



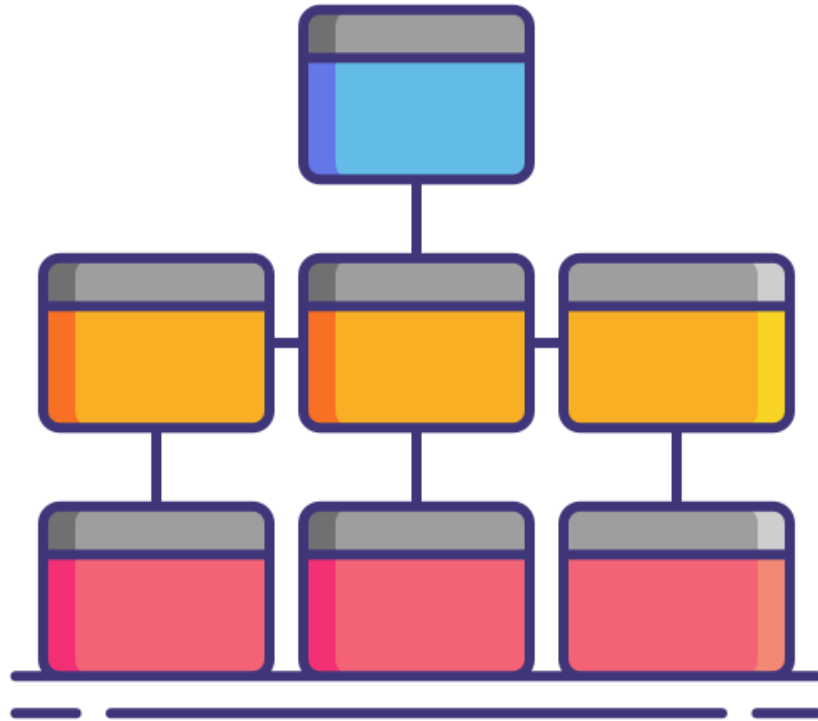
A practical guide to Open Access Publishing

Martijn Van Roie – University of Antwerp Library

Doctoral day 2026

What and why?

What exactly is Open Access? (OA)



- **Free** and **open online** access to academic output
- **No financial, legal or technical** barriers to accessing it
- Term usually encompasses **written output**
- **Use** permitted → Open license
 - Reading
 - Downloading
 - Copying
 - Use in education
 - ...





Why?

Practical answer:

1. Open Access Policy UA
2. Open Access Policy Funders

Additionally:

1. More transparency
2. Easier access to your work
3. More exposure

The University of Antwerp Open Access Policy



“The UAntwerp OA policy implies that all **UAntwerp authors** are **obliged** to include the **PDF** of either the **final author version** or an **open access publisher’s version** when reporting a **peer reviewed article** for inclusion in the institutional repository.”

Submitted final author’s versions of journal articles will be made open access available according to the **publisher copyright policy** and/or the **Belgian Open Access regulation**.

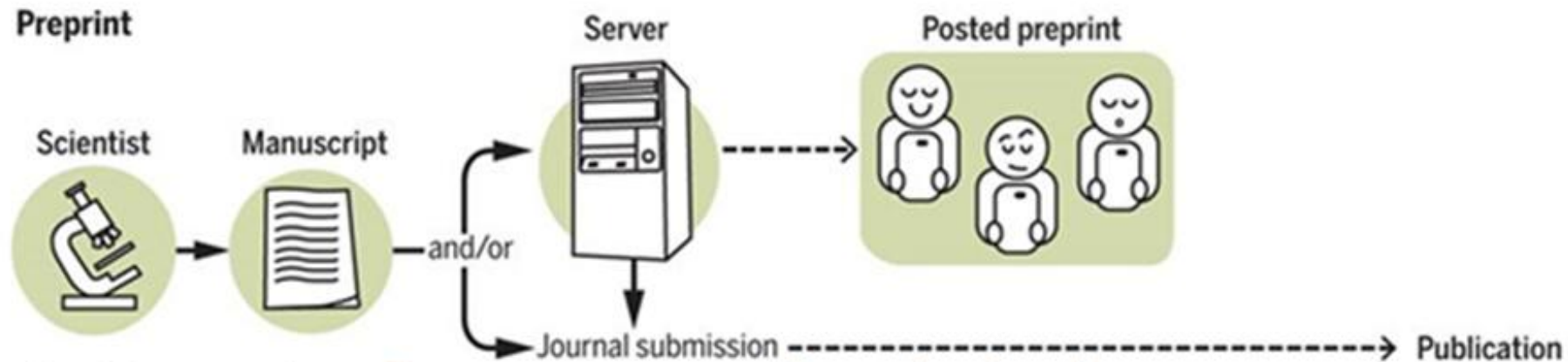
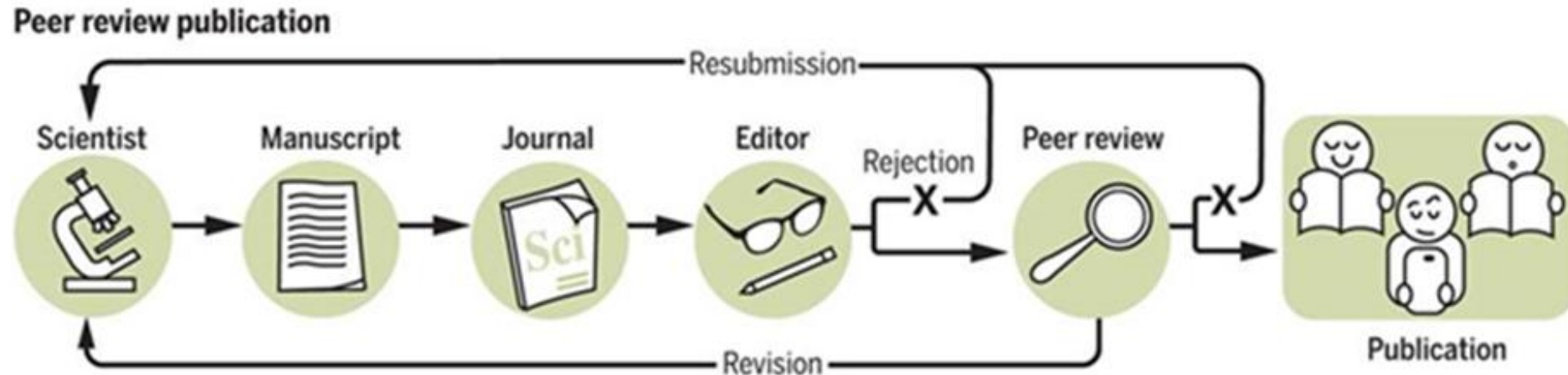


How to publish in OA?

- Depending on **output type**:
 - Journal Articles - Proceedings
 - Books and book chapters
 - Preprints
- Out of scope for this session:
 - Open data
 - Open notebooks
 - Open code
 - ...

How?

