

# APCs + R&P (TAs) Monitor @Unimore 2020-2023

ovvero

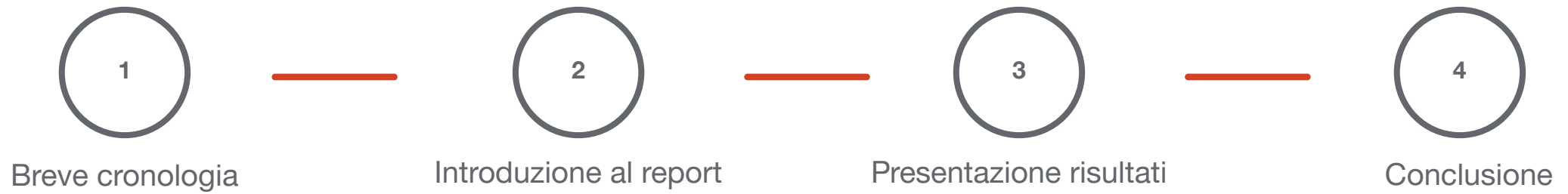
Quanto ha speso Unimore per leggere e  
pubblicare letteratura scientifica  
negli anni 2020-2023?

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Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

GenOA Week / 08 Novembre 2024

# Sommario



# Cronologia: attività 2020-2023



# Progetto APC Monitor  
@Unimore

# Cronologia: attività 2020-2023



# Progetto APC Monitor  
@Unimore



# Analisi spese '15-19

# Introduzione voci di contabilità ad hoc nel pdc Unimore:

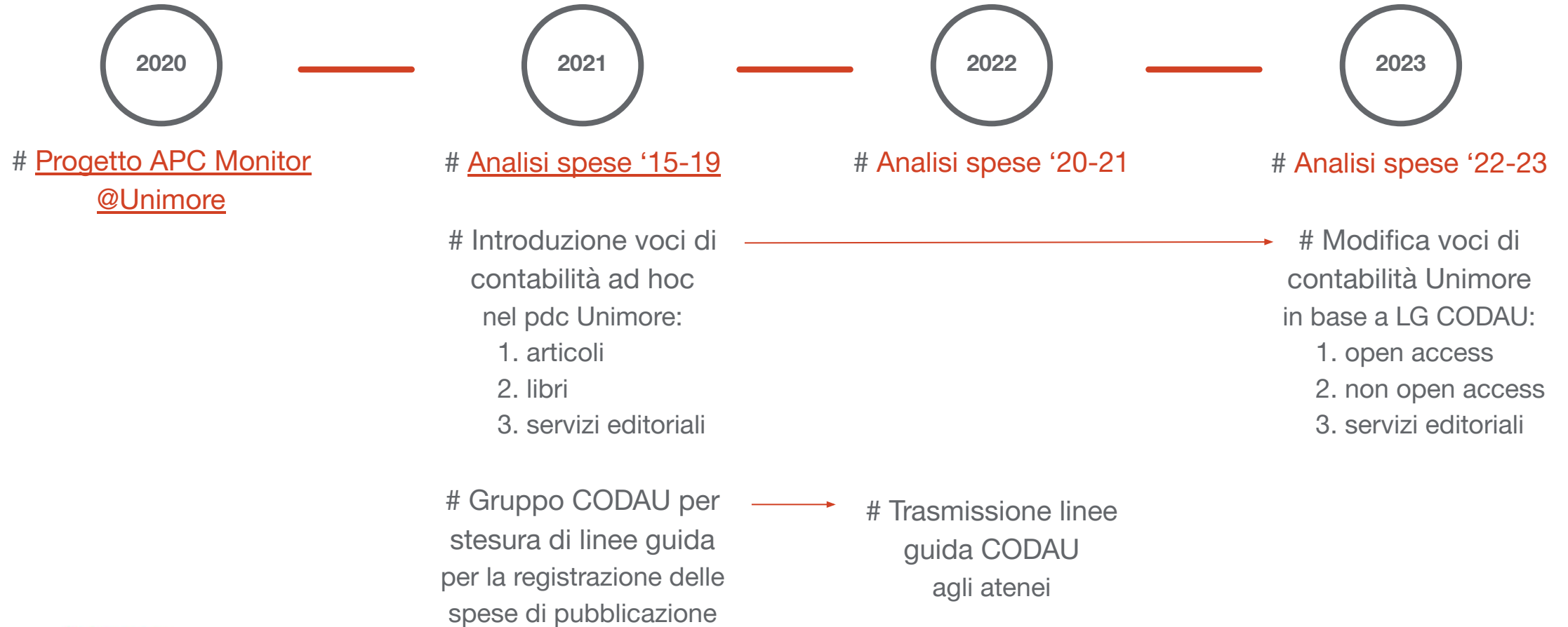
1. articoli
2. libri
3. servizi editoriali

