Helsinki Initiative 5 years

Emanuel Kulczycki & Janne Pölönen

3rd Helsinki Initiative Webinar on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication

3 April 2024
PRESENTATION

1. Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication
2. Multilingual communication for the full benefit of society
3. Infrastructure for multilingual scholarly communication
4. Multilingualism in assessment and funding systems
Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication
The Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication was launched in 2019 to foster an environment that values multilingual scholarly communication, science communication and open access to scholarly publications in all languages.

The long-term goal of the Helsinki Initiative is to ensure the continued availability of high-quality research published in all languages needed across the world for effective communication of research knowledge within and beyond academia.
1043 SIGNATORIES FROM 76 COUNTRIES (3 APRIL 2024)
1. Support dissemination of research results for the full benefit of the society.
   - Make sure researchers are merited for disseminating research results beyond academia and for interacting with heritage, culture, and society.
   - Make sure equal access to researched knowledge is provided in a variety of languages.

2. Protect national infrastructures for publishing locally relevant research.
   - Make sure not-for-profit journals and book publishers have both sufficient resources and the support needed to maintain high standards of quality control and research integrity.
   - Make sure national journals and book publishers are safeguarded in their transition to open access.

3. Promote language diversity in research assessment, evaluation, and funding systems.
   - Make sure that in the process of expert-based evaluation, high quality research is valued regardless of the publishing language or publication channel.
   - Make sure that when metrics-based systems are utilized, journal and book publications in all languages are adequately taken into account.
WHAT MULTILINGUALISM?

- Multilingualism refers to the existence and use of many languages side-by-side by both the individuals and the community.
- In scholarly communication, multilingualism can be approached from different perspectives:
  - Publication
  - Researcher
  - Publisher
  - Field
  - Organisation/country
  - Society
Multilingual communication for the full benefit of society
2b. How large share of the peer-reviewed publication output of Finnish and Polish universities is in different languages?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Finland (N=91,262)</th>
<th>Poland (N=1,030,289)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and Technology</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Sciences</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Sciences</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All fields</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. How large share of the non-peer-reviewed publication output of the Finnish universities is in different languages?

Professional audiences (N=13443)

- Natural Sciences: 50%
- Engineering and Technology: 56%
- Medical and Health Sciences: 95%
- Agricultural Sciences: 82%
- Social Sciences: 74%
- Arts & Humanities: 66%
- All fields: 77%

General audiences (N=7282)

- English: 87%
- Finnish: 79%
- Swedish: 73%
- Other: 94%

● **Definition:** Open science is defined as an inclusive construct that combines various movements and practices aiming to make multilingual scientific knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable for everyone...

● **Member-state actions:** (l) Promoting a common understanding of open science, associated benefits and challenges, as well as diverse paths to open science. (d) Encouraging multilingualism in the practice of science, in scientific publications and in academic communications.
CONCLUSIONS ON RESEARCH ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OPEN SCIENCE
10th of June 2022

- **ACKNOWLEDGES** that in order to accelerate the implementation and the impact of Open Science policies and practices across Europe, action has to be taken to... **encourage** where appropriate, the use of multilingualism for the purpose of wider communication of European research results.

- **ACKNOWLEDGES** the important role of multilingualism in the context of science communication with society, in particular on the national and regional levels; in this respect, **WELCOMES initiatives to promote multilingualism, such as the Helsinki initiative on multilingualism in scholarly communication**
DECLARATION FOR MULTILINGUALISM IN HIGHER EDUCATION

24th of Mach 2023

- **The signatories of the 'Declaration for Multilingualism in Higher Education’**... support the basic principles of the 'Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication'...

- **With regard to HE, the signatories commit to:**
  - safeguarding and supporting the use of several languages, in addition to the official language(s) of HEIs in governance, research and publications, teaching-learning, and communication
  - securing and fortifying plurilingualism particularly in teaching and learning, transnational research collaboration and
  - relying on the use of language technology tools for services for teaching and learning that facilitate the use of different languages.
Infrastructure for multilingual scholarly communication
### GLOBAL JOURNAL LANDSCAPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Multiple languages</th>
<th>Other languages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global total (N=149886)</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe (N=52241)</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North-America (N=26328)</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America (N=11332)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa (N=4586)</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia (N=54134)</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania (N=1265)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mikael Laakso & Janne Pölönen: [Mapping the global landscape of scholarly journals](#), *Nordic Workshop on Bibliometrics and Research Policy 2023*
JOURNALS INDEXED IN DOAJ (MARCH 2024)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>APC</th>
<th>DIAMOND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4926</td>
<td>4471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple incl. English</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>5897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other languages</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>2635</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5592704
ACTION PLAN FOR DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS
2nd March 2022

