**ISSN Turns 50:
A Standard Worth Singing About!**

ISSN news

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In 2025, the ISSN celebrates its 50th anniversary as an ISO standard first published in 1975. This milestone event will honor the history, achievements, and impact of the ISSN with a lively, engaging program that includes dramatizations of key moments, musical interludes, and playful appearances by other identifiers like DOI, ISBN, and ISNI. Blending humor with insight, the celebration aims to deepen attendees' understanding of the ISSN's origins, evolution, and ongoing importance in the world of information and scholarly communication. Watch it here.

Digital preservation

Preserving Uganda's Heritage: New Digital Memorandum to Safeguard National Archives

Uganda, represented by Makerere University, the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, and key government bodies, will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with First Coast Technologies Ltd (FCTEC) to digitally preserve its documentary heritage under the "Memory of the World" initiative. The agreement's framework was agreed at a high-level breakfast meeting on June 5, 2025, followed by