

# Advancing open access by fostering journal diversity through collaboration

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# What is the DOAJ?



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# What is the Directory of Open Access Journals?

1

A unique and extensive index of diverse peer-reviewed open access journals.

2

Mission to **raise the profile**, visibility and impact of all quality OA journals, globally **regardless of discipline, geography or language**.

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## What is the Directory of Open Access Journals?

**3**

Our criteria are an unofficial gold standard for open access journal publishing, trusted across the scholarly community.

**4**

Our services and metadata are provided completely free of charge to all.

# DOAJ and the history of open access

2003

Founded in 2003 during the "Innovation Years" of open access

Soon became the primary index for Open Access journals

2014

Inclusion criteria are extended to ensure only trustworthy journals are indexed

2016

Established our Ambassador programme to support and develop open access journals worldwide

2020 onwards

Integrated into funder open access policies and workflows worldwide, for example Plan S Journal Checker Tool, the South African DHET list and the Indian Medical Journals list

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# Evolution of the DOAJ over time



# From a suggestion form...

INTERNET ARCHIVE [http://www.doaj.org/contact\\_form\\_for\\_OAJ.html](http://www.doaj.org/contact_form_for_OAJ.html) Go JAN FEB 15 2003

Wayback Machine 17 captures 15 Feb 2003 - 24 Apr 2021

## DOAJ DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

[Home](#)  
[Aim & Scope](#)  
[Background](#)  
[Outline of work](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Suggest Journal](#)

### Suggest Journal

Please contact us with information about Open Access Journals that should be included in the directory!

Title of the Journal

URL to the Journal

Other Information

Your Name

Your Email

[Lund University Libraries/Head Office, Sara Kjellberg](#). Created: 2003-02-12  
Last updated: 2003-02-12

# ...to our current criteria

## Open access compliance

PAGE 1 OF 7

You are now logged in. When you submit your application, it will be registered to this account. Please note:

1. The application form takes approximately **30 minutes** to complete.
2. Your progress is automatically saved.
3. You can return to this application at any time by clicking [Dashboard](#) → [Publisher dashboard](#) at the top.
4. You can [print or download](#) a PDF list of the questions.
5. You must apply online.

### DOAJ only accepts fully open access journals

Open Access is the condition where the copyright holder of a scholarly work grants usage rights to others using an open license (Creative Commons or equivalent) allowing for immediate free access to the work and permitting any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose.

### APPLICATION PROGRESS

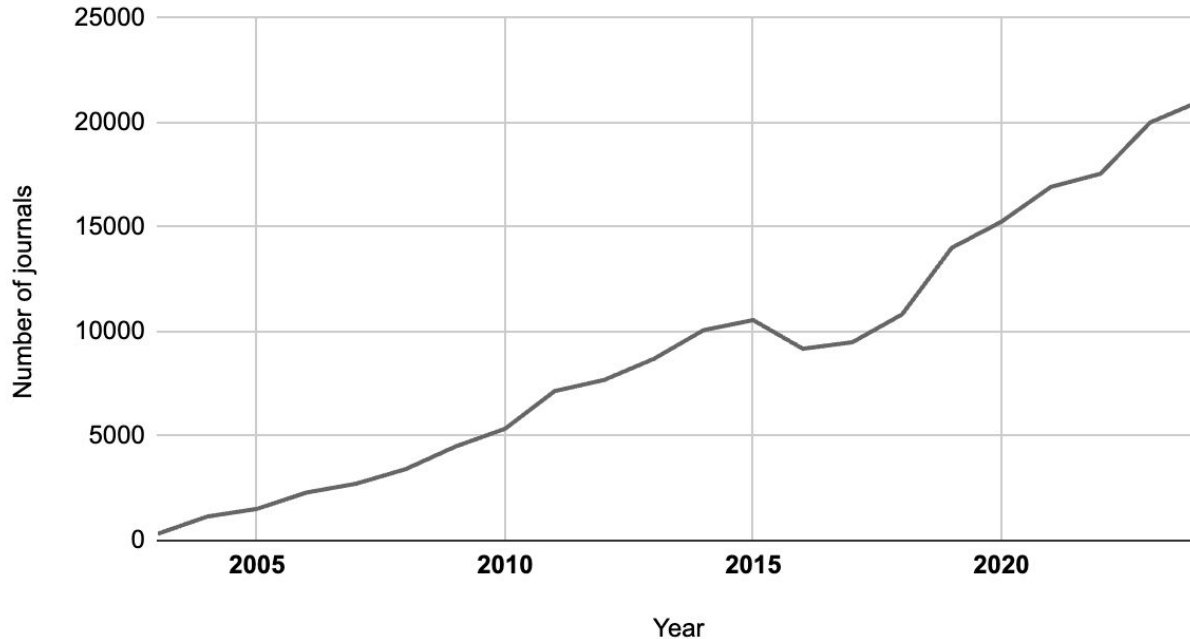
- 1** Open access compliance
- 2 About
- 3 Copyright & licensing
- 4 Editorial
- 5 Business model
- 6 Best practice
- 7 Review your answers



# DOAJ from 2003 to 2024

The reapplication project took place between 2015 and 2017, more information can be found on this [Blog post](#).

