

OPEN ACCESS VOCABULARY

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A shared understanding of the key terminology used in Open Access across regions and languages is essential for awareness raising within the profession and communication with stakeholders. The purpose of IFLA's Open Access vocabulary is to collate the most widely used terms and definitions, with reference to official statements or other documents where these terms are defined. It is intended to be an easy-to-read reference guide. As new terminology and definitions are regularly created, it is intended to capture the most common terms used across the globe, and is not exhaustive.

Compiled by the IFLA Open Access Working Party

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Feedback and suggestions for additional terms to include in future versions of the vocabulary can be sent to: ifla@ifla.org



Academic journal

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Revista Académica CN: 学术期刊 :AR مجلة أكاديمية	"Should meet the following main eligibility criteria: i) have an ISSN number, ii) should consist of peer-reviewed content; iii) should be published on a regular basis; iv) the contents should be relevant and readable for an international audience, and v) should have a publication ethics and publication malpractice statement." "...contain structured information, constructed knowledge and research outputs." (Translation by author)	UNESCO. 2015.Scholarly Communication 1.Open Access for Researchers. Paris: UNESCO. p.18-19. Palma Peña, Juan Miguel. 2019. Acceso abierto al patrimonio informacional de instituciones de educación superior: recomendaciones y estrategias. Tesis para optar por el grado de Doctor en Bibliotecología y Estudios de la Información. México: UNAM. p. 38.	

Access Agreements

Publishing	ES: Acuerdos de acceso CN: 访问协议 :AR إتفاقيات الإتاحة	"Regulatory, policy and procedural framework established by research institutions, research funding agencies and other partners involved, to determine the conditions of access to and use of research outputs."	OECD. 2007. "Declaration on Access to Research Data from Public Funding". p. 14.	Open access agreements support individual authors to publish open access at no cost or for discounted article processing charges (APCs).
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Article processing charges (APCs)

Publishing	ES: Cargo por Procesamiento de Artículo CN: 文章处理费 :AR رسوم معالجة المقالة	"Article Processing Charges (APCs) are fees charged by publishers to make articles in scholarly journals open access, specifically to cover the costs of publication and journal administration. However, many scholarly journals, particularly those supported by universities, publish open access with no costs at all to researchers."	Open Access Australasia. 2021. "What Are Article Processing Charges?".	
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Author Accepted Manuscript

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Manuscrito de autor aceptado CN: 已接受作者手稿 :AR النصّ المقبول من	"The accepted version [of a journal article or monograph] which has been peer reviewed but not typeset or copyedited."	Crossref. 2020. "Version Control, Corrections, and Retractions".	

Bibliodiversity

Basics	ES: Bibliodiversidad CN: 图书馆多样性 :AR التنوع الببليوجرافي	"support for the diversity of those acting in scientific publishing – what we call bibliodiversity" "a complex self-sustaining system of storytelling, writing, publishing and other kinds of production of oral and written literature. The writers and producers are comparable to the inhabitants of an ecosystem. Bibliodiversity contributes to a thriving life of culture and a healthy eco-social system."	2018. "Jussieu Call for Open science and bibliodiversity" Shearer, Kathleen; Chan, Leslie; Kuchma, Iryna, & Mounier, Pierre. 2020. "Fostering Bibliodiversity in Scholarly Communications: A Call for Action." p. 4. Zenodo.	
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Book processing charges (BPCs)

Publishing	ES: Cargo por Procesamiento de Libros CN: 图书加工费 :AR رسوم معالجة	"The Book Processing Charge (BPC) is a payment made by an author to publish a book open access. Typically this will be covered by their funding body or institution."	Cambridge Core. "Open Access Glossary".	
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CARE Principles

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Law	Principios CARE	"The Global Indigenous Data Alliance (GIDA) proposes the 'CARE' principles: Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics."	Global Indigenous Data Alliance. 2020. "CARE Principles".	

