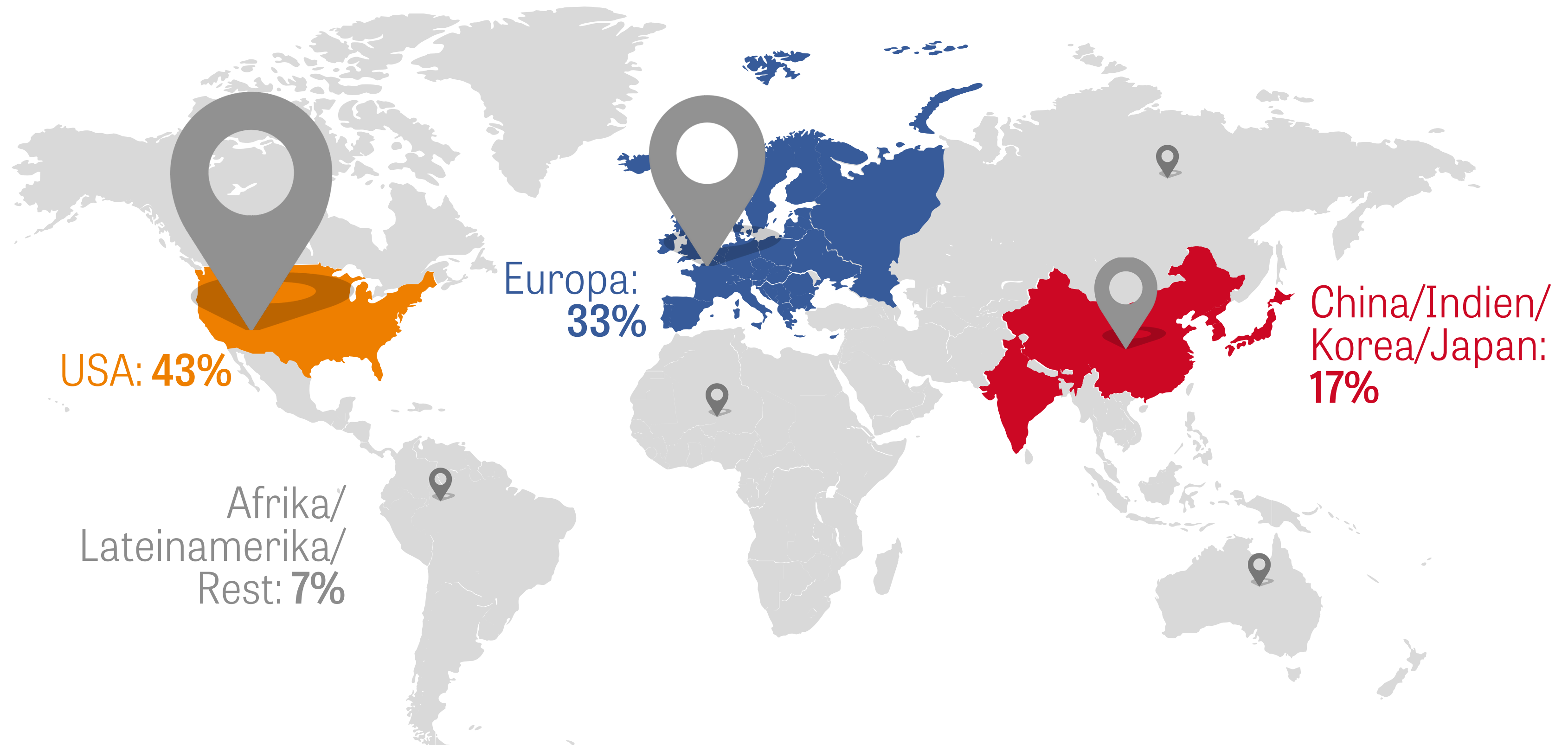


# Beyond Borders, Beyond Control - Building resilient infrastructures: by example of the OLSPub Project

Petra Labriga - 18th November 2025 - MUNIN conference - Tromso



# Scientific databases worldwide: 2.500 - 3.500



from: ANAR Database Issue 2024, World Data System Registry, CODATA Global Open Data

Medline : about 5.254 journals  
plus PubMed journals - in all:

**30.000 journals**

3 Mio queries

**9 Mio page views**

per day:

**2.5 Mio users**

one of the most heavily used biomedical databases

“free” - gifted - available to all for now-

**but:**

proprietary, depending on national funding by NIH - NLM

Risks under new administration:

cutting access

removal of content

making changes to content

commercialisation

**We want OLSPub  
(Open Life Sciences Publication Database)**

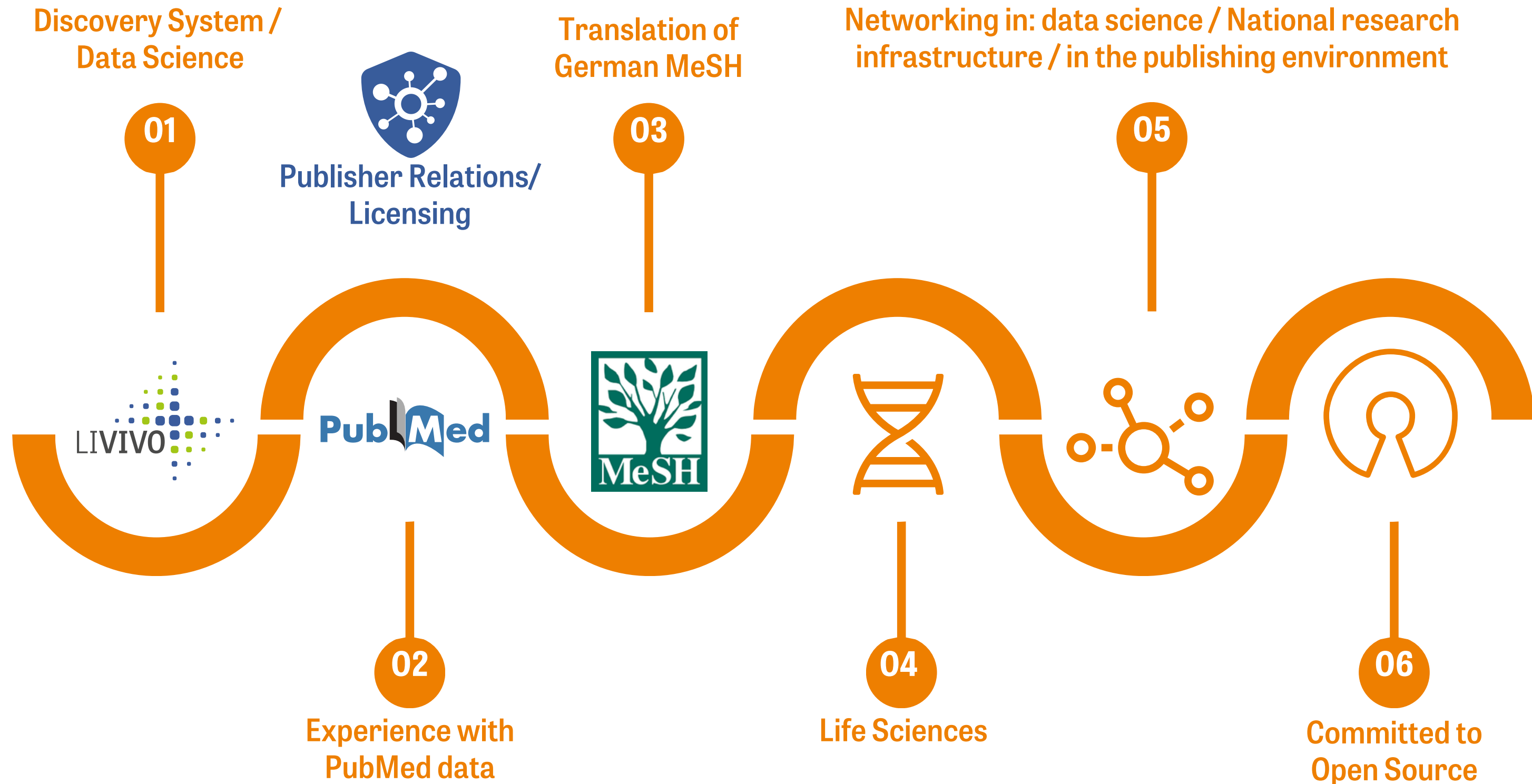
**to ensure**

**easy access  
to life science literature  
by providing a resilient, open source  
infrastructure**

