

Transformative Agreements in Spain

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Outline

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What we have achieved in a nutshell

«Transformative agreements» with 4 publishers: American Chemical Society, Elsevier, Springer Nature, and Wiley for CSIC and an average of 50 Spanish universities for a period of 4 years. The agreements do not cover the 100% of potential publications for those publishers and the yearly price increase is similar to previous increases in subscription deals in the past

The negotiating organizations

In 2019 CSIC and CRUE made a strategic alliance to negotiate with four main publishers:

American Chemical Society

Elsevier

Springer Nature

Wiley

The alliance was approved in February 2020 and the main goal was to achieve four transformative agreements.

The negotiation team was led by rectors and the vicepresident of CSIC and include technical staff from libraries and consortia.

The negotiating organizations

CRUE is the Spanish National Rectors' Conference and it includes 76 universities (50 public universities and 26 private universities)

<https://www.crue.org>

CSIC is a State Agency with the consideration of a Public Research Organization of the Spanish General State Administration and develops its function through a multiplicity of organizational structures lacking their own legal personality. CSIC currently has 120 research institutes distributed throughout the national territory

<https://www.csic.es>

Some background

Spain has several local library consortia and purchasing groups coordinated through a table of coordination that includes the CSIC library.

There have been common negotiations in the past according the duration of the agreements and the yearly increases but with a fixed scenario based in the past situation and with different contracts

In 2016 there was a first attempt to have a national negotiation that included the Ministry of Science. CRUE was represented by the library network, REBIUN

In 2019 Wiley showed its interest to negotiate a transformative agreement

Some background

CSIC had several transformative agreements with smaller publishers

CSIC signed the OA2020 expression of interest

CRUE decided to join the EUA expert group on big deals

CRUE created a working group on Open Science led by a rector and it approved a document with 10 commitments

The chair of the CRUE OS WG participated in the 2019 Berlin Conference

University Commitments to Open Science



<https://www.crue.org/2019/02/crue-aprueba-compromiso-open-science/>

https://www.crue.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2018.03.05-Pto.-9-Compromisos-Crue-Open-Science-ENG_revFINAL.pdf

University Commitments to Open Science

Analyzing the status of Open Access in Spain and monitoring its evolution so the available information is always up-to-date.

Collecting and making public the expenditure of universities on accessing electronic information resources, as well as publishing results. Moreover, analyzing any changes in expenditure that universities would incur when moving from the current system of access through payment to a system of immediate Open Access.

Including immediate Open Access in any negotiation with editors of scientific publications, while promoting the payment of an equitable price that in no circumstances should imply an expenditure greater than the current one, making the system of scientific communication sustainable

The negotiation

Starting point

Ambitions

- Achieve 100% OA in 4 years
- Include full OA and hybrid journals
- Exclude the hybrid costs
- No increases in 2021 (changed to a reduction due to COVID19)

Offerings

- Achieve 100% OA at higher increases
- Include full OA and hybrid journals at higher increases
- Exclude the hybrid costs
- No increases in 2021 and low increases with poor OA growth
- 2x1: pay one APC, get one for free
- ...

Seek balance between price increase and OA coverage

The results

American Chemical Society

- Expected 81% OA in 2024
- Includes OA and hybrid journals, except ACS Omega
- Increase of 1% in 2021 from 2020 subscription costs (exclusion of any OA costs)

- Agreement signed but not actually started

The results

American Chemical Society

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cost | 2,97 M\$ | 3,03 M\$ | 3,15 M\$ | 3,27 M\$ |
| Increase | 1% | 2% | 4% | 4% |
| Number of articles covered | 601 | 661 | 688 | 715 |
| % OA | 69,9% | 76% | 78,7% | 81,4% |

The results

Elsevier

- Expected 84% OA in 2024
- Only hybrid journals
- No increase in 2021 from 2020 subscription costs (exclusion of hybrid costs)
- 10% discount on APC in full OA journals

- Processing articles since May 2021
- All articles accepted in 2021 are included in the deal (pending of retrospective action)

The results

Elsevier

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| Cost | 24,4 M€ | 25 M€ | 25,7 M€ | 26,4 M€ |
| Increase | 0% | 2,75% | 2,75% | 2,75% |
| % Publication cost | 56,2% | 61,3% | 67,4% | 74,6% |
| Number of articles covered | 5563 | 6236 | 7051 | 8019 |
| % OA | 58% | 65% | 73% | 84% |

The results

Springer Nature

- Expected 86% OA in 2024
- Exclusion of the Nature portfolio, and other titles
- Only hybrid journals
- Increase of 1,5% in 2021 from 2020 subscription costs (exclusion of hybrid costs)
- Processing articles since June 2021.
- Articles assigned for 2021 not used could be moved to the next three years

The results

Springer Nature

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Cost | 5,96 M€ | 6,14 M€ | 6,33 M€ | 6,52 M€ |
| Increase | 1,5% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| % Publication cost | 84,9% | 85,3% | 85,8% | 86,2% |
| Number of articles covered | 2237 | 2309 | 2383 | 2459 |
| % OA | 83,5% | 84,5% | 85,5% | 86,5% |

The results

Wiley

- Only for 2021 (Currently negotiating an extension for three more years)
- Only hybrid journals
- OA pot: 70% of the total cost of the agreement. Reduction of 15% on APC public fees
- Increase of 0,9% from 2020 subscription costs (exclusion of hybrid costs)

- Processing articles since May 2021.
- Articles accepted in 2021 and not published before April 2021 included in the deal
- OA budget not used can be used in 2022 in full OA journals up to 10% of the total budget

The results

Wiley

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| | 2021 |
| Cost | 7,4 M€ |
| Increase | 0,9% |
| % Publication cost | 70% |
| Number of articles covered | 2000 |
| % OA | 65-70% |

The post-negotiation

Reallocation of costs

- **Mix of contracts: CSIC, Consortia and Universities**
 - **Until 2020 every institution had a subscription cost based on several criteria, mainly size and historical purchases**
 - **The subscription share among institutions doesn't match the publication share**
 - **Ambition: reallocation of costs according to the actual costs for reading and publishing**
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- **Agreement on**
 - No reallocation for 2021
 - Share among current contracts (mix of consortia and single institutions)

Reallocation of costs

- Model of reallocation

- No reallocation of costs for 2021
- First assignation of articles based on the current subscription costs
- Institutional publications based on data from 2019
- Institutions cannot get more articles than the expected publication. Surplus articles are shared among institutions for free on first year
- From 2022 reallocation of costs will be based on the percentage of reading and publishing of each agreement. Reading costs will be shared as in the past, publishing costs will be shared according to institutional production. No surpluses from expected publications: some institutions will pay less, other will pay more
- CSIC excluded from this reallocation from universities
- Second reallocation inside consortia

Challenges

- How to manage high increases for some institutions
- How to share assigned articles not covering 100% of publication internally in an institution
- How to reassign not used articles
- How to deal with new VAT (higher for publication than reading)
- How to deal with research centers participated by universities

The future

Until 2024

- Negotiation with Wiley
- Establishment of a joint group for monitoring the agreements
- Reallocation of surpluses
- Exploring other agreements at local or individual levels
- Exploring full OA agreements
- Reallocating internal budgets in universities
- Exploring new ways of publishing
- Engaging funders
- Extend agreements for other research institutions
- Learning from other countries

Thanks

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