

# SLSP

Swiss Library  
Service Platform



# Creating a Community of Diamond OA Practitioners

A Case Study from Switzerland

Munin Conference on Scholarly Publishing 2025

Daniela Hahn

**«...we are part of the community. We understand this as our service to the community...And if the community thrives, then the journal thrives. And if the community doesn't see any value in such an enterprise anymore, then it will finish at some point in time.»**

(Editor 1; Interview in the Framework of the PLATO Study on Diamond Open Access Journals in Switzerland)



# PLATO Overview

## Initiative to advance sustainable Diamond Open Access in Switzerland

### Objectives

- Analysis of the current landscape of Diamond OA journals in Switzerland
- Exploring possible funding scenarios for Diamond Open Access journals in Switzerland
- Stakeholder Engagement and Community Building

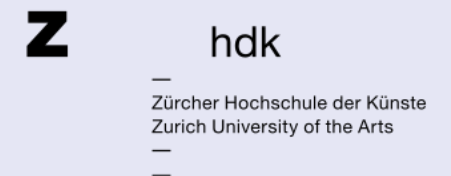
Co-funded by swissuniversities (Programme Open Science I) and the Partner Institutions

**Project Duration:** February 2022–June 2025

## Partner Institutions



**ETH** zürich



# Concept of Community: Bridging the Gap between Policy and Practice

- Marker of Identification: Who belongs to the community?
- Community of Practice: What connects the community?
- Community as Ecosystem: How to sustain the community?



# **1**

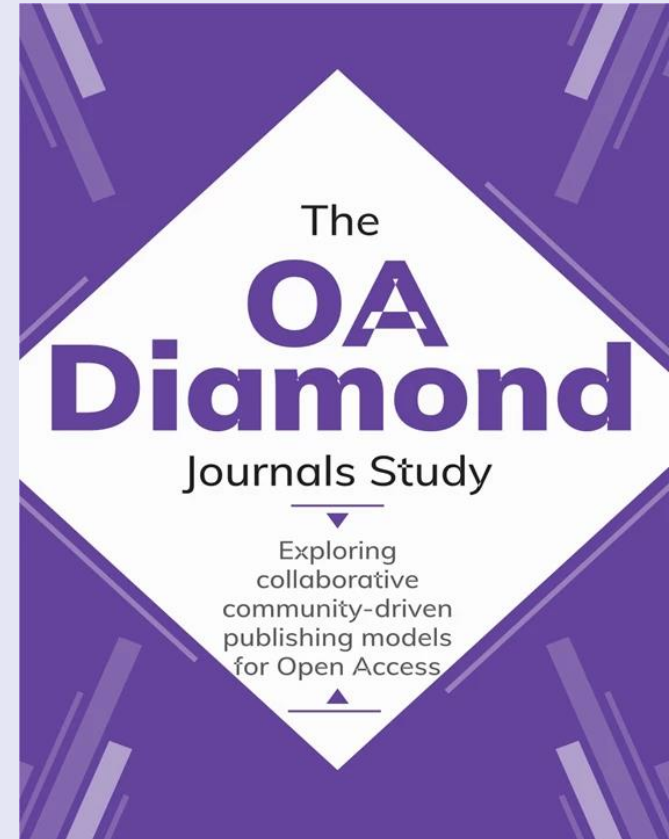
## **Defining the Terrain: Who's Part of the Community?**



# Diamond OA as Collective Identity

Diamond OA might be conceived as a «jargon» of open access experts and library staff.

Benefits and values of Diamond OA have to be communicated in different terms to researchers and editors.



Becerril, A., Bosman, J., Bjørnshauge, L., Frantsovåg, J. E., Kramer, B., Langlais, P.-C., Mounier, P., Proudman, V., Redhead, C., & Torny, D. (2021). OA Diamond Journals Study. Part 2: Recommendations. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4562790>

# What counts as Diamond OA?

## Criteria of the PLATO List of Journals

- ISSN
- Academic or artistic journal
- Affiliation with a research institution, hosting platform or publisher in Switzerland or funded by a Swiss institution
- No fees for reading or publishing content
- Scholar-led