# Gruppo CODAU per stesura di linee guida per la registrazione delle spese di pubblicazione

# Cronologia: attività 2020-2023

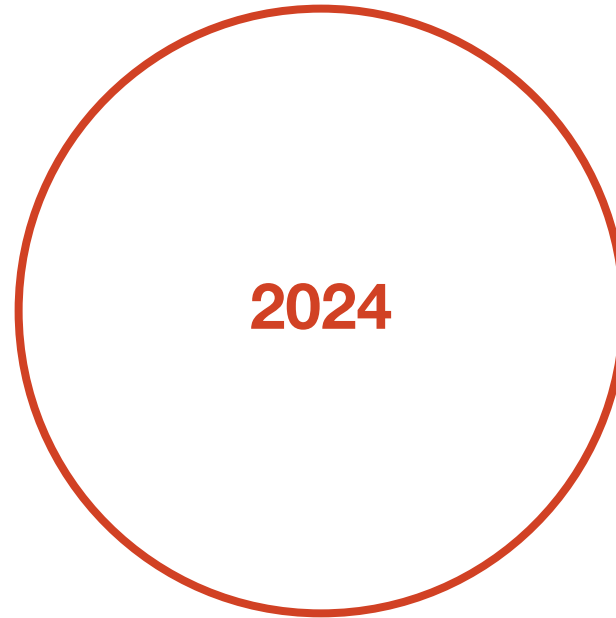


# Cronologia: attività 2020-2023



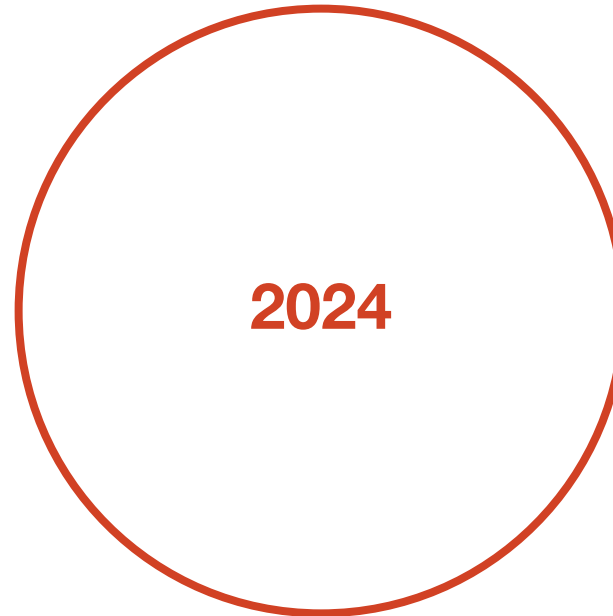
# Cronologia: attività 2024

**# Introduzione  
in IRIS del form**  
per la richiesta di  
pagamento di spese di  
pubblicazione



# Cronologia: attività 2024

**# Introduzione  
in IRIS del form**  
per la richiesta di  
pagamento di spese di  
pubblicazione



**# APCs + R&P Monitor  
@Unimore 2020-2023**



# Quanto spendiamo per pubblicare letteratura scientifica open access?

Quanto spendiamo per pubblicare  
letteratura scientifica ~~open access~~?

Quanto spendiamo per leggere e pubblicare letteratura scientifica?



## **Abstract**

The report analyzes Unimore's expenditure on publishing contributions by its researchers from 2020 to 2023, focusing on the cost of open access publishing, which has seen significant growth in recent years. This comprehensive analysis considers both direct costs for article processing charges (APCs) and costs associated with Read&Publish (R&P) agreements.

## **Keywords**

Open Access, Article Processing Charge, APC, Gold Open Access, Hybrid open Access, Read&Publish Agreements, R&P, Transformative Agreements, TAs

## **URI**

<https://hdl.handle.net/11380/1363170>





UNIMORE



Scopus®





UNIMORE



Scopus®



UNIMORE

sebinanext

**N.B.: ACTUAL COSTS!**



**DATA  
PROCESSING**



**cleaning** (e.g. publishers' names)



**enrichment** (e.g. oa status)



**organisation** (e.g. tables, sheets)





**MAIN  
LIMITS &  
POSSIBLE  
ERRORS**



**limited indexing**  
of publications  
(2023, SSH)

**duplication** of  
records

**open access**  
**status** in SSH



**limited indexing**  
of publications  
(2023, SSH)

**duplication** of  
records

**open access**  
**status** in SSH



**wrong classification**  
of the costs

**lack of information**  
on the publication  
related to the costs

# findings



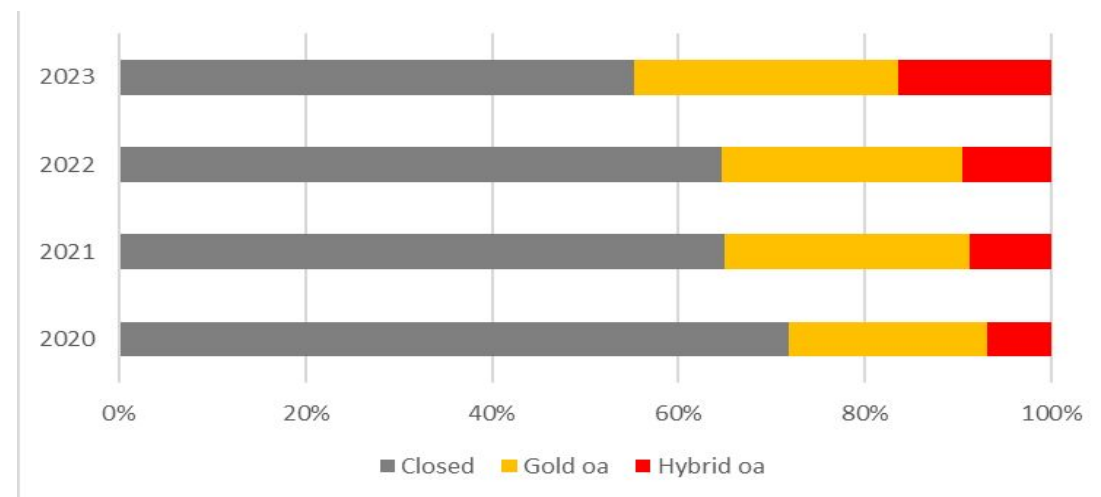
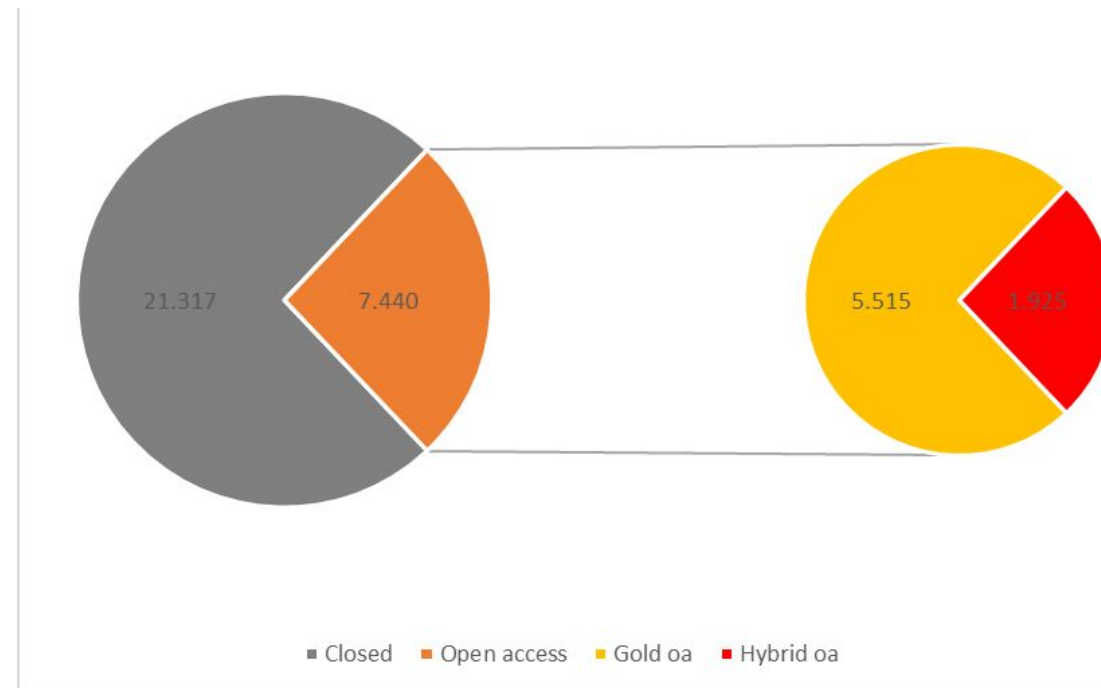
\* source: scopus

