



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

Open Access: Unlocking Knowledge for All

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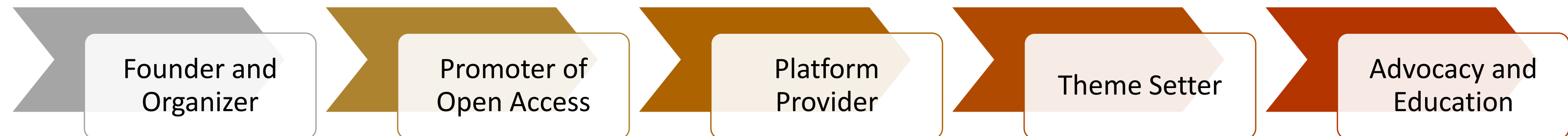
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- International Open Access Week is a global, community-driven week of action to open up access to research.
- It was established by **SPARC** and partners in the student community in **2008**. SPARC organize this event to **raise awareness and promote the benefits of open access** to scholarly research.
- It is celebrated annually, during the last full week of October.

Role of SPARC

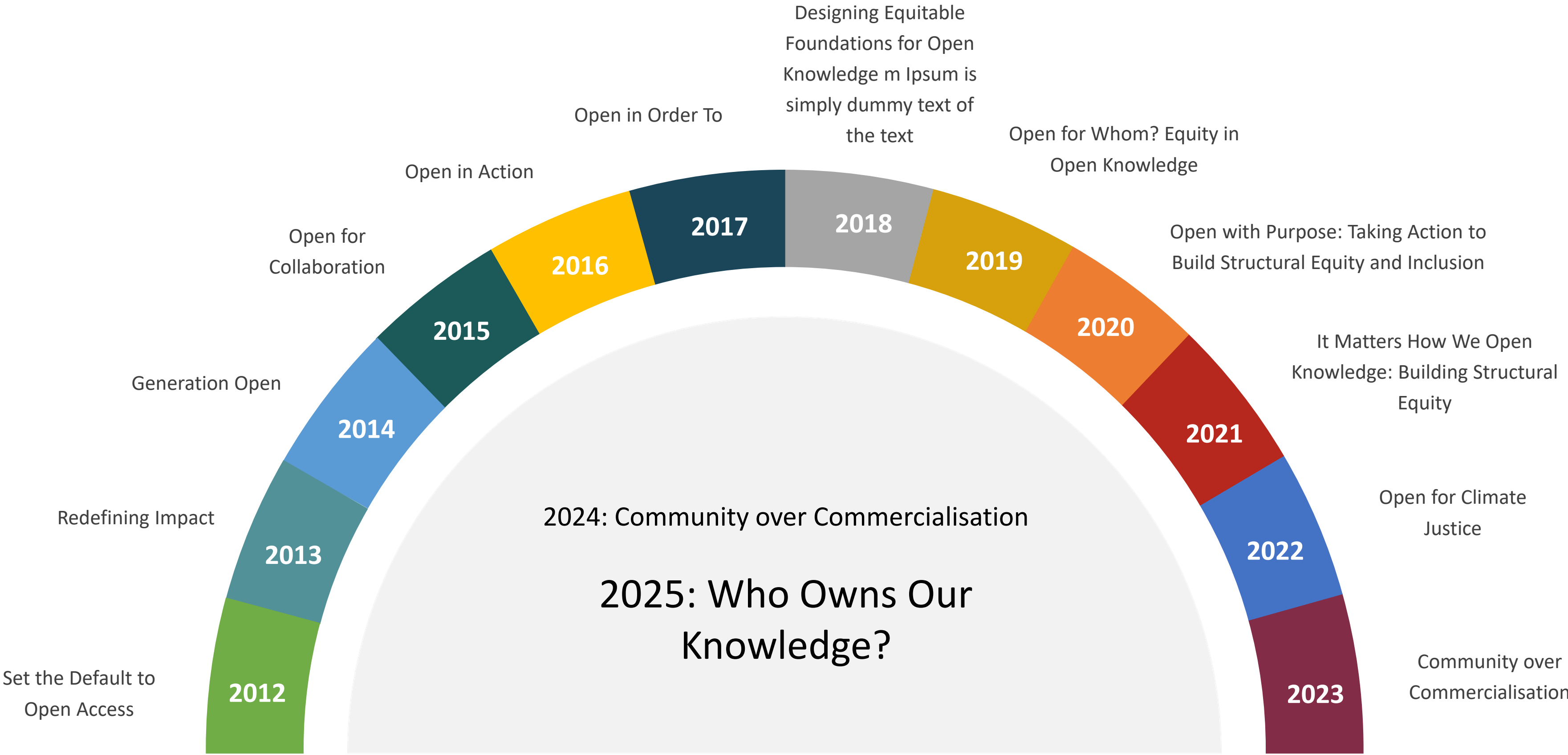




Purpose and Goals

- **Raise awareness** about the importance of making research outputs freely accessible.
- **Encourage action** among researchers, policymakers, and institutions to adopt OA-friendly policies.
- **Showcase successful OA initiatives**, repositories, and journals.
- **Promote collaboration** between the academic community and the public.

