

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION

Bianca Kramer, Sesame Open Science

ENLIGHT RISE Workshop

"Responsible assessment of research and researchers. Changing evaluation culture in academia"

21 May 2024



Open research information

Why is it important?

Research information

- Research information: (bibliographic) metadata - including funding information and information on use and impact
- Used in decision making around strategic priorities, distribution of resources, and evaluation of researchers and institutions
- Used to assess the effect of policies (funders, institutions, government)
- Used by researchers and societal stakeholders to find and assess research results

Research information must be open

Closed research information

We are assessing researchers and institutions based on **non-transparent evidence**...

We are making decisions based on information that is **biased against less privileged languages, geographical regions, and research agendas**...

We are monitoring and incentivizing open science using **closed data**...

— but —>



fair assessment requires full transparency

— but —>



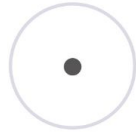
equitable decision-making requires inclusive data

— but —>



open science requires open research information

Open research information



Research Information



Free to use



Free from restrictions on reuse



Open Research Information



Bibliographic metadata



Metadata on research software, research data, samples, and instruments



Information on funding and grants



Information on organizations and research contributors

...



Towards full transparency in assessments



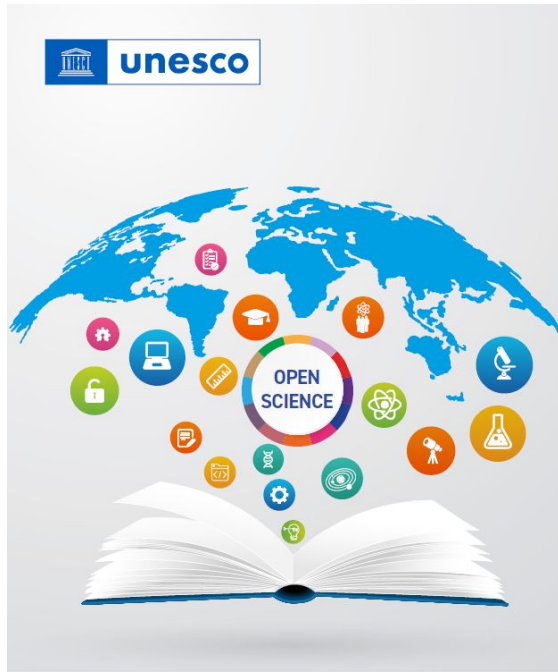
Towards inclusive data for equitable decision-making



Towards monitoring and incentivizing open science using open data

● = Research

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science



**UNESCO Recommendation
on Open Science**

“The monitoring of open science should be explicitly kept under public oversight, including the scientific community, and whenever possible supported by open non-proprietary and transparent infrastructures”

Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment



Ensure independence and transparency of the data, infrastructure and criteria necessary for research assessment and for determining research impacts; in particular by clear and transparent data collection, algorithms and indicators, by ensuring control and ownership by the research community over critical infrastructures and tools, and by allowing those assessed to have access to the data, analyses and criteria used.

Alignment with European initiatives



**Towards Open
Infrastructures for
Responsible Research
Assessment**

Pathos

graspos
open research assessment dataspace

Alignment with European initiatives



Next Generation Metrics
for Scientific and Scholarly
Research in Europe

LERU position paper
April 2024



Barcelona Declaration

barcelona-declaration.org

Barcelona Declaration

- The Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information was prepared by a group of **over 25 research information experts**, representing organizations that carry out, fund, and evaluate research, as well as open infrastructure organizations
- To draft the Declaration, the group met in Barcelona in November 2023
- Declaration was published on **April 16, 2024**
- Over **65 organizations worldwide** have already signed the Declaration; lots of conversations are ongoing

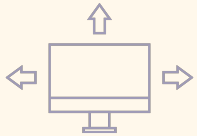
Barcelona Declaration - Commitments

As organizations that carry out, fund, and evaluate research, we commit to the following:



1

We will make openness the default for the research information we use and produce

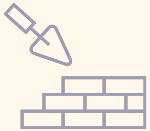


2

We will work with services and systems that support and enable open research information

