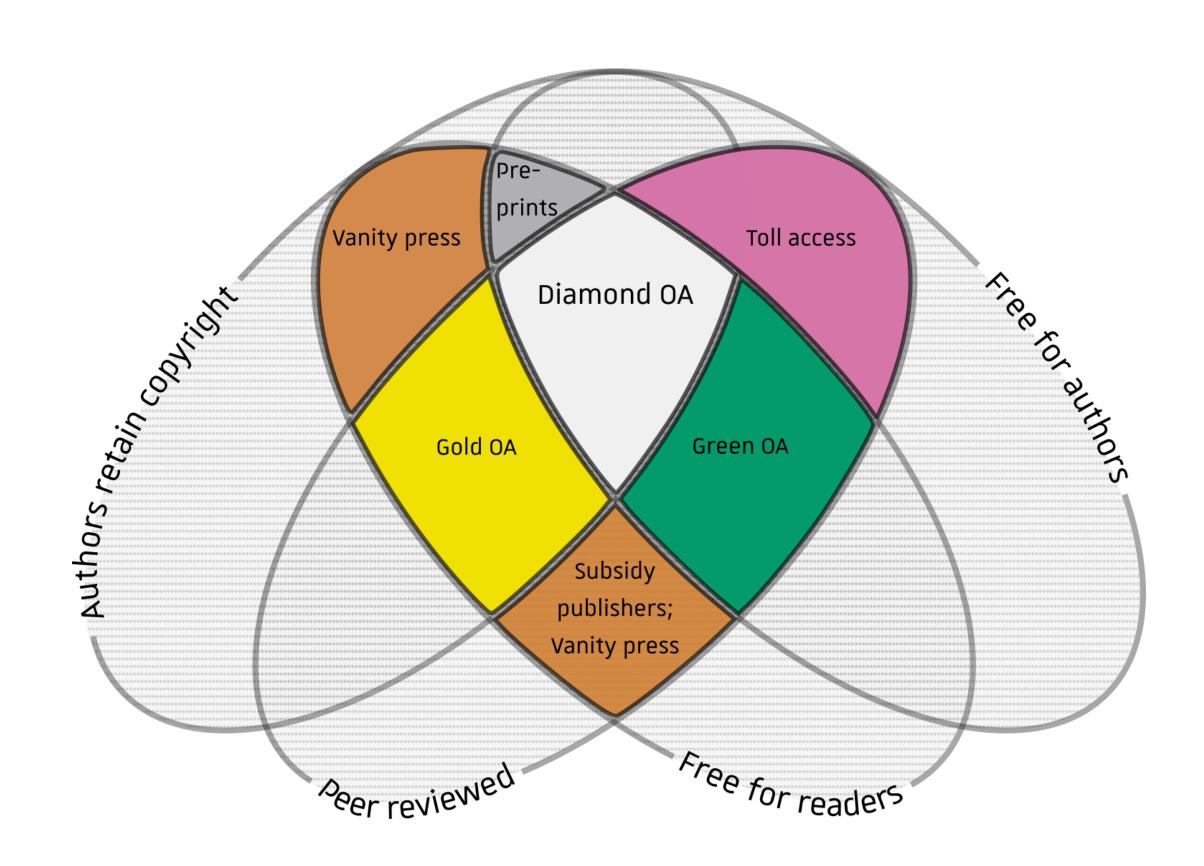
Towards The Diamond Open Access Model. A New Challenge

Pierre Mounier EHESS - OpenEdition - OPERAS

INTRODUCTION

Why « Diamond »?

- Diamond = open access publication that doesn't charge the reader or the author.
- Origin: « Cost of knowledge », Marie Farge's mail to Tim Gowers in 2012
- Diamond and « non-commercial »,
 « institutionnal », « collaborative », etc ?



La lecture de ces deux discours revele une confusion qu'il faut absolument denoncer: les politiciens croient que ce sont les editeurs (publishers) qui assurent le peer-review! Ceci est la propagande que les editeurs utilisent pour justifiee les tarifs exhorbitants qu'ils demandent! Il faut expliquer aux politiques que les chercheurs veulent developper une troisieme voie, beaucoup moins couteuse que les deux autres, celle ou une revue electronique appartiendrait au comite editorial, college de chercheurs dont les membres seraient renouveles regulierement, qui assurerait le peer-reviewing gratuitement (comme c'est le cas actuellement) avec l'aide d'unites de service (tels le CLEO a Marseille et l'INIST a Nancy) dont le role serait d'assurer la mise en ligne des articles retenus. La Max Planck Society a des services equivalent et ce serait un programme franco-allemant formidable faire collaborer le CNRS et la MPG la-dessus. J'ai passe tout le mois de Mai a Berlin pour voir ce qui existe en matiere de publication en OA. J'ai organise une rencontre entre Serge Bauin et plusieurs personnes, dont Joachim Nettelbeck que tu connais (j'imagine que tu sais qu'il est proche de Jean-Marc Ayrault) et Raghavendra Gadagkar (je te mets en fichier attache une denonciation du Gold OA qu'il publia dans Natureen en 2008).

J'ai propose d'appeler cette troisieme voie 'Diamond OA' par surenchere avec la terminologie 'Gold OA' choisie par les editeurs. Tim m'a dit qu'il aimait bien ce choix car cela tombe au moment du 'Diamond Jubilee' (tu as probablement appris qu'il est le premier nomme par la reine dans la liste des chevaliers qui vient de sortir). Tu sais probablement aussi que les deux nouveaux journeaux de maths que Tim

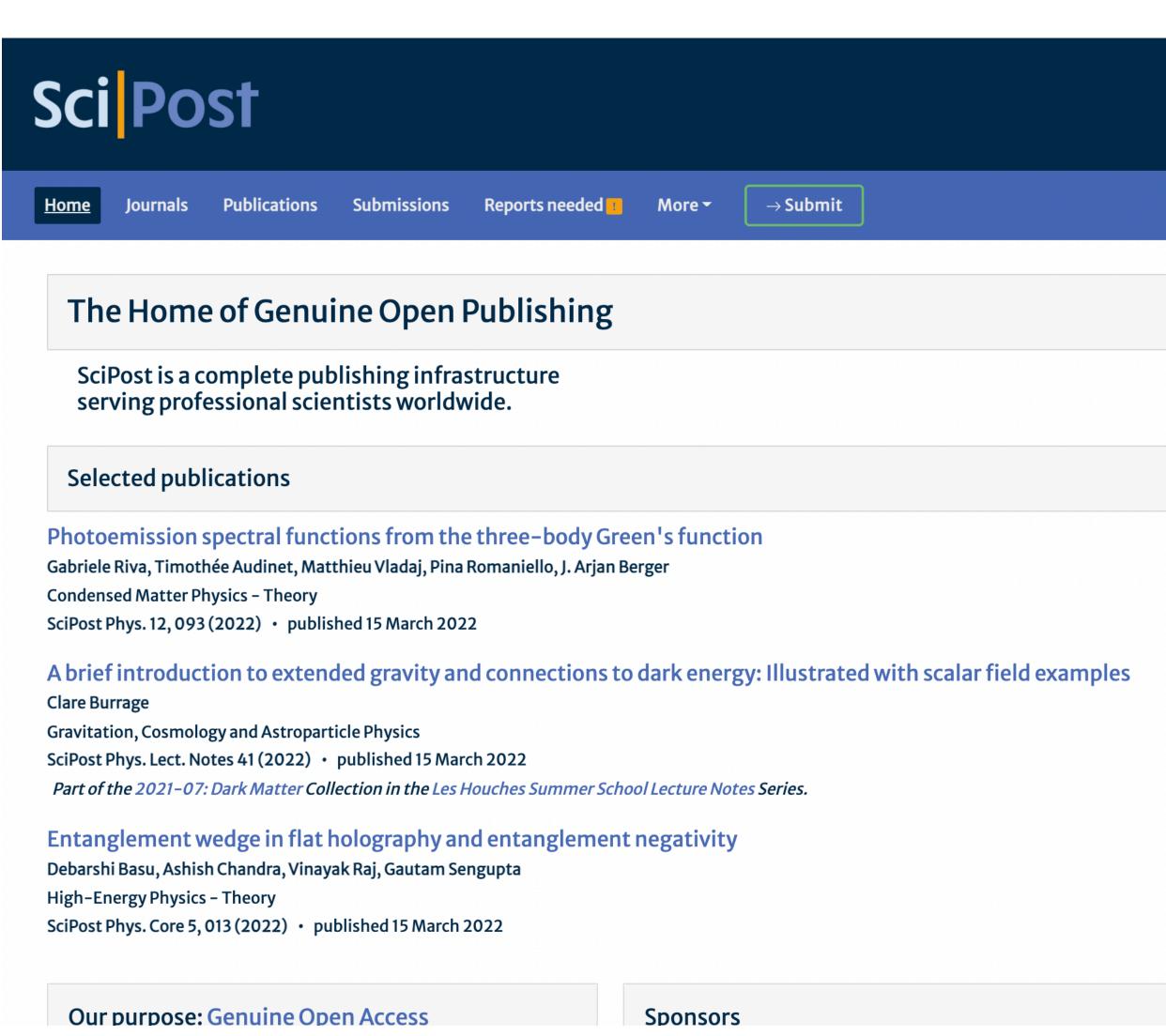
En conclusion:

- La connaissance n'est pas une marchandise car quand on donne une idee a quelqu'un on ne la perd pas pour soi, bien au contraire on a alors quelqu'un avec qui on peut discuter et ainsi travailler son ideee pour la corriger, la clarifier et la developper. Ceci est pour moi l'essence du peer-reviewing que l'on a trop tendance a consider comme une simple evaluation (David Willetts compare le peer-reviewing aux evaluations sur le site Trip Advisor, c'est plutot inquietant de la part d'un ministre). Le peer-reviewing est une partie integrante et essentielle du travail des chercheurs, tout comme la presentation de seminaires et la redaction d'articles. Il serait souhaitable que cette activite soit mieux connue.
- Il faudrait que les politiques prennent en compte l'avis des chercheurs en matiere de publication scientifique,
- La France et l'Allemagne devrait s'aider mutuellement pour developper le 'Diamond OA', qui permettrait de faire une concurrence loyale au 'Gold OA' que les anglais et les hollandais veulent imposer a Bruxelles.

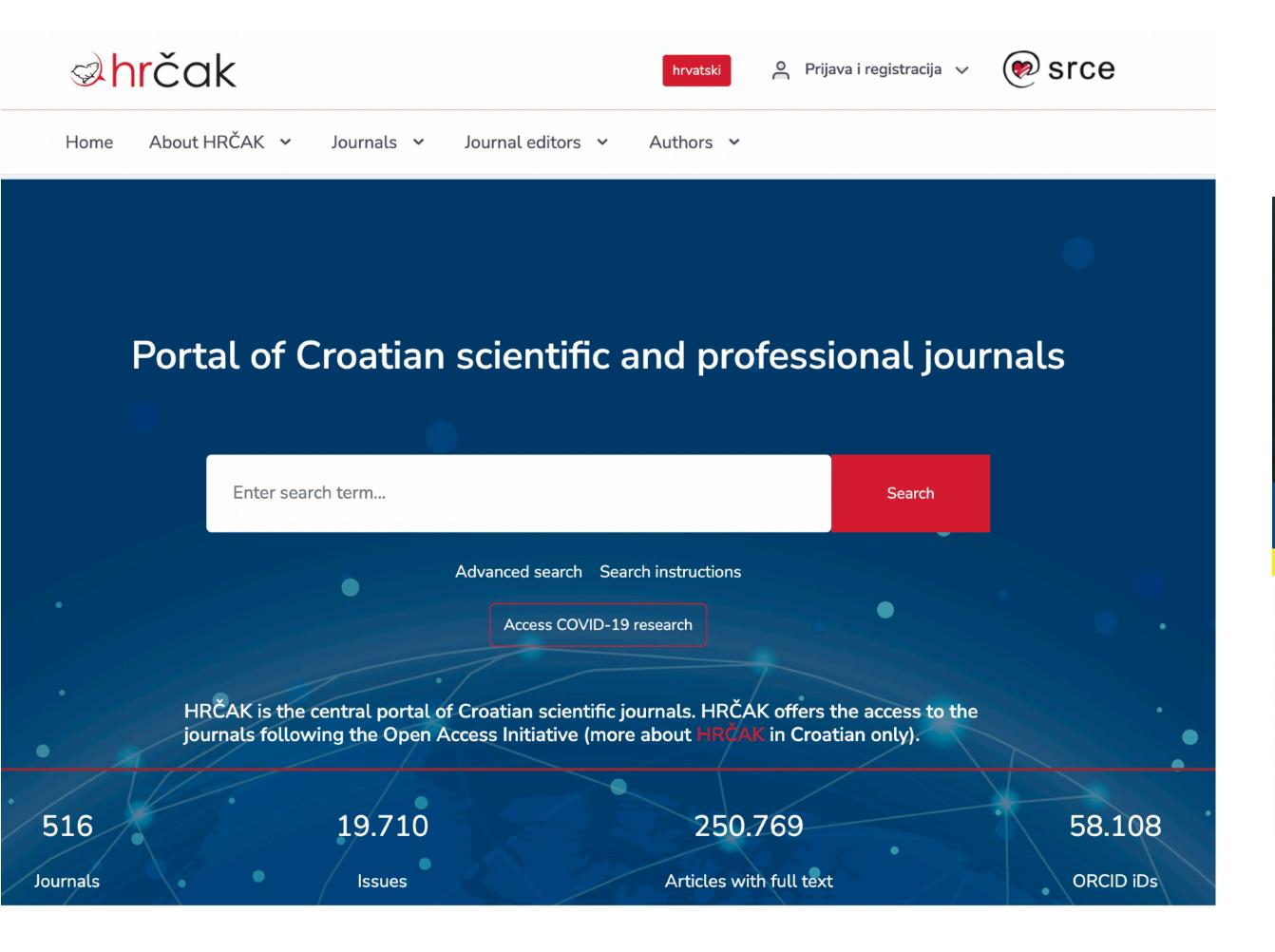
Some examples (journals)