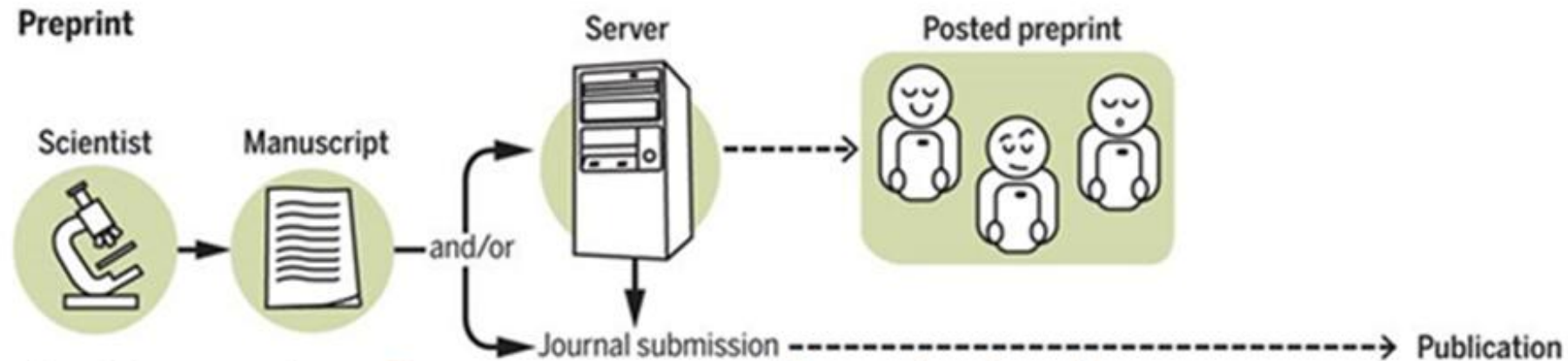
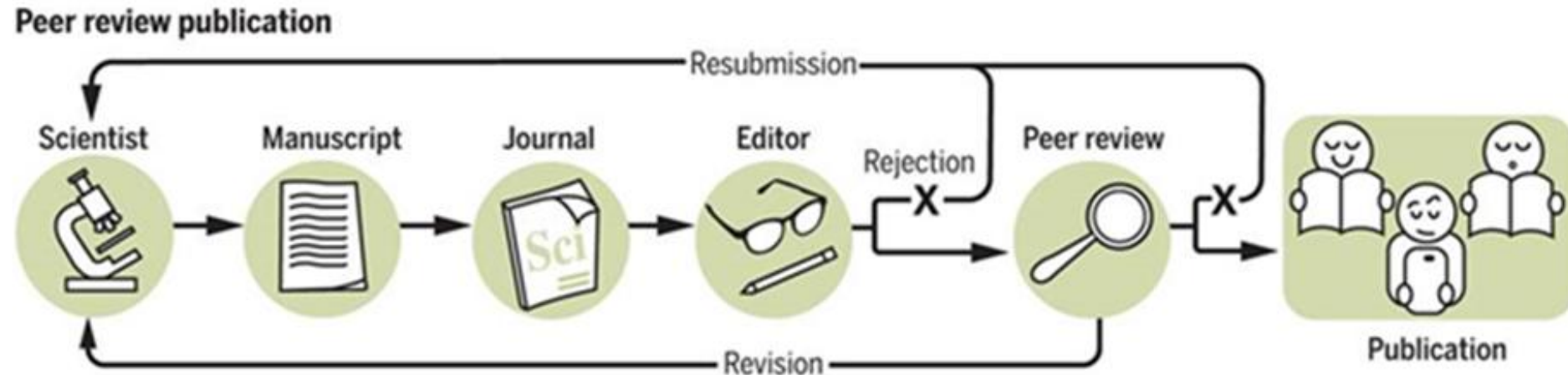
The publication process



Afbeelding vanuit <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/352/6288/899>

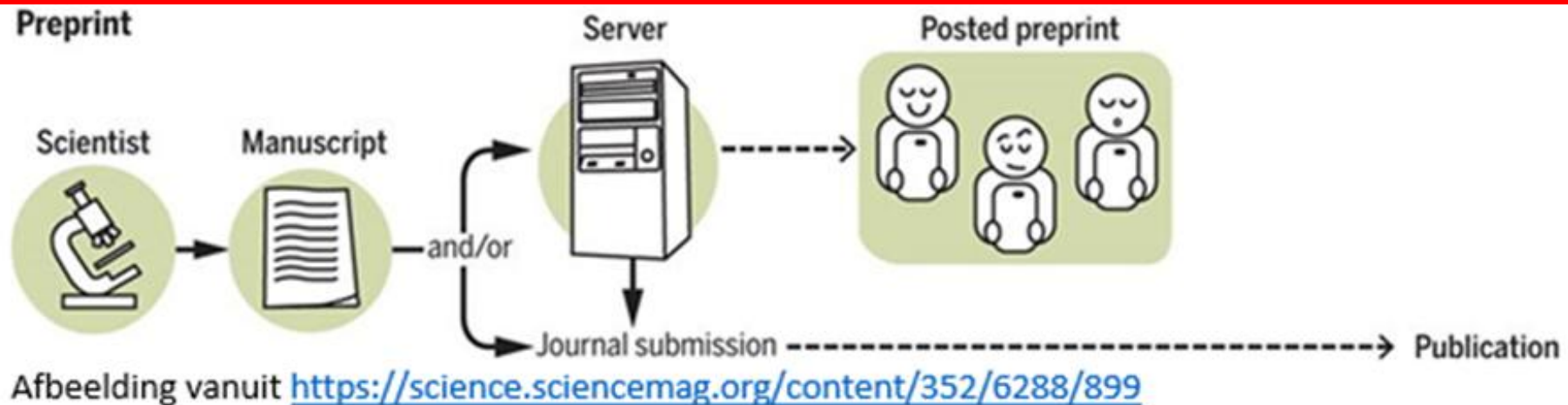
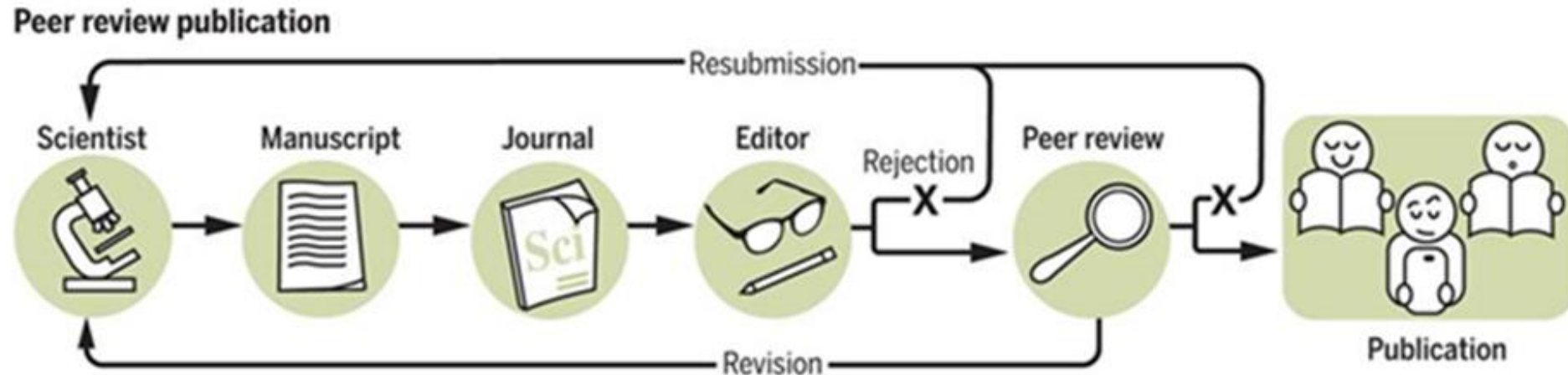
The publication process

Traditional publishing



Afbeelding vanuit <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/352/6288/899>

The publication process



Preprints

Publishing is not free!

- **Publishing involves costs:**
 - Website, platform, copy-edit, distribution, ...
- **The difference is who pays for it**
 - The author ('Article Processing Charges' = APC's)
 - The reader (subscriptions)
 - Third parties (sponsoring, grants,...)