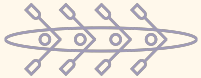
Barcelona Declaration - Commitments

As organizations that carry out, fund, and evaluate research, we commit to the following:



3

We will support the sustainability of infrastructures for open research information



4

We will support collective action to accelerate the transition to openness of research information

Barcelona Declaration - Commitment 1

1

We will make openness the default for the research information we use and produce

- Openness will be the norm for the research information we use, for instance to assess researchers and institutions, to support strategic decision making, and to find relevant research outputs.
- Openness will be the norm for the research information we produce, for instance information about our activities and outputs, with an exception for information for which openness would be inappropriate ('as open as possible, as closed as necessary').



Examples

Open Science

Sorbonne University unsubscribes from the Web of Science

Sorbonne University has been deeply committed to the promotion and the development of open science for many years. According to its commitment to open research information, it has decided to discontinue its subscription to the Web of Science publication database and Clarivate bibliometric tools in 2024. By resolutely abandoning the use of proprietary bibliometric products, it is opening the way for open, free and participative tools.

BARCELONA
DECLARATION ON
OPEN RESEARCH
INFORMATION



Introducing the Leiden Ranking Open Edition

January 30, 2024 • CWTS development • 8 min read

This post introduces the Open Edition of the CWTS Leiden Ranking, published today by CWTS in collaboration with the Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative, Sesame Open Science, and OurResearch. The Leiden Ranking Open Edition is the first fully transparent university ranking.

Examples



French Open Science Monitor

The general monitor ▾

The health monitor ▾

The local monitors ▾

About ▾

Welcome to

the French Open Science Monitor



Measure the evolution of open science in France using reliable, open and controlled data.

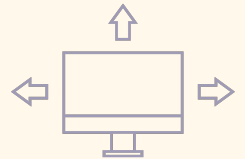
[See the last communication →](#)