## Number of journals indexed in DOAJ



But what about  
diversity?

—

How did the DOAJ  
look in 2003?

—



10

languages

37

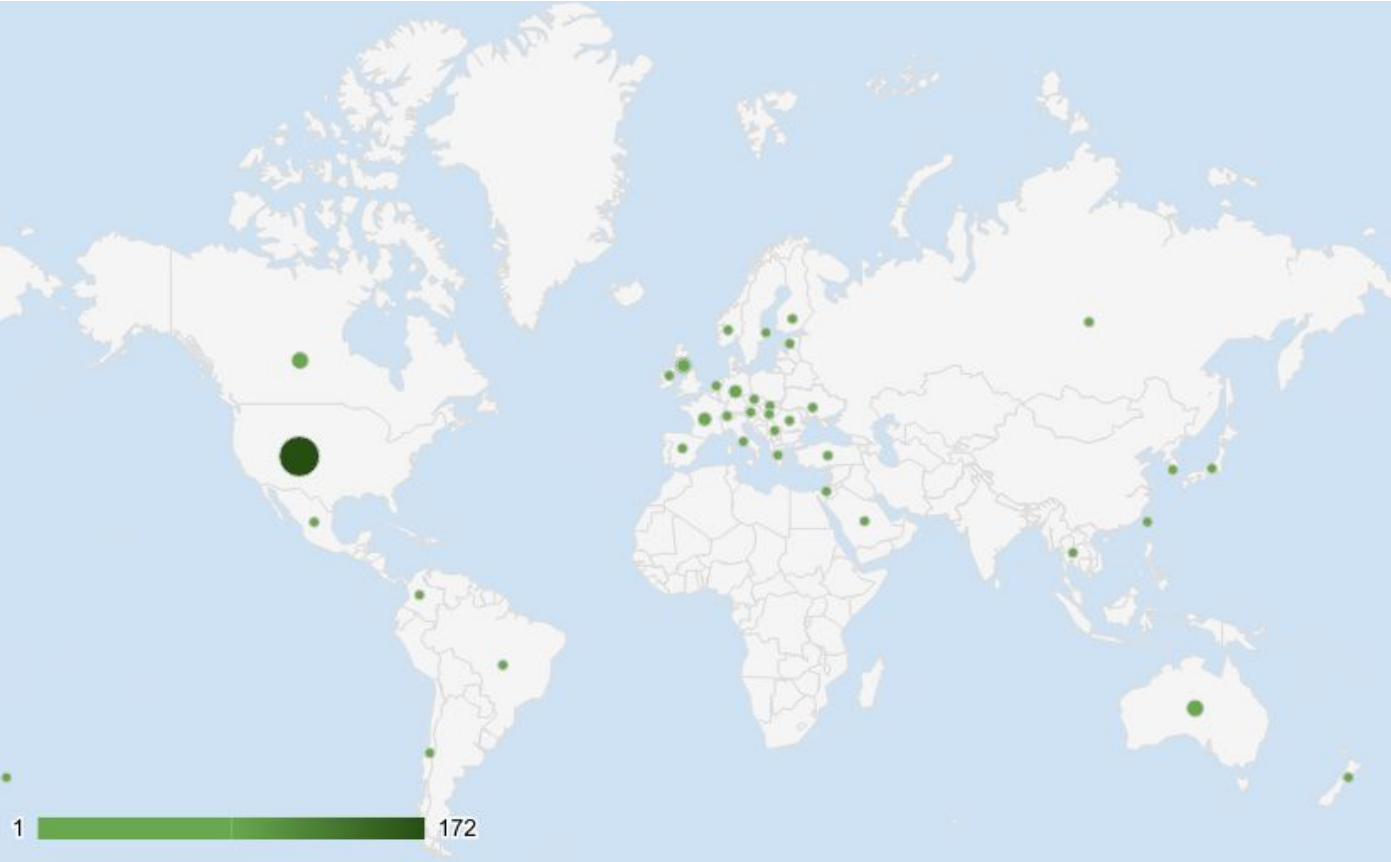
countries

320

journals



# Geographic spread of journals in DOAJ 2003



And what about  
2024?