2020-2023:  
~14.5K publications  
36% open access

trend '20-23:  
-2,7% all publications \*\*  
+55% share oa

2023:  
45% of publications  
are oa

\*\*due to limited indexing of  
publications in 2023



# findings

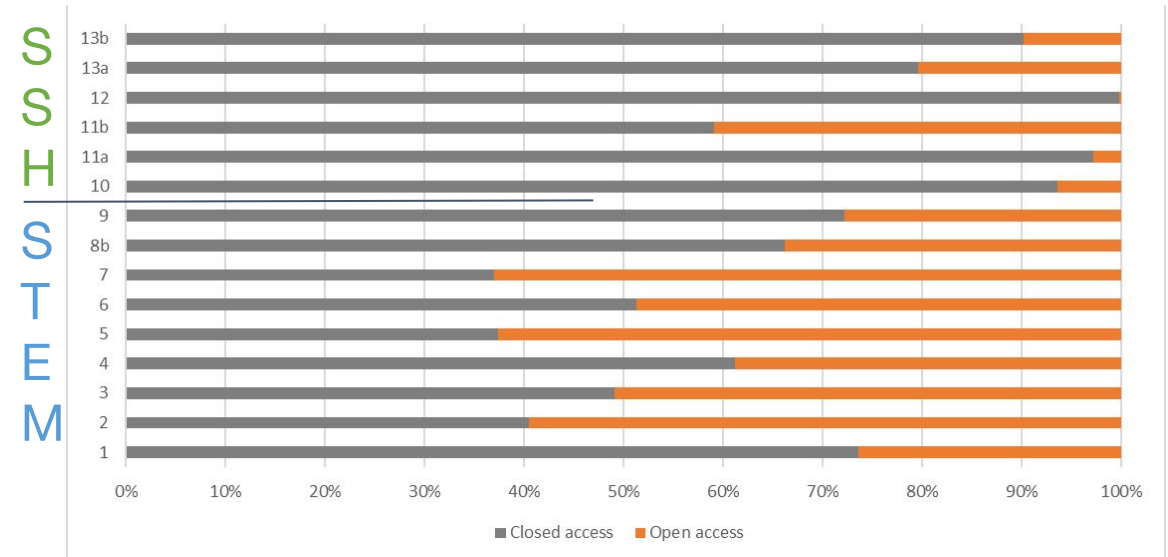
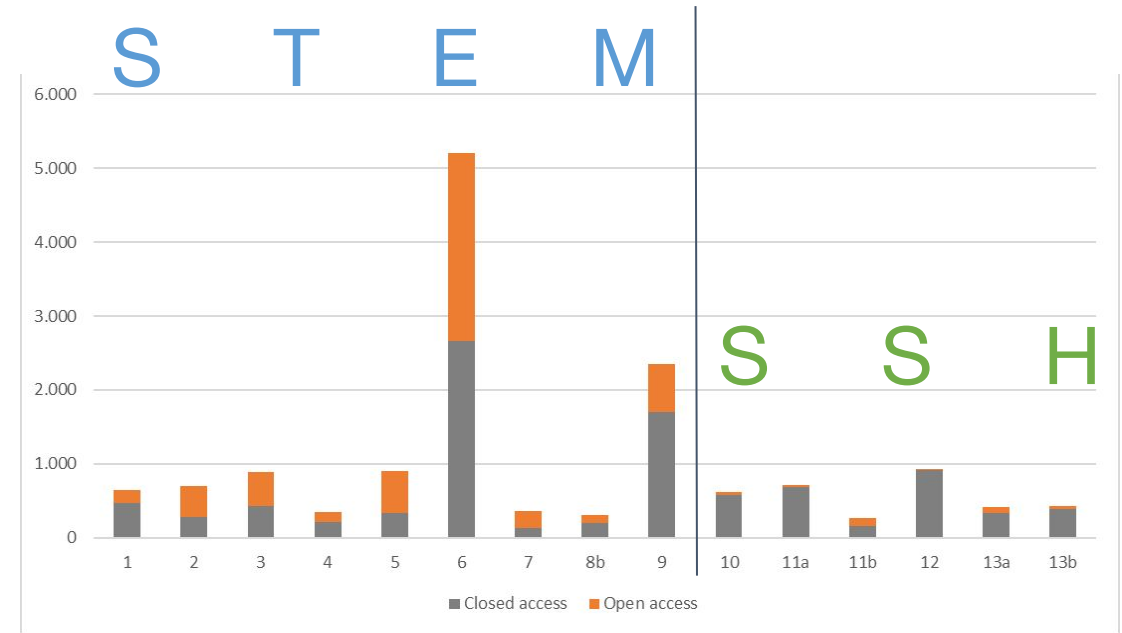