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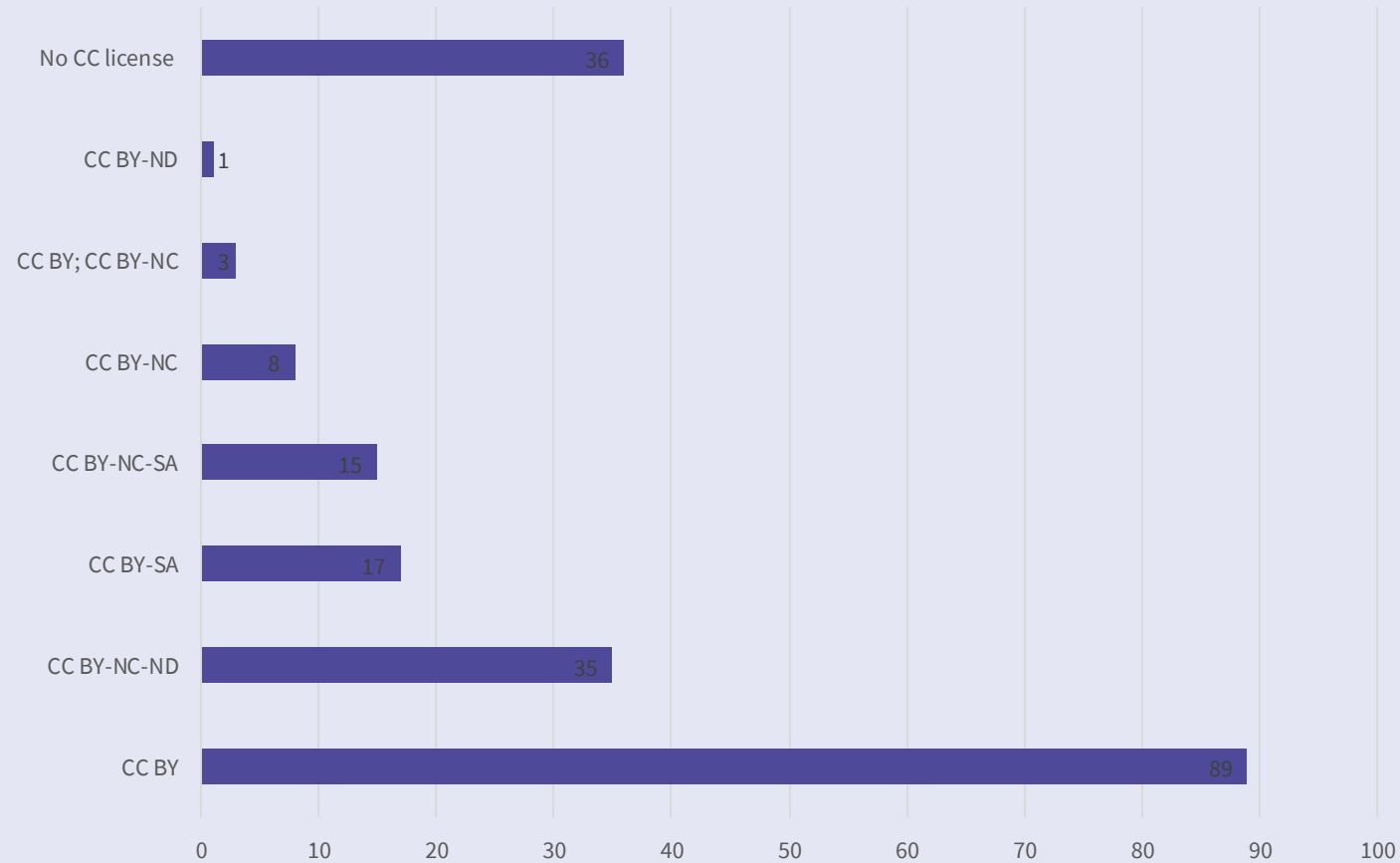


## Criteria of the Diamond Discovery Hub (DDH)

- Persistent Identification (ISSN)
- Scholarly journal
- Open Access with open licenses
- No fees
- Open to all authors
- Community-owned



# Currently 204 Swiss Diamond OA journals of which 168 comply with DDH criteria



# Who's part of the community?

Criteria place Diamond OA at the **intersection of a policy concept on the one hand and a publishing standard on the other**, creating a **tension between its normative aspirations and the very real boundaries** they necessarily draw.

Criteria are relevant not only for the **indexation of journals** but also underlie **funding schemes** for Diamond Open Access. However, these criteria might not be consistent over different platforms or funding schemes.