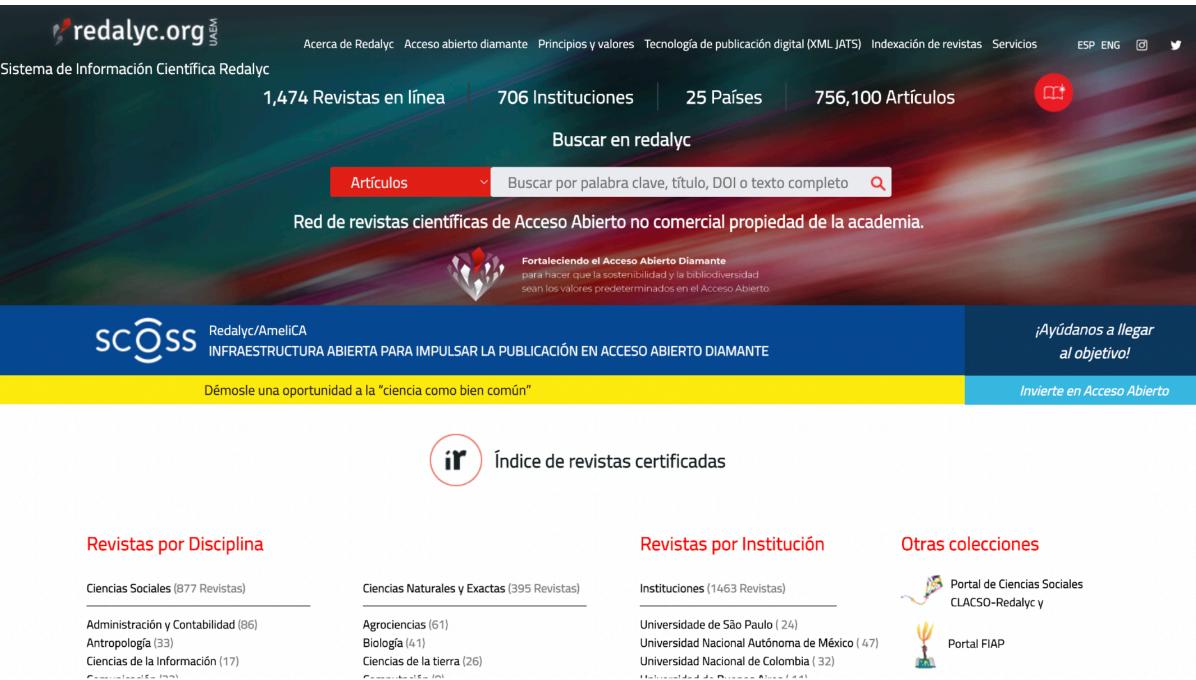






Some examples (platforms)





I Mapping the « Diamond » archipelago

The Diamond Journals Study

The call •

Exploring collaborative non-commercial publishing models for Open Access: Apply to perform a study

"Call for an informed study containing an analysis and overview of collaborative non-commercial (aka "Diamond") publishing journals and platforms.

The objective is to identify ways to support publishing initiatives wishing to implement Diamond business models."



The study consortium •























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Funders





The report & materials •





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Recommendations

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Survey Dataset

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4553103

Study approaches

Database analysis

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- ROAD database of open access journals
- Walt Crawford's GOA dataset of open access journals

Survey

- survey of diamond journals with 95 questions and 1619 valid responses
- multilingual global dissemination with some bias towards Europe and Latin America

Focus groups and interviews

- 3 English & Spanish focus groups with journals
- 10 interviews with platforms and infrastructures

Quantitative and qualitative analysis

Landscape • main takeaways

In summary: we have a wide archipelago of relatively small journals serving diverse communities. OA diamond journals are ...

Numerous (up to 29,000)

In *relative* decline looking at article numbers

Concentrated in HSS but still numerous in STM as well

Strong in Latin America and Eastern Europe

Relatively small & with small publishers

Often written nationally but read internationally

Publishing ~44% of articles in full OA journals

Frequently strong in multilingualism

Diamond right from becoming online journals

Landscape + journals x discipline

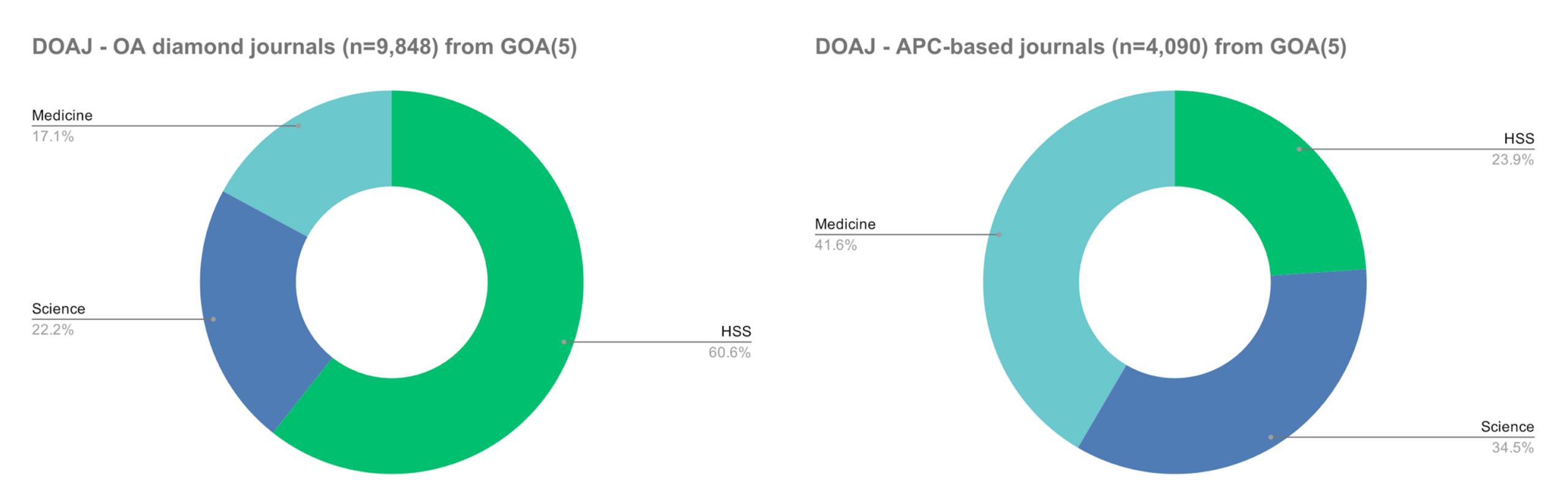


Figure 13. Journals by discipline. Note: Disciplines are based on the assignment of Walt Crawford in GOA(5). Source: DOAJ, GOA(5)

Landscape • diamond shares x location

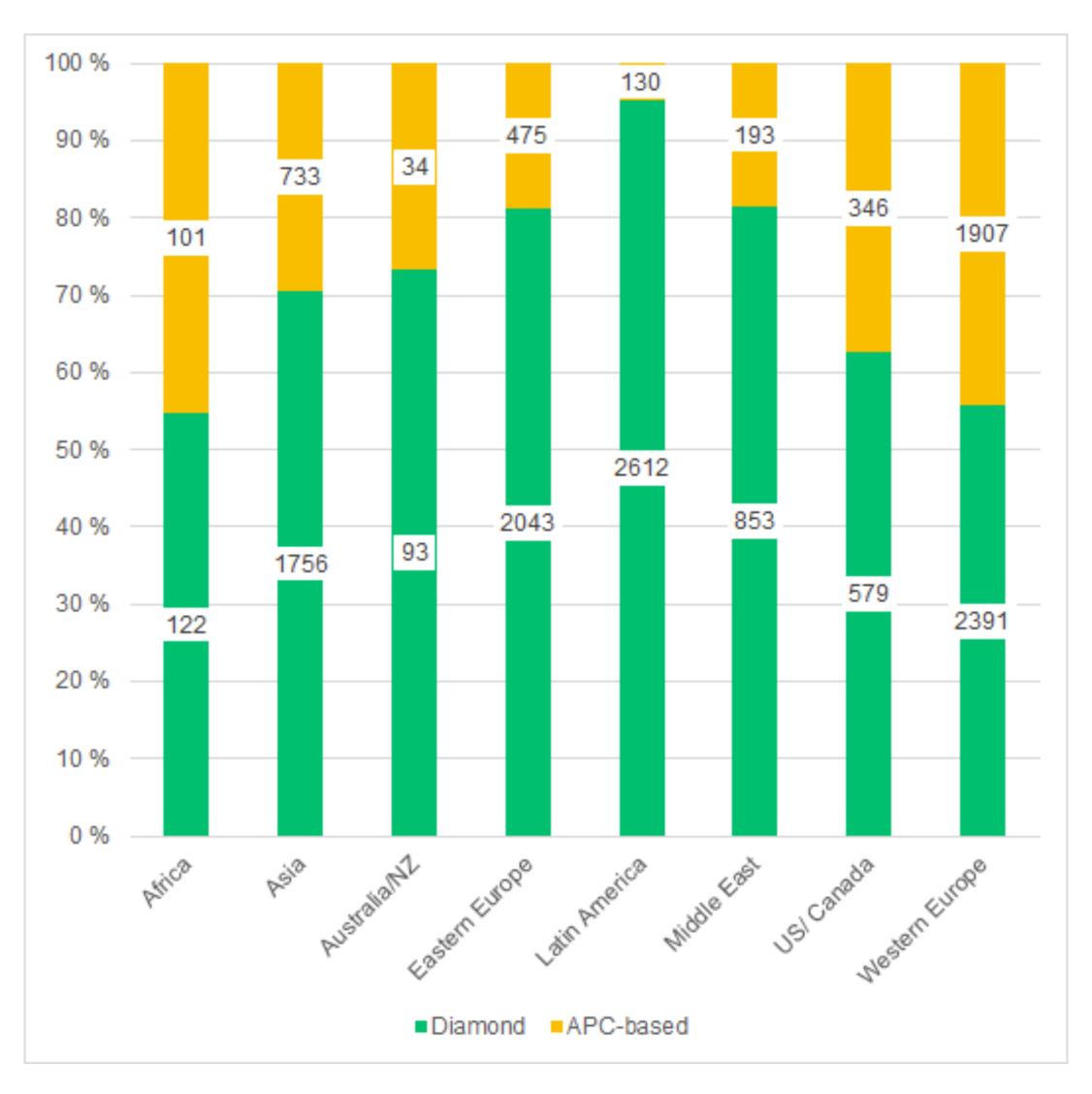


Figure 12. Shares of OA diamond and APC-based open access models in DOAJ-listed journals. Source: DOAJ

Landscape • journals x discipline x model

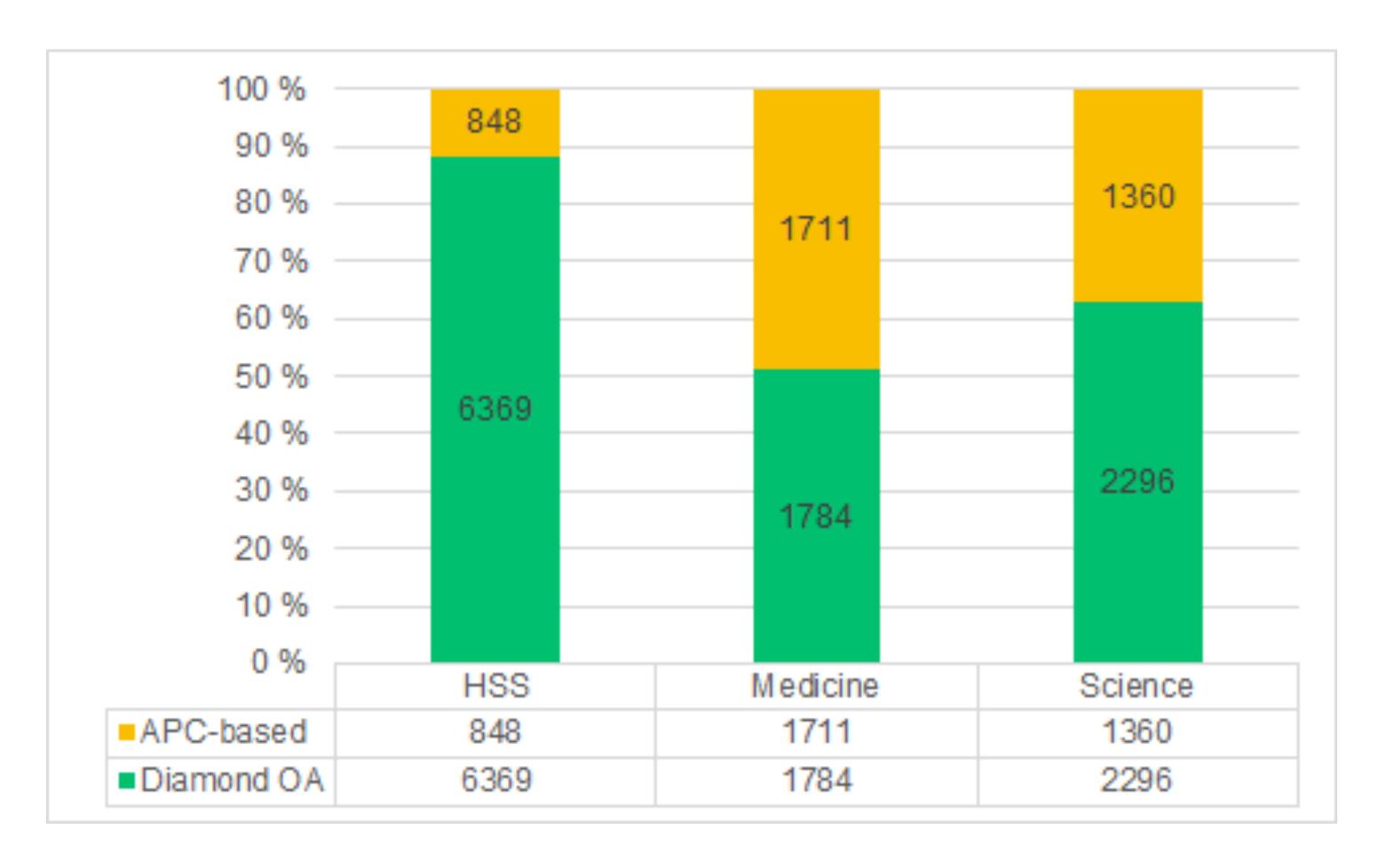


Figure 14. Journals by funding models for the three disciplinary groups. Source: DOAJ and GOA(5)