—



89

languages

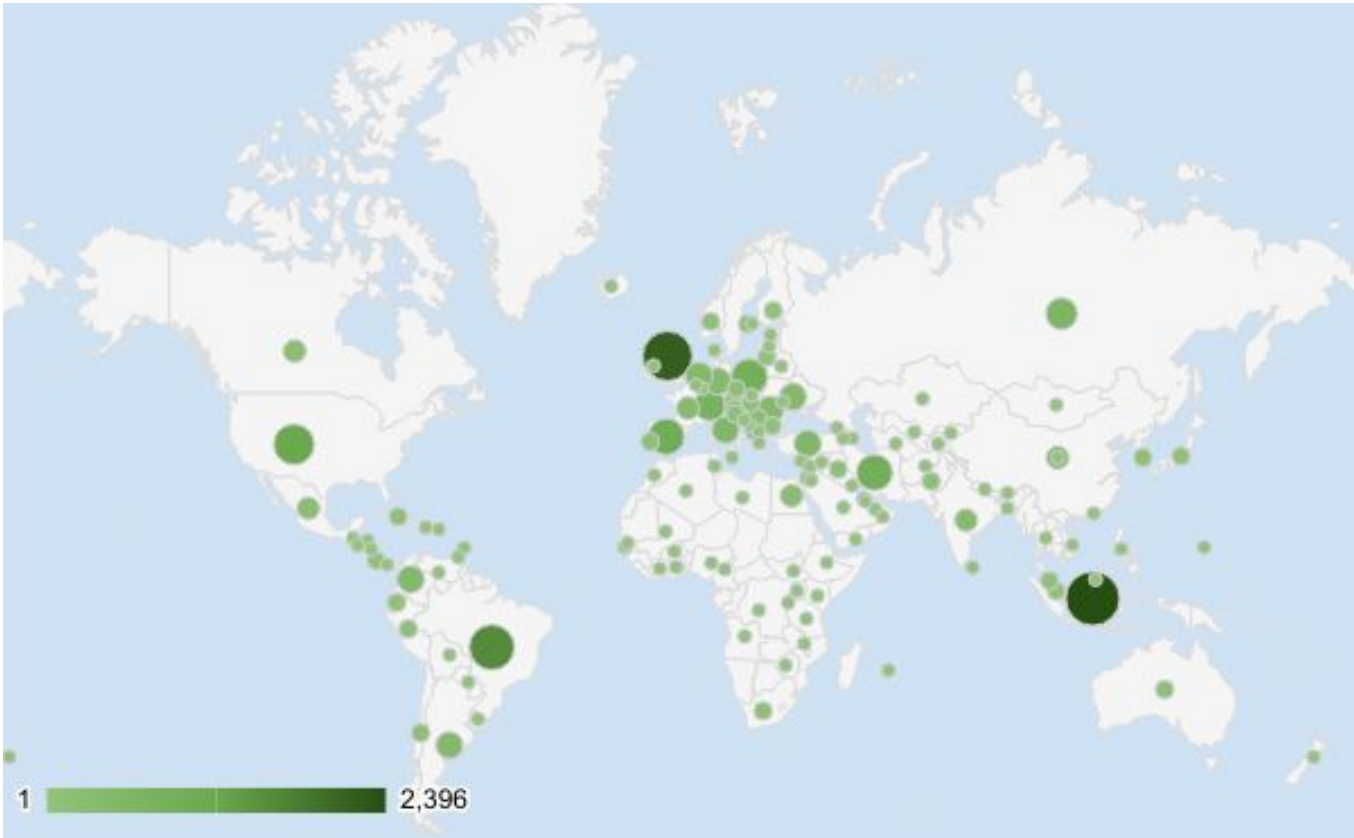
136

countries

More than  
**21,149**  
journals



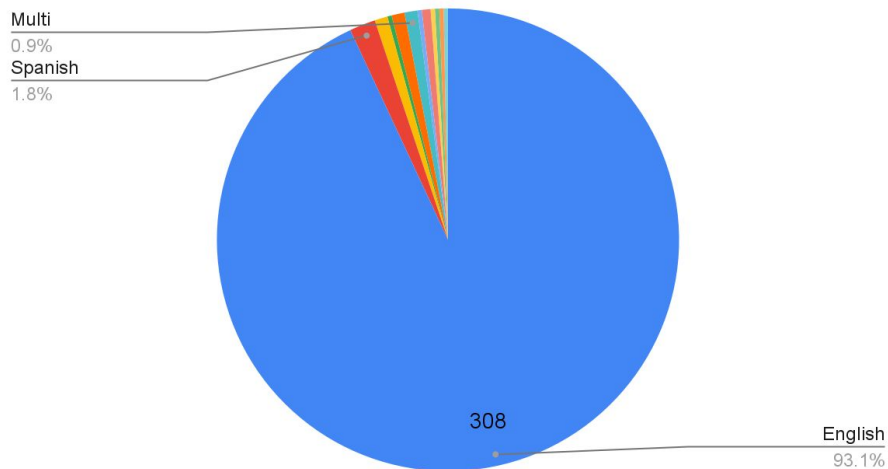
# Geographic spread of journals in DOAJ 2024



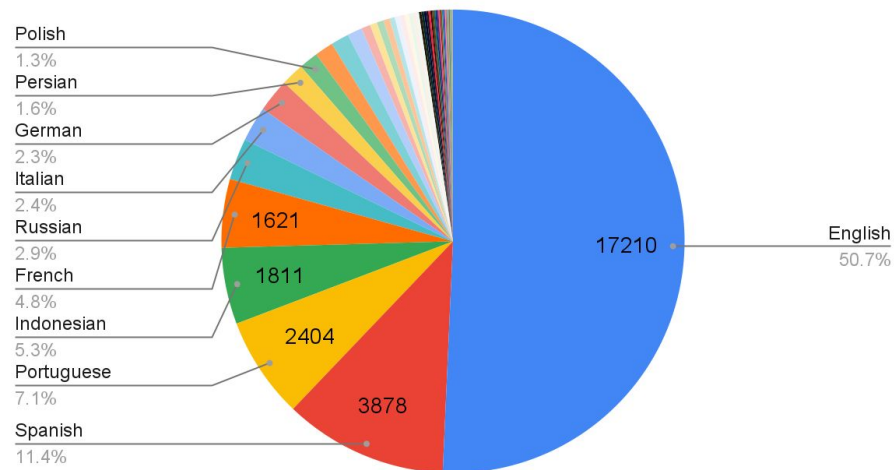


# DOAJ raises the profile of non-English language journals

Representation of languages in 2003



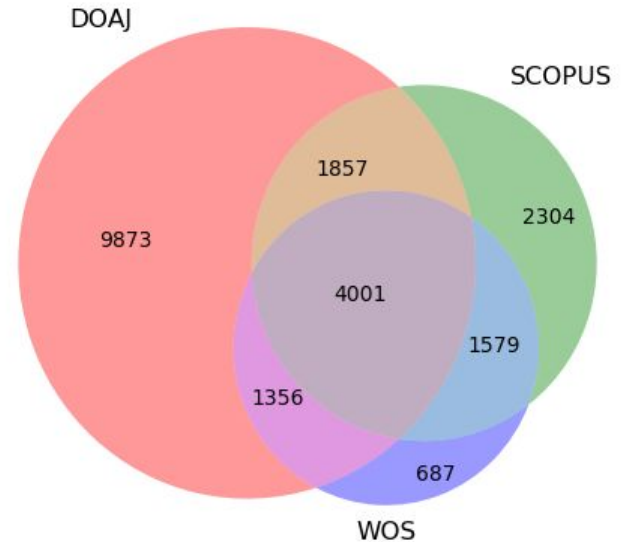
Representation of languages in 2024



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## DOAJ is a diverse index

We are vital for the visibility of 9873 journals that aren't in Scopus or Web of Science.



Source:

<https://blog.doaj.org/2023/07/06/doaj-is-confirmed-as-a-unique-platform-for-many-open-access-journals-and-a-key-index-for-african-journals/>

**DOAJ is business  
model agnostic**

**65% of journals** indexed do  
**not charge APCs**, and are:



Diamond

or



Subscribe to open

**13,837**

JOURNALS WITHOUT  
APCS

**21,145**

JOURNALS


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How do we enhance  
diversity in DOAJ?



Words matter

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A large yellow circle is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the text. The text is centered within the circle and consists of three lines: 'Our strategic', 'goals for', and '2023-25'. Each line is underlined with a thick black line.

# Our strategic goals for 2023-25

- **Advocate for equity and diversity in global open access journal publishing**
- Use our trusted position to raise the profile of high-quality open access journals
- Increase the sustainability and resilience of our service to ensure it adapts to the needs of the community

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# DOAJ outreach priorities 2023-2025

**1**

Collaborate with other organisations (**Research4Life, AJOL, WACREN, EIFL, SciELO, LATindex and local universities**) to develop training for journal editors in Africa and Latin America.

