

# Lib4RI- UPDATE #18

December 2019



## Contracts with Elsevier and Wiley extended – no agreement with Springer Nature

**Yesterday, swissuniversities announced the outcome of the Open Access negotiations with publishing powerhouses Elsevier, Wiley and Springer Nature (see [press release](#)). With Elsevier and Wiley, they extended the current subscription contracts and signed «memoranda of understanding» for «read and publish» deals. With Springer Nature, no agreement of any kind was reached.**

With Elsevier and Wiley, the negotiation group mandated by swissuniversities reached transitional subscription agreements for 2020. Researchers will keep access to all their journals. The current contract with Elsevier was extended to March 2020, the one with Wiley to December 2020. Both Elsevier and Wiley signed a «memorandum of understanding» for «read and publish» deals for the periods after that.

The negotiations between Springer Nature and swissuniversities concluded without any Open Access (OA) deal or temporary agreement. The talks will continue in 2020. It is likely that researchers in Switzerland will lose direct access to Springer Nature articles published from 2020 onwards. Researchers will certainly keep post-cancellation access to all licensed Springer Nature articles published before 2020 though.

Together with the [Swiss National Science Foundation \(SNSF\)](#), [swissuniversities](#) developed a [national strategy](#) and an [action plan](#) (in German and French only) on OA. The vision is that all publicly funded scholarly publications in Switzerland will be freely accessible by 2024. To turn this vision into a reality, the [negotiation strategy](#) aims at reaching so-called «read and publish» agreements with the major publishers. These agreements should allow researchers to read all articles in the publishers' journals and publish OA in these journals without extra costs in the form of article publication charges (APCs). On the one hand, these deals would enhance OA opportunities for researchers considerably. On the other hand, we fear they might also create a competitive advantage for the big publishers and increase their market share even more.

Experience in other countries has shown that «no-deals» are an inconvenience but not necessarily a serious impediment to research. Even without subscription contracts, researchers can legally obtain publications. Swissuniversities provides information on how to get full text articles, even if researchers should lose direct access to journals (view as [PDF](#)):

# How to get the article?

swissuniversities.ch/open-access  
10-2019

Routes to find the full text version of research articles without a campus licence and outside the campus network. Please contact your library if you need any help using these tools or if you have any further questions.

## 1 REQUEST ARTICLE VIA LIBRARY

This is not free, but often a fast option, and often much cheaper than buying it from the publisher. Ask your library for advice.

## 2 UNPAYWALL

Get full text of research articles as you browse, using Unpaywall's index of legal open access articles. Free browser extension for Chrome and Firefox. [www.unpaywall.org](http://www.unpaywall.org)

## 3 OPEN ACCESS BUTTON

Free, legal research articles and data delivered instantly or automatically requested from authors. You can do this from the website, or install a browser extension/API. [www.openaccessbutton.org](http://www.openaccessbutton.org)

## 4 KOPERNIO

Get instant notifications of available versions from your library or otherwise. Cloud storage of papers, article sharing features, citation button. [www.kopernio.com](http://www.kopernio.com)

## 5 GOOGLE SCHOLAR BUTTON

Find full text on the web or in your university library. Select the title of the paper on the page you're reading, and click the Scholar button to find it. Free browser extension for Chrome and Firefox.

## 6 HASHTAG #ICANHAZPDF

Use the hashtag #icanhazpdf together with a link to the requested publication; if somebody has access, they can send you the article. [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

## 7 LAZY SCHOLAR

Searches automatically for a freely available full text the instant you open a scientific paper. Free browser extension for Chrome and Firefox. [www.lazyscholar.org](http://www.lazyscholar.org)

## 8 REQUEST ARTICLE VIA AUTHOR

Request a copy from the author directly; often not the fastest way but traditionally a well-used route to get the article.

Image by swissuniversities

Please do not hesitate to contact us at Lib4RI if you seek access to a paywalled article or need any help with the aforementioned tools. We are here to support you! We will ensure that you get the articles you need as quickly and easily as possible. We will keep you up to date with any new developments regarding the ongoing negotiations with Elsevier and Wiley and access to Springer Nature. We are putting together detailed background information and will be bringing the latest news about the negotiations on our [dedicated web page](#), including information on possible new OA opportunities with Elsevier.

## Library news



Image from [Lib4RI](#)

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The Lib4RI team wishes everyone a snowy Christmas, cool holidays and a sunny start into the new year! From Monday, 23 December 2019 up to and including Friday, 3 January 2019 there won't be any service at the library. Members of the research institutes can still access the book collections at Birmensdorf, Dübendorf and Villigen and our electronic resources during this time. We'll be back on Monday, 6 January 2019. Go to [Lib4RI](#).