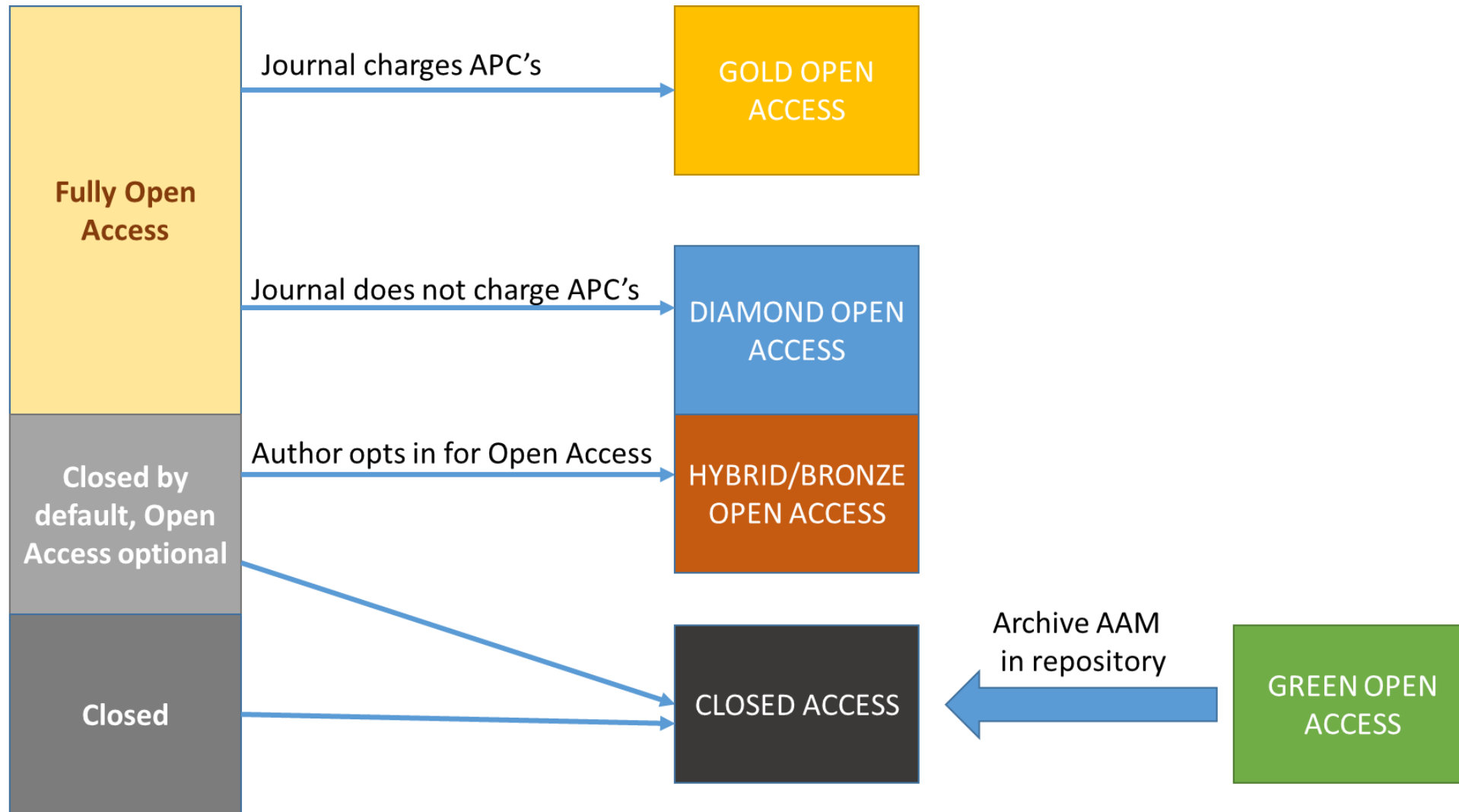
Things to check before submitting

- **Any APC's need to be payed after acceptance of the article**
 - BUT you need to know what the cost will be before submitting!
- **So, before submitting:**
 - Check journal type (APC based? Free Open Access? Closed?)
 - If a cost is involved, check with your promotor!
 - Check licensing options
 - Check reliability of the journal (non-predatory)!

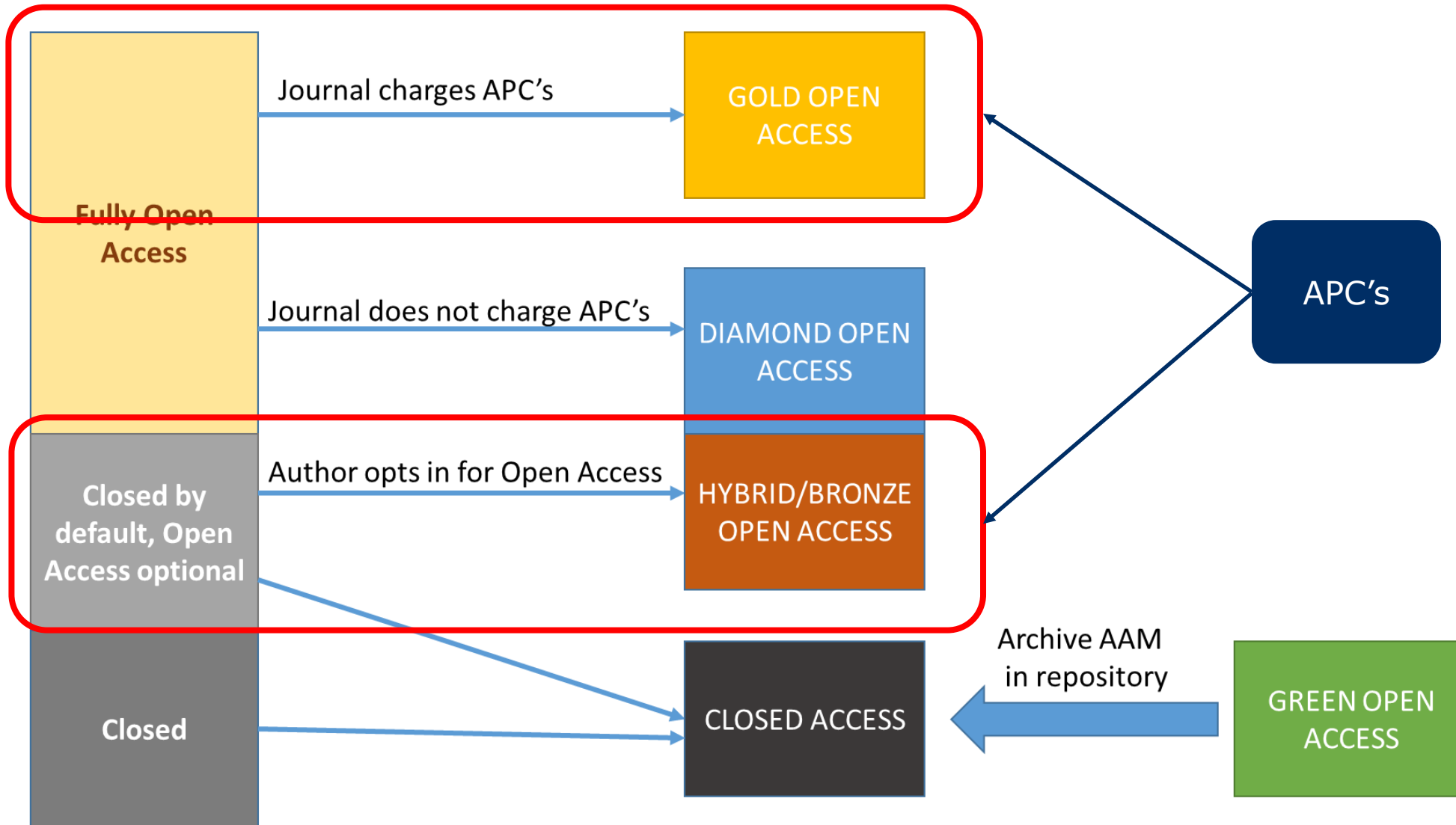


Journal Open Access types

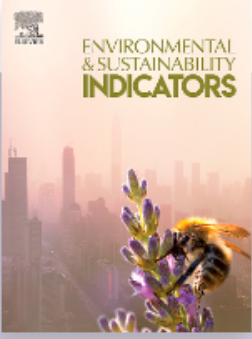
Types of journals



Types of journals



Types of journals – example



ENVIRONMENTAL
& SUSTAINABILITY
INDICATORS

Environmental and Sustainability Indicators

Open access

3
CiteScore

Articles & Issues ▾ About ▾ **Publish ▾**  Search in this journal Submit your article ↗ Guide for authors ↗

Latest issue

Volume 18

In progress

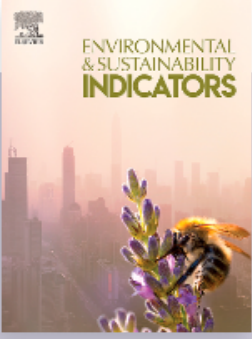
June 2023

About the journal

Environmental and Sustainability Indicators, a companion title to the highly-respected *Ecological Indicators*, is an open access journal promoting research on indicators as drivers for environmental management, policy formulation, and interdisciplinary research assessing complex environmental ...

