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Lib4RI-UPDATE #39

No-deal with Wiley: situation and recommended actions

Negotiations for a new Swiss agreement with the academic publisher Wiley were discontinued on 31 March. As a consequence, Wiley has blocked access to 2025 journal issues and researchers in Switzerland can no longer publish Open Access within the read & publish agreement. Please find some background information as well as recommended actions for the researchers of the 4RIs below.

Discontinued negotiations

Wiley and swissuniversities did not reach an agreement after more than a year of negotiations. In a <u>statement</u>, swissuniversities referred to the latest offer by Wiley, which, despite interesting elements, also proposed a price per article at a substantially higher level than in other European countries. The Swiss higher education institutions (HEIs) are committed to "ensuring the financial sustainability of academic publishing and stabilise reasonable price levels".

The negotiation delegation of swissuniversities acts as a representative for all Swiss HEIs. Bundling bargaining power is important to achieve favourable outcomes in such an oligopolistic market.

Implications for researchers of the 4RIs

Lib4RI is dedicated to the principles of the <u>Swiss National Open Access Strategy</u> and we fully support swissuniversities in their decision. However, the current situation will pose limitations on the reading access and publishing options for researchers at the four research institutes.

- Access to articles published by Wiley up until 2024 remains unaffected. Should you require
 access to articles that are no longer available, please <u>reach out to us</u>.
- Lib4RI will not fund any fees for publishing Open Access in hybrid or pure Open Access journals of Wiley. We recommend avoiding publishing in Wiley journals. If you still decide to publish in Wiley hybrid journals, consider publishing closed access and make the paper openly available via <u>Green Open Access</u>.

We are aware of the challenges that this situation creates for researchers planning to publish in Wiley journals and we hope that future negotiations will result in a more favourable agreement. We will keep you updated on the further developments.

Further recommended actions for researchers and institutions

The Delegation Open Science of swissuniversities has compiled a <u>list of recommended actions</u> for the Swiss HEIs. We also recommend following these points to support the Swiss standing in future negotiations with the publisher as well as keeping the no-deal situation as brief as possible.

- Do not use central funds for publication fees
- Consider alternatives to Wiley
- Make publications available in Green Open Access
- · Editors should advocate for the Swiss research community
- · Review activities for Wiley should be reconsidered

Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Upcoming trainings

Lib4RI training series, spring 2025: Searching & Managing Scientific Information

Did you already take advantage of our training series? There are still spaces available in the following training modules:

- 1. «Searching Scientific Information»
- 2. «Scientific Publishing From Writing to Sharing»
- 3. «Open Access & Copyright»
- 4a. «Literature Management with Endnote»
- 4b. «Literature Management with Zotero»
- 5. «Getting Started with LaTeX»
- 6. «Work on Your Own Project»
- 7a. «Research Data Management The Basics»
- 7b. «Make Your Life Easier with Git»
- 8b. «Al in Research & Scientific Writing»

Learn more here.

Library news

Talk: Artificial Intelligence in Scholarly Publishing

Eawag is hosting a presentation by Maggie Mills entitled "Artificial Intelligence in Scholarly Publishing: Perspective from the Editorial Team of Environmental Science & Technology". Join onsite in Forum Chriesbach, Dübendorf, or online. Read more <u>here</u>.

Did you know ...?



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... Lib4RI just published a new systematic literature search workflow?

Developing a new research question? Need to dive into a new scientific field? Performing a <u>systematic literature search</u> will provide an unbiased synthesis of all relevant studies and help identify gaps in the literature. Check out the step-by-step workflow <u>here</u>.

Beyond the library

AI / Uses of AI in research

How are researchers actually using AI in their academic lives? This Nature article describes how nearly 5,000 researchers currently use AI and what tasks they hope AI will help with in the future. With 72% of participants hoping AI will help with preparing manuscripts. Read more <u>here</u>.

Open Data / Contributions to Swiss Open Academic Data Day

Swiss Open Academic Data (SOAD) Day will bring together researchers and practitioners to explore open academic data on 10 September 2025. Submit your ideas for lightning talks, workshops or hackathon ideas. Read more <u>here</u>.

Assessment / More than just the article

PLOS has been working on a new project to change how science is evaluated. Many researchers are calling for recognition of diverse non-research outputs, not just citation metrics. Provide input by participating in their <u>user research panel</u> or read more <u>here</u>.

Open Science / LLMs4Europe

The Science Pilot will develop LLM-based tools tailored to support European researchers and policymakers. The Pilot will ensure that these AI models developed for science will use and follow FAIR data principles and remain transparent. Read more <u>here</u>.



Lib4RI - Library for the Research Institutes within the ETH Domain: Eawag, Empa, PSI & WSL

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