**by the life science community  
for the life science community.**

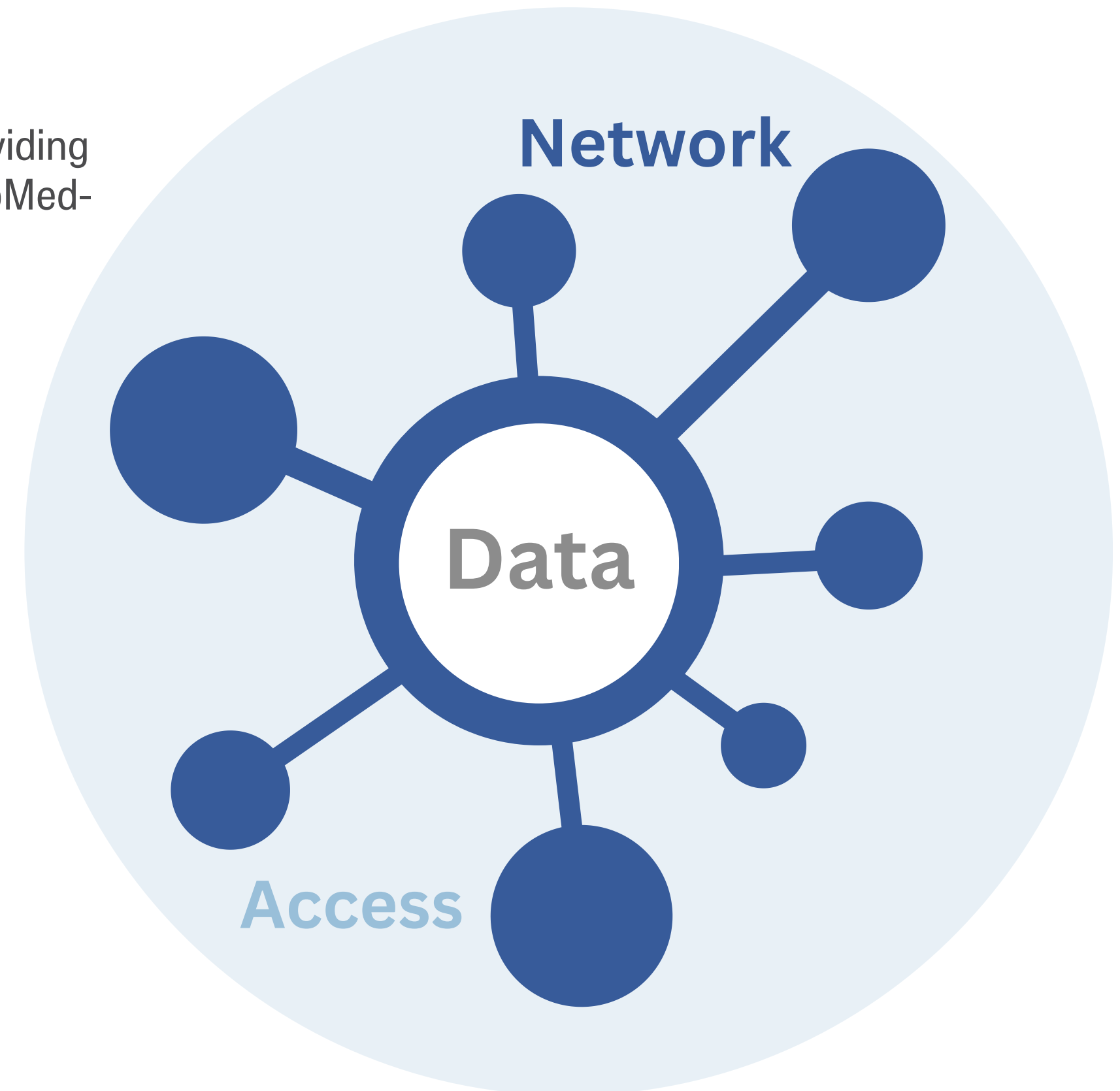


# Role and expertise of ZB MED - National Library of Medicine, Germany



# Objectives and scope of the OLSPub Project

- ▶ **Overall objective**  
Enhance the resilience of medical and health research by providing access to a stable and reliable (open source) instance of a PubMed-like database.
- ▶ **1. Data:**
  - a. legal and technical frameworks to integrate journal titles currently indexed in MEDLINE.
  - b. as many **publishers** as possible
- 2. Access:**