[View full aims & scope](#)

Types of journals – example



Environmental and Sustainability Indicators

Open access

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About

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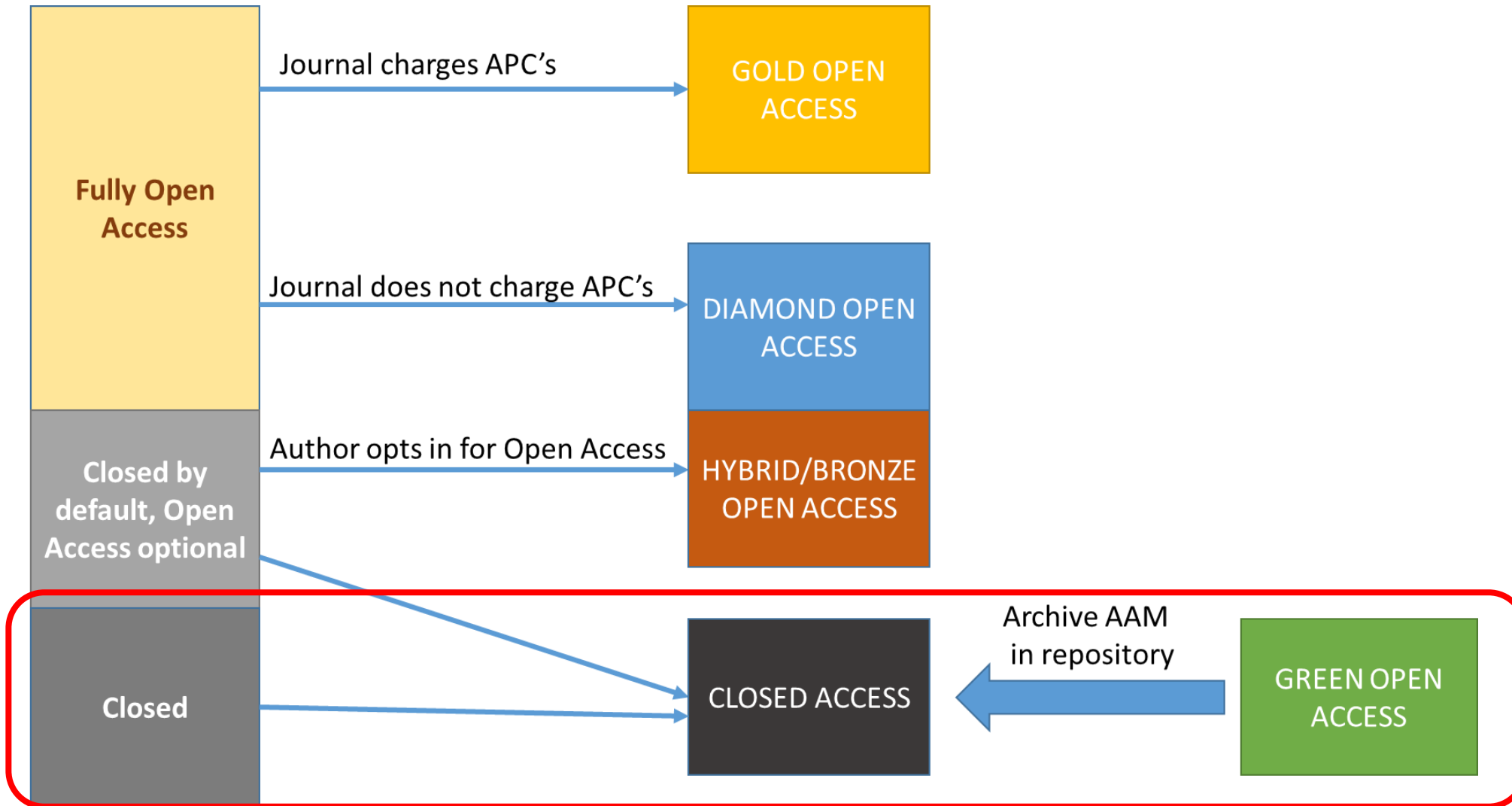
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Article Publishing Charge

As an open access journal with no subscription charges, a fee (Article Publishing Charge, APC) is payable by the author or research funder to cover the costs associated with publication. This ensures your article will be immediately and permanently free to access by everyone. The Article Publishing Charge for this journal is:

Article type	Article Publishing Charge (excl. taxes)
Full length articles	USD 1460
Short articles	USD 550