Copyright limitations and exceptions

Law	ES: Limitaciones y Excepciones del Derecho de autor CN: 版权限制和例外情况 :AR قيود واستثناءات حقوق النشر	"From the outset, limitations and exceptions have been an essential part of the copyright ecosystem, as important as the rights themselves to ensure that copyright reaches its goal of encouraging creative productivity and the growth of human knowledge. While the protection afforded by copyright provides an incentive for creators to create and ensures they can recoup costs and earn money from their efforts, the limitations and exceptions ensure copyright does not itself become a barrier to creativity by locking up the previous works on which all creative effort is built."	Navigating Copyright for Libraries: Purpose and Scope. 2022. Edited by Jessica Coates, Victoria Owen and Susan Reilly, De Gruyter.	Limitations and exceptions (L&E) are aspects of copyright law that limit the exclusive control that rights holders have over their work. These include Fair Use / Fair Dealing, rights to quotation, education exceptions, the public domain, and more. If a user does not have to contact or pay rights holders when making use of the original work, it is likely because of a limitation or exception to copyright encoded in law.
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Copyright Transfer Agreement

Law	ES: Transferencia de Derechos de Autor CN: 版权转让 (协议) :AR نقل حقوق النشر (اتفاقية)	"Traditionally [...] scientists submitting an article to a journal have transferred copyright (which is actually a bundle of rights) to the publisher by signing the publisher's copyright transfer agreement (CTA). Included in this bundle of rights is the right to publish the work, and publication is precisely what the author seeks to achieve."	UNESCO. "Policy guidelines for the development and promotion of open access: Section 6.1.1 Ownership of works of scholarship".	
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Creative Commons licenses

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Law	ES: Licencias Creative Commons CN: 知识共享许可 AR: تراخيص المشاع الإبداعي	"Creative Commons licenses give everyone from individual creators to large institutions a standardized way to grant the public permission to use their creative work under copyright law. From the reuser's perspective, the presence of a Creative Commons license on a copyrighted work answers the question, "What can I do with this work?"	Creative Commons. 2019. "About CC Licenses".	Creative Commons licenses allow creators to set clear (and often broad) terms on how others may use their work. They are frequently applied to open access publications and data.

Datawall

Publishing	ES: Muro de datos CN: 数据墙	"Instead of a paywall, perhaps to be negotiated through a proxy server or some other authentication mechanism, the reader is faced with a demand for their contact information. Or, even more demanding, they face a requirement to create an account. Use of that account will be tracked and the data fed into an analytics system, likely joined up with data collected elsewhere as well."	Hinchliffe, Lisa Janicke. 2018. "From Paywall to Datawall" The Scholarly Kitchen.	Datawalls are reasonably common in the newspaper industry where some data may be provided in exchange for a limited amount of content.
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Embargo

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Embargo CN: 禁运 AR: فترة حظر الإتاحة	Embargo is a period before “an article can be made open access...In science, publisher embargoes are normally 6-12 months: anything longer than that is considered unreasonable by the community, and certainly not in the public interest”	Swan, Alma. 2012. “Policy guidelines for the development and promotion of open access: Section 8.25 Embargoes.”UNESCO.	

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FAIR Principles

Open	ES: Principios FAIR CN: FAIR 原则 AR: المبادئ العادلة	Acronym: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable.	GO FAIR. 2016. “FAIR Principles.”	Note that materials can be FAIR, but not necessarily Open Access.
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Fair Use / Fair Dealing

Law	ES: Uso Justo / Trato Justo CN: 公平交易 AR: الإستخدام العادل / التعامل العادل	Fair Use’ and ‘Fair Dealing have technical legal meanings and protect various uses of copyrighted material. They are also informally used to refer to fair-seeming uses of copyrighted work.	Australian Libraries and Archives Copyright Coalition. 2023. “Is Fair Dealing the Same Thing as Fair Use?”	
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Full and Immediate Access

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Acceso completo e inmediato CN: 完全且立即访问权限 AR: الإتاحة الكاملة والفورية	"Full and immediate free access to research outputs and publications ensures that everyone - including researchers, policy makers, citizens, scientists, and the public - has the data, evidence, and knowledge they need to address societal, environmental, and global challenges. Open access (OA) moves research towards the goal of full access by removing paywalls and broadening global access across disciplines. OA seeks to make research globally available and discoverable for the long-term and not only in times of crisis."	IFLA. 2022. "10 Years of the IFLA Open Access Statement: A Call to Action" .	

Institutional repository

IT Infrastructure	ES: Repositorio Institucional CN: 机构资料库 AR: المستودعات المؤسسية	"A repository is a set of services that a research organisation offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by its community members".	JISC. 2016. "In the Context of Open Access Policies in the UK, What Is a 'Repository'?" .	
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Intellectual property (IP)

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Law	ES: Propiedad Intelectual CN: 知识产权 AR: الملكية الفكرية	"Intellectual property (IP) refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce."	WIPO. "What is Intellectual Property?"	