**Health Science (6):**  
~5.2k publications  
(avg 27 per author)  
**49% oa\***

**Engineering (9):**  
~2.3k publications  
(avg 15 per author)  
**27% oa\***

**Law (12):**  
~1k publications  
(avg 12 per author)  
**0,2% oa\***

\* source: scopus



# findings

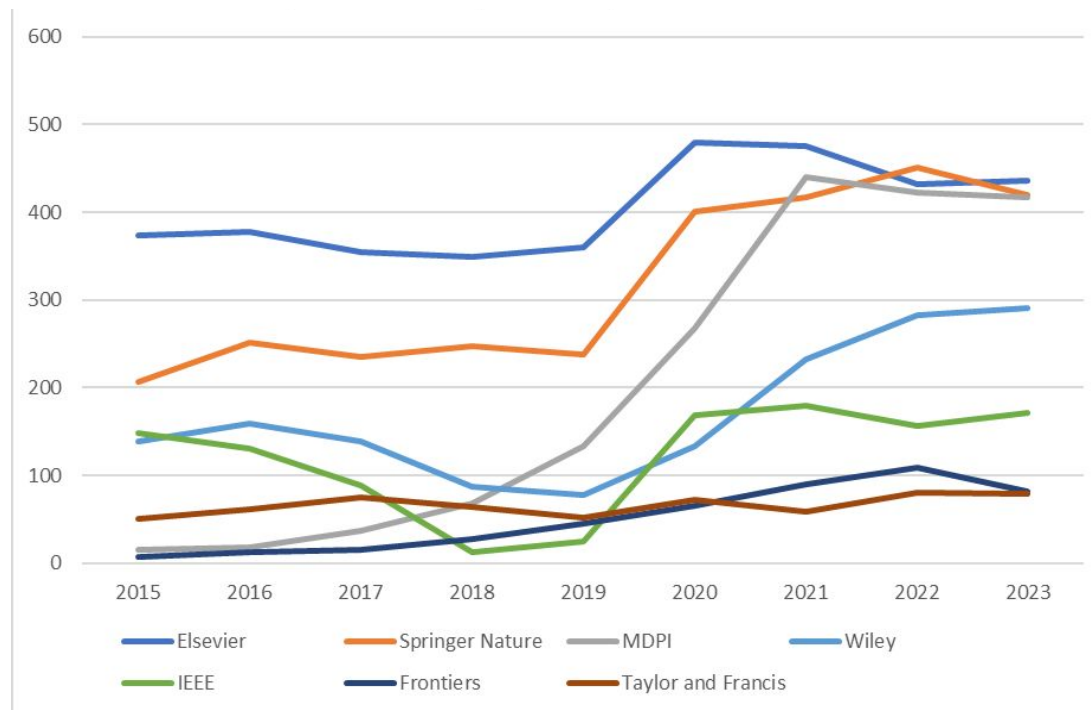
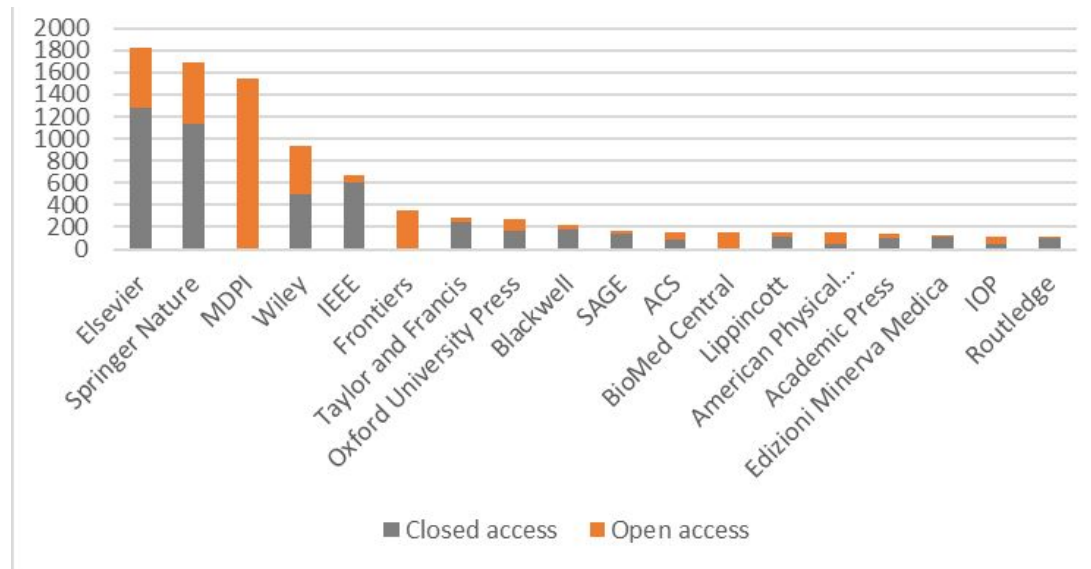
35% of all publications issued by three publishers:

**Elsevier**  
**Springer Nature**  
**MDPI**



**trend '19-21:**  
 growth for all  
 (COVID-19 related?)

**trend MDPI:**  
 +2680% '15-21  
 +231% '19-21  
 -4% '21-23



## findings



2020-2023:  
**804 APCs**  
**1.6 millions €**

**trend:**

'19-20: +55%

'20-21: +42%

'21-22: -1%

'22-23: -12%

**'19-23: +91,5%**

**avg cost:**

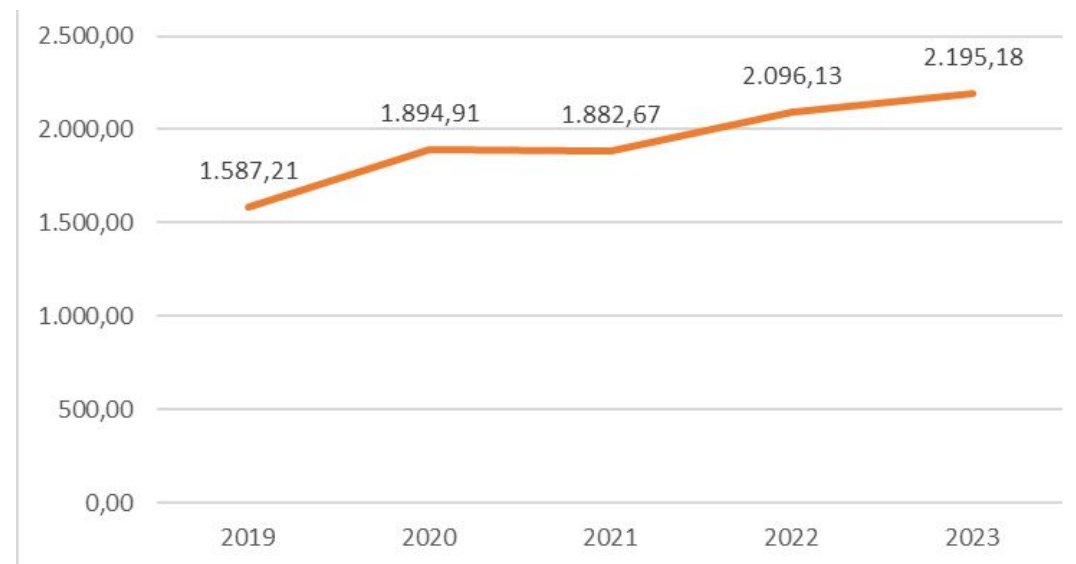
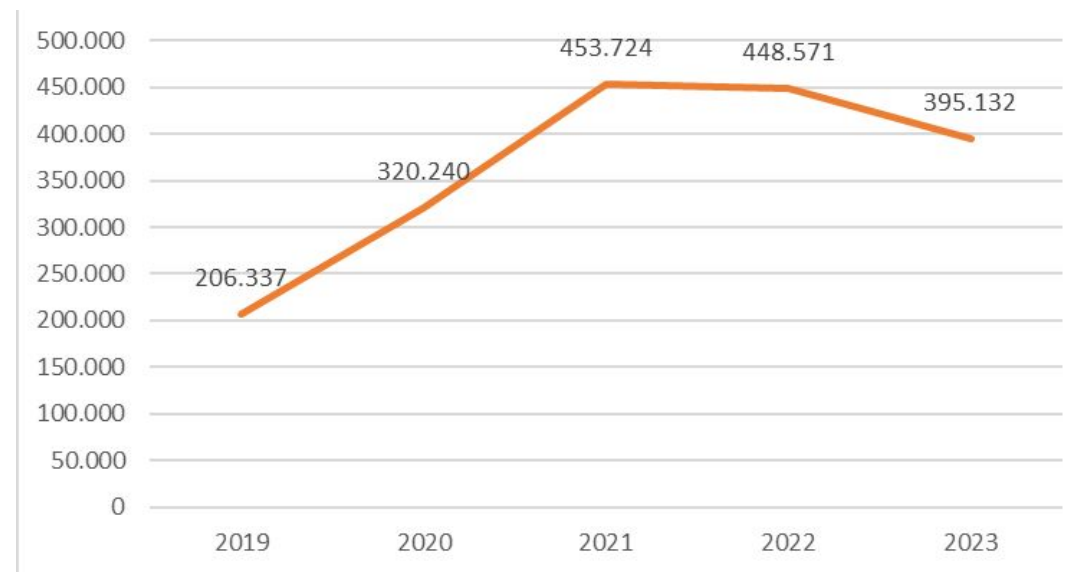
'19-20: +19%