Barcelona Declaration - Commitment 2

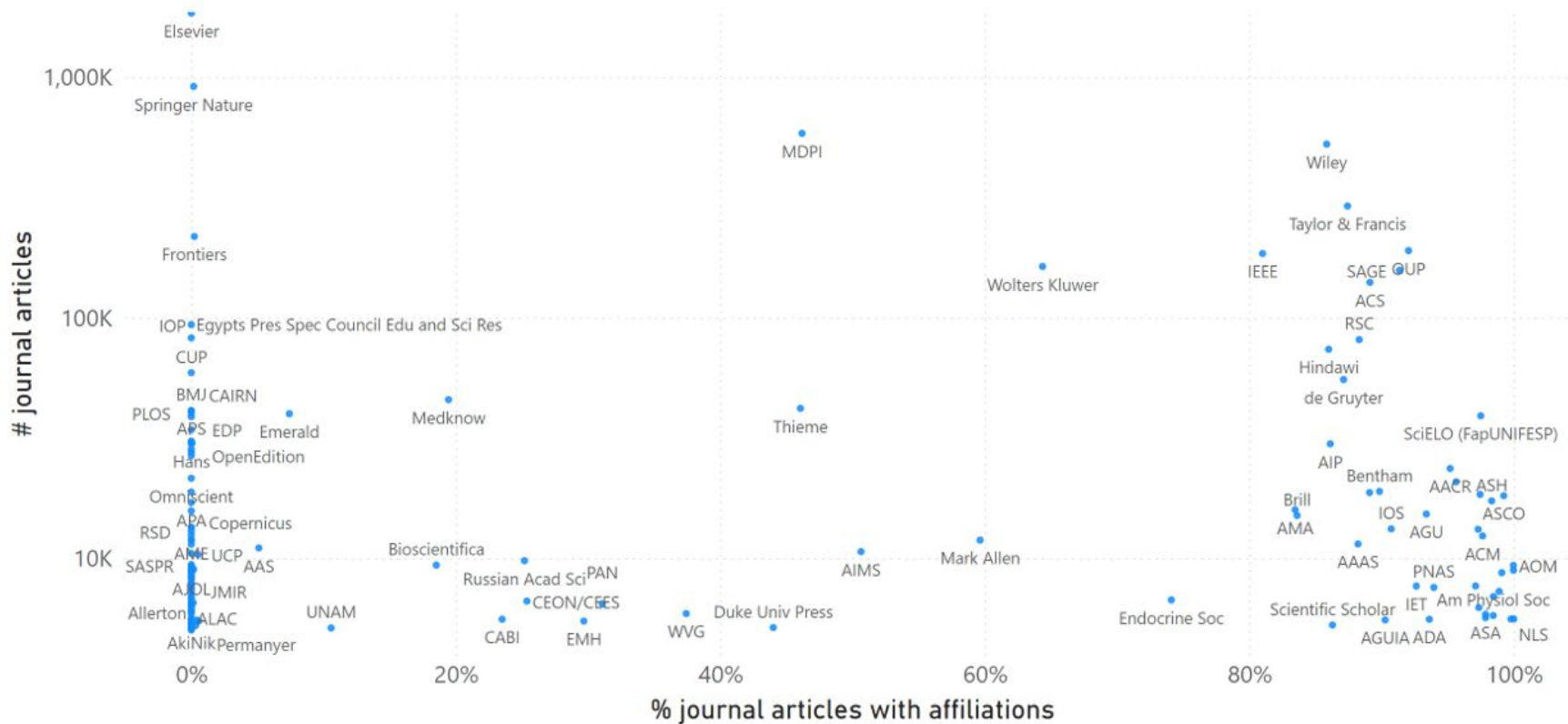
2

We will work with services and systems that support and enable open research information

- For publishing services and platforms, we will require that research information generated in publication processes (e.g., metadata of research articles and other outputs) be made openly available through open scholarly infrastructures, using standard protocols and identifiers where available.
- For systems and platforms for the internal management of research information (e.g., current research information systems), we will require that all relevant research information can be exported and made open, using standard protocols and identifiers where available.



Openness of affiliation metadata - Crossref



Openness of funding metadata - Crossref



Openness of metadata in agreements



Taylor & Francis
an **informa** business

Supply of Article Metadata upon publication

- (a) The Publisher shall use reasonable endeavours to, within 10 Working **Days** of publication of each Green or Gold Route Articles:
- (i) register the article's DOI with CrossRef, and inform all co-authors;
 - (ii) where available populate co-authors' institutional affiliation fields on CrossRef <http://www.crossref.org/>;
 - (iii) where available populate funding metadata, including the funding body grant number in accordance with the Open Funder Registry taxonomy (<http://www.crossref.org/fundingdata>) in FundRef <http://ftp.crossref.org/fundref/index.html> and provide same information via its APIs;

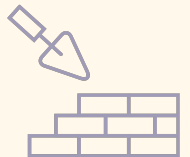
We need to have agreements like this
with all big publishers!

Barcelona Declaration - Commitment 3

3

We will support the sustainability of infrastructures for open research information

- We take responsibility for supporting infrastructures for open research information, for instance by participating in community building and community governance and by providing fair and equitable contributions to the financial stability and development of these infrastructures.
- We expect the infrastructures that we support to implement good practices for community governance and sustainability (e.g., Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure).



Examples



The Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure

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INFORMATION

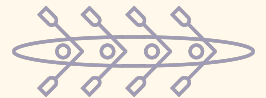


Barcelona Declaration - Commitment 4

4

We will support collective action to accelerate the transition to openness of research information

- We recognize the importance of sharing experiences and coordinating action to promote a system-wide transition from closed to open research information.
- To facilitate this, we support establishing a Coalition for Open Research Information and strengthening collaboration with other related initiatives and organizations.



Barcelona Declaration - Signatories

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION



"CLACSO-FOLEC firmly advocates for research assessment methodologies that take advantage of the multiplicity of formats, languages and distribution channels of scientific knowledge. To this end we support the use of data that reflect both the production disseminated in international repositories and that which is hosted in regional and local databases."

Karina Batthyány
Executive Director CLACSO

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION



"The declaration is fully aligned with the 2021 European Council Conclusions, which were released under French Presidency. The Council conclusions indeed state that 'data and bibliographic databases used for research assessment should, in principle, be openly accessible and that tools and technical systems should enable transparency'. It is also very well aligned with the 2016 French Law that is commonly referred to as 'Digital Republic Law'."