Interoperability

IT Infrastructure	ES: Interoperabilidad CN: 互用性 AR: الإتاحة التوافقية	"Technological and semantic interoperability is a key consideration in enabling and promoting international and interdisciplinary access to and use of research outputs."	OECD. 2007. "OECD Principles and Guidelines for Access to Research Data and Public Funding."	Interoperability refers to capabilities of sharing data between platforms and formats.
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Linked open data

Open	ES: Dato Abierto Ligado CN: 关联开放数据 AR: البيانات المترابطة الحرة	"Linked Open Data (LOD) is using "a linked data approach to connect datasets across the web . The linked data is a set of "principles for publishing data online as a collection of machine-understandble statement, ready to be harvest and processed."	UN Statistics Wiki. 2018. "Data Interoperability Guide: Chapter 5 - Linked Open Data".	Examples of large linked open data sets include DBpedia and Wikidata.
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Offset Agreement

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Acuerdo de compensación CN: 抵消协议 AR: الاتفاقية التعويضية	"Calculate the value of APCs for articles published under the agreement by multiplying the number of articles published by the list price or negotiated APC. If the total value of articles published is higher than the publish fee you have paid, you have 'offset' your APC expenditure and the monetary value can be seen in terms of cost avoidance."	Arbeitskreis Open Access (AKOA). 2016. "Principles for Offset Agreements".	Offset agreements have largely fallen out of use in favor of other models.

Open Access

Open	ES: Acceso Abierto GR: Ανοιχτή Πρόσβαση CN: 开放获取 AR: الوصول الحر Wikidata: Q232932	"By "open access" to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited."	Budapest Open Access Initiative. 2012. "Declaration".
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Open Access Mandates

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Open	ES: Mandatos de Acceso Abierto CN: 开放获取授权 :AR ممثلو الوصول الحر	"An Open Access mandate is the requirement that scholarly articles and research be published on an OA basis. This mandate may be issued by an academic institution or funding body that issues grants to scholars. Some institutions may call this a 'public access' mandate, requirement or policy."	Learn.org. 2011. "What Is an Open Access Mandate?".	Example mandate: The White House. 2022. "OSTP Issues Guidance to Make Federally Funded Research Freely Available Without Delay".

Open Access Policies

Open	ES: Políticas de Acceso Abierto CN: 开放获取政策 :AR سياسات الوصول الحر	"Policies that mandate open access publishing and dissemination of scholarly activity by faculty at universities and define guidelines for that dissemination, typically through campus institutional repository"	ACRL. 2020. "Open Access Policies & Publishing - Scholarly Communication Toolkit".
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Open Access colors

Open	ES: Tipos y Colores del Acceso Abierto :AR أنواع وألوان الوصول الحر	<p>"Gold route: First publication as an article in Open Access journals, as an Open Access monograph or an article in a volume of collected works or a conference paper published in Open Access. The costs of publication are not [borne] by the readers... Instead, they are [borne] by the party producing them."</p> <p>"Green route: Secondary publication... [which] can occur simultaneously with or subsequently to the first publication (for example as a preprint or postprint to scientific articles, but also monographs, research reports, conference proceedings). In the green route, publications are often only freely available after an embargo period.**"</p>	Open Economics Guide. "The Meaning of the Different Types and Colours of Open Access".	<p>*Hybrid Route: A journal is fundamentally access-restricted and/or offered on subscription basis by the publisher. However, authors can "buy out" their articles with a process."</p> <p>"Bronze Route: Freely accessible journal articles on publishers' servers, but without clear details on reuse (mostly freely accessible archives of subscription journals)."</p> <p>"Black Route: Illegal Open Access via services such as SciHub."</p> <p>"Diamond Route: A publication is free of charge both for readers and for authors. This refers above all to gold Open Access journals that do not demand APCs from the authors. They are widespread particularly in the humanities and social sciences."</p>
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Open Licensing

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Law	ES: Licencias Abiertas CN: 开放许可 AR: الترخيص الحر	"An open license is one which grants permission to access, reuse and redistribute a work with few or no restrictions."	Open Knowledge. "Guide to Open Licensing" .	