Previous Themes



- Open Access Week 2025 is taking place on the last full week of October, during 20 to the 26th.
- The **2025 theme** for International Open Access Week is **“Who Owns Our Knowledge?”**
- It encourages us to think about whether our research, ideas, and discoveries belong to us and our communities, or are controlled by big companies, publishers, and technology platforms.
- The theme reminds us to ask:



In short, it calls for a future where **knowledge is for everyone, shared by everyone, and benefits everyone.**

Why this Theme matter?



Discussion on this theme is important and necessary because:



What are we Supposed to Do?



Support open-access journals and repositories.

Promote ethical and transparent use of research data.

Build community-owned publishing platforms.

Recognize and include diverse voices and knowledge traditions.

Discuss and spread awareness about responsible AI use in research.

WHAT IS OPEN ACCESS

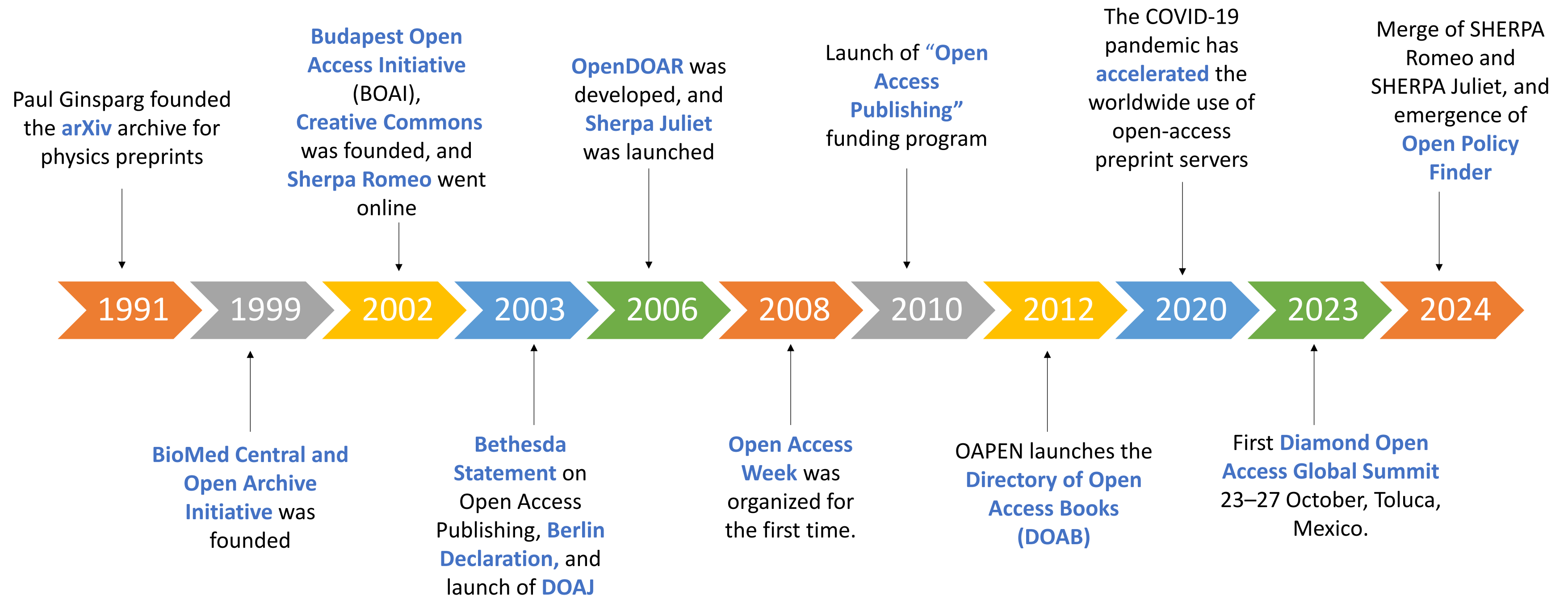
- Open access is a broad **international movement**.
- It seeks to grant **free** and **open online access** to academic information, such as research publications.
- Open access is a **unalterable, globally accessible** publication.
- Its article components are online **delivery**, further **dissemination**, and effective **archiving**.