'20-21: -1%

'21-22: +11%

'22-23: +4%

**'19-23: +38%**



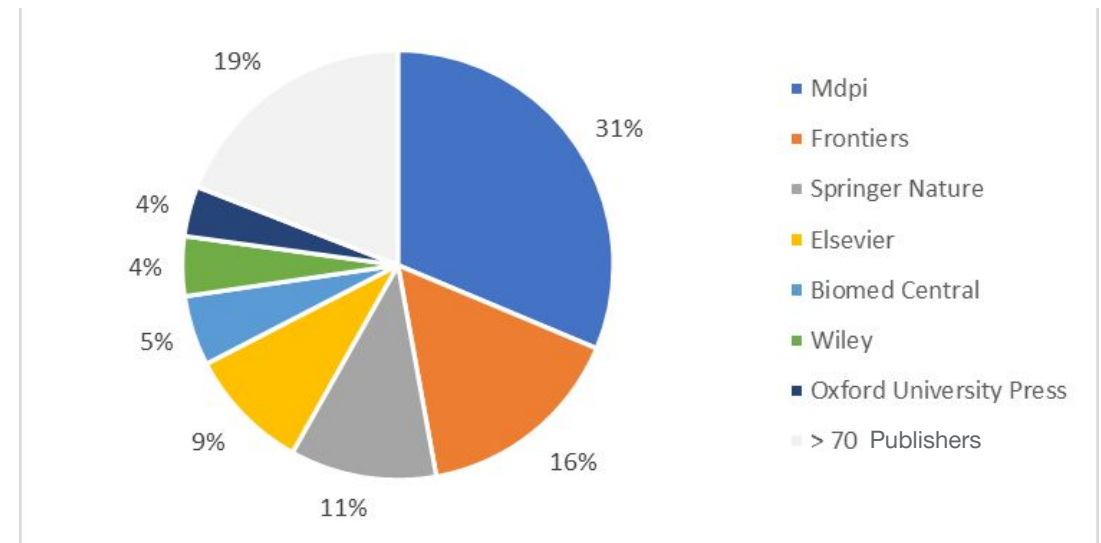
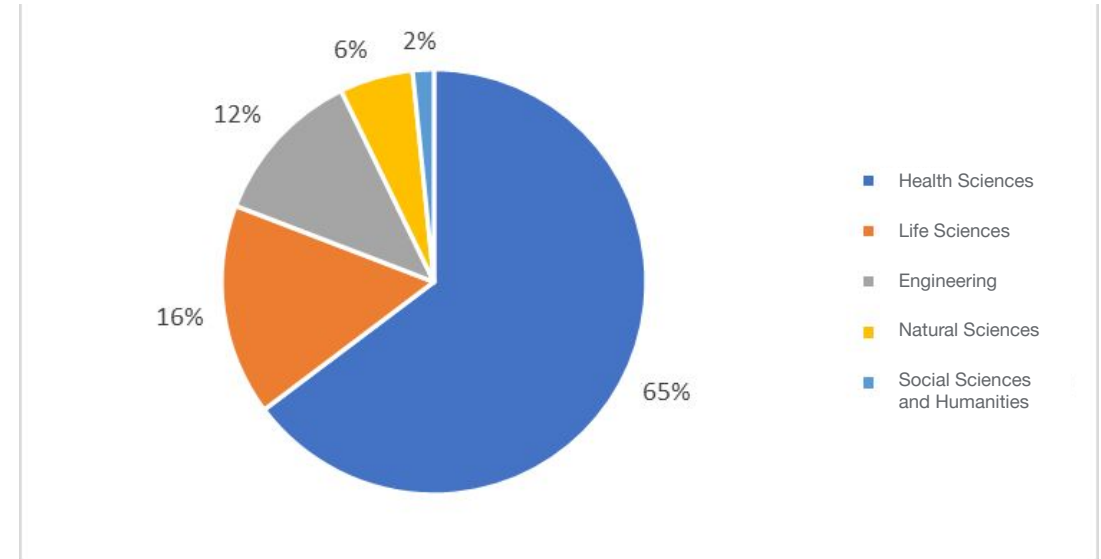
# findings



**98% STEM depts  
(81% Bio-Med depts)**

**81% APCs paid to  
seven publishers  
(52% to three “full oa”)**

**19% APCs  
paid to 70 publishers**





## findings

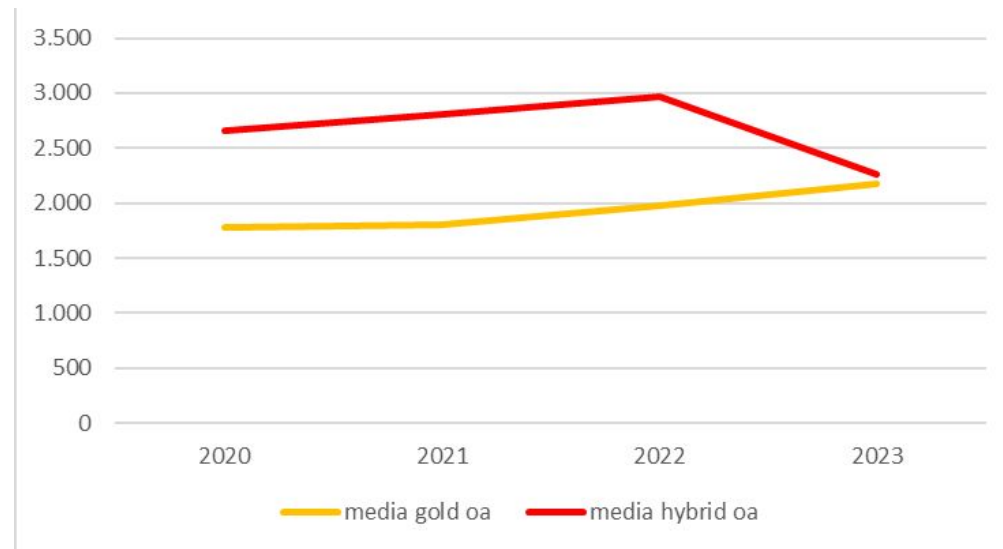
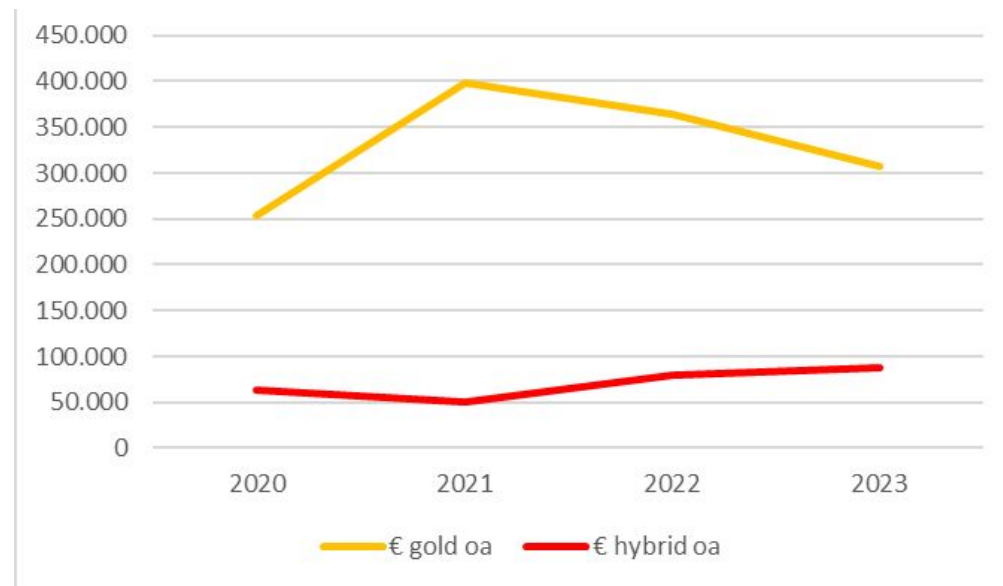
**82% of APCs is for gold oa**