Types of journals

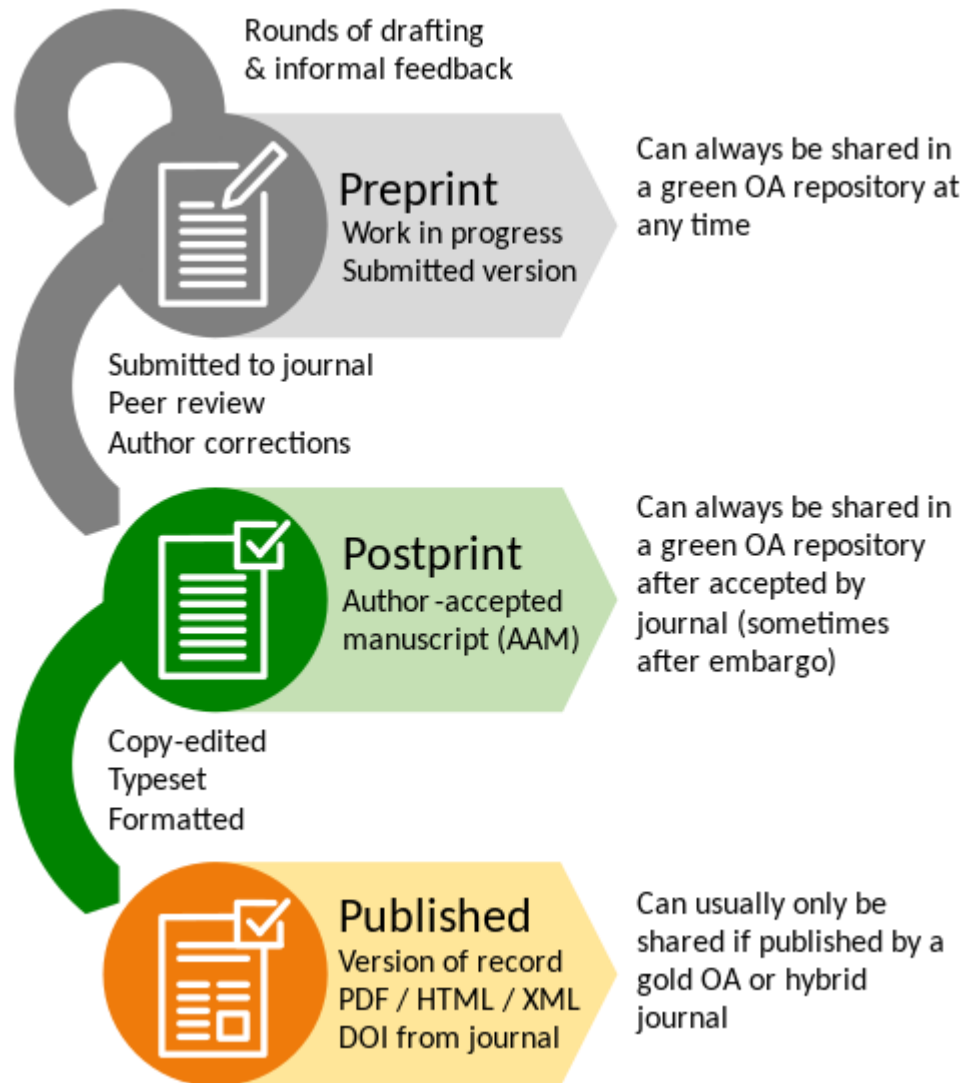


Green OA – Belgian legislation



- Author has the right to **publish Open Access**
- When **publicly funded** ($\geq 50\%$)
- **Scholarly articles**, not books/chapters/proceedings in books/...
- Applies to the **AAM**, published version **ONLY** when agreed by publisher
- **Original source has to be cited**
- **Embargo** needs to be respected
- Publisher cannot oppose this
- Works **retroactively**
- **Any link to Belgium** (funding, scientist, institute)

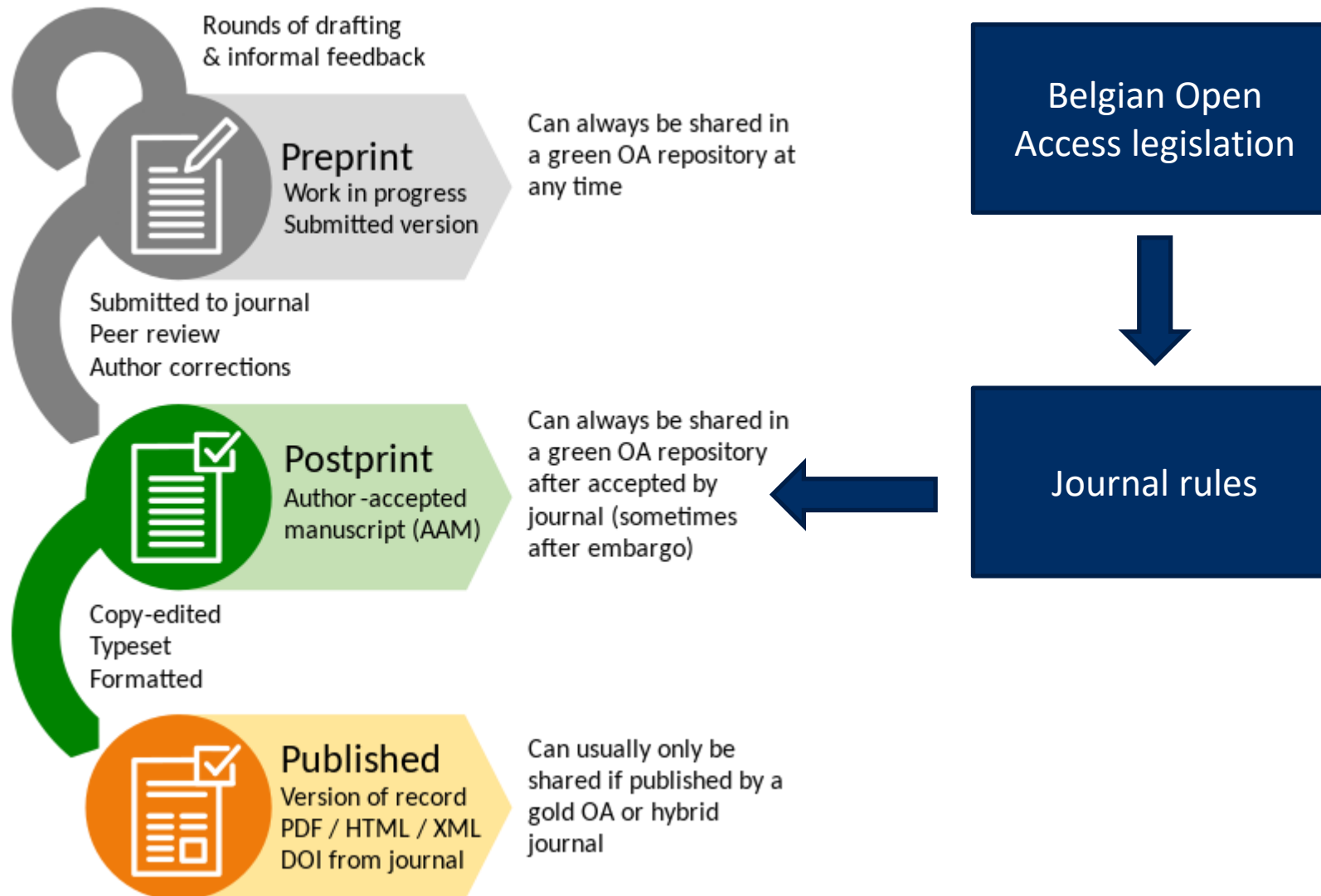
Green Open Access



Green Open Access



Green Open Access



How to upload your papers in the repository?