## From a practice perspective

- **Review on a case-by-case basis**
- **Alignment of criteria**
- **Demonstrate benefits**



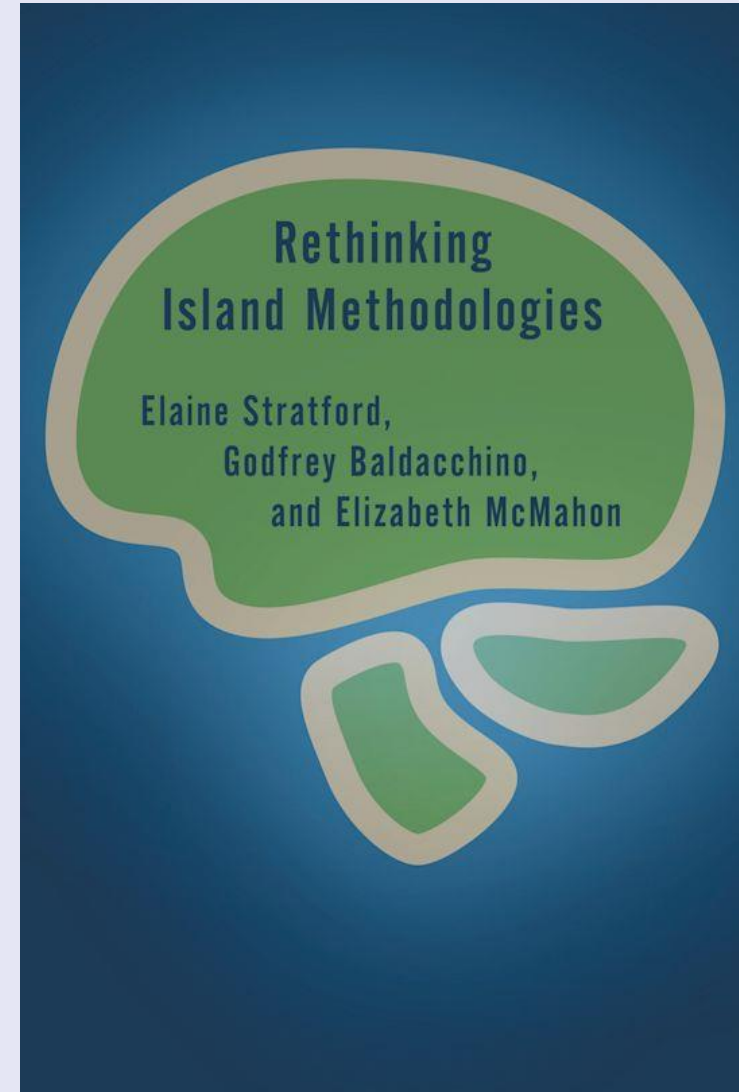
# 2

## **From an Archipelago to a “Community of Practice”**



# Thinking Island-ness

- emphasises the **multiplicities and connections rather than single stable identities** and
- invites us to **build infrastructures of relation and support** that ideally allow these different entities to connect, share knowledge, and pool publishing services without erasing their autonomy.



Elaine Stratford, Godfrey Baldacchino, Elizabeth McMahon (2023): Rethinking Island Methodologies. Lanham et al.: Rowman & Littlefield.

# Diamond «Communities of Practice»

- **Swiss OJS Community of Practice**

BOP (University of Bern), ETERNA (University of Basel), HOPE (University of Zurich), SOAP2 (Université de Fribourg), OAP (Université de Genève)