trend '20-23 APCs (€):  
**-16%** for gold oa  
**+16%** for hybrid oa

avg APC 2020-2023:  
**1.920 € gold oa**  
**2.619 € hybrid oa**  
(+36%)

trend '20-'23 avg APC:  
**for gold oa: +23%**  
**for hybrid oa: -15%**

avg APC 2023:  
**2.176 € gold oa**  
**2.265 € hybrid oa**



# findings

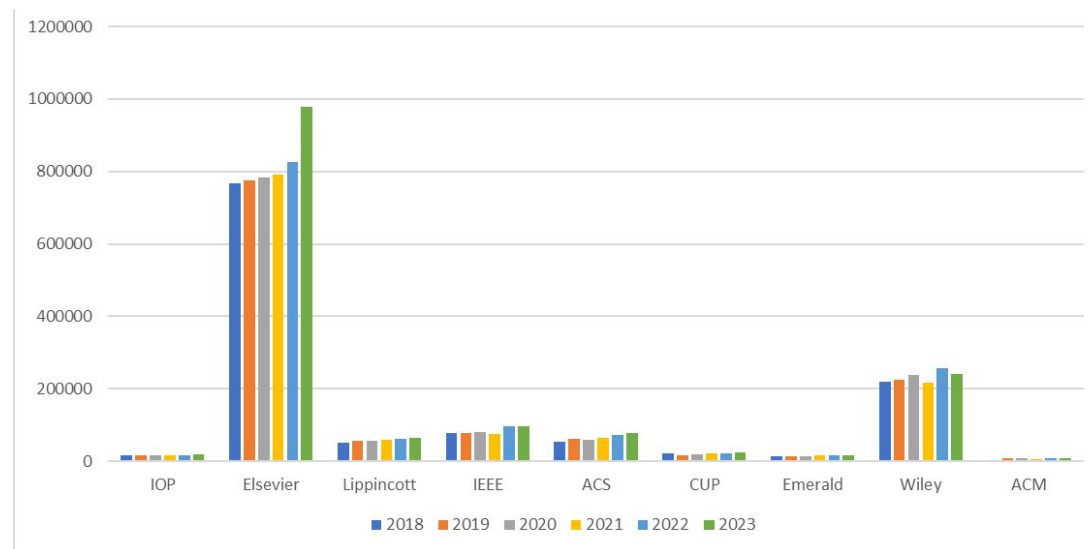
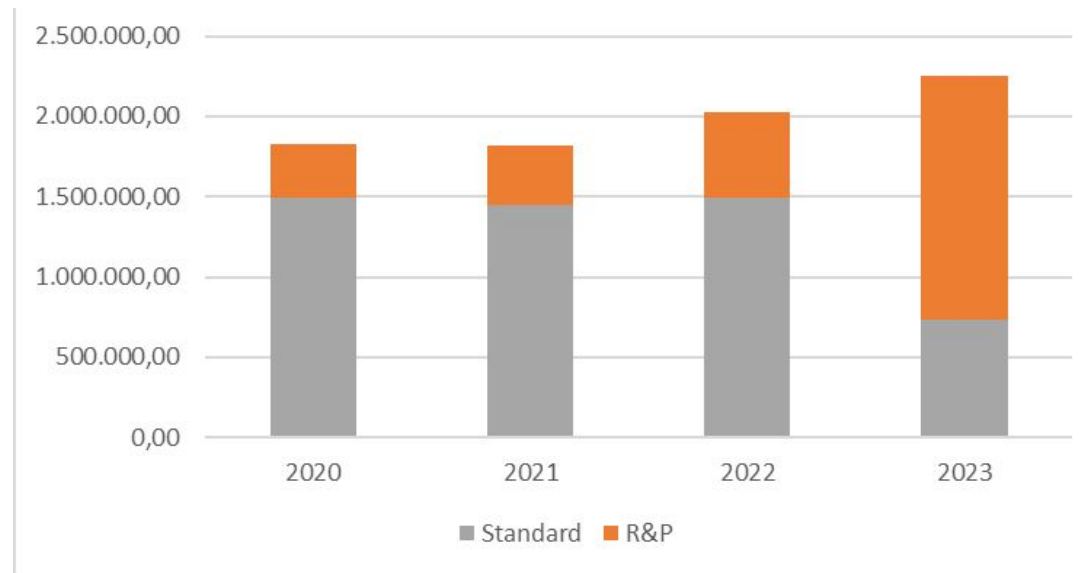
10.4 millions € overall