3. Dynamics • ownership

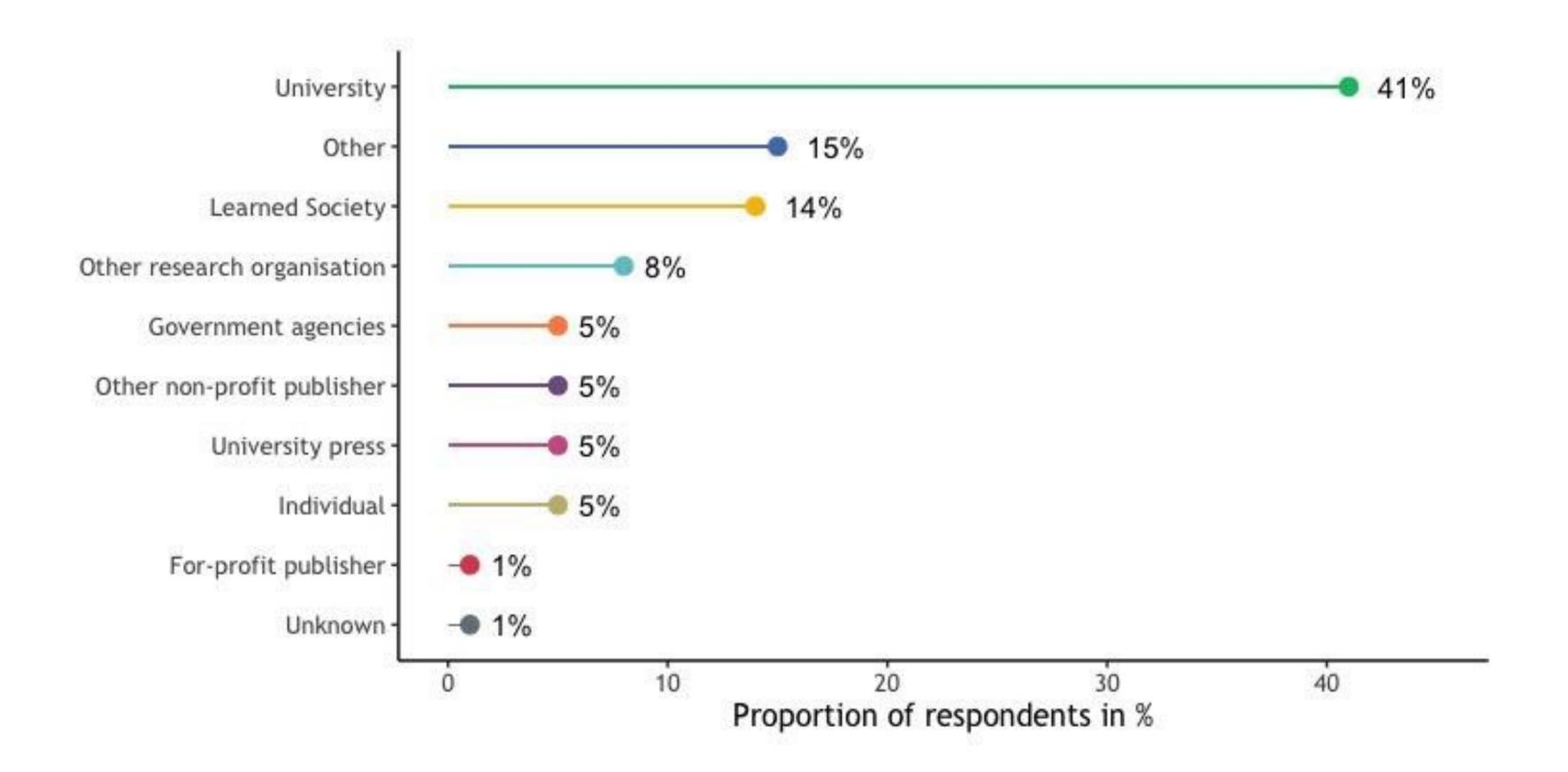


Figure 1 in chapter Dynamics: Who owns the journal in the survey? (Q34)

Landscape • journals by publisher size

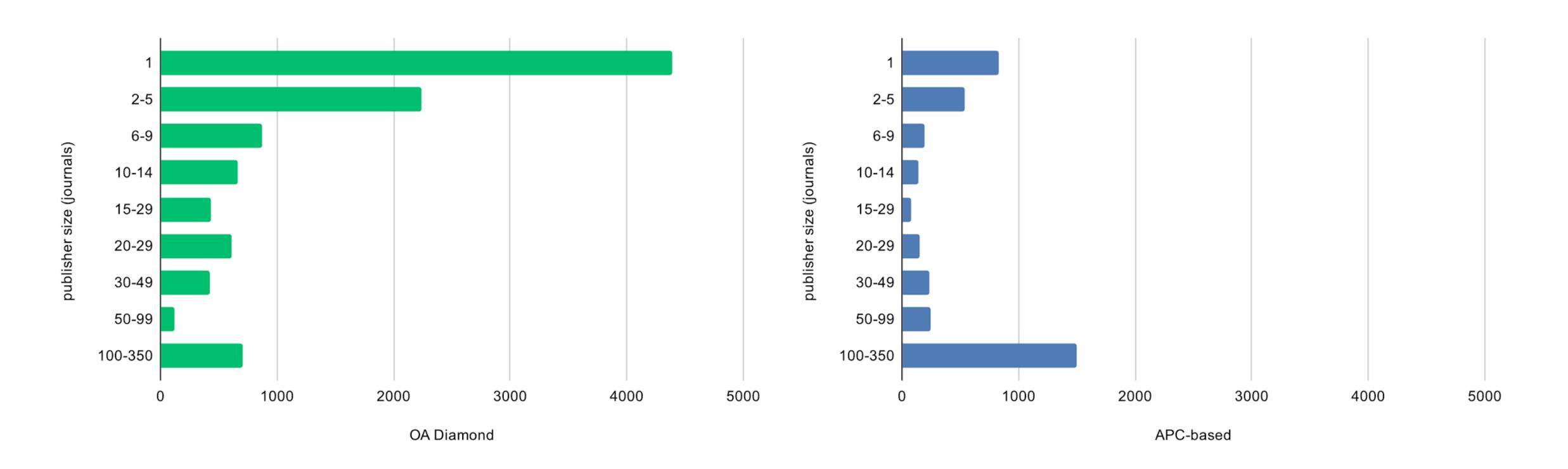


Figure 15. Number of journals by publisher size in terms of journals published (size determined using the sum of OA diamond and APC-based journals). Source: DOAJ

Landscape • authors from journal organisation

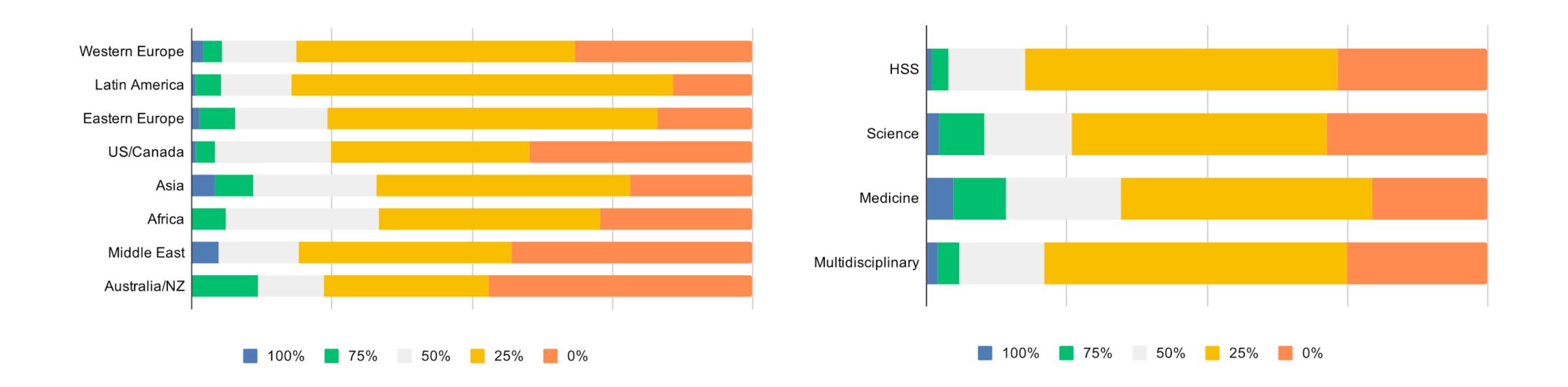


Figure 20. Proportion of authors from inside the journal's owning organisation (by region/discipline of journal). Source: Survey (Q36, n=1,371 (region), n=1,278 (discipline))

Landscape • authors / readers

Proportion of authors from same country as journal

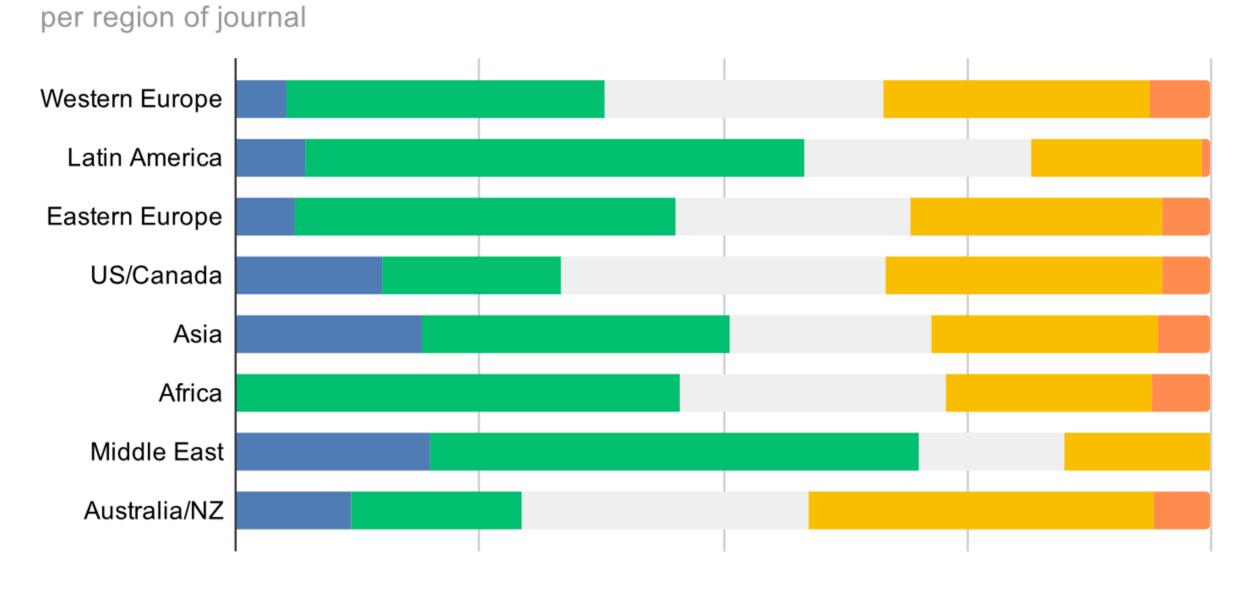


Figure 19. Proportion of authors from the same country as the journal (by region). Survey(Q37, n=1,365 (region)

Is readership larger inside or outside the journal's country?

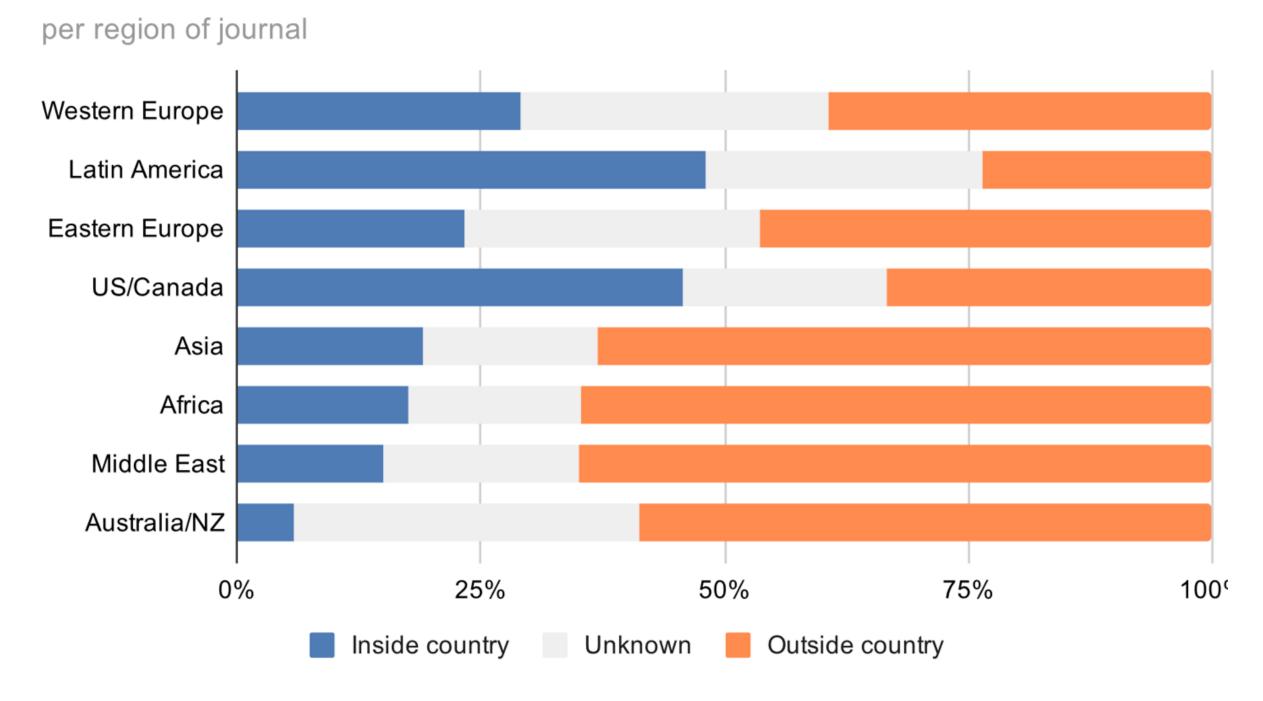


Figure 21. Share of journals stating their readership is mainly inside or outside their country (by region of journal). Survey Q80, n=1,274 (region)

2 Technical support • main takeaways

In summary: there is a mix of scientific strengths and operational challenges. Diamond journals often show ...