Peter Suber

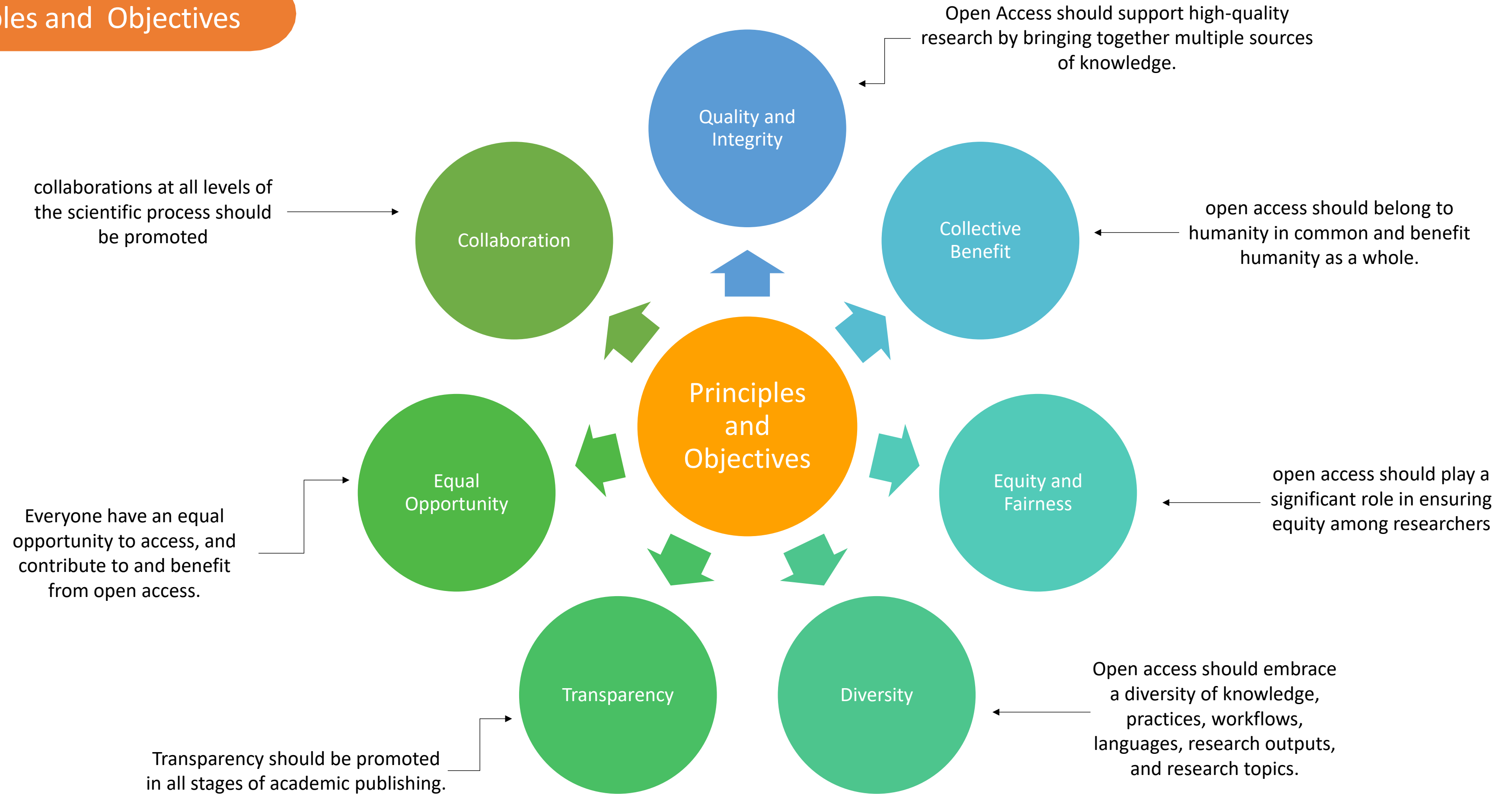


Father of the Open Access Tracking Project, and he had a significant role in the Budapest Open Access Initiative.

Historical Timeline of Open Access



Principles and Objectives



Types of Open Access



Green

Read without
charges

Self-archiving
using repositories
without charges
for authors



Gold

Read without
charges

Published
with charges
for authors



Hybrid

Read with
charges

Published with
charges for authors
if no read & publish
deals are available

Gold Open Access

- This model, also known as Pure Gold Open Access, also explains the rights for using and sharing the article openly.
- In Gold Open Access, the final version of an article is available online for everyone to read freely, right after it's published.
- The articles are peer-reviewed or editorial-reviewed for quality assurance.
- Instead of readers paying, the author pays a fee called the Article Processing Charge (APC).

Green Open Access

- Also known as “Self-Archiving”.
- It is placing a version of an author's manuscript into a repository, making it freely accessible for everyone.
- It may be the author's final peer-reviewed, accepted manuscript.
- There is an embargo period during which the author's manuscript cannot be freely accessible.
- After the embargo period, the author can make his/her manuscript available freely.

Hybrid Open Access

- This is one of those types of open access where a subscription journal offers open access, where the processing fee is paid for individual articles.
- The author or funder pays a fee to the publisher for any specific article to be freely available to read.