Open peer review

Open	ES: Revisión por pares abierta CN: 开放同行评审 AR: التحكيم العلمي الحر	Open peer review is the various possible modifications of the traditional scholarly peer review process. Its models may include any of the following transparent practices, either alone or in combination: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• publishing peer review content• open commenting from the wider community• open discussion between authors, editors and reviewers• open review before publication through preprint• post-publication commenting• sharing author or reviewer identities• decoupling the peer review process from the publication process	PLOS. 2020. "Open Peer Review" .	
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Open research data

Alternative terms:
open data, open science data

Open	ES: Dato de Investigación Abierto CN: 开放研究数据 AR: البيانات البحثية الحرة	"Open research data that include, among others, digital and analogue data, both raw and processed, and the accompanying metadata, as well as numerical scores, textual records, images and sounds, protocols, analysis code and workflows that can be openly used, reused, retained and redistributed by anyone, subject to acknowledgement."	UNESCO. 2021. "UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science" .	Open research data refers to making datasets and source material available for other uses and analyses, in accordance with disciplinary concerns and norms.
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Open Science

Alternative term: Open Scholarship

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES:Ciencia Abierta	"Open science... combines various movements and practices aiming to make multilingual scientific	UNESCO. 2021. "UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science".	
Basics	CN: 开放科学 AR: العلم الحر (الاتحاد الأوروبي، اليونسكو) في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية يفضلون استخدام مصطلح: المعرفة المفتوحة	knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable for everyone, to increase scientific collaborations and sharing of information for the benefits of science and society, and to open the processes of scientific knowledge creation, evaluation and communication to societal actors beyond the traditional scientific community. It comprises all scientific disciplines and aspects of scholarly practices"		

Paywall

Publishing	ES: Muro de Pago CN: 付费专栏 AR: إتاحة مدفوعة	"A paywall is a feature of a website that prevents users from accessing certain web pages unless they have paid to use the website"	Oxford Learner's Dictionaries. "Paywall".	
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Predatory publishing

Publishing		"Predatory journals and publishers are entities that prioritize self-interest at the expense of scholarship and are characterized by false or misleading information, deviation from best editorial and publication practices, a lack of transparency, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate solicitation practices."	Grudniewicz, A. et al. (2019). Predatory journals: No definition, no defence. Nature, 576(7786), 210–212.	
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Preprint

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Preimpreso CN: 预印本 AR: نسخة أولية	"Draft or manuscript shared by researcher in a preprint repository or dedicated channel (outside of a specific journal)."	Crossref. 2020. "Version Control, Corrections, and Retractions" .	Preprint publications are generally drafts of articles shared prior to peer review, to enable the information to be used and seek feedback.

Public domain

Law	ES: Dominio Público CN: 公共区域 AR: المجال العام	"The phrase "public domain" (PD) isn't in the U.S. Copyright Act. It is, however, commonly used to refer to content that isn't protected by copyright law."	Copyright Laws. 2023. "What Is the Public Domain?"	Works in the public domain may be used freely, without obtaining permission from or compensating the copyright owner - often because the work is older than the limited exclusive publication window granted by copyright law. While it may allow similar uses, public domain is not the same 'open access' or other licensing structures.
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Public Funds

Open	ES: Fondos públicos CN: 公共基金 AR: المال العام	"Factor by which an investigation used public funds provided by any level of government."	OECD. 2007. "Declaration on Access to Research Data from Public Funding." p. 14.	An important rationale for making many publications 'open' is that they describe publicly funded research, and thus the public should not have to pay private companies to access the results.
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Publications Repositories

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Repositorios de publicaciones	"Open access digital platforms to store, record and organize different types of scholarly publications for their location, access, interoperability and use."	2003. "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities". Max Planck Society.	
IT Infrastructure	CN: 出版物库 AR: مستودعات المنشورات			

Pure Publish Agreement

Publishing	ES: Acuerdo de Publicación Pura CN: 纯发布协议 AR: إتفاقية نشر أصيلة	"A contract is a pure publish agreement if the agreed payment enables an institution's authors to publish in fully open access journals"	Hinchliffe, Lisa Janicke. 2020. "The Pure Publish Agreement", The Scholarly Kitchen.	Payment made by subscribers is for publishing only, not to read as all content is open.
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Read & Publish Agreement

