

Lib4RI wishes you happy holidays!

It's time for the library staff to sit down and take a holiday rest. We wish you joyful holidays, a good start to 2026 - and a lot of fun in the snow!

We wish you joyful holidays
and a great start to 2026!



Preparing for a no-contract scenario with Springer Nature in 2026

No agreement reached

The current Read & Publish agreement with Springer Nature provides reading access to Springer Nature's journal portfolio and enables researchers at Eawag, Empa, PSI and WSL to publish Open Access in the hybrid journals of Springer Nature without having to pay the article charges themselves.

The negotiations with Springer Nature for a new agreement from 2026 onwards, covering both hybrid and full Open Access journals, started early 2025. As [swissuniversities communicated today](#) the negotiations have not yet resulted in a mutually acceptable agreement. Negotiations are conducted by a Delegation of swissuniversities, based on the [Mandate for the Negotiations with Major International Publishers](#).

Possible no-contract situation from 2026 – what are the implications?

While talks continue, we are preparing for a potential no-agreement period from 1 January 2026 that would affect both reading access and Open Access publishing.

- **Reading access:**

Access to journal content published on or after 1 January 2026 may be disabled. Access to older content (all Springer journals: 2017-2025; core Nature journals: 2002-2025) will be maintained. The [document delivery service of Lib4RI](#) is available free of charge for researchers at Eawag, Empa, PSI and WSL if the desired content is no longer accessible.

- **Publishing in hybrid journals:**

Authors may continue to publish closed-access articles in hybrid journals without APCs (i.e., behind a paywall). The ability to publish Open Access without APCs in hybrid journals will end for manuscripts accepted on or after 1 January 2026. Lib4RI will not pay APCs for hybrid journals and strongly discourages authors from using their own funds. To make your work openly available, please self-archive the accepted manuscript in [DORA](#), our institutional repository ([green Open Access](#)).

- **Publishing in fully Open Access journals:**

Researchers can still publish in fully Open Access journals if they have funds to cover the APC. swissuniversities recommends that institutions do not pay for articles in fully Open Access journals from their central funds, as this weakens the Swiss negotiating position. Consequently, fully Open Access journals published by Springer and Nature may be ineligible for funding from our Open Access Fund until a new agreement is in place.

Stay informed

Up-to-date information for specific journals about reading access and options for Open Access publishing is available via the [journal search on our website](#). Updates on negotiations with Springer Nature will also be posted on our [Open Access agreements page](#) (see the section for [Springer](#) and [Nature](#) journals) and via [Lib4RI News](#).

Questions?

For any questions about Open Access publications or your options during a potential no-agreement period, contact Publication Services: openaccess@lib4ri.ch.

Library news

Sage Read & Publish – No contract for 2026

Negotiations between the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries and Sage Publishing for a new Read & Publish agreement for 2026–2028 have not yet concluded. As the current agreement ends on 31 December 2025, preparations are underway for a no-deal situation from 1 January 2026. Read more [here](#).

Data Management Campus: Your new hub for research data skills

Sharpen your research data management skills with the new ETH Domain Data Management Campus! From handling sensitive data and choosing the right license to preparing your datasets and publishing in the right repository, your complete guide. Read more [here](#).

New Lib4RI writing lab

We are happy to announce that we started a writing lab, targeted at young researchers starting their career as scientific authors. The writing is a three-part series designed to build writing skills, confidence, and momentum by providing short introductions to scientific reading, writing and reviewing, followed by dedicated work time. Next course dates are 13 January and 10 February. Read more [here](#).

New Resource: Consensus

Consensus is an AI-powered search engine for academic research. It searches peer-reviewed sources across all scientific domains, analyses findings, and provides synthesised answers with citations to the original research papers. Read more [here](#).

Recording available: David Rosenthal - AI & copyright: friends or foes?

"Who owns our knowledge?" – The motto of this year's Open Access Week raises a question that has been at the core of the Open Access movement. The rise of AI and large language model (LLM) training and use brings a new urgency to this question. In this talk, David Rosenthal shared his perspective as an expert lawyer on this field. The recording of his keynote as well as the slides are available [here](#).

Did you know ...?



Source: Lib4RI

... there is a Digital Library Desk?

Are you unsure who you should contact for specific questions? Watch out for the little headphones **on the top right of each page** of [our website](#)! Clicking will open the Digital Library Desk with direct contact to the respective expert - via e-mail, phone or Zoom call!

Beyond the library

Report / Research Libraries as Data Hubs

The Swiss Science Council SSC acknowledges the pivotal role of research libraries (RL) within the Swiss research landscape. The study explores ways to strengthen RLs in the face of accelerated digital change, automation, big data and artificial intelligence. Read more [here](#).

Policy / ISC position on research funding transparency

The International Science Council (ISC) has released a new position calling for the fully transparent disclosure of all research funding sources to be recognized as a shared responsibility and adopted as a core norm by all levels of the global science system. Read more [here](#).

Publishing / arXiv CS updates practice

Before being considered for submission to arXiv's computer science (CS) category, review articles and position papers must now be accepted at a journal or a conference and have completed successful peer review. This update is a response to the massive increase of AI-generated submissions. Read more [here](#).

Opinion / Scarcity of reviewers and scientific integrity

"If journals reject papers due to review shortages, the peer review process itself becomes compromised." Read more [here](#).

Metrics / CWTS Leiden Ranking 2025 released

The CWTS Leiden Ranking 2025 was released. For the first time you can choose between the traditional or open database. The traditional analysis relies on Web of Science data, the open analysis uses OpenAlex data. With this approach, CWTS is working towards a more inclusive and diverse ecosystem. Read more [here](#).

Open Access / SNSF to adapt its open access funding

Starting in 2027, the SNSF will limit its funding for open access (OA). It will be offering researchers new options for publishing articles free of charge. Read more [here](#).



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

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