  - a. platform for searching and accessing similar to PubMed including MeSH tagging
  - b. as **open** as possible
- 3. Network:**
  - a. robust collaborative network of users and enablers to assist with the long-term development
  - b. as **big, stable and international** as possible



# Achieving cooperation and synergies - To Dos/ Challenges

## ► Publishers

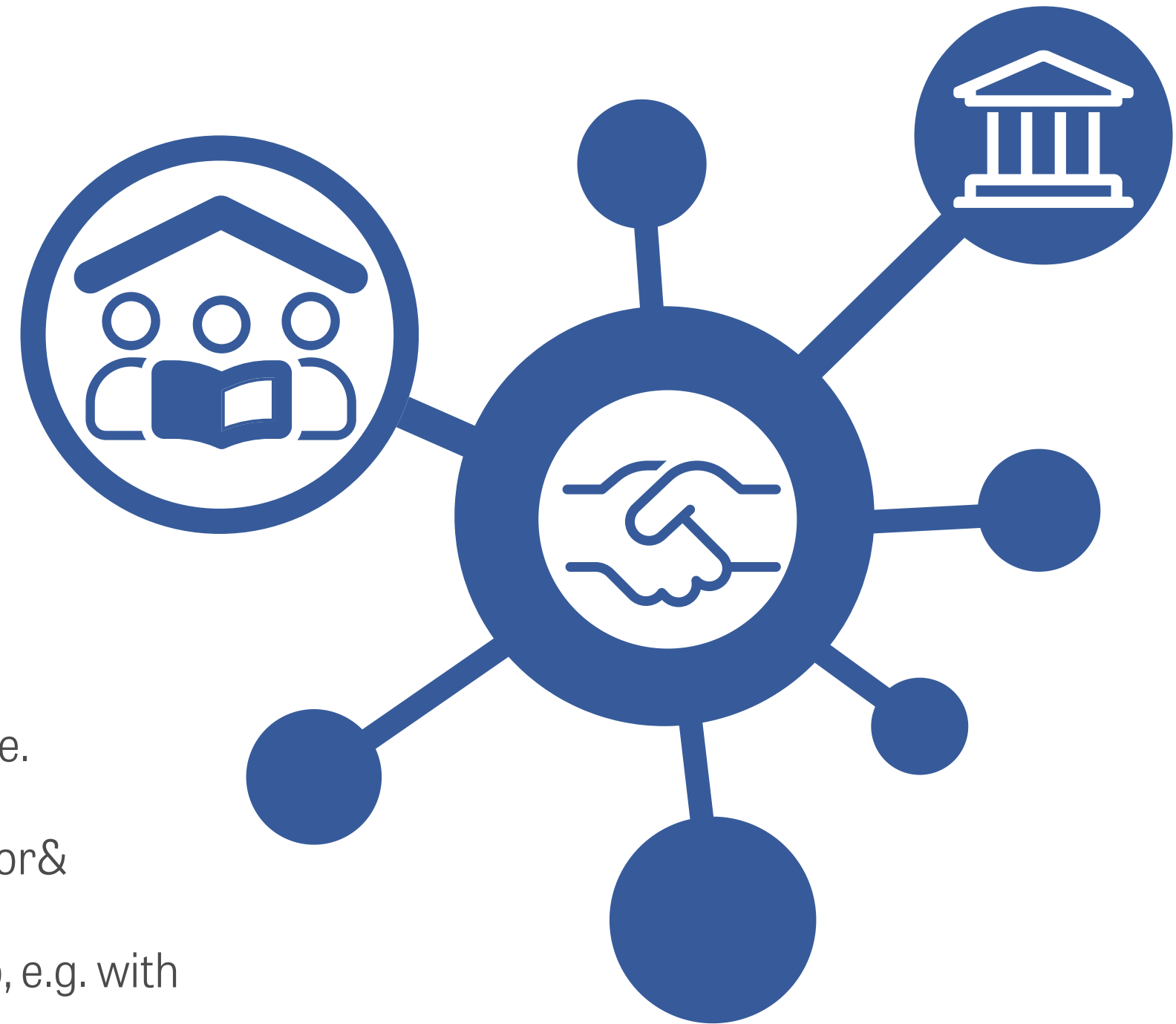
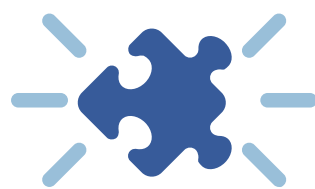
- deliver metadata to PubMed
- can easily (technically) deliver the same data to an additional API (OLSPub)
- **commercial interest might present potential road block**