Diamond Open Access

- The Diamond open access involves publication in fully open-access journals, free for both the reader and the authors.
- institutions, organizations, and non-profit organizations usually support Diamond open access.
- It is a non-commercial, community-driven approach where academic institutions, societies, or organizations fund publications.

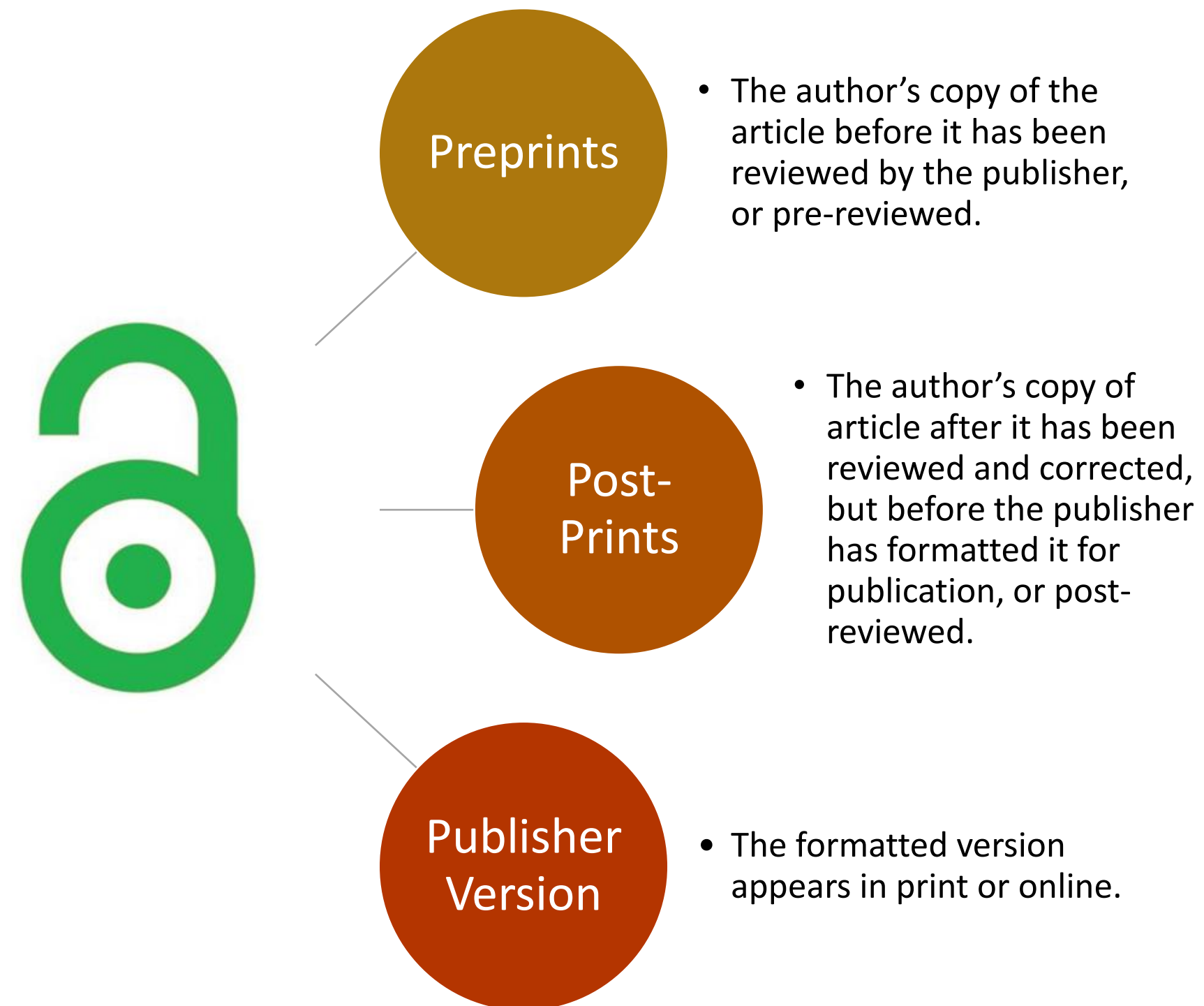
Bronze Open Access

- There is no APC against the author or any other funding entity.
- The publisher chooses to make certain articles and content freely available.
- Free content can be offered in order to promote a certain topic or highlight selected articles, or point out a theme in an issue.
- The 'free access' typically lasts for a limited period of time; The publisher can stop the free articles at any time.
- Authors do not retain the copyright to their articles. As a result, Bronze OA articles are generally not available for downloading or distribution.

Black Open Access

- Black open access refers to sharing research articles for free, without authors' permission. It's illegal and unethical for scholarly publishing.