A lack of legal ownership documents

Lack of capacity for monitoring and reporting

A variety of peer review types

A need to professionalize peer review processes

Compliance with editorial quality guidelines

Lack of using antiplagiarism software

Using standard OJS software, but run on variety of platforms

Indexation in main databases is their biggest challenge

3. Dynamics • legal ownership document

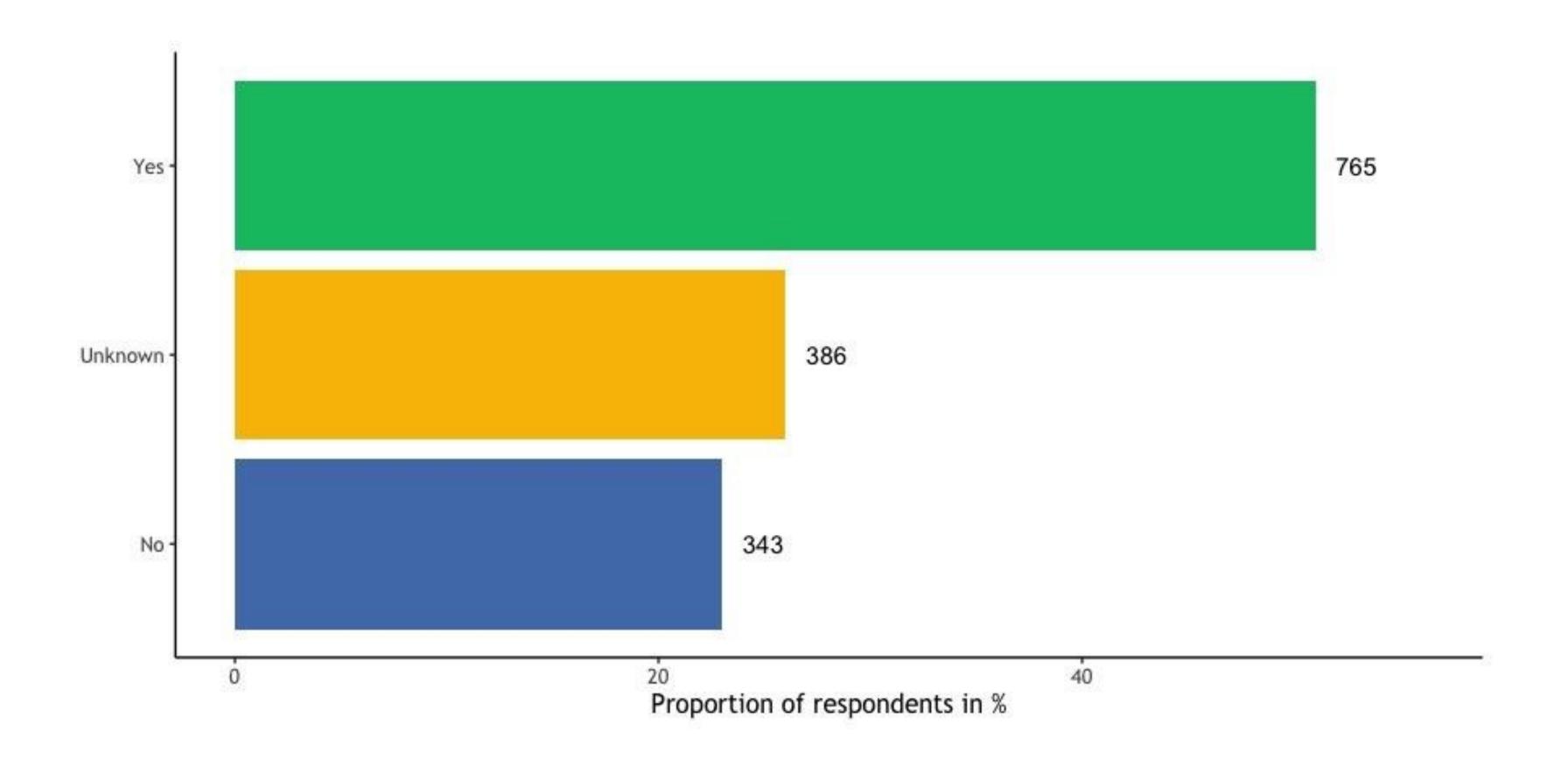
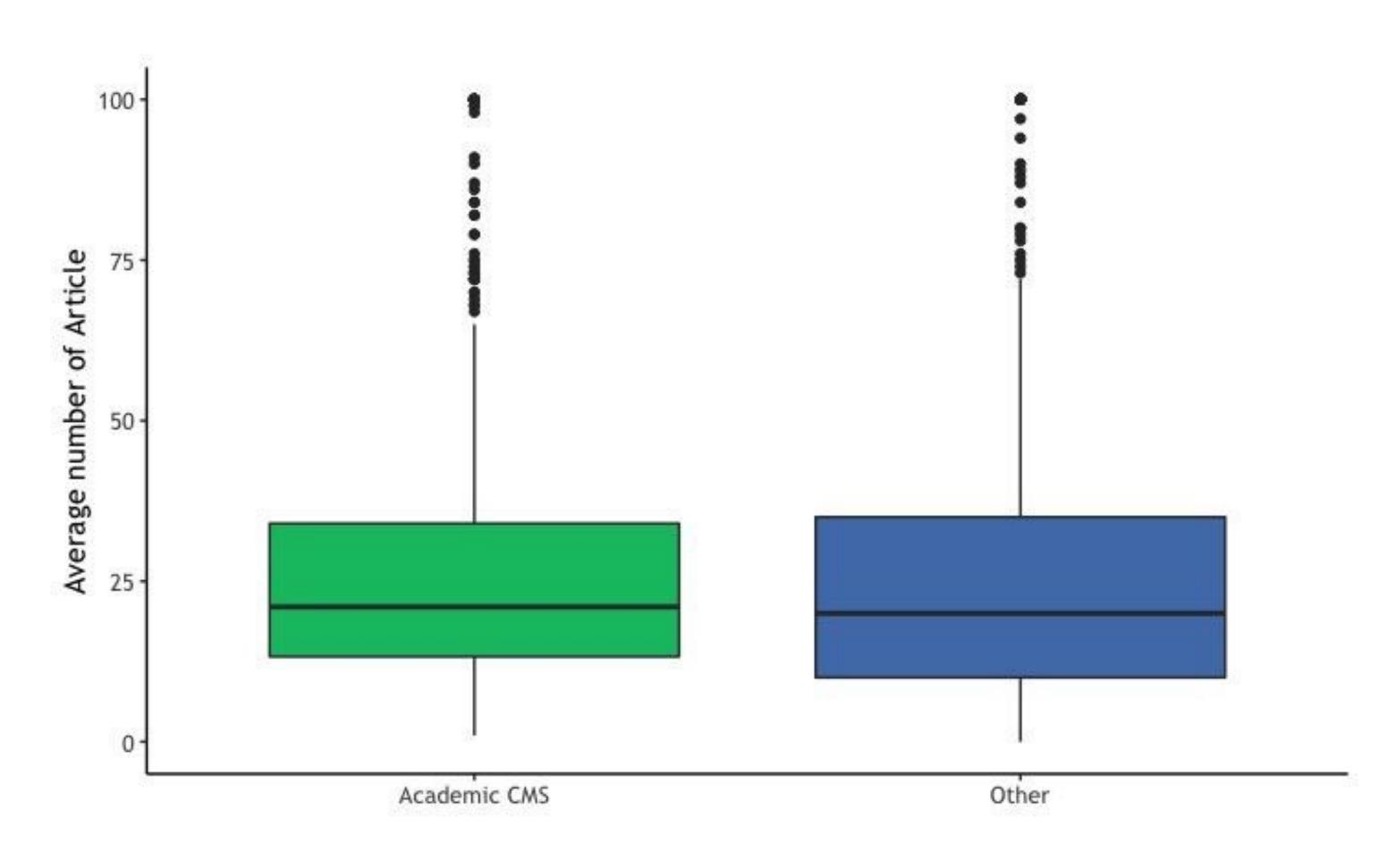


Figure 3. Is there a document establishing legal ownership? (Q35)

2. Technical support • switching to open source

In ten years, diamond journals have experimented a wide-range open source revolution. Open Journal System is nowadays the leading CMS, being used by 60% of the respondents. Alternatives include Lodel, Janeway and DSpace.

The adoption of open academic CMS has contributed to democratize standardized technical tools and infrastructure.



Distribution of the number of annual articles among journal with or without CMS.

2. Technical support • preservation solutions used

According to the survey,
57% of the respondents
state that, to the best of
their knowledge, they have
no preservation policy in
place. This puts a large
share of OA diamond
journals at risk.

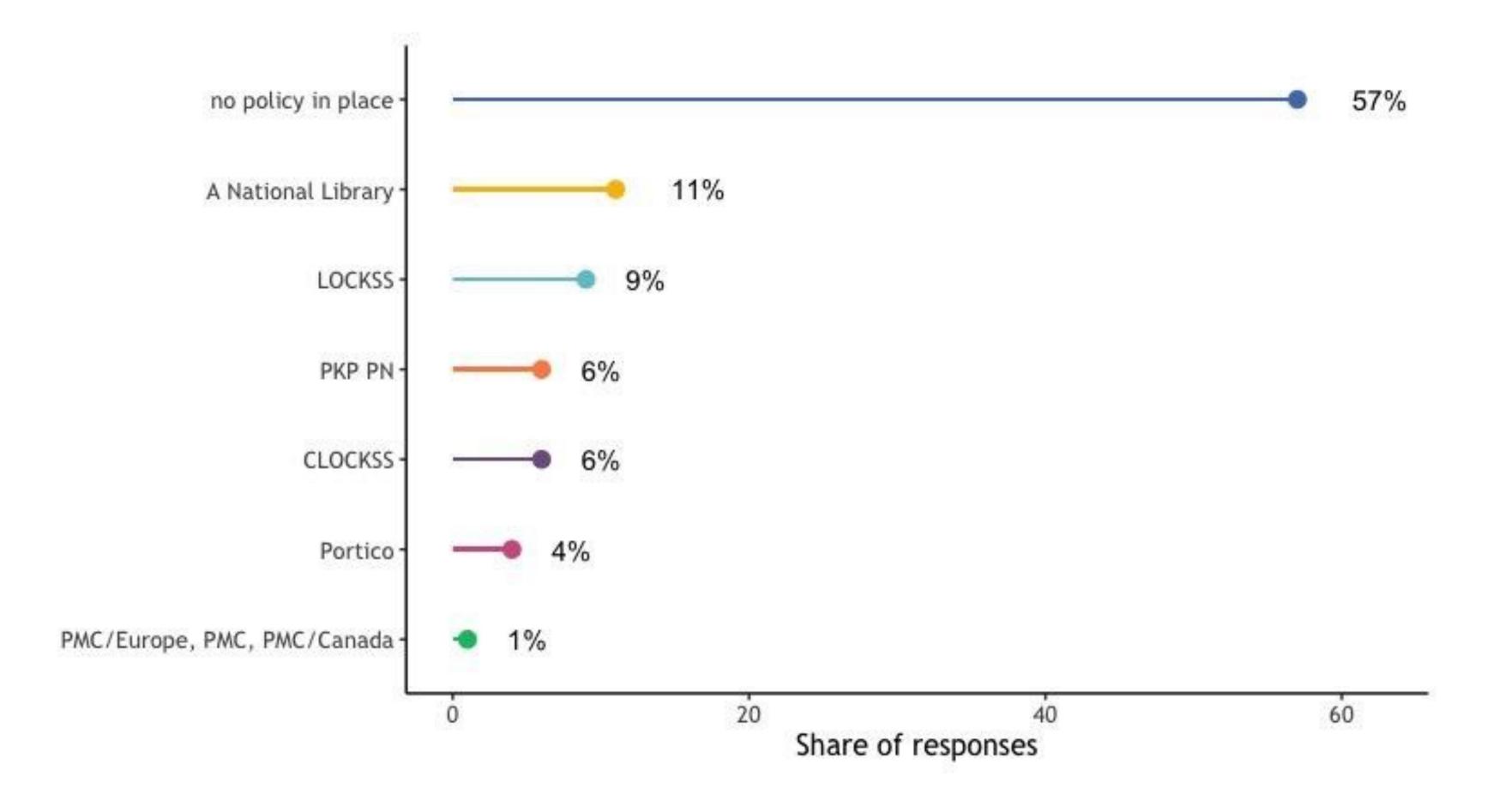


Figure 18. Share of preservation plans in the survey (Q28)