## ► Life Science Community

- Aligning institutions and stakeholders with an interest in the topic.
- establishing governance framework

## ► Solutions:

- Addressing funders, multipliers, users and developers alike. Significant support from politicians and funders is crucial.
- Already a number of publishers (e.g. SpringerNature, Taylor& Francis, Frontiers) declared their support.
- Standards and clear rules for the development of OLSPub, e.g. with regard to transparency and openness will be defined.



# Timeline - Preparing for OLSPub 02 - 11/2025

Developing  
PubServatory for  
release in  
**11/2025**



Panel for the future of Science  
and Technology (STOA) in  
EU Parliament in  
**10/2025**

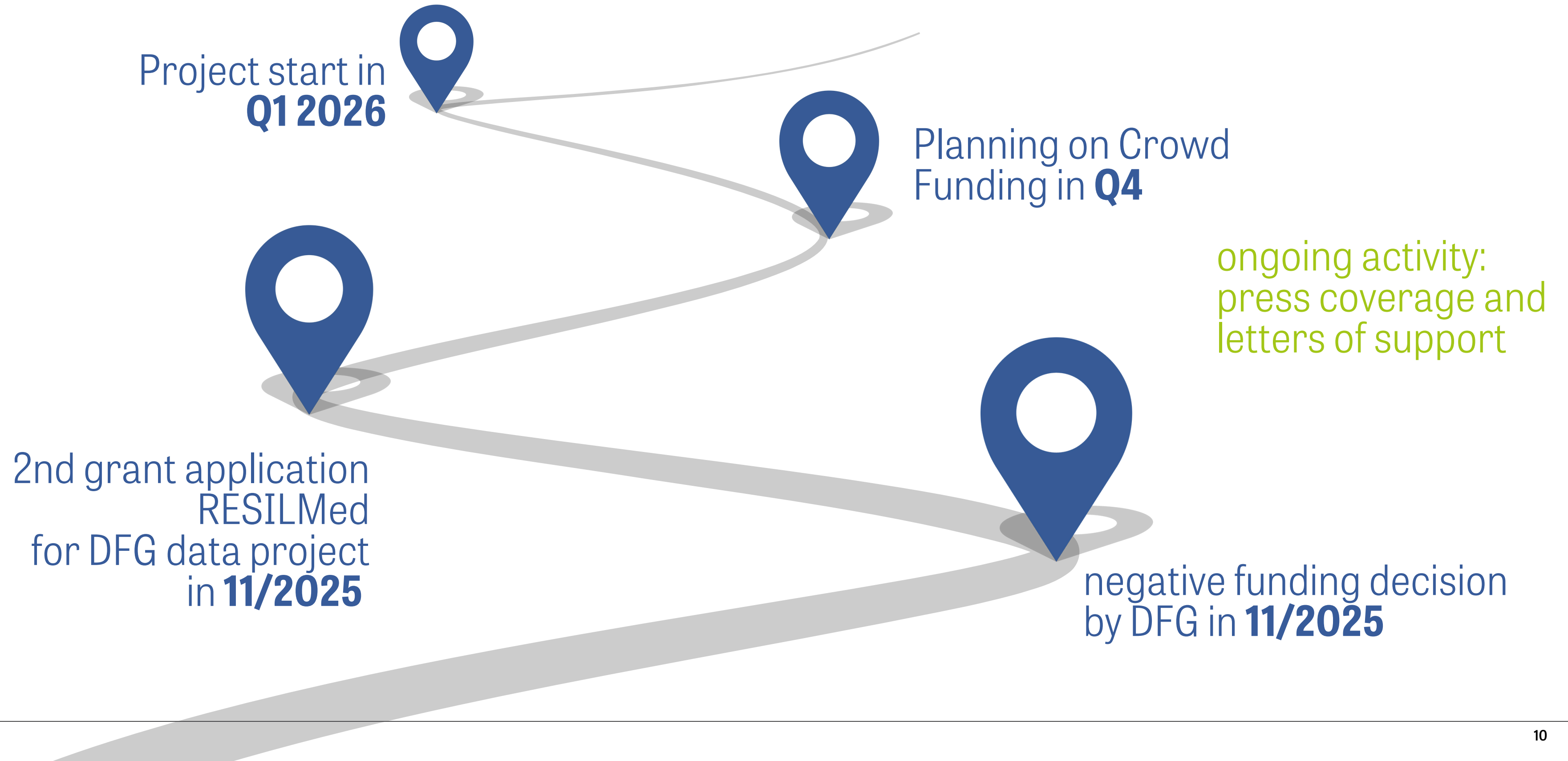