According to Abdelrahman (2021), Green Open Access generally refers to the **post-print** of an article. In this context, three basic version can be self-archived in repositories:



Creative Commons

- Creative Commons is an **International non-profit organization** and network that provides **free licenses** for creators to use when making their work available to the public.
- This license helps the creator to give permission for others to use the work in advance under certain conditions.



Founder

Lawrance
Lessig



Founded

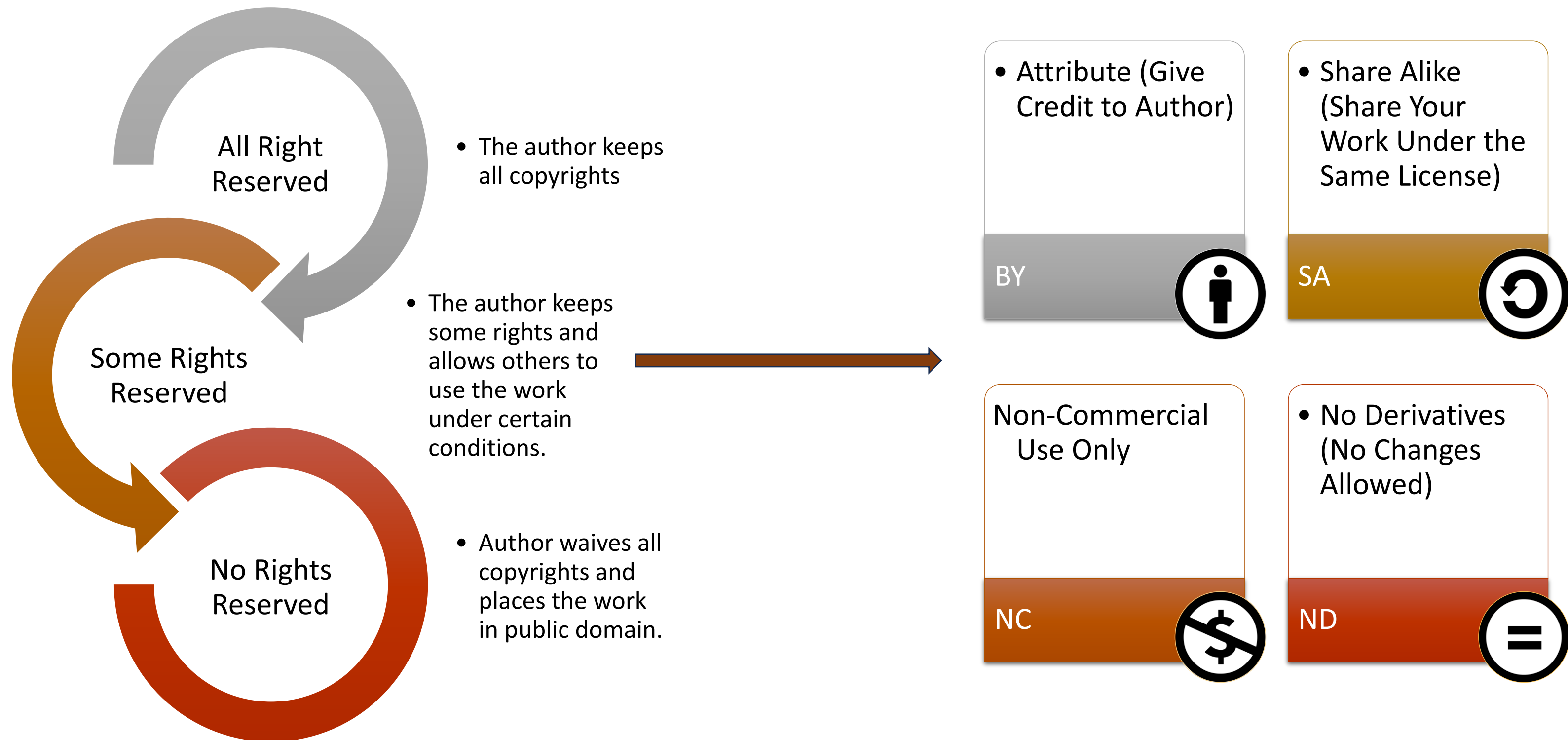
15th January
2001



Headquarter

Mountain
View,
California,
U.S.

Licensing Terms Under Creative Commons



CC BY (Attribution)



- You can use, copy, share, and modify the work for any purpose, even for commercial purposes. But the condition is only that you must give credit to the creator.
- Ex. Educational videos or articles with credit to the author.

CC BY-SA



- Attribution-ShareAlike
- Same as CC BY, but any new work created from it must have the same license.
- The purpose of this is to encourage sharing knowledge under similar licenses.
- Example: Wikipedia content (any remix must also be CC BY-SA)

CC BY-ND



- Attribution + No Derivatives
- You can share the work, even commercially, but you cannot modify, remix, or adapt it; the condition is that credit must be given.
- For example, a photo shared as-is on a website.