Publishing	ES: Acuerdo de Publicar y Leer CN: 阅读并发布协议 AR: إتفاقية إقرأ وأنشر	"Read & Publish agreements (R&P) are a form of transformative agreement with a publisher that takes the library's existing expenditure on subscriptions and repurposes it to cover both reading and publishing in that publisher's journals. If an academic publishes in a journal that is included in one of the R&P agreements, they may be able to publish direct to open access with no transactional article processing charges."*	International Association of Law Libraries. 2023. "Transformative Agreements in Australian Academic Libraries".	
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Research Data Repositories

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
IT Infrastructure	ES: Repositorios de Datos de Investigación CN: 研究数据存储库 :AR مستودعات البيانات البحثية	"... platforms that support[s] the preservation, discovery, use, reuse, and manipulation of scientific data objects that support published research."	"Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities." 2003. Max Planck Society.	Data repositories (DR) are a type of repository in the processes of research data management (RDM). They may be linked to a specific institution (Institutional Repository, IR) or serve as open resources for researchers from multiple institutions contribute, store, and share their data.

Rights retention

Law Publishing	ES: Derecho de autor /Retención de Derechos CN: 权利保留 :AR الاحتفاظ بالحقوق	"Rights retention is a process of notifying the publisher that the author retains either all copyright in the work, or those rights necessary to make a version."	Plan S. "Plan S Rights Retention Strategy".	Retaining copyright in research works enables republication in a repository, and reuse of work in teaching, learning, and research - uses which are often restricted under conventional contracts with publishers.
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Science

Basics	ES: Ciencia CN: 科学 :AR العلم	" <i>Science</i> means such elements of learning, assimilation, accommodation, understanding, reflection and criticism of a certain phenomenon or object of study in the field of Natural Sciences and Social Sciences and Humanities ... an essential part of research results is their communication, availability, visibility and access through various media and dissemination resources"	UNESCO. 2021. "UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science". p.7 - 16.	Science is a systematic search for knowledge (as via research).
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Secondary Publishing rights (SPR)

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing Law Open	ES: Derechos de publicación secundaria CN: 二次出版权 AR: حقوق نشر ثانوية	“the right to republish publicly funded research after its first publication in an open access repository or elsewhere.”	Pahinis, Stella. 2022. “Secondary Publishing Rights – New Position Statement from Knowledge Rights 21”.	

Subscribe to Open

Publishing	ES: Suscripción para abrir CN: 订阅到开放 AR: من الاشتراك إلى الحر		Subscribe to Open. “S2O Community of Practice”.	One of several new approaches to converting publications to open access while ensuring costs of publication are covered. Other models include Direct to Open.
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Traditional Knowledge (TK)

Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs)

Traditional Knowledge licenses

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Law	ES: Conocimiento Tradicional	"Many indigenous peoples, local communities and governments seek <u>intellectual property</u> (IP) protection for <u>traditional knowledge</u> (TK) and <u>traditional cultural expressions</u> (TCEs) as intangible assets. Such assets can range from traditional medicine and environmental knowledge to art, symbols and music."	WIPO. "Traditional Knowledge" .	
	CN: 传统知识			
	:AR المعرفة التقليدية			
	ES: Expresiones Culturales Tradicionales			
	CN: 传统文化表现形式			
	:AR التعبيرات الثقافية التقليدية			
	ES: Licencias de Conocimientos Tradicionales			
	CN: 传统知识许可证			
	:AR تراخيص المعرفة التقليدية			

Transformative Agreement

Publishing	ES: Acuerdos Transformadores	"Transformative agreements are contracts negotiated between institutions or consortia and publishers that aim to transform the business model underlying scholarly journal publishing, moving from one based on subscriptions to one in which publishers are remunerated for open access publishing."	Plan S. "What Is a Transformative Agreement?" .	
	CN: 变革协议			
	:AR اتفاقية التحول			

Transformative journals

Category	In other languages	Definition	Source	Commentary
Publishing	ES: Revistas transformadoras CN: 变革性期刊 مجلات متحوّلة :AR	"A Transformative Journal is a subscription/hybrid journal that is committed to transitioning to a fully OA journal. In addition, it must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">gradually increase the share of OA content andoffset subscription income from payments for publishing services (to avoid double payments).	Plan S. "Transformative Journals."	

Version of Record

Publishing	ES: Versión del registro CN: 记录版本 نسخة التسجيل :AR	"The typeset, copyedited, and published version [of a journal article or monograph]"	Crossref. 2020. "Version Control, Corrections, and Retractions".	
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