Marin Dacos
French Coordinator for Open Science

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"Sorbonne University has strongly supported the move toward open science for many years and the implementation of open research practices and principles in all their dimensions within its community. Beyond its benefits for researchers and research institutions, this next step towards open research information is also a civic engagement for a more open, responsible and trustworthy university."

Nathalie Drach-Temam
President, Sorbonne University

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION



"We want research information that is easy to understand, handle, and analyse, while ensuring our analyses maintain transparency and reproducibility. Thankfully, we now have the necessary tools, processes, and determination to turn this vision into reality."

Paola Galimberti
Director of the Open Science Policy Division, University of Milan

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION



"Transparency and rigour are core to UKRN's mission. This is as important for research information as it is for research, and so we will actively support the aims of the Barcelona Declaration."

Marcus Munafò
Chair of the UK Reproducibility Network Supervisory Board

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION



"With Open Research Information we may review and access Open Science contributions in an open way. Indeed, we may make all our research assessment transparent and FAIR - Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable - with Open Access and without any restrictions on how the Open Research Information is used and shared."

Mogens Sandfaer
Head of National Open Research Analytics, Denmark

Barcelona Declaration - Signatories by country

Universities and other research performing organizations

- Spain: 11
- France: 9
- Netherlands: 5
- Germany: 4
- Italy: 3
- Portugal: 3
- Colombia: 2
- Czech Republic: 1
- Finland: 1
- Greece: 1
- Slovenia: 1
- Sweden: 1
- Turkey: 1
- international: 1

Research funding organizations and governments

- France: 3
- Netherlands: 2
- Spain: 2
- Argentina: 1
- Austria: 1
- Italy: 1
- US: 1

Other organizations

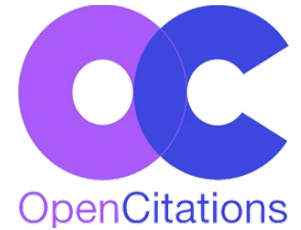
- international: 2
- Ukraine: 2
- Brazil: 1
- Denmark: 1
- Finland: 1
- Germany: 1
- Spain: 1
- UK: 1
- US: 1

Barcelona Declaration - Supporters

REVIEWER
CREDITS



Crossref





Next steps

How to support the Barcelona Declaration

Are you an **organization involved in carrying out, funding or evaluating research** and do you wish to sign up to the commitments in the Barcelona Declaration?

→ Sign the Declaration by sending us an email at **contact@barcelona-declaration.org**

Are you an **organization providing data, services or infrastructure** and do you wish to support for the Barcelona Declaration?

→ Express your support for the Declaration by sending us an email at **contact@barcelona-declaration.org**

More information

For information about signatories, supporters, translations, media coverage, etc., see our website: barcelona-declaration.org

For the latest updates, follow our social media channels:

- LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/barcelona-declaration/
- Mastodon: mastodon.social/@BarcelonaDORI
- X: x.com/BarcelonaDORI

Dedicated communication channels will be set up for signatories (mailing list, Slack)

Paris Conference

- Goal: Set up Coalition for Open Research Information
- September 23-24, 2024
- Sorbonne University



Concluding questions

1. Is your university ready to sign the Barcelona Declaration?
2. What is ENLIGHT's position on openness of research information?
3. How can ENLIGHT universities work together to promote openness of research information?

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION

www.barcelona-declaration.org

The Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information was prepared by a group of over 25 research information experts, representing organizations that carry out, fund, and evaluate research, as well as organizations that provide research information infrastructures. The group met in Barcelona in November 2023 in a workshop hosted by SIRIS Foundation. The preparation of the Declaration was coordinated by Bianca Kramer (Sesame Open Science), Cameron Neylon (Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative, Curtin University), and Ludo Waltman (Centre for Science and Technology Studies, Leiden University). Organizations that would like to know more about the Declaration or that wish to sign the Declaration are welcome to reach out to contact@barcelona-declaration.org