The DFG Study of Author Experience of Open Access
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The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
(German Research Society)
DFG’s Organisational Structure

- **General Assembly**
  - establishes directives / approves annual report and account / approbates the Executive Committee

- **Senate**
  - attends to issues relating to research strategy and policy
  - advises government offices
  - coordinates international and domestic cooperation

- **Executive Committee**
  - responsible for issues relating to the general management of the DFG

- **Joint Committee**
  - decides on research funding and funding policy
  - plans research policy and programmes on the basis of Senate decisions
  - draws up annual budget

- **Review Boards**
  - evaluate all reviews and recommendations

- **Executive Board**
  - President
  - Secretary General
  - Head Office

- **Peer Reviewers**
  - researchers in member institutions and voting centres

- **Arrow Details**
  - **→** election, selection, appointment
  - **→** cooperation
I. Survey Design

II. Preliminary Results

1. Trends and Tendencies
2. Discipline-Specific Differences
3. Awareness, Knowledge, and Usage
4. Costs, Fees, and Royalties
5. Views and Opinions

III. Possible Roads to Take
Survey Design: Structure of Our Questionnaire
(1.023 respondents from 48 research areas)

I. Publication and Reading

II. Open Access: Awareness, Declarations, Journals, Self-Archiving

III. Publication and License Fees

IV. On Spending the DFG’s publication grants

V. Person, Profession, Institution, Age, Gender
4 Scientific Disciplines and 48 Research Areas

**HSS = Humanities and Social Sciences**

Ancient Cultures, History, Fine Arts Studies, Linguistics, Literature, Theatre and Media Studies, Ethnology, Non-European Cultures, Religious Studies, Theology, Philosophy, Education Sciences, Psychology, Social Sciences, Economics, Jurisprudence

**LS = Life Sciences**

Foundations of Biology and Medicine, Plant Science, Zoology, Microbiology, Virology and Immunology, Medicine, Neurosciences, Agriculture, Forestry, Horticulture and Veterinary Medicine

**NS = Natural Sciences**


**ENG = Engineering**

Respondent’s Distribution

- HHS scholarship holders: 21.10%
- HHS academics: 16.70%
- LS scholarship holders: 5.80%
- LS scientists: 5.10%
- NS scholarship holders: 20.50%
- NS scientists: 20.20%
- ENG scholarship holders: 5.70%
- ENG scientists: 4.40%
Should the DFG rather be Encouraged in Promoting Open Access?
Is open access still unknown as means of publication?

How familiar are you with the *Berlin declaration*?

- **Yes**
  - HSS: 85,5%
  - LS: 84,1%
  - NS: 76,5%
  - ENG: 82,9%

- **No**
  - HSS: 14,5%
  - LS: 15,9%
  - NS: 13,5%
  - ENG: 17,1%

- **Well Known**
  - HSS: 7%
  - LS: 5,1%
  - NS: 6,6%
  - ENG: 2,4%

- **Not in Detail**
  - HSS: 29,1%
  - LS: 33,1%
  - NS: 31,1%
  - ENG: 30,8%

- **Unknown**
  - HSS: 63,9%
  - LS: 61,9%
  - NS: 62,3%
  - ENG: 66,8%
How many articles did you publish in an open access journal within the last 5 years?

- None: 88.1%
- up to 10%: 87.3%
- 11% - 50%: 85.2%
- over 50%: 86.4%

Categories:
- HSS
- LS
- NS
- ENG
Proportion of Self-Archived Articles (Postprints) within the last 5 years

Journal Articles
- HHS: 5.9%
- LS: 12.3%
- NS: 20.1%
- ENG: 17.6%

Articles in Conference Proceedings
- HHS: 7.4%
- LS: 4.4%
- NS: 20.4%
- ENG: 26%

Articles in Anthologies
- HHS: 3.5%
- LS: 4.5%
- NS: 12.9%
- ENG: 16.2%
Self-Archived Articles (Preprints) within the last 5 years

- **HSS**
- **LS**
- **NS**
- **ENG**

The chart shows the distribution of self-archived articles across different ranges of counts, with each range represented by different colors and bars indicating percentages.
Would you be willing to pay for the publication of a research article in an open access journal?

- No: 72.9%, 35.5% (HSS), 61.8% (LS), 64.4% (NS), 52.4% (ENG)
- Up to 250 €: 24.3%, 37.9% (HSS), 26.7% (LS), 27.7% (NS), 82.6% (ENG)
- 251 € - 500 €: 20.6% (HSS), 8.8% (LS), 5.9% (NS), 4% (ENG)
- 501 € - 1000 €: 4% (HSS), 2% (LS), 2% (NS), 0.5% (ENG)
- 1001 € - 2000 €: 1.6% (HSS), 0.4% (LS), 0.4% (NS), 0% (ENG)
- Up to 2000 €: 0% (HSS), 0% (LS), 0% (NS), 0% (ENG)
Did you ever pay fees for the publication of a research article?

- **No**
  - 92.6%

- **Only for Conventional Publications**
  - 20.2%

- **Only for Open Access Journals**
  - 55.6%

- **For Conventional and for Open Access Articles**
  - 74.1%

- **LS**
  - 7.4%

- **NS**
  - 76.5%

- **ENG**
  - 43.2%

- **Other**
  - 24.7%
Some Criteria in Choosing a Journal for a Publication and Improvement of International Visibility of German Journals

- **Journal Subscription Fees**
  - ENG: 10,7%
  - NS: 14,5%
  - LS: 6%
  - HSS: 3,2%

- **Author's Publication Fees**
  - ENG: 28,3
  - NS: 26
  - LS: 17,1
  - HSS: 20,9

- **Author's Royalties**
  - ENG: 0,4
  - NS: 0,4
  - LS: 0,4
  - HSS: 0,4

- **Increasing Author's Royalties**
  - ENG: 5,1
  - NS: 4,1
  - LS: 4,4
  - HSS: 13
Some Views on Open Access

- The quality of open access publications is not as safeguarded as for conventional publications.
- Long-term availability cannot be guaranteed for open access publications.
- OA publications are seldom taken into bibliographic accounts.
- OA publications are not as frequently cited as other publications.
Thank you very much for your attention!

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Further Information at:
www.dfg.de