CC BY-NC



- Attribution + Non-Commercial
- You can use the copied or modified work, but not for commercial purposes. You give credit to the author.
- Example: A photo shared as-is on a website.

CC BY-NC-SA



- Attribution + Non-Commercial + ShareAlike
- Non-commercial use only.
- You modify, but new works must have the same license.
- You must give credit to the author.
- Example: Free learning materials adapted for classroom use.

CC BY-NC-ND



- Attribution + Non-Commercial + No-Derivatives
- Most restrictive license.
- You can share only as-is, non-commercially, with credit.
- Cannot modify or use for profit.
- Example: Digital books or reports are shared freely, but no editing or selling is allowed.

When a work is no longer restricted under copyright law, it goes into the public domain. This happens naturally when **copyright runs out**, but **with CC licenses, a work can also be specifically dedicated to the public domain**. In the public domain, there are **no restrictions for use** - anyone can do anything they want with it.

There are 2 types of public domain that are mentioned below:



- Used to identify a work that has naturally moved into the public domain because its copyright has run out.
 - When this mark is applied, works are known as out of copyright,
 - That helps all users to know when a work can be freely used.
- The CC Zero tool is not a license, but is an option that waives all the copyrights of the creator to the selected work.
 - It dedicates the work to the public domain so that not even attribution of the creator is required.

Public Domain’s Types, Description, and Example can be easily understood by analyzing chart given below:

Method	Description	Example
Automatic (By Law)	Copyright expires (e.g., 60 years after author’s death)	Tagore’s early writings
CC0 License	Author voluntarily gives up all rights	Research data released under CC0
Public Domain Mark	Label for works already in public domain	Digitized old manuscripts

Licensing Terms Under Creative Commons

Licensing Terms are explained below for easy understanding of what we can do and what we can't.

Creative Commons Licence	Copy and Publish	Attribution required	Commercial use	Modify and adapt	Change Licence
CC BY	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CC BY-SA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
CC BY-NC	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
CC BY-NC-SA	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
CC BY-ND	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
CC BY-NC-ND	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓

 Users can redistribute, copy, publish and display your work.	 Users must attribute your original work.	 Users can use your work commercially.	 Users can modify and adapt your original work.	 Users can choose the licence type for their adaptation of your work.
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Why Publish in Open Access?

Kelly (2025) discussed plenty of great reasons to go open access – here are just a few of the key benefits:

- Increased Views, Downloads, and Citations

Greater Visibility and Impact



- Collab with Other Researchers of your Research Area

Greater Collaboration



- Accessible for Everyone without any Exceptions

Open to All



- You Retain More Control Over the Rights to Distribute and re-use your Work.

Greater Control





1. SPARC: (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources coalition)

- An advocacy group/ Coalition of libraries, institutions.
- Promotes OA policies, best practices, institutional support, and awareness.



2. OAI: (Open Archives Initiative)

- Focuses on technical standards (especially OAI-PMH, metadata harvesting).
- Helps repositories interoperate so that OA content is discoverable across systems.



3. PLOS: (Public Library of Science)

- Non-profit OA publisher.
- Publishes peer-reviewed articles under open licenses(e.g. creative commons).
- Demonstrates how high-quality OA publishing works.



4. DOAJ: (Directory of Open Access Journals)

- Curated directory/index of peer-reviewed OA journals worldwide.
- Helps users, authors, and libraries find legitimate OA journals



5. OpenDOAR: (Directory of Open Access Repositories)

- Lists institutional/subject repositories globally.
- Each repository is reviewed before listing.



6. ROAR: (Registry of OA repositories).

- Show growth, status, and types of repositories.



7. SHERPA RoMEO

- RoMEO is an acronym for Rights Metadata for Open Archiving.
- RoMEO is a database that aggregates publisher copyright and self-archiving policies.



8. SHERPA Juliet

- SHERPA Juliet is a searchable database and a single focal point of up-to-date information concerning funders' policies and their requirements on open access, publication, and data archiving.



Open policy finder
Formerly Sherpa services

- In November 2024, Sherpa Romeo and Juliet, along with Sherpa Fact, were combined into a single new platform called “**Open Policy Finder**”.
- Open Policy Finder is an online platform that consolidates and presents standardized summaries of **open access policies** for publishers (journals and books) and **funders** worldwide.
- It helps authors and institutions to make **informed and confident decisions** in open access publication and compliance.

Indian Initiatives



- India's national repository for theses & dissertations (ETDs)
- Maintained by INFLIBNET Centre.
- Purpose: increase visibility, prevent duplication, preserve scholarly works



- Repository for research proposals, synopses, project outlines (i.e. for work in progress)
- Helps reveal research trends underway in Indian universities and avoid duplication of topics
- Once the full thesis is submitted, ShodhGangotri maps or links to the full text in Shodhganga for that work



- agriRxiv is a free, open-access source of unpublished preprints across the agricultural sciences.
- It is hosted and managed by CABI.
- There is no fee to submit articles to agriRxiv.