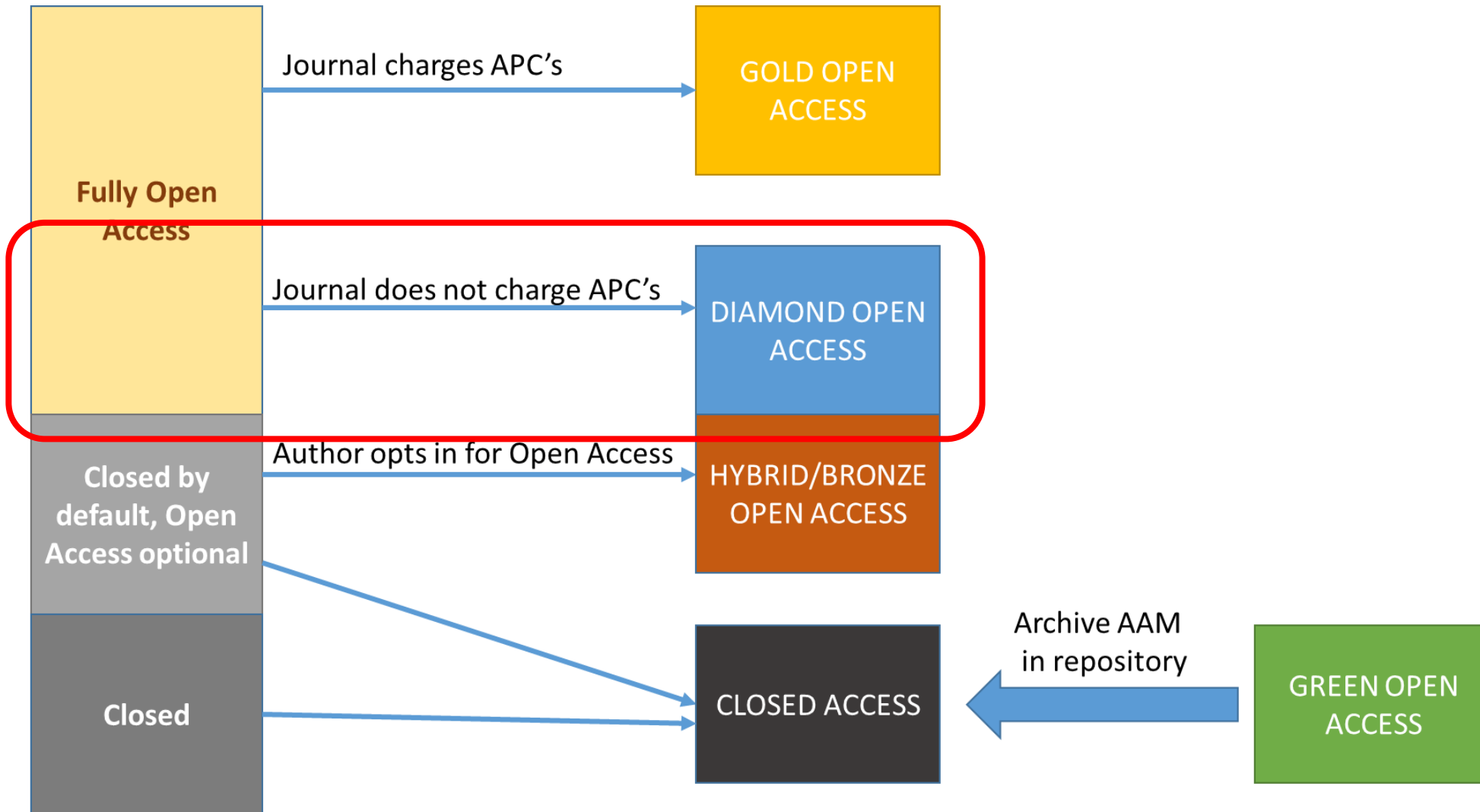
- <https://repository.uantwerpen.be>

- My account > create and/or connect an ORCID
- My bibliography > submit a publication

- Retro-actively submitting PDF's

Final author's versions and/or publisher's versions of publications published before 2014 can be imported into the institutional repository. The author sends a message with a PDF to the library helpdesk including an identification of the record to be completed.

Types of journals



Diamond Open Access

- **Third-party funded Open Access**
- **Pro:**
 - Free for authors and readers
 - Fair: no exuberant pricing
 - Community driven instead of publisher driven
- **“Con”:**
 - Scaling issues
 - Temporal character



Diamond Open Access



- European call for more Diamond OA
 - Diamond Discovery Hub
 - Open Research Europe platform



EDCH
Diamond
Discovery Hub

- Flemish Diamond Open Access Network
- Belgian? Diamond Open Access Network



Diamond Open Access

- Finding Diamond Journals:
 - Discovery hub @ <https://ddh.edch.eu/en>
 - List of Belgian Diamond Journals @ <https://zenodo.org/records/20760254>
 - Directory of Open Access Journals @ www.doaj.org → filter on “Without fees”

Rights Retention Strategy (RRS)

- Some funders, like Horizon Europe, need you to publish immediate OA
- RRS is developed by cOAlition S – based on simple principles
 - The **accepted manuscript** = intellectual creation of the author
 - The author adds CC-BY license to **accepted manuscript** = claim ownership
 - The publisher → **no** ownership of the **accepted manuscript**
 - Publishers → can have the right to **published version** of the manuscript

Rights Retention Strategy



■ How?

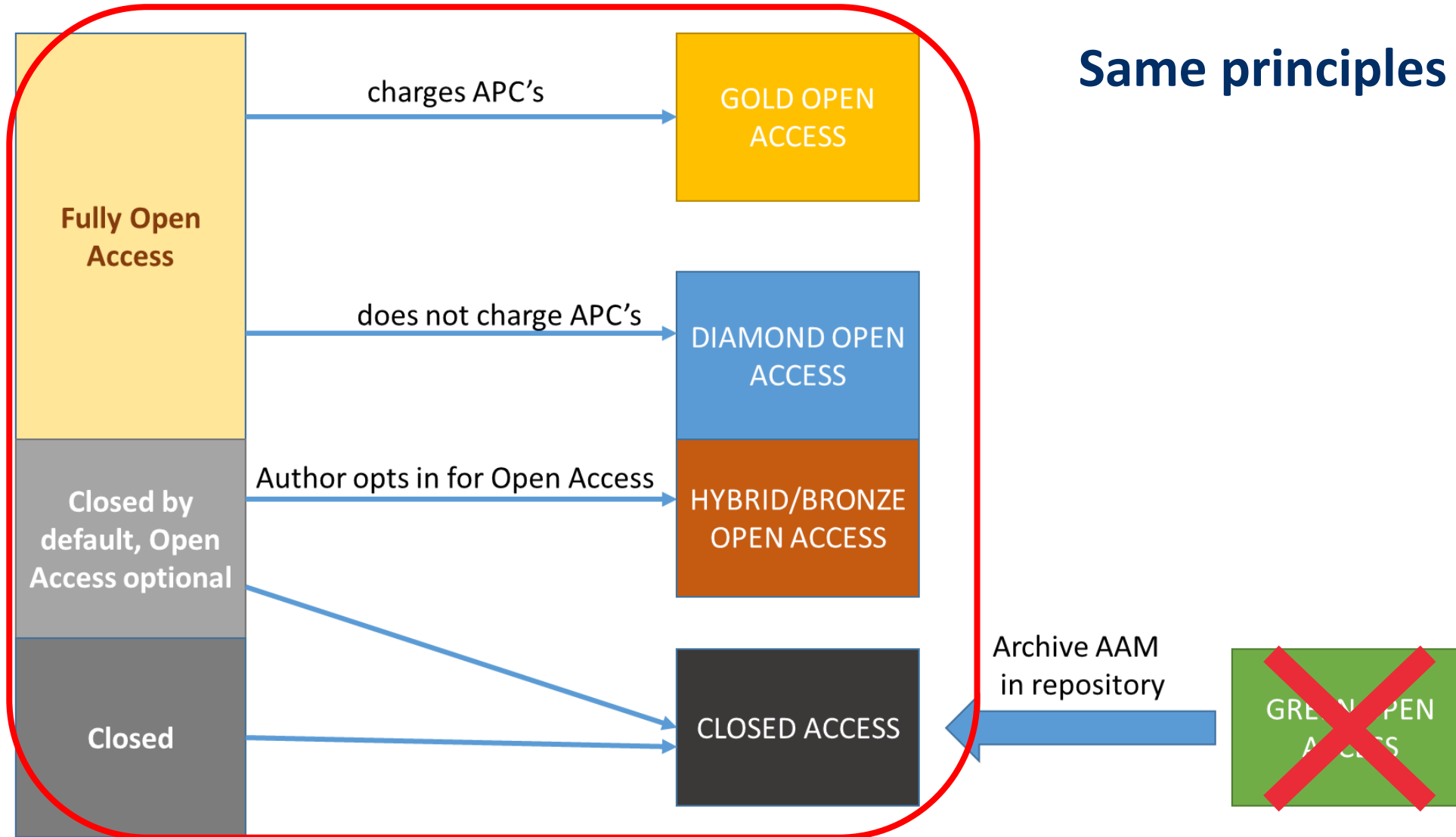
1. Notify publisher when submitting

→ Example:

“This work was funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe grant [grant number]. As set out in the Grant Agreement, beneficiaries must ensure that at the latest at the time of publication, open access is provided via a trusted repository to the published version or the final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public Licence (CC BY) or a licence with equivalent rights. CC BY-NC, CC BY-ND, CC BY-NC-ND or equivalent licenses could be applied to long-text formats.”