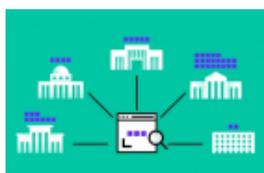


Image from © SLSP

### Final spurt to the Swiss Library Service Platform

In January 2020 the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries will switch to the new Swiss Library Service Platform (SLSP). SLSP will bring together online the scientific information stored in libraries across Switzerland and make it fully searchable and easily findable. Currently, the SLSP system is still under development. The finalisation timeline was presented at a symposium last November. From February 2020 onwards, Lib4RI will be involved in testing and configuring the Institutional Zone - a platform for libraries with similar needs, which will enable synergies and increase efficiencies. At its launch in January 2021, the new SLSP system will offer numerous services: a shared library management system,

centralised data acquisition and document delivery, to name but a few. Meanwhile, nothing will change for you as a library user. The NEBIS lending network will be continued until the end of next year. We will keep you informed on the transition from NEBIS to SLSP.



Image by [Gordon Johnson](#) from [Pixabay](#)

### The new Swiss Library Network for Education and Research

Lib4RI is now a member of the Swiss Library Network for Education and Research ([SLiNER](#)). SLiNER is a new expert committee on scientific information. It represents all academic and scientific libraries in Switzerland. The committee promotes networking and cooperation between scientific information experts and libraries, bundles international cooperation and tackles specific issues (such as Open Access). The former Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries will transfer to SLiNER in January 2020.

### Did you know...?

In addition to our advertised services, we also offer [personal consulting](#) and [group trainings](#). These services are on demand and tailored to your needs. Our fields of expertise include literature search, literature management, technical standards and guidelines, Open Access, the institutional repository, copyright and creative commons licenses, identifiers, scientific writing, the publication process, bibliometrics and much more. We're happy to visit you, your group or your department to discuss your topics of interest.



Image from [Lib4RI](#)

### New: all licensed e-books accessible via NEBIS

All our licensed e-books (some 400'000 titles) are now listed in the [NEBIS catalogue](#). A new technical implementation allowed the integration of the corresponding metadata via an SFX-pipe. Open Access titles are also included and indicated in NEBIS accordingly. We thank the NEBIS network and the ETH Library for making this possible. With a single search query in the Lib4RI-Searchbox, you can find any of our e-books as well as printed copies included in the NEBIS catalogue. This facilitates and accelerates the search process and makes Lib4RI's former e-book catalogue obsolete. Read on at [Lib4RI](#).

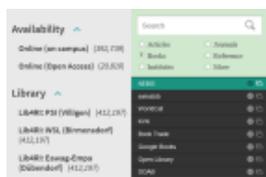


Image from [Lib4RI](#)

## Beyond the library

### Preprints / Speed up your communication

These new studies explore the value and place of preprints in the research lifecycle and publication process. How can you benefit from preprints? Which pitfalls should you avoid? And what's Twitter got to do with it? Read on at [Jisc](#) and [eLife](#).

### Peer review / Pick your referee

Three years ago the SNSF barred applicant-nominated referees from evaluating funding applications due to clear evidence of bias. To this day however, many publishers approve author-suggested reviewers. Of course, researchers know who is best suited to assess their work - but they also know who is more likely to treat their work favourably. This leaves the peer review process open to misconduct. Read on at [Nature Index](#).

### Open Access / Why metadata are important

Open Access agreements are on the rise and we need to monitor and assess the cost and value of these agreements. Publishers should do a better job of collecting and reporting the necessary metadata, so we can actively promote Open Access. Read on at [Insights](#).

### Impact factor / Reevaluating evaluation

Dutch universities and research funders ditch the impact factor - and set up a new system for evaluating research quality. The focus is shifting towards societal impact, open science, diversity and talent. Read on at [VSNU](#).

### Open data / Boon or bane?

Open Data has many benefits. But research data, if made available to anyone for reanalysis, can be manipulated. In an era of politicised science and the ability to use social media to disseminate unfounded ideas, it is difficult to balance the benefits against the potential harms. Can journals protect scientists and the public from unscrupulous reanalysis of data? Read on at [JAMA](#).

### Indices / Games academics play and their consequences

Research is a highly competitive profession where evaluation plays a central role. Yet, such evaluations are often done in inappropriate ways that are damaging to individual careers - particularly for young scholars - and to the profession. How are authorship, *h*-index and

impact factors shaping the future of academia? Read on at [The Royal Society](#).

### Embargo periods / Open letter to publishers

By 2020, all SNSF-funded publications should be freely accessible after six months at the latest. In an open letter, the SNSF has asked leading publishers to shorten their embargo periods. Read on at [SNSF](#).

If you no longer want to receive this email, unsubscribe [here](#).  
All Lib4RI-Updates can be downloaded at [lib4ri.ch](#).

### Contact ...



Lib4RI - Library of Eawag, Empa, PSI & WSL

Überlandstrasse 133  
8600 Dübendorf  
Schweiz

... or [recommend us!](#)



With the exception of external content (labelled images, section 'Beyond the Library'), the content of this newsletter is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#). Please find our [Privacy policy here](#).