- **Diamond +. Association of Swiss Diamond Open Access Journals**

Promotion and networking of Diamond Open Access in Switzerland

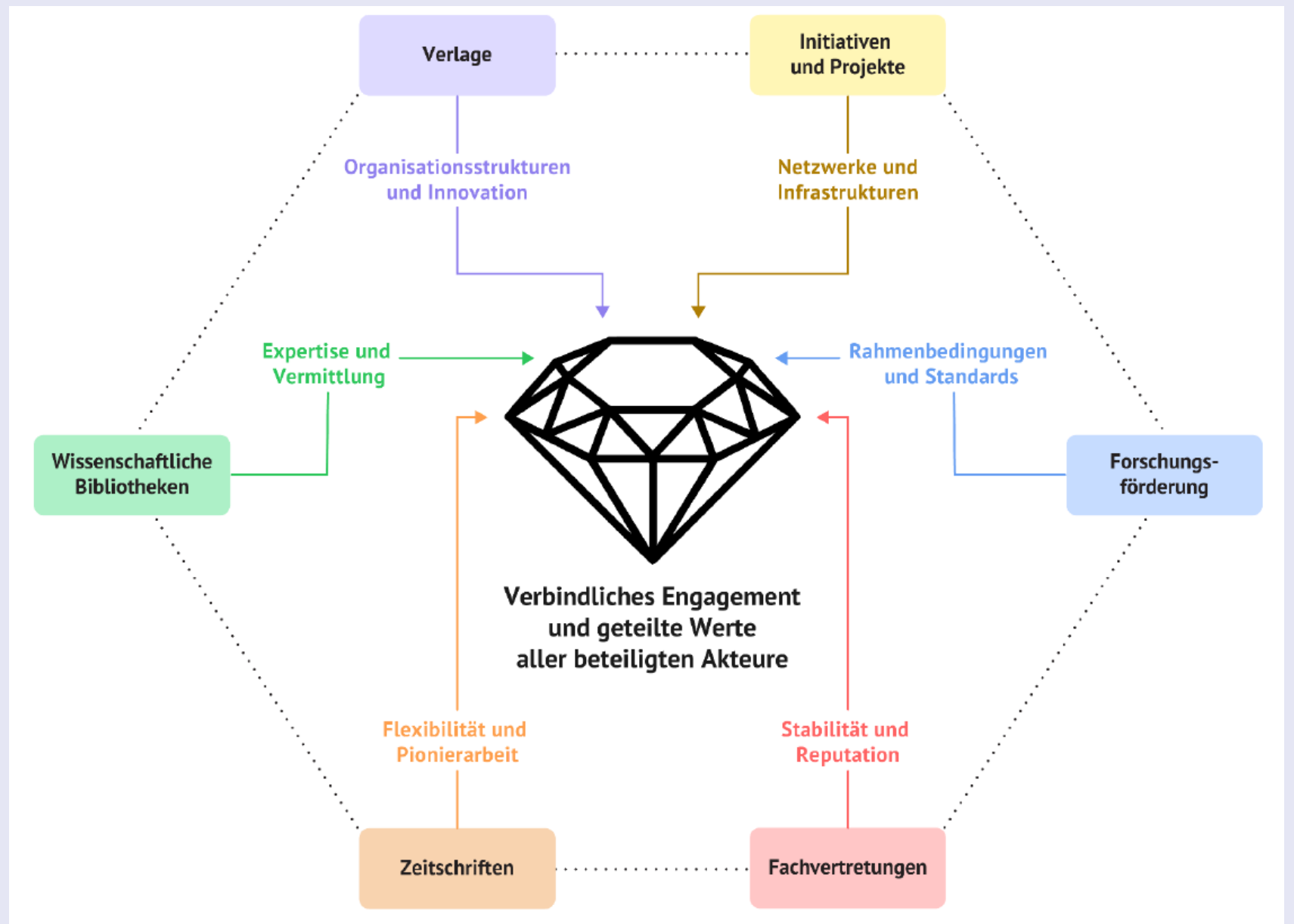


# **3**

## **Reaching the Critical Mass: Community as Ecosystem**



# Actors of the Diamond OA Community



Henkes, L. M., & Holscher Blackman, K. (2025).  
Wissenschaftliches Publizieren neu denken.  
Blaupause für gemeinschaftliches und faires  
Diamond Open Access. Zenodo:  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17240865>

# Advancing Diamond OA in Switzerland



**Sustainable  
Funding**

**CoDOA**



**Visibility**



**Technical  
and Non-  
Technical  
Support**

**DOACH**



# CoDOA-CH

## Objective:

Establish a National Diamond Open Access Consortium with the aim to fund scholar-led journals through a sustainable consortial funding scheme

**Project Duration:** July 2025 – July 2026

**Project Lead:** Susanne Aerni

**Funded by:** swissuniversities (Programme Open Science II) and the partner institutions

**Website:** [www.codoa.ch](http://www.codoa.ch)

## Lead Institution:

Konsortium der Schweizer Hochschulbibliotheken  
Consortium des bibliothèques universitaires suisses  
Consorzio delle biblioteche universitarie svizzere  
Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries

## Partner Institutions:



**ETH** zürich



# Thank you!

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