2. On publication: make accepted version Open Access in a repository with a CC-By license
3. Contact funder in case of disagreement

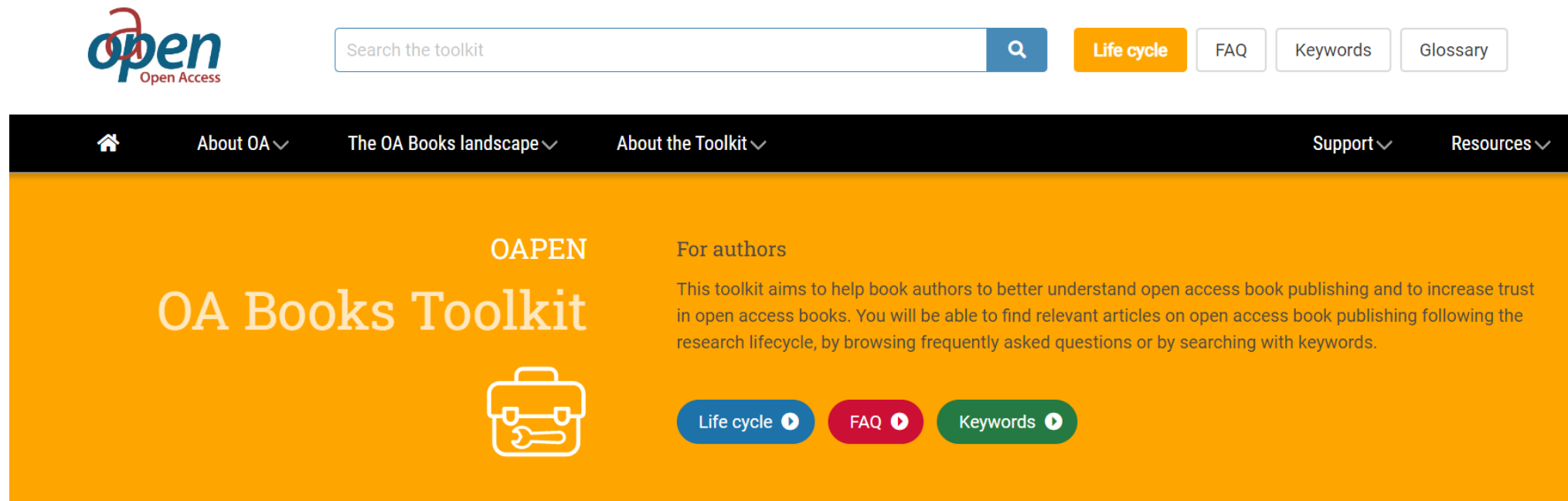
What about book publications?



Same principles as articles

Book publications

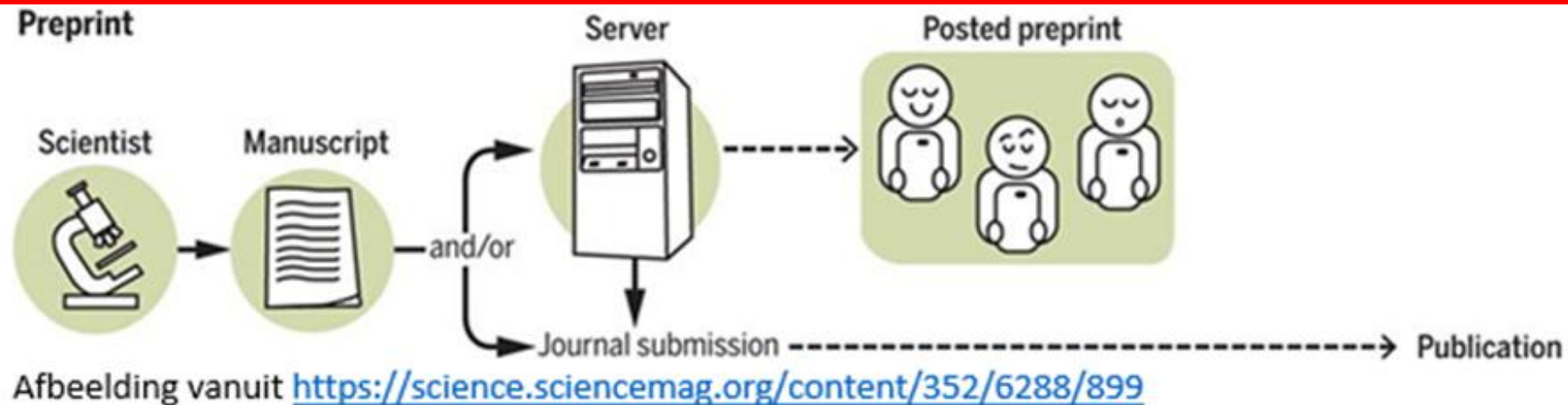
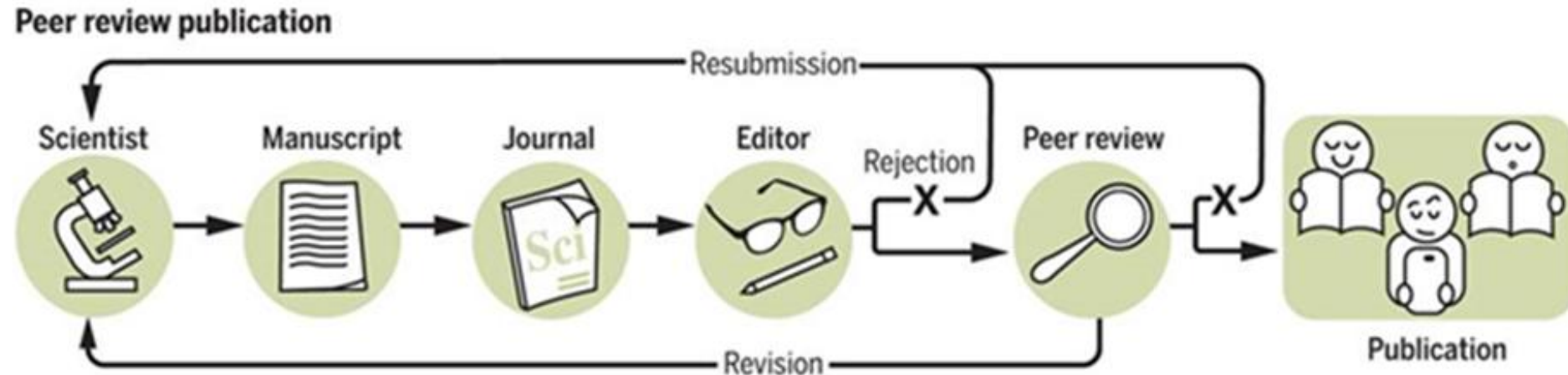
- A nice overview to help you can be found at <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/>



The OAPEN Open Access Books Toolkit covers specific topics related to open access books. Each article offers a quick and brief introduction to a particular aspect of open access book publishing. The toolkit also serves as a signposting tool: articles include a list of sources referenced, further reading and links to definitions of key terms.

The publication process

Traditional publishing



Preprints

Preprints

Where?

- Preprint servers e.g. medRxiv, arXiv, bioRxiv, F1000, SSRN, ...
- Google scholar
- Pubmed (preprint pilot 2020)



Be careful: Possibly different versions of 1 publication

- Reference list: state which version you've consulted!

Preprints

Our institutional repository now offers the possibility to publish the metadata of your preprints

→ electronic CV



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Use this wizard to add a preprint to the repository. A preprint is a paper that has not yet undergone peer review but is already made available on a preprint server. (arxiv, biorxiv, merdrixiv, chemrxiv, ...).

Fill out title and go through the entire wizard by clicking on the submit button in the final screen.

identifier
or title

Start

Preprints

Pro

- Faster distribution of research results
- Establishing priority
- Fosters Open Science
- Evidence of productivity and accomplishments
- Increased visibility of research
- Stimulates feedback and collaborations



bioRxiv
THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

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Search

bioRxiv is receiving many new papers on coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. A reminder: these are preliminary reports that have not been peer-reviewed, and should not be used to guide practice/health-related behavior; or be reported in news media as established information.