- Action Plan provides a set of priority actions to further develop and expand a sustainable, community-driven Diamond scholarly communication ecosystem.
- It aims to bring together Diamond Open Access journals and platforms around shared principles, guidelines, and quality standards respecting the cultural, multilingual and disciplinary diversity that constitute the strength of the sector.
- Serving a fine-grained variety of generally small-scale, multilingual, and multicultural scholarly communities, these journals and platforms embody the concept of bibliodiversity.
CONCLUSIONS ON HIGH-QUALITY, TRANSPARENT, OPEN, TRUSTWORTHY AND EQUITABLE SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

27th of May 2023

- HIGHLIGHTS the importance of not-for-profit, scholarly open access publishing models that do not charge fees to authors or readers

- EMPHASISES that some publication formats, such as monographs, books and long-text formats, especially in the social sciences and humanities, should continue to be supported, while promoting open access publishing and allowing for a diverse range of formats to co-exist, and for publishing in a range of languages;
Developing Institutional Open Access Publishing Models to Advance Scholarly Communication

• **9/2022-8/2025**, 23 partners, coordinated by Aix-Marseille Université (AMU)

• DIAMAS answers the following needs:
  1. To fill the knowledge gap on institutional publishing in Europe (disciplinary, linguistic, geographical distribution of IPSPs, quality shortcomings and excellence, sustainability, etc.).
  2. To improve the overall quality of publishing services provided by IPSPs.
  3. To overcome the current fragmentation and isolation of IPSPs at various levels of institutional organisation (scholarly societies, research institutions, academies of science, libraries, university presses, departments, foundations).
  4. To address equity, diversity, and inclusion in European institutional publishing by improving access to scholarly communication published in different European languages as stressed in the Helsinki Initiative.

• **WP4 Building IPSP capacity through knowledge sharing**
  - Developing toolkits, guidelines, and training materials helping IPSPs to manage and increase the availability of multilingual content, incl. multilingual publishing of full texts and abstracts, human translation services, and machine translation tools and literacy, and to address language and gender biases in their operations.
1/2023-12/2025, 23 partners, coordinated by the University of Göttingen

CRAFT-OA aims to improve the Diamond OA model:
1. Provide technical improvements for journal platforms and journal software
2. Build communities of practice to foster overall infrastructure improvement
3. Increase visibility, discoverability and recognition for Diamond OA publishing
4. Integrate Diamond OA publishing with the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and other large-scale data aggregators.

WP4 Journal Software and Platform Improvement
• Requirement analysis regarding both GDPR and multilingualism features for journal management software. GDPR compliant user and data management will be implemented to OJS based on the results. Discovered shortcomings of multilingual support will be addressed and solved in OJS to ensure seamless processing of multilingual content, interoperability and synchronisation with external systems.
Multilingualism in assessment and funding systems
Large share of SSH researchers across 7 European countries published in 2013-15 peer-reviewed journal articles in the local language(s) of their country:
- 88% in Poland
- 29% in Flanders

Web of Science and Scopus covered only 3%–8% of 94,000 peer-reviewed journal articles published in the local languages of 7 European countries

QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT & NARRATIVE CV

• A narrative CV is a type of CV format that provides structured written descriptions of academics’ or researchers’ contributions and achievements that reflect a broad range of relevant skills and experiences

• narrative CV’s inherent emphasis on language use may introduce bias and noise into the evaluation process

• Gendered language and self-promotion tactics may also result in biased evaluations

• Importantly, funding organizations also need to consider and account for how narrative formats disadvantage non-native language applicants for grant funding.

A NEW RESEARCH ASSESSMENT TOWARDS A
SOCIALLY RELEVANT SCIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

6th of June 2022

● **Principle 8:** Writing in English does not confer a merit per se superior to publications in other languages. Multilingualism favors the development of socially relevant research and contributes to sustaining cultural diversity. We endorse the Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication.
RECOMMENDATION ON A EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURIAL TALENTS IN EUROPE – EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR RESEARCHERS

18th of December 2023

● **OPEN SCIENCE:** Employers and funders should support, provide the necessary tools and infrastructure, and **reward a true Open Science culture across the Union**... while considering differences among disciplines and cultural differences, including multilingualism...

● **NON-DISCRIMINATION:** Employers and funders of researchers **should not discriminate against researchers in any way based on** gender, age, ethnic, national or social origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, **language**, disability, political opinion, social or economic condition.
AGREEMENT ON REFORMING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT
20th of July 2022

● **1st core commitment:** Recognize valuable contributions that researchers make to science and for the benefit of society, including diverse outputs beyond journal publications and irrespective of the language in which they are communicated.

● **Toolkit:** Value diverse outputs (FAIR data sets, replication studies, registered reports, pre-prints) in different languages in accordance with the Helsinki initiative

● **CoARA Working-Group on Multilingualism and Language Biases in Research Assessment**
MORE INFORMATION

Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism

Hi!

Read and sign: www.helsinki-initiative.org

Email: helsinki-initiative@tsv.fi

Hashtag: #InAllLanguages