2. Technical support • review system x size

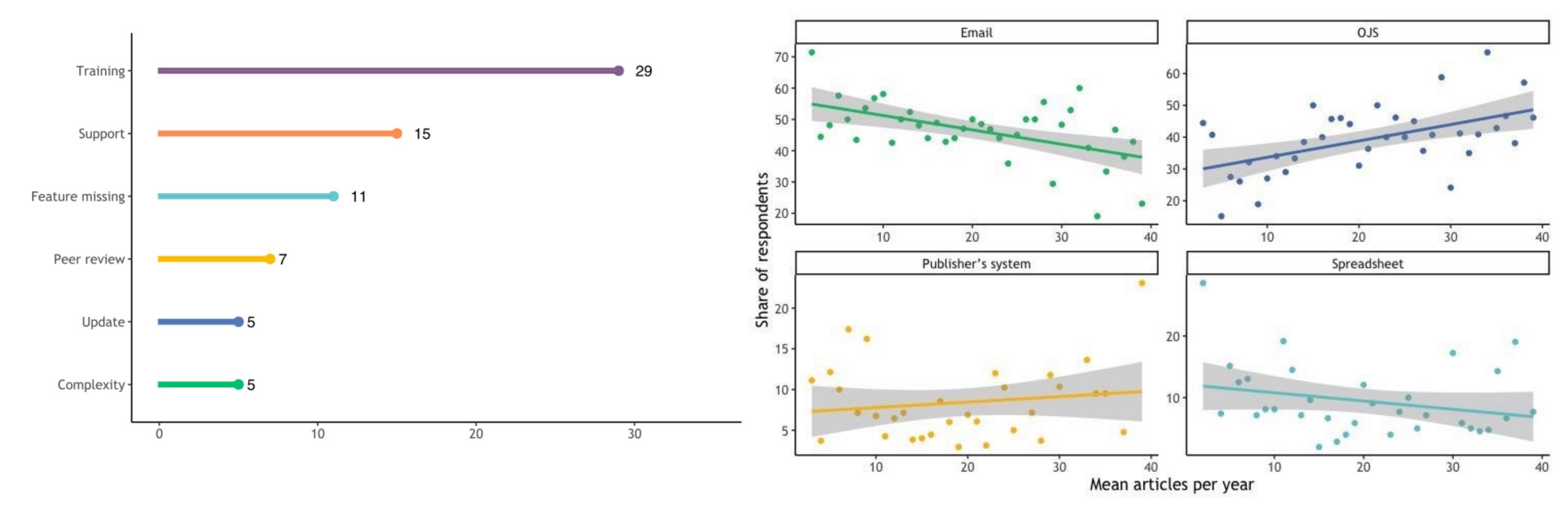


Figure 21. The main challenges linked to the use of a standard academic CMS

Figure 10. Relationship between the review system (Q48) and the annual number of articles (Q16)

Journals lack time to integrate a standardized online process and train their editors. In some case they have to resort to non-standardized tools for specific tasks (such as mail or spreadsheet for peer review)

2. Technical support • indexation

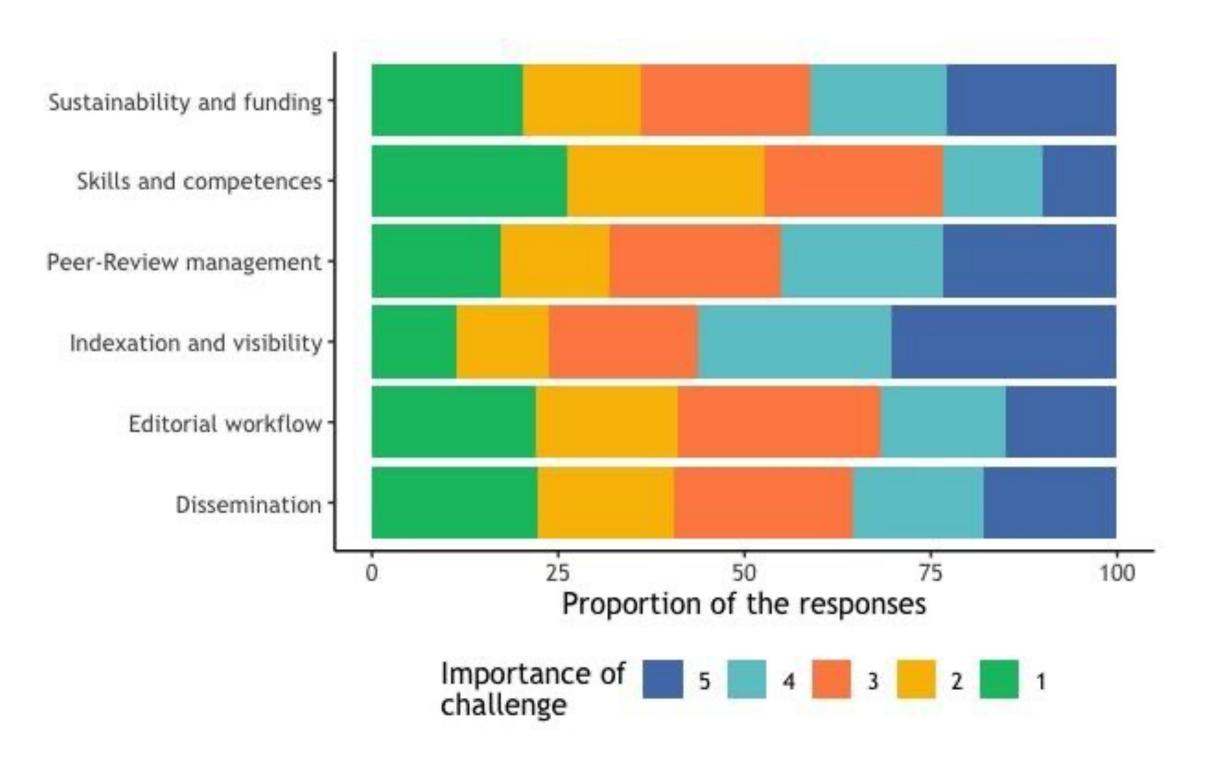


Figure 22. Importance of the challenges by share of respondents (1=not important, in green, 5=very important, in dark blue)

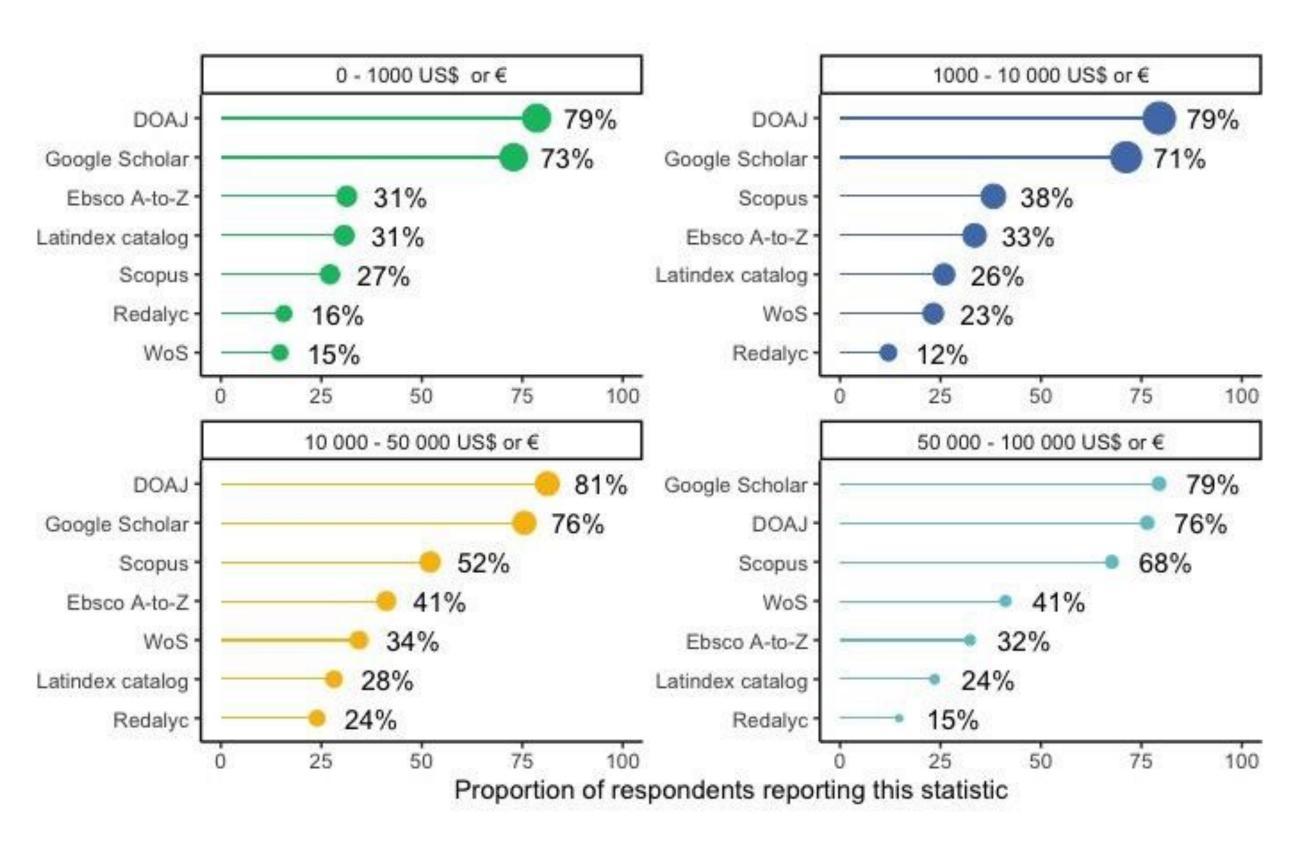
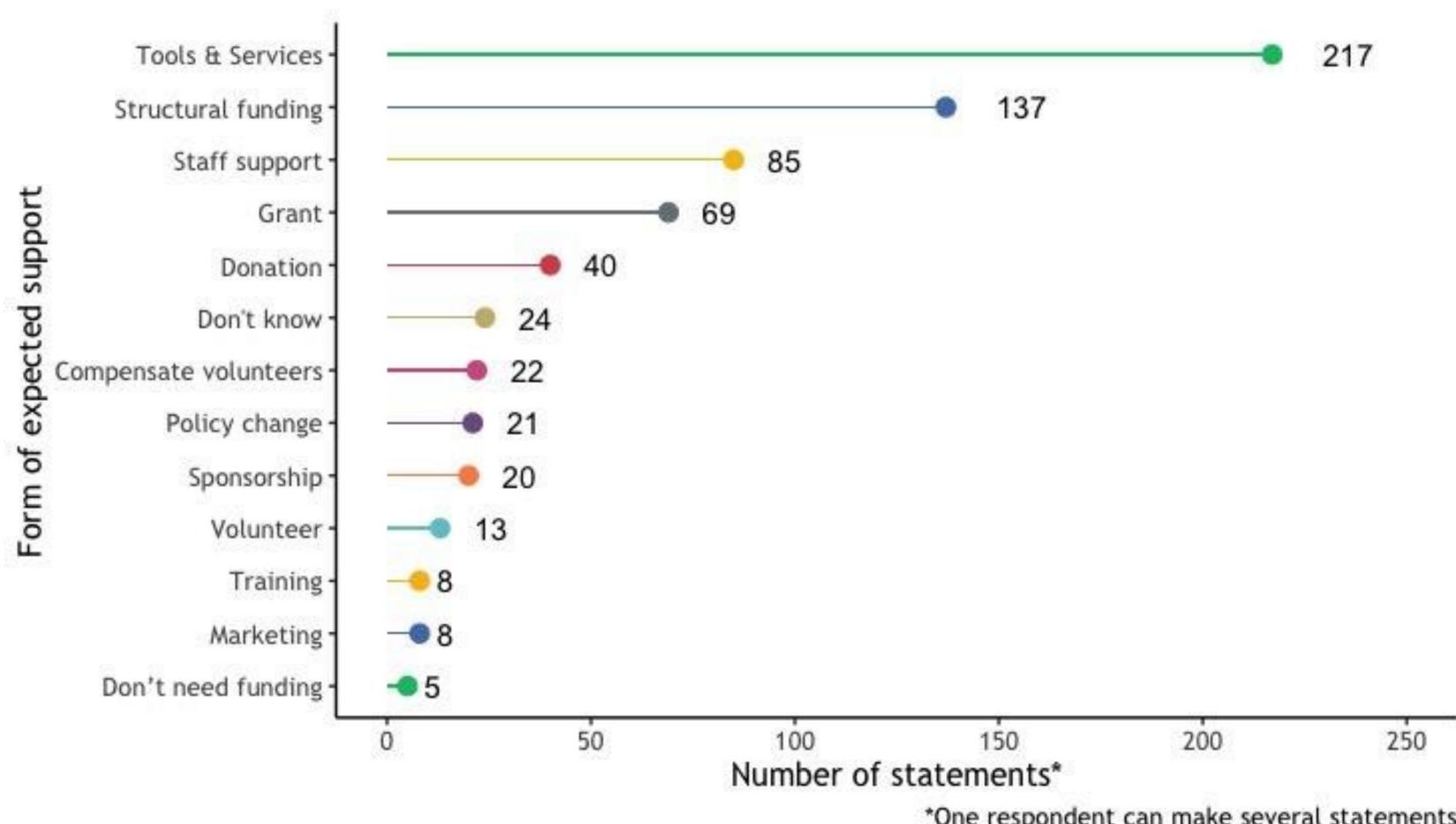


Figure 23. Share of indexation (Q81) per annual costs (Q66)

Indexation is the main challenges quote by the respondents to the survey. Inclusion is directly correlated with the size and resources of the journals. 400 journals are not even included in the DOAJ.

2. Technical support • expected support

In the free text submitted to the survey, support for tools and services is the most expected form of support, followed by structural funding.



*One respondent can make several statements

Figure 20. Types of expected supports extracted from the free text answers to funders' support (Q75

3. Compliance • main takeaways

In summary: OA diamond journals are on the road to full compliance with Plan S. Of the OA diamond journals ...

Only 37% comply with over half of the criteria

Compliance overall is lower than that of APC-based journals

Bigger journals seem to have better compliance

Some 37% use a CC BY licence

Some 44% embed machine readable licenses

Some 20% use a standard archiving system

Less than 25% provide XML/HTML formatted articles

3. Compliance • Plan S compliance summary

	OA diamond		APC-based		Total	
Requirement	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
License	44.1 %	55.9 %	57.1 %	42.9 %	47.6 %	52.4 %
Peer review	100.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %	0.0 %
Author copyright	49.4 %	50.6 %	53.0 %	47.0 %	50.3 %	49.7 %
Article PID	55.3 %	44.7 %	85.3 %	14.7 %	63.6 %	36.4 %
Permanent preservation OK	19.1 %	80.9 %	56.0 %	44.0 %	28.9 %	71.1 %
Machine-readable license	43.6 %	56.4 %	73.6 %	26.4 %	51.6 %	48.4 %

Table 10. DOAJ journals conforming to Plan S requirements by DOAJ journal category, percentages

3. Compliance • full-text formats

Plan S recommendation: full-text in "a machine-readable community standard format such as JATS XML"

HTML or XML	OA diamond	APC-based	Total
No	7,835	1,434	9,269
Yes	2,614	2,485	5,099
Total	10,449	3,919	14,368
Percentage of journals that offer at least one of these formats	25.0 %	63.4 %	35.6 %

Looking at DOAJ data, PDF is the most common text format where more than 99% of all OA journals use this format. The OA diamond journals are slightly less likely to offer this format, still 98.9% of such journals offer PDF. But PDF is not Plan S compliant.