New Results

This article has been withdrawn. Click here for details

Uncanny similarity of unique inserts in the 2019-nCoV spike protein to HIV-1 gp120 and Gag [Comments \(127\)](#)

Prashant Pradhan, Ashutosh Kumar Pandey, Akhilesh Mishra, Parul Gupta, Praveen Kumar Tripathi, Manoj Balakrishnan Menon, James Gomes, Perumal Vivekanandan, Bishwajit Kundu

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.01.30.927871>

This article is a preprint and has not been certified by peer review [what does this mean?].

Preprints

Con

- Lack of peer review: possibly dangerous or non-scientific content
- Be very careful when applying for a patent
- Not all journals accept papers that have been submitted to a preprint server → has become rare

More considerations

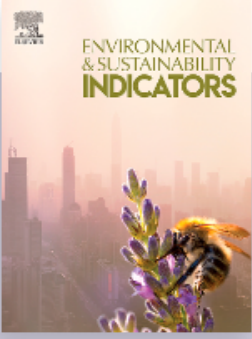
Considerations

- Does your publications need to have an open license?
- Is the publisher/journal reliable?
- How to finance potential APC's?

Open Licenses

- **An open license allows for reuse of the article**
- **Required by some funders!**
- In Gold, Hybrid and Diamond OA, this is usually the case
- Usually Creative Commons Licenses
- Publisher often gives you the option between some licenses

Licenses – example



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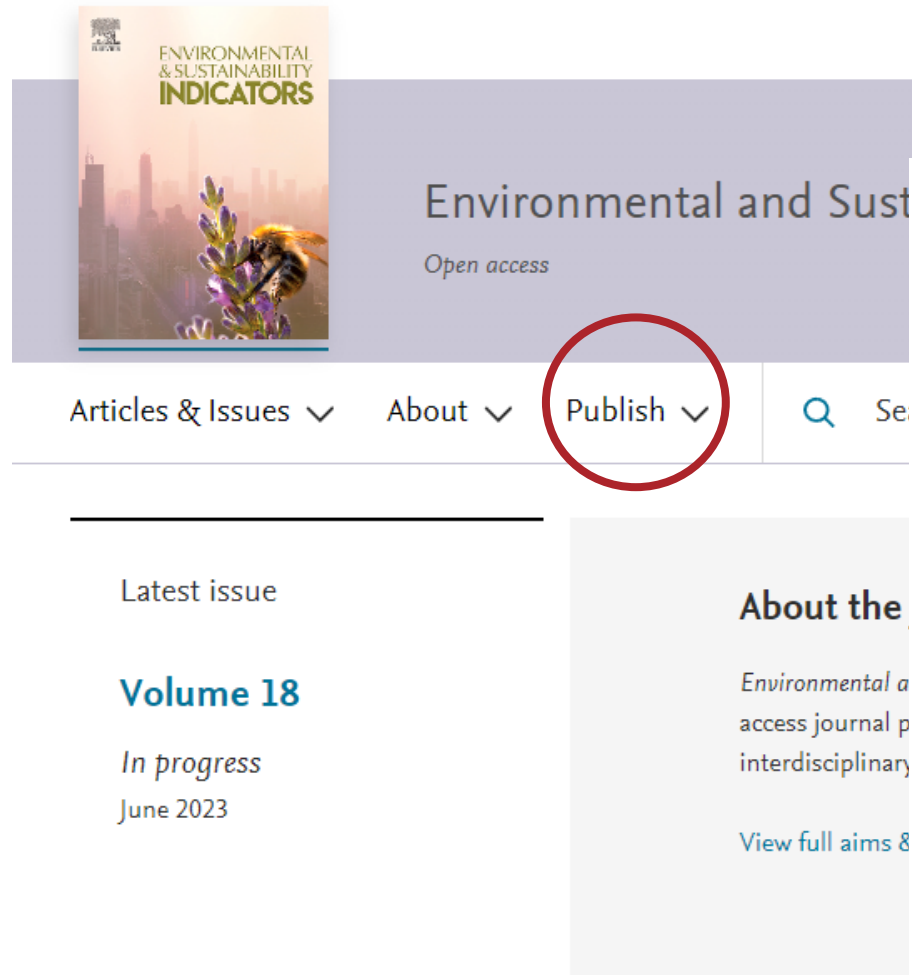
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You can redistribute (copy, publish, display, communicate, etc.)

You have to attribute the original work

You can use the work commercially

You can modify and adapt the original work

You can choose license type for your adaptations of the work.

Open Licenses – funder requirements

- Some funders require a specific license!
- Status in 2026 (ALWAYS CHECK!):

		
All peer-reviewed scientific publications	All publications	All peer-reviewed output
Obligation to deposit in a repository	Obligation to deposit in a repository	Obligation to deposit in a trusted repository
Embargo of max 1 year allowed	Embargo according to Belgian OA law	Immediate upon publication = No embargo
CC-BY or similar license	CC-BY or similar license	CC-BY or similar license

Predatory journals

- **Predatory journals trick you!**
 - Charge for publication without having the necessary quality assurance
- **For example:**
 - No peer review
 - Bad peer review
 - Suddenly ask for higher publishing fee
 - Don't publish your paper at all
 - ...



Predatory journals

Think

**Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal or publisher?
Is it the right journal or book for your work?**

Check

Use our check list to assess the journal or publisher.

Submit

Only if you can answer 'yes' to the questions on our check list.

thinkchecksubmit.org

- Check with colleagues
- Indexing in main databases (Web of Science, VABB, PubMed,...)
- Check journal website (eg. Peer review process)
- Not convinced? Contact us

How to finance an Open Access publication?

- Always discuss this with your promotor first!
- Free options: Green and Diamond Open Access
- APC's:
 - Special issues sometimes grant waivers
 - We might have a publish deal, check:
<https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/library/research/open-access/open-access-financing/>

<u>The Company of Biologists</u>	Read & Publish deal 2023-2025: no APC for corresponding authors of papers submitted in 2023-2025 in the journals <i>Development</i> , <i>Journal of Cell Science</i> and <i>Journal of Experimental Biology</i>
<u>John Benjamins</u>	Read & Publish deal 2023-2024: no APC for corresponding/first authors of papers submitted in 2023 or 2024 in all John Benjamins journals
<u>Cambridge University Press</u>	Read & Publish deal 2022-2024 + 2025-2027: no APC for corresponding/first authors in all Open Access journals (Gold or Hybrid)
<u>The Royal Society</u>	Institutional Open Access Program: 25% discount on APC in all journals for articles submitted during November 2024 - November 2025

Need help?

Useful information at library webpage

The screenshot shows a library website with a navigation bar at the top. The navigation bar includes a home icon and the word 'LIBRARY', followed by links for 'Search help', 'Services', 'Research' (which is underlined), 'Archives and Heritage', 'Contact', and 'About us'. Below the navigation bar, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Library > Research'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a 'Research' heading, followed by an 'Open access' section. Under 'Open access', there is a list of links: 'Open Access Week 2026', 'Video clips', 'Financing Open Access', 'Predatory publishers', and 'Open access FAQ'. Below this list is a link for 'Academic bibliography'. The right column features a large heading 'Open access' in a dark blue font, followed by the subtitle 'Benefits, publication models and legal framework'. At the bottom of the right column, there is a banner with a light blue background and a graphic of an open book. The banner contains the text 'What is "Open" Science?' in a red font.

LIBRARY

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Library > Research

Research

Open access

- Open Access Week 2026
- Video clips
- Financing Open Access
- Predatory publishers
- Open access FAQ

Academic bibliography

Open access

Benefits, publication models and legal framework

What is "Open" Science?

Need help?



- **General:**
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- **Open Access:**
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