**2**

Advocate for OA and the importance of DOAJ indexing to **policy- and decision-makers** (Ex:Open Science events in Nigeria)

**3**

Extend ambassador programme: individuals fluent in **Portuguese** (Latin America) and **French** (Central, East, West Africa) to promote Open Access, DOAJ, and assist journals in indexing.

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## Collaborations: Research4Life, ASSAf and DOAJ

- 5 series of webinars: English, French, Spanish and Ukrainian.
- Editors, publishers and researchers from + 25 lower and middle income countries
- Participation of more than 600 individuals
- Best publishing practices for scholarly journals
- Maintaining research integrity and ethics







# Principles

- The Principles of Transparency and Best Practice for Scholarly Publications (V4)
- DOAJ is an open scholarly infrastructure and has adopted the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure in 2022.

# Interactions matter

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The background of the image is a close-up, textured surface of yellow knitted fabric, likely wool or a similar material. The knitting pattern is a dense, repeating rib or cable-like structure, creating a rich, tactile appearance. The color is a warm, golden-yellow. Centered over this background is a white rectangular box containing the text.

**How do we create  
those links?**

# Collaboration

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# The DOAJ Core Team



# Our Ambassador programme

- The programme was launched in **2016** and is going strong
- Initially funded by the ***International Development Research Centre***
- We have **13 active ambassadors** covering 7 regions/countries
- In **2023**, Ambassadors took part in **61 public engagements** and **events** around the world

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## Our ambassador programme

DOAJ Ambassadors are volunteers from all over the world.

Ambassadors...

- promote journal quality and the importance of standards
- advocate for open access
- promote DOAJ
- support DOAJ indexing for local journal editors and publishers

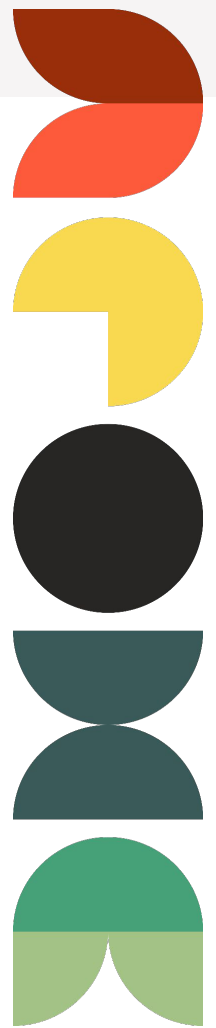


Ambassadors Gimena del Rio Riande and Ivonne Lujano

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# DOAJ Ambassador report Review & Future Directions

- To align the programme with DOAJ's strategic goals and ensure it has the structure and support needed.
- Key changes : management structure, focus areas and project-base initiatives and only LMICs.
- Pilot year of the revised programme: 2025







## Achieving recognition for Open Access journals

In 2021, our South African ambassador Ina Smith successfully worked to include DOAJ in the South African Department of Higher Education and Training recognised list of indexes.

## Promoting journal quality and the importance of standards

Ikhwan Arief, our Indonesian ambassador, holds regular workshops and webinars for editors and publishers on the value of DOAJ indexing.



# DOAJ Volunteers

>**100** volunteer Editors and  
Associate Editors around the  
world

## DOAJ Volunteers



Lina Marcela  
Blandón García

**Independent Scholar**  
Universidad Nacional de  
Colombia Sede Medellín



Ben Catt

**Open Research  
Librarian**  
University of York



K.  
Adhinarayanan

**Chief Librarian and  
Research Coordinator**  
Bharathidasan Institute  
of Management

November 2024

# Sharing

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DOAJ provides tools and  
advice to help journals



# Community projects to support small and new OA journals



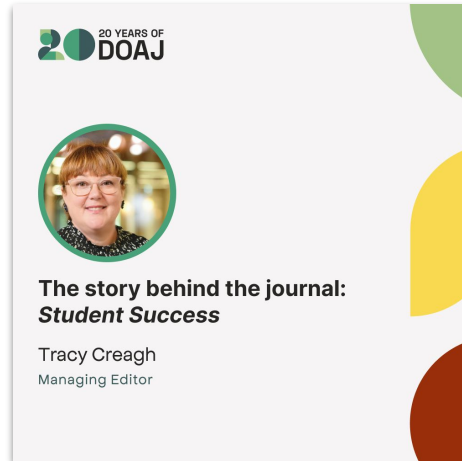
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# The stories behind the journals



# Promoting smaller journals through journal stories

Highlighting smaller, scholarly-led and Diamond OA journals



December 2023



April 2024



September 2024

# Thank you for your attention

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