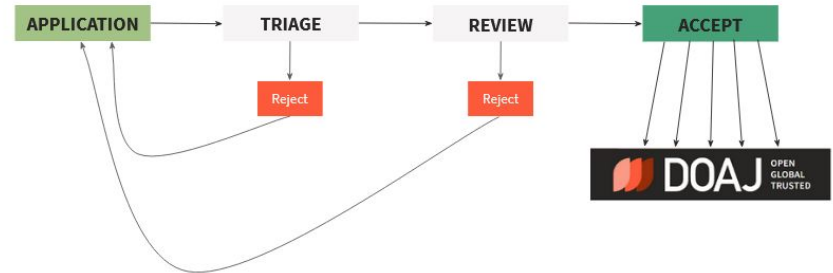
- This is about **transparency** for users.
- Information about **a journal's policies, practices, business processes** should be easy to find, easy to read, and easy to understand by users.
- Users must be able to **quickly understand** what content is available to them, who is making it available and what they can do with that content.

Application process



Application process

- Currently receiving approx. 810 applications per month
 - Highest peak of almost 1000 in 2021
- We reject about 65% of all applications with 35% of them being rejected at Triage. Triage is our first review and sorting of the applications.
 - Acceptance rate ~35%





Maintaining the DOAJ database



- Two types of metadata:
 - Journals (18 335)
 - Articles (8 029 989)
- Free to download & reuse
- Integrated into discovery services and many library portals all over the world
 - 75% of traffic to DOAJ is referrals, mostly from discovery services
- Our metadata is used in other systems eg. Unsub, OA switchboard, Plan S Journal Checker Tool, Sherpa Romeo

- Quality control for **journal** metadata by us and publishers
 - Manual updates by us - ad hoc & systematic
 - looking for ways to automate
 - Publishers can update journal information via DOAJ accounts
- Limited quality control on **article** metadata
 - Supplied to us voluntarily by journals
 - Some manual quality control
- A measure of quality control also by You the community!
- **Ultimately publishers are responsible for their metadata**

- Work to improve metadata and raise awareness about metadata quality, e.g.
 - CrossRef compatibility
 - permanent identifiers; ORCID ID
 - proper archiving; Project JASPER
 - Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure (POSI)
 - Ensuring good governance, capacity and resources (sustainability), insurance mechanisms for when something goes wrong



Thank you!