big deals + R&P agreements:  
8 millions €  
trend '20-23:  
+23%



2020:  
first R&P  
2023:  
R&P with Elsevier  
978k €

Nine R&P agreements  
active in 2023  
1.5 millions €



# findings

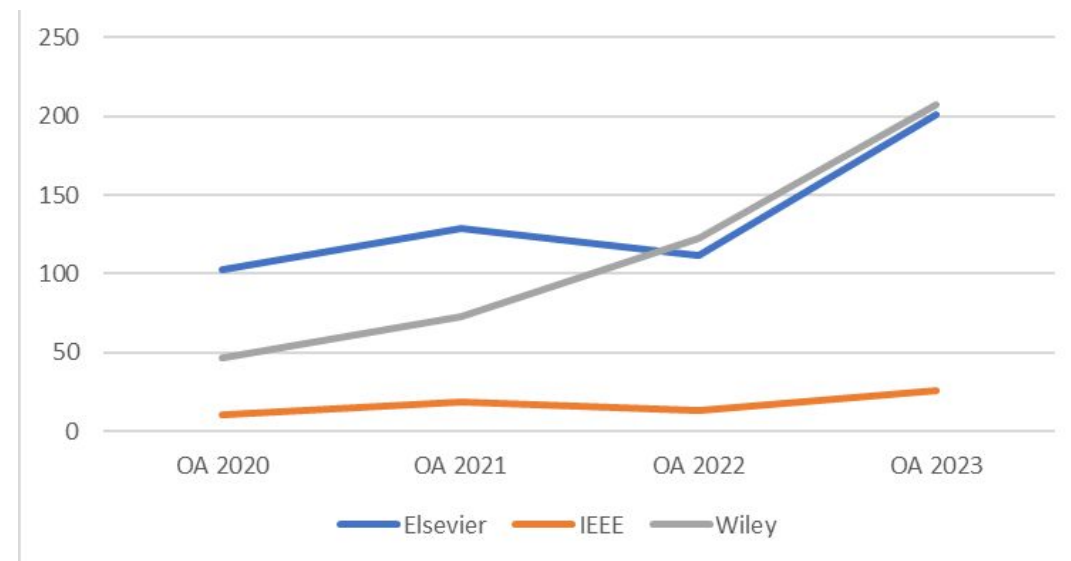
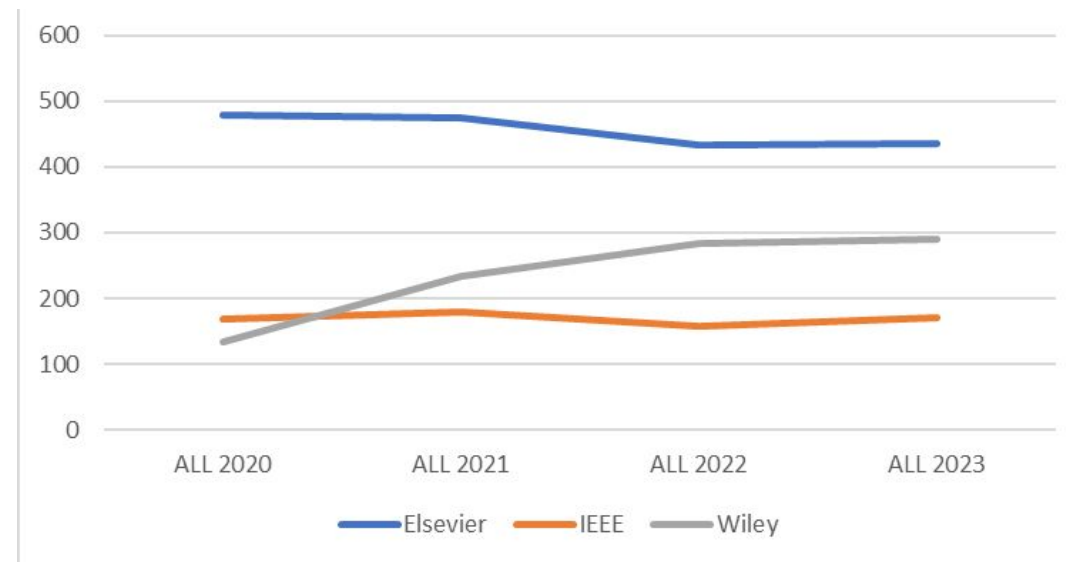


**Elsevier:**  
**+79% pub oa**  
since the activation of  
the R&P (2023)

**IEEE:**  
**+37% pub oa**  
since the activation of  
the R&P (2022)

**Wiley:**  
**+340% pub oa**  
since the activation of  
the R&P (2020)

...waiting for Springer  
Nature (R&P active  
starting form 2024)



## findings



## findings



### by contract/invoice year 2023

Elsevier:  
345k € (**35%** R&P)\*  
avg “APC”: **3.050 €**

IEEE:  
8.3k € (**8,5%** R&P)\*  
avg “APC”: **397 €**

Wiley:  
144k € (**60%** R&P)\*\*  
avg “APC”: **3.265 €**

\*by invoice

\*\* by agreement

## findings



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\*by invoice  
\*\* by agreement

### actual cost\* first year of R&P

Elsevier:  
128k € (**13%** R&P)  
avg “APC”: **1.137 €**

IEEE:  
18k € (**19%** R&P)  
avg “APC”: **2.236 €**

Wiley:  
7k € (**3%** R&P)  
avg “APC”: / €  
(no articles published via R&P)

\*i.e.: difference between the  
amount of the last standard  
agreement (+3%) and the first  
R&P agreement

## findings



by contract/invoice  
year 2023

Δ

actual cost\*  
first year of R&P

Elsevier:  
345k € (**35%** R&P)\*  
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22 *punti*  
1.913 €

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8,5 *punti*  
1.839 €

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57 *punti*  
3.265 €

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7k € (**3%** R&P)  
avg "APC": / €  
(no articles published via R&P)

\*by invoice  
\*\* by agreement

\*i.e.: difference between the  
amount of the last standard  
agreement (+3%) and the first  
R&P agreement

# I contratti Read & Publish sono convenienti?



## conclusion

Increase of open access publications: **+55%**

Increase of open access paid by Unimore: **+121%**

Increase of avg APCs (€): **+23%**

Increase of R&P (€): **+187%**

**Drop of full open access publishers**

**Less gold and more hybrid open access**

**Hybrid publishers have regained lost ground**

Market is (even) **more concentrated** than ever



## conclusion

**Around 50% of all scholarly articles** were published as paid-for open access in 2023

**The large fully open access publishers saw a significant drop** in their output in 2023

**Hybrid OA has taken up** some of the shrinkage in fully OA.

**Growth in hybrid output and hybrid revenues continues to be strong.**



\* [Market Sizing Update 2024: Has OA Hit A Peak?](#)

# Grazie

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Genova  
08 Novembre 2024