- IndiaRxiv is a Preprints Repository Service for India.
- It is managed by Open Access India.
- All rights to works posted on IndiaRxiv remain with the authors and are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Public License (CC-BY).



- The main aim of the One Nation One Subscription Scheme is to provide **country-wide access to international high-impact scholarly research articles and journal** publications.
- ONOS intends to acquire **national licenses** from prominent journal publishers for e-journal/database subscriptions.
- A total of **30 major international journal publishers** have been included in ONOS.
- All the journals these publishers publish will be accessible to the participating institutions' students, faculty members, and researchers.



ONOS

One Nation One Subscription

The following Consortium/Group of Institutions/Department/Ministries are part of ONOS.

Sl. No.	Consortium/Group of Institutions/Department/Ministry
1	E-Shodh Sindhu (ESS) Consortium under Department of Higher Education (DHE)
2	National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC) of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)
3	DERCON Consortium under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
4	CERA Consortium under Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE)
5	DRDO Consortium under Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D)
6	Electronic Resources in Medicine (ERMED) Consortium under Department of Health Research (DHR)
7	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
8	DeLCON Consortium for Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and North-Eastern Region Institutes
9	Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) consortium
10	Department of Space (DoS) consortium



Can ONOS be Open Access in the Near Future?

- ONOS is fundamentally a national license model, not pure open access.
 - ✓ The government **pays** for bulk access to major publishers
 - ✓ It reduces inequality in access but **doesn't make the content openly accessible to the world** only to Indian users under the license.
- However, ONOS **may integrate** open access components in future phases:
 - ✓ Collaboration with open repositories (like Shodhganga, ShodhSindhu, NDLI) could strengthen open dissemination.

Open Access Journals

- Open access journals are the journals whose articles are **available** and **reusable** worldwide **free of charge** and **without restrictions** immediately on publication.
- Open-access journals are the primary medium for what is known as gold open access.
- The content published in open-access journals is **indexed in many locations** and is searchable in the usual databases and search engines.

How to find open access journals

- **Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)**: A comprehensive, curated list of open access journals across many disciplines.
- **Academic publisher websites**: Many publishers, like Wiley, have their own lists or sections for their open-access journals.
- **University and research organization websites**: Some universities and organizations provide resources and lists of OA journals.
- **Databases and search engines**: Services like the Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (BASE) are specialized in indexing open-access content.

Open Access Journals in LIS



Other Prominent Publishers, Databases and Repositories



Journal Publishers

- BioMed Central
- DOAJ
- MDPI
- Frontiers



Bibliographic Databases

- PubMed
- PubChem
- Indian Science Abstract
- ChemSpider
- CHEMBEL



Preprint Repositories

- arXiv
- BioRxiv
- CERN
- SSRN
- IndiaRxiv

Myths about Open Access

Myth 1. Open Access Journals are not peer-reviewed.

Reality. Studies show that the majority of OA journals are peer-reviewed with the same or higher standards as traditional scholarly journals.

Myth 2. All Open Access Journals charge publication fees.

Reality. Not all Open Access Journals charge APCs. Most peer-reviewed open-access journals nowadays charge no fees at all. DOAJ provides information about open-access journals that do and do not charge fees.

Myth 3. Open Access Means Losing Control of Your Intellectual Property

Reality. You don't lose your rights by publishing in open access. Many open licenses, such as Creative Commons, allow you to keep the copyright to your work and let others use your work under certain conditions, so you do not lose your rights to your work.

Advantages and Disadvantages of OA Publishing

Abdelrahman (2021) discussed the advantages and disadvantages of Open Access Publishing, that is mentioned below:

Advantages



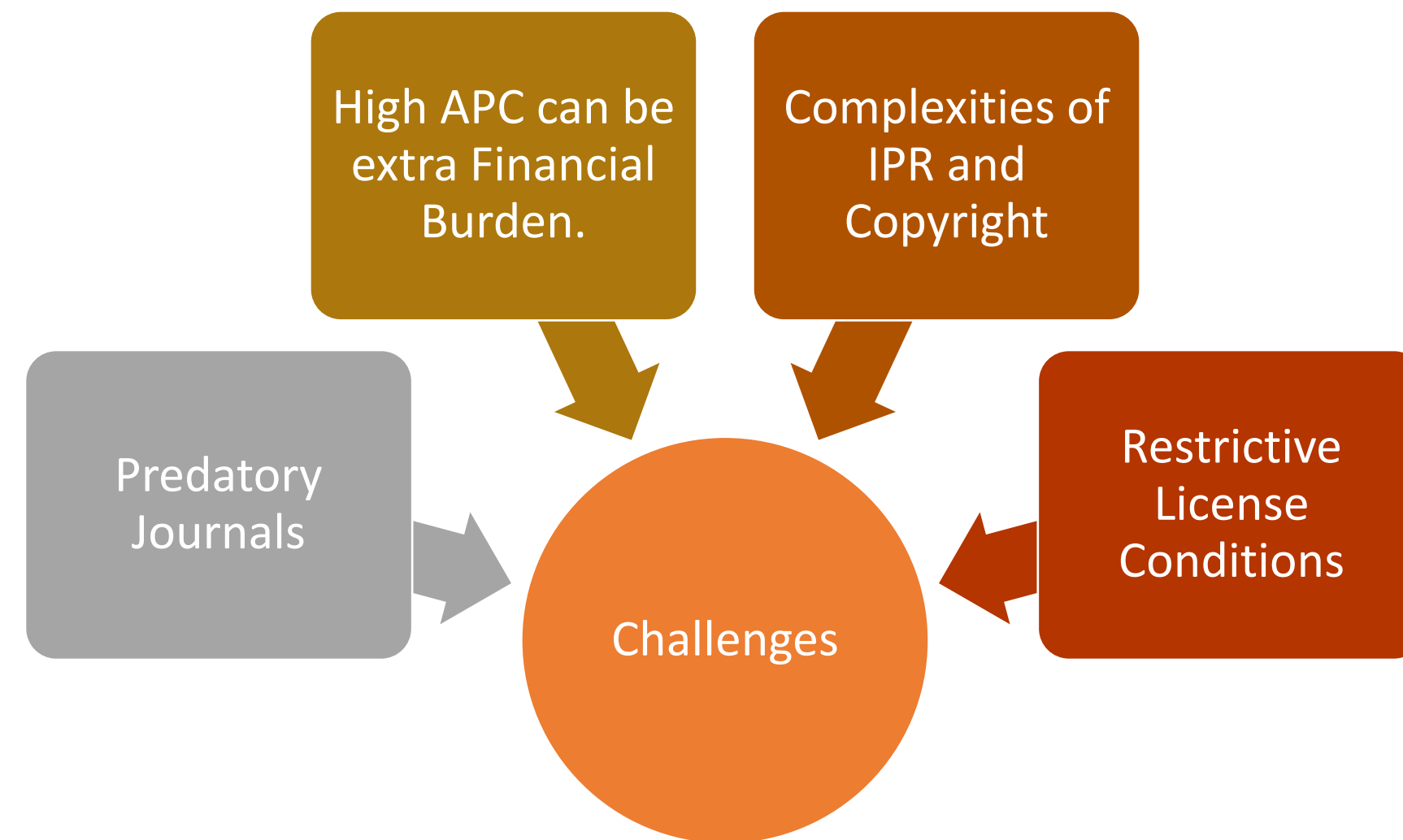
- ☐ Increased accessibility of research work
- ☐ Increased visibility for authors and institutions
- ☐ Immediacy and Shorter publication times
- ☐ Higher Impact of Research
- ☐ Increased citations
- ☐ Less Publication Cost

Disadvantages



- ☐ emergence of predatory publishers and predatory journals.
- ☐ Some OA journals do not have high impact factors
- ☐ Expensive for researchers

Li (2020) mentioned some of the significant challenges in Open Access Publishing, including:



Conclusion

- Open Access is transforming the way the world shares knowledge.
- It breaks down paywalls and gives everyone-students, researchers, and the public-equal access to information.
- By embracing Open Access, we make research more visible, impactful, and collaborative.
- When myths fade and awareness grows, trust and participation in open science increase.
- Open Access Week reminds us that knowledge is a shared right, not a private privilege.
- Let's work together to build a future where knowledge flows freely-open to all, for the benefit of all..

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- <https://mcw.libguides.com/open-access/types>
- <https://www.cwauthors.com/article/understanding-the-bronze-and-platinum-open-access-models>
- <https://researcher.life/blog/article/types-of-open-access-publications/>
- <https://www.intechopen.com/chapters/74582>
- <https://creativecommons.org/mission/>
- <https://guides.lib.uconn.edu/cclicenses/PublicDomain>
- <https://pressbooks.uwf.edu/opentextbooksguide/chapter/choose-a-creative-commons-licence-for-your-book/>
- <https://www.sagepub.com/explore-our-content/blogs/posts/sage-perspectives/2025/06/20/why-should-i-publish-in-an-open-access-journal>
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- <https://indiarxiv.wordpress.com/>
- <https://www.onos.gov.in/about>
- <https://open-access.network/en/information/publishing/open-access-journals>
- <https://oa.mg/journals/open-access-library-science-journals>
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- <https://www.eifl.net/programme/open-access-programme/open-access-week>

Thank You for Your Attention!



Questions, Comments, or Reflections?
I welcome your insights, feedback, and inquiries.