4. Sustainability • main take aways

In summary: An economy that largely depends on volunteers, universities and government. OA diamond journals often show ...

Very modest annual costs

A minimal number of paid staff FTE

A high dependence on volunteers

40% break-even and 25% operate at a loss

A lack of knowledge of their own financial situation

Research performing organizations as main funders & supporters

A wide diversity of funding mechanisms

4. Sustainability • costs

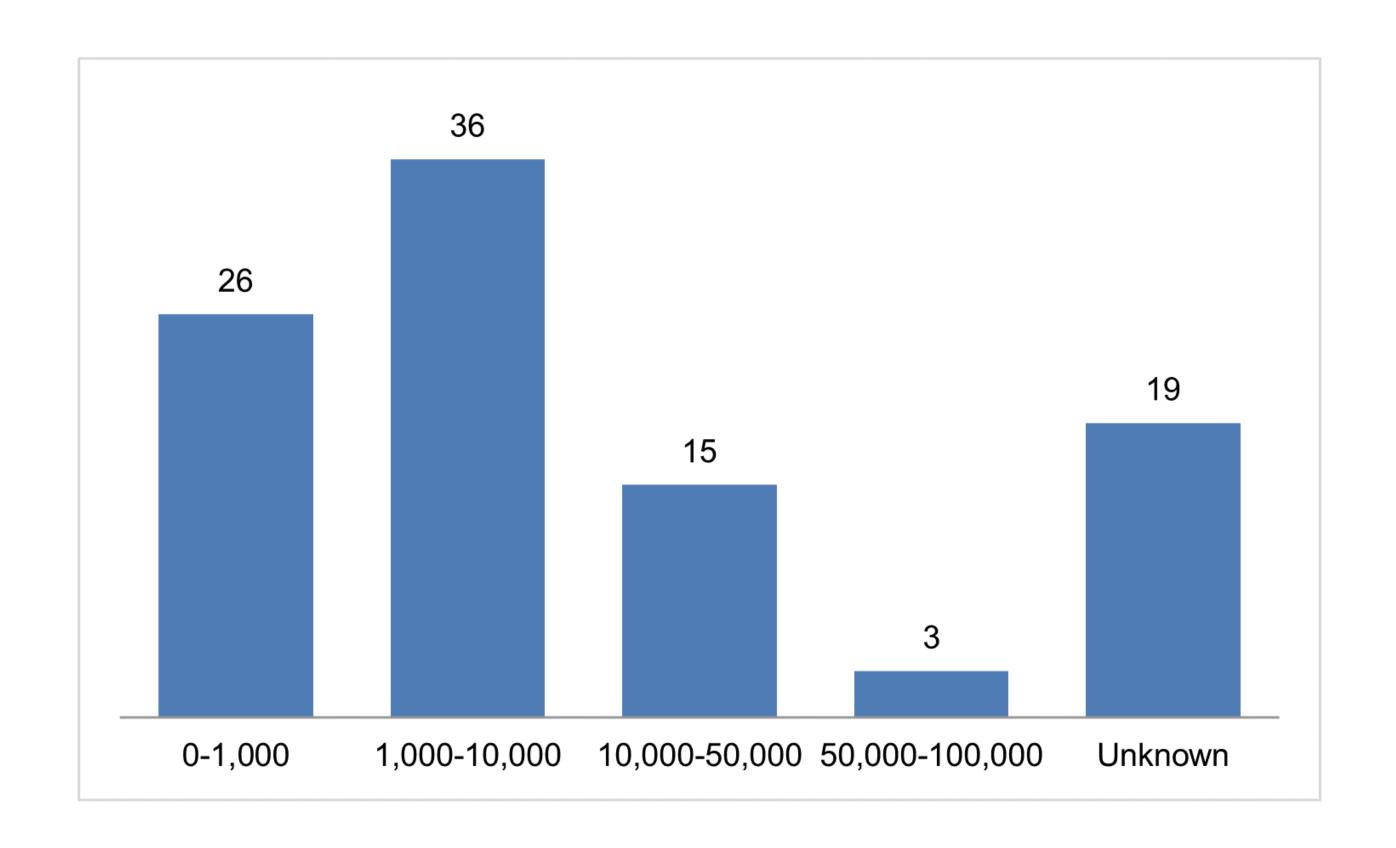


Figure 1. Previous year annual costs of journals, percentage (n=1,370); survey Q66

4. Sustainability • paid operational staff

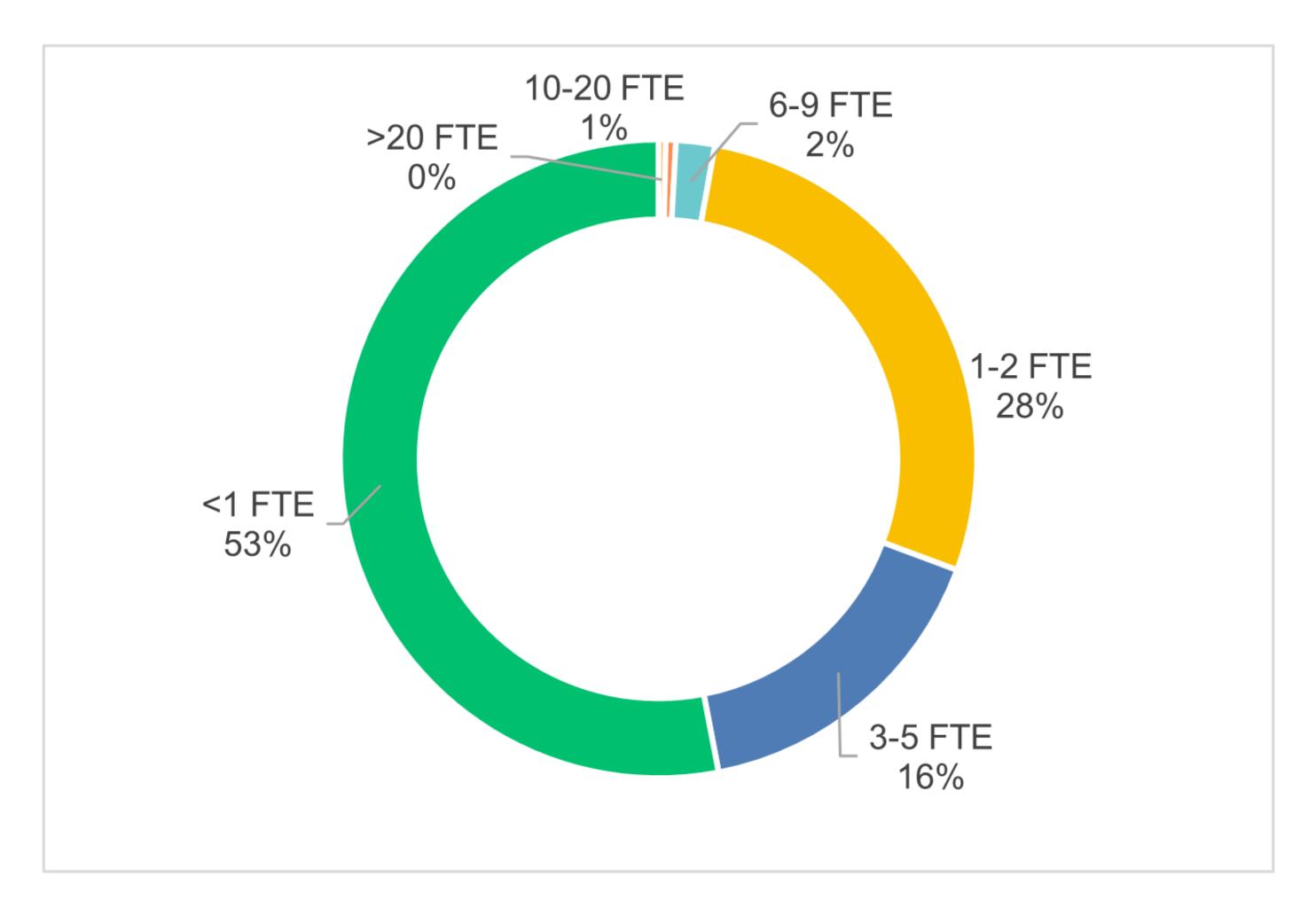


Figure 8. Size of paid staff for journal editing and operational work (n=1373); survey Q67

4. Sustainability • volunteer activities

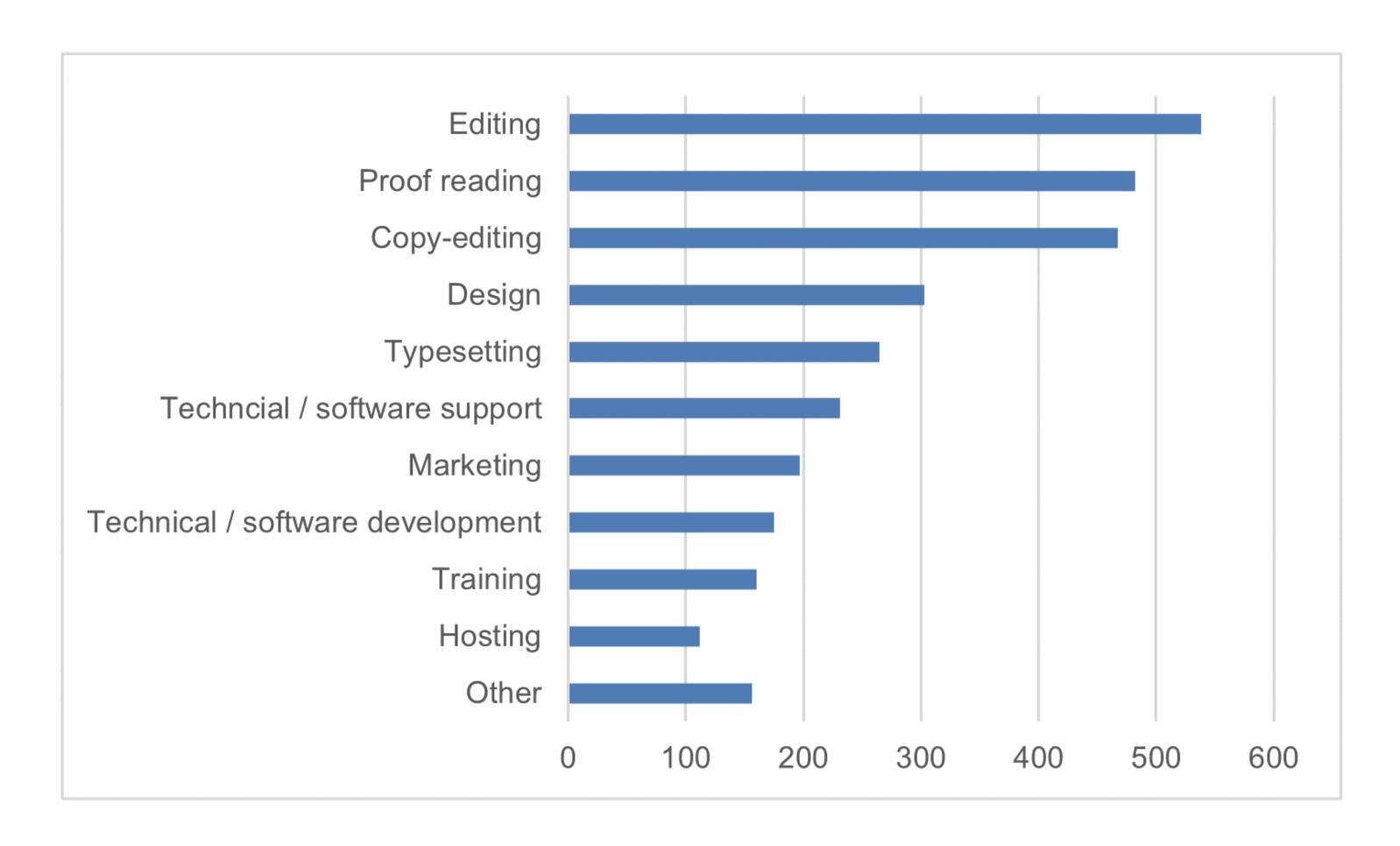


Figure 13. What volunteers do (n=855); survey Q71

4. Sustainability funding sources

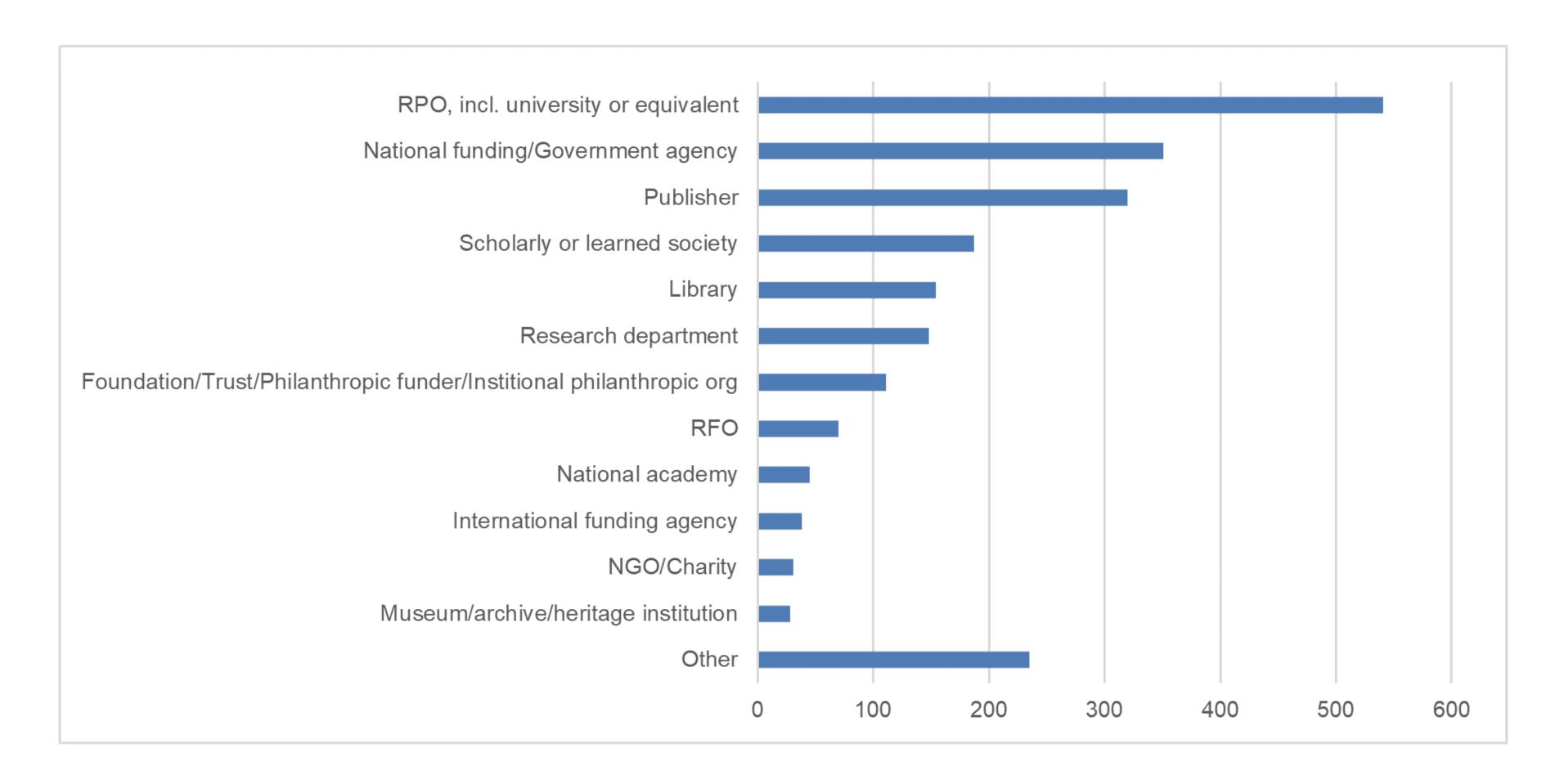


Figure 14. Who has funded the journal over the last two years? (n=1,421); survey Q61