finished OLSPub  
DFG Project Proposal  
&  
first Int. Workshop  
**May 2025**



First round of budget cuts  
announcements for NIH in  
**02/2025**

# Timeline - Preparing for OLSPub - 11/2025





Every up-to-date literature database requires maintenance. Errors must be corrected, duplicates removed and new publications added.

## Pubservatory makes this work visible and transparent.

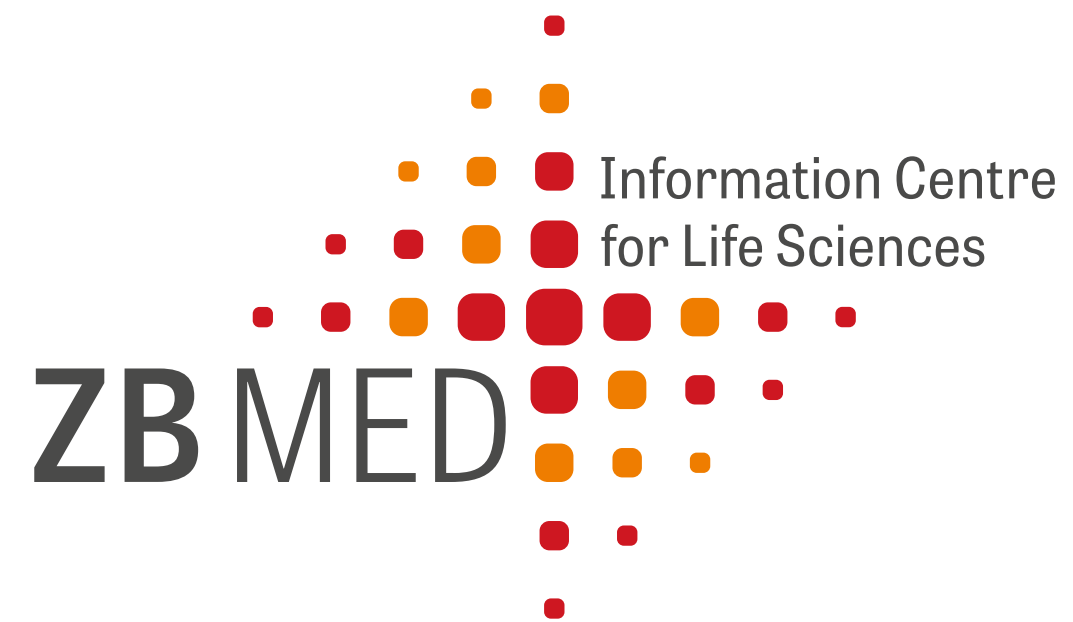
For over 150 years, the National Library of Medicine in the USA has been maintaining the PubMed database in this way, ensuring its high quality.

 Pubservatory Monitoring

<https://pubservatory.zbmed.de>

# Thank you

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[www.zbmed.de/en](http://www.zbmed.de/en)