4. Sustainability • funding mechanisms

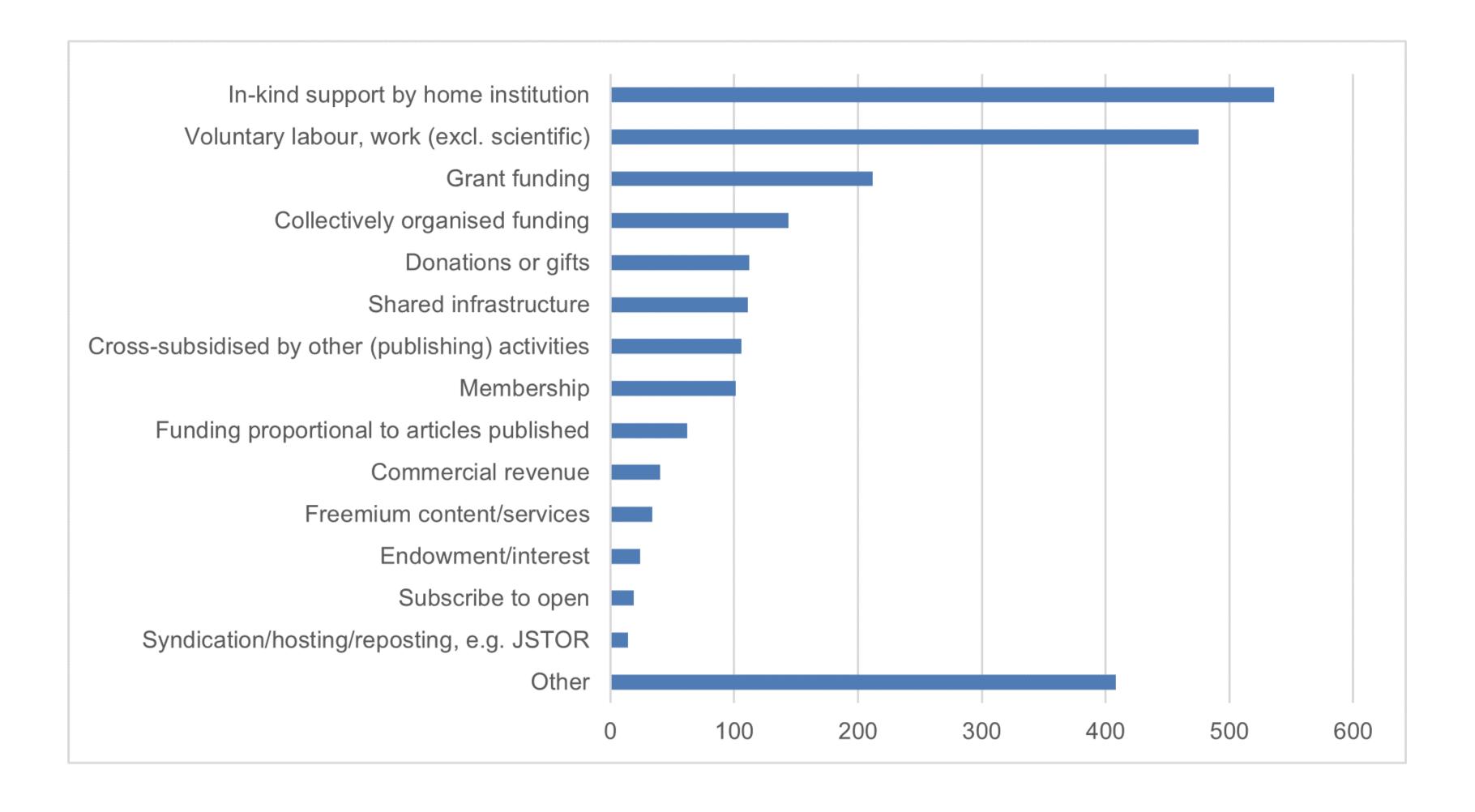


Figure 15. Funding mechanisms (n=1,408); survey Q62

4. Sustainability • financial status

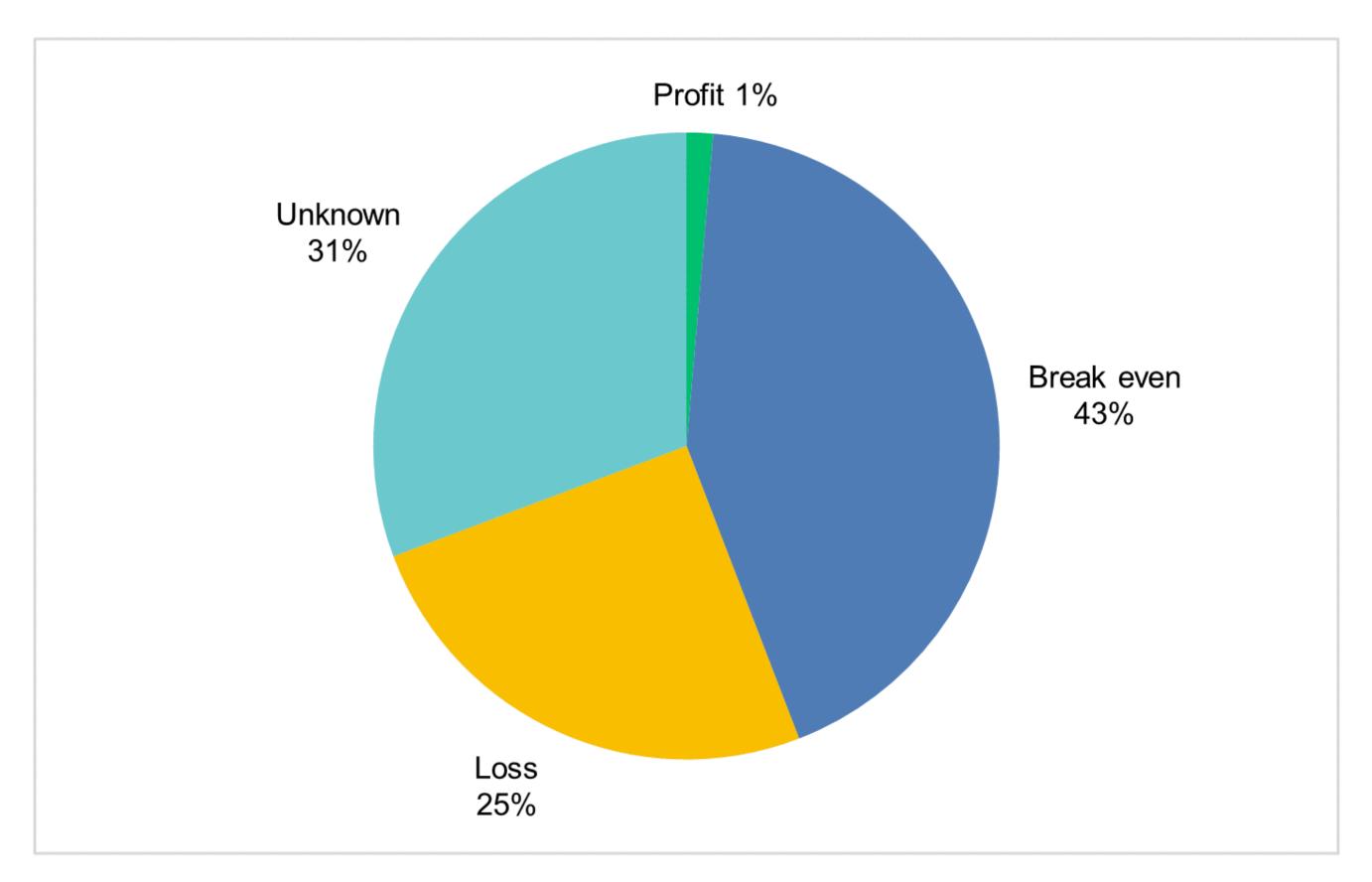


Figure 17. Current financial status of the journal (n=1,393); survey Q73

4. Sustainability • moving away from diamond?

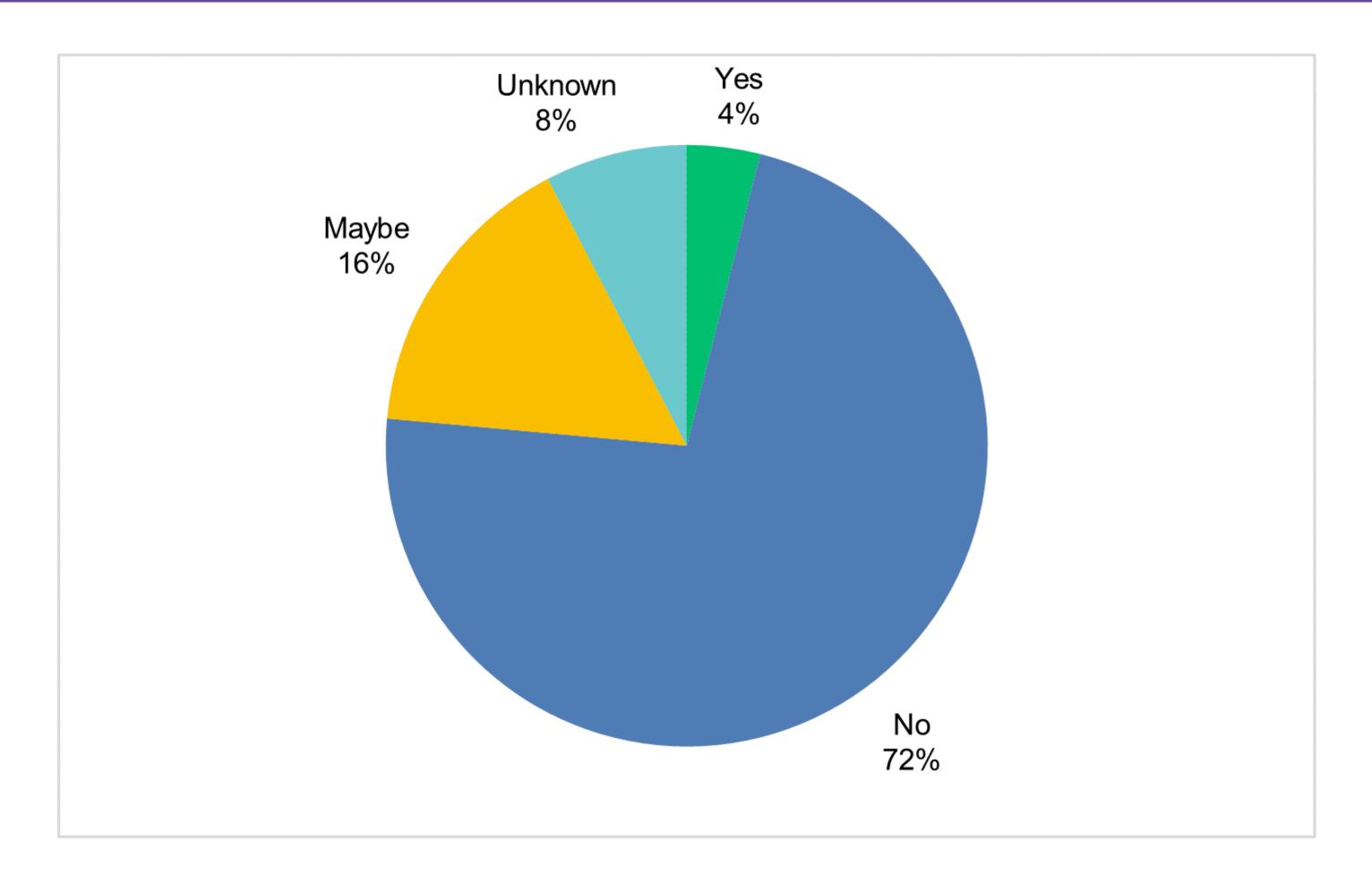


Figure 19. Journals that consider moving away from the OA diamond model (n=1,426); survey Q76

4. Sustainability • reasons f. leaving diamond

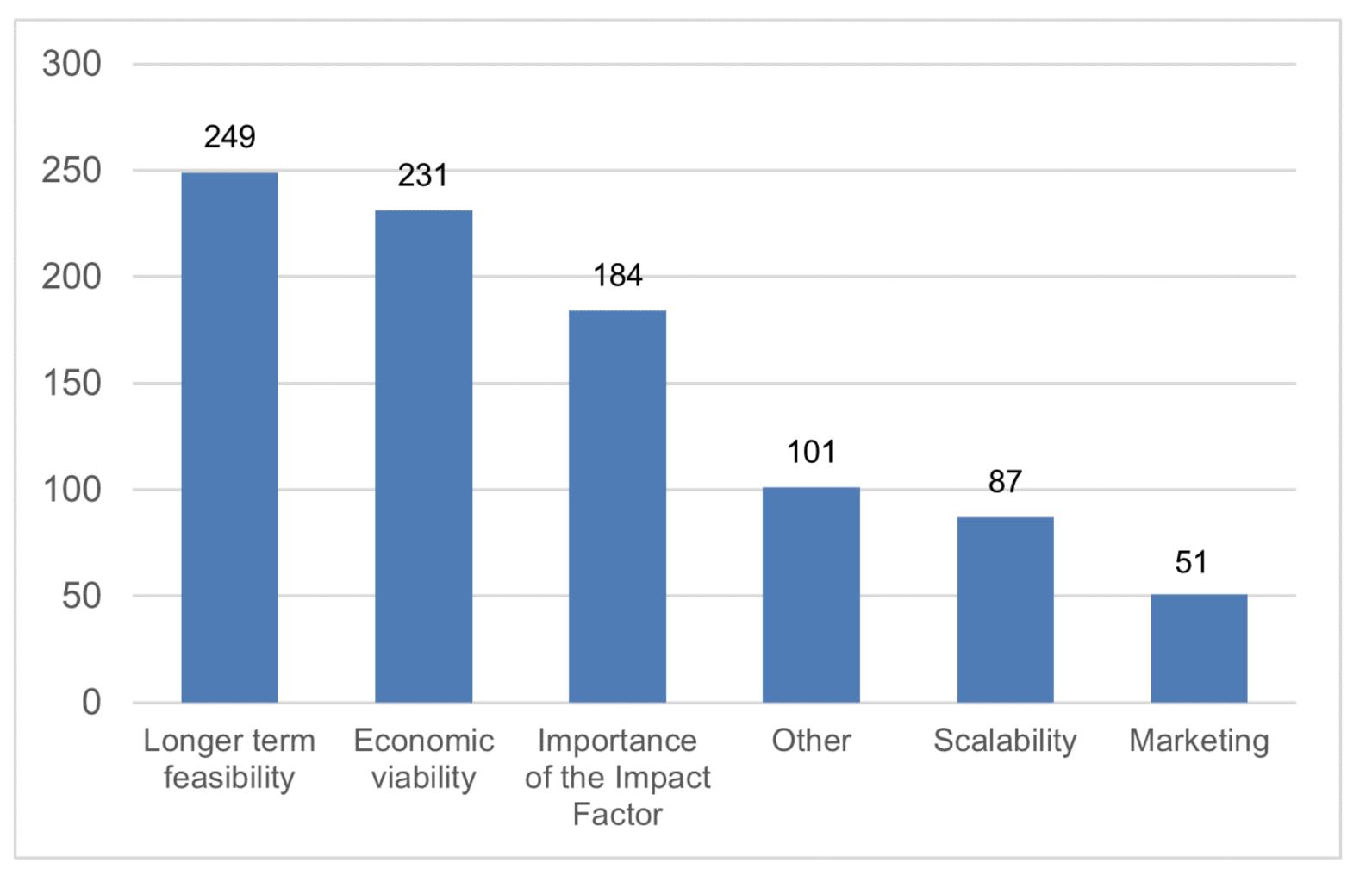
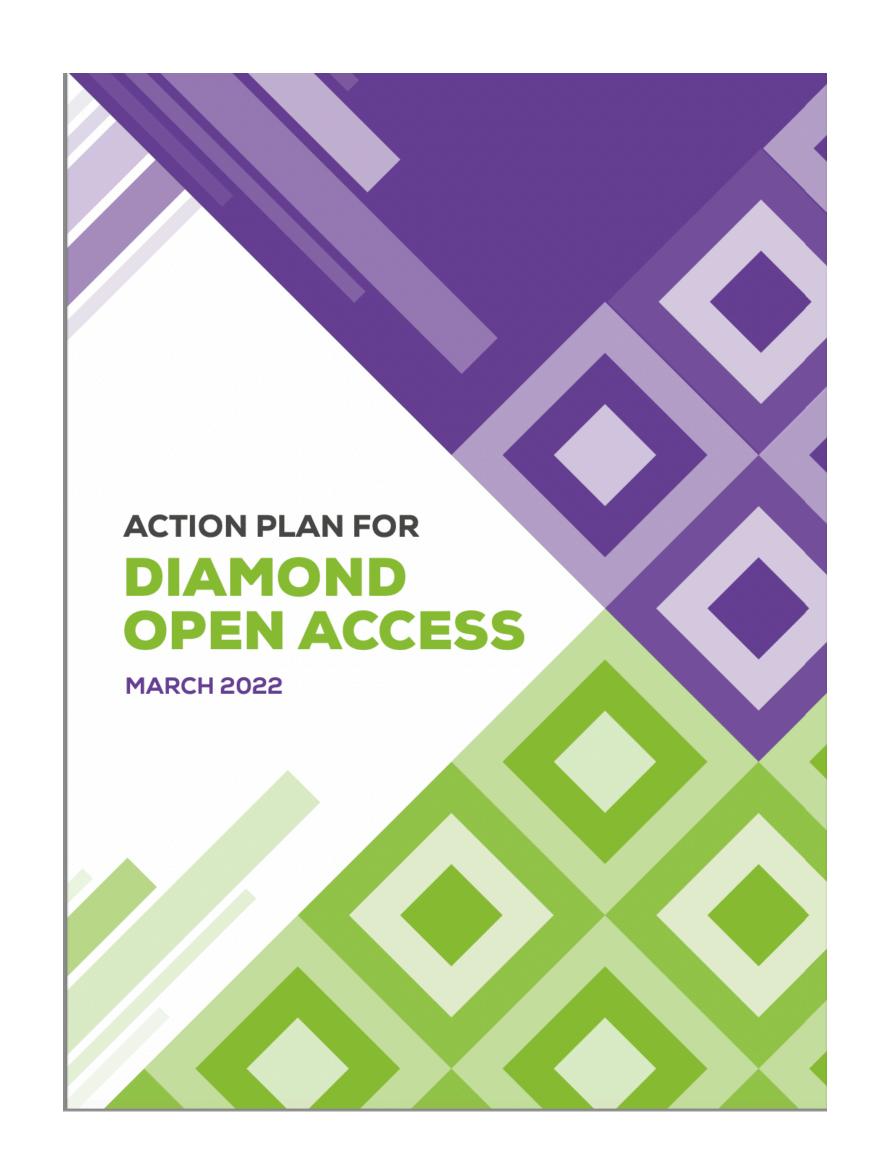


Figure 21. Reasons for journals to consider moving away from the OA diamond model (n=544); survey Q77

An Action Plan for Diamond Publication

Action Plan for Diamond Open Access

- Proposed by Science Europe, cOAlition S, OPERAS, ANR
- Prepared during a 2 days workshop as a side-event to the OSEC 2022 Conference.
- 80 participants representing journals, platforms, funders, research organisations and experts.
- More than 70 organisations signed: CNRS en France, but also DFG in Germany, Gates Foundation in the US, LERU, EUA, etc.



1. Efficiency

Diamond Open Access currently represents an archipelago of relatively isolated journals and platforms. They would benefit from sharing common resources. This action plan proposes to undertake the following actions to increase efficiency and economies of scale:

- Flexibly align quality standards, create sustainability, and enhance trust for all stakeholders by promoting the sharing of infrastructures, standards, policies, practices, and funding streams while respecting cultural differences and disciplinary requirements.
- Make technical services and operations more accessible, interoperable, and streamlined for Diamond journals and platforms. Particular attention will be paid to the alignment and interoperability of submission systems, journal platforms, and metadata.
- Build synergies between Diamond journals and platforms in the same discipline, geographical location, or language via a network of existing organisations, groups, and societies to provide better service to researchers and readers in general.

2. Quality standards

Diamond Open Access journals and platforms have different practices to ensure quality standards rooted in historical, cultural, and disciplinary diversity. To raise and flexibly align the quality profile of the ecosystem, this action plan proposes to undertake the following actions:

- Flexibly align existing standards and best practises for OA publishing already developed by various organisations (including OASPA, DOAJ, COAR, COPE, SPE, and EASE). This will be done in co-creation with the communities representing Diamond journals into an international framework for Diamond publishing.
- Specify these quality standards for seven core components of scholarly publishing and explore their alignment across the Diamond Open Access ecosystem:
 - Funding and business models
 - 2. Service efficiency and quality assurance
 - Editorial management and research integrity
 - 4. Legal ownership, mission, and governance
 - 5. Communication and marketing
 - 6. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) including multilingualism and gender equity
 - Level of openness and compliance with OS principles and practises.
- Develop a self-assessment tool to assess the quality standards for Diamond journals to assist progress towards meeting the international framework for Diamond publishing.

3. Capacity building

Diamond Open Access journals and platforms differ in terms of editorial and management skills. To build capacity, this action plan proposes to consecutively undertake the following actions:

- Build capacity through the creation of a toolsuite for Diamond academic publishing. This includes training materials for Diamond Open Access editors and service providers, quality standards for journals, author and reviewer policies and guidelines that will be made available in a Common Access Point.
- Engage all stakeholders in Diamond Open Access researchers, RFOs, RPOs, university libraries, university presses, faculties, departments, research institutes, scholarly societies, ministries to make them aware of their roles in Diamond Open Access.
- Reach out to scholars with a targeted communication strategy about Diamond Open Access publishing.
- Create a dedicated nonprofit Capacity Centre for Diamond Publishing (CCDP) within 30 months that provides technical, financial, and training services and resources at different levels to eligible journals and editors. Governance of the CCDP will be transparent and representative of its stakeholder communities, with proper consideration for the decentralised and diverse nature of the Diamond ecosystem.

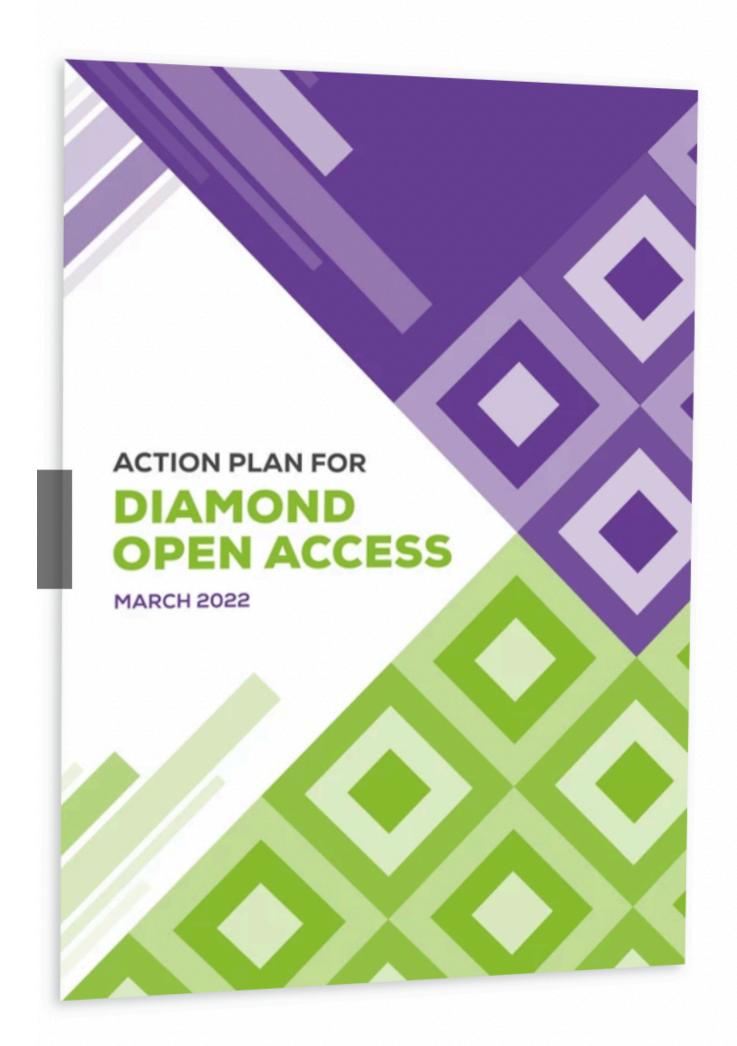
4. Sustainability

Although Diamond Open Access journals and platforms are scholar-owned and -led, their legal status and governance is often unspecified. Moreover, their revenue streams often depend on a patchwork of in-kind contributions, funding by various types of institutions, and temporary grant money. To improve the sustainability of the Diamond Open Access publishing ecosystem, this action plan proposes to undertake the following actions:

- Develop a framework to ensure that the ownership and governance of Diamond Open Access journal titles and platforms is legally recognised and protected to better guarantee the sustainability of community-driven scholarship.
- Seek to gain an understanding of the costs of Diamond Open Access and promote responsible and transparent financial administrative practices to inform journal managers, institutions, funders of revenues, expenses, and financial sustainability. All service providers will need to adhere to these principles.
- Promote a more balanced distribution of financial support between different forms of Open Access scholarly publishing, as well as better and more transparent monitoring and allocation of available finances.
- Strive to ensure that the full range of operational costs of Diamond publishing is carried by a network of institutions: RFOs, RPOs, university libraries,







ABOUT US

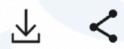
OUR PRIORITIES

WHAT'S GOING ON

OUR RESOURCES

> Our resources

02.03.2022



Action Plan for Diamond Open Access

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Science Europe, cOAlition S, OPERAS, and the French National Research Agency (ANR) present this Action Plan to further develop and expand a sustainable, community-driven Diamond OA scholarly communication ecosystem.

It proposes to align and develop common resources for the entire Diamond OA ecosystem, including journals and platforms, while respecting the cultural, multilingual, and disciplinary diversity that constitutes the strength of the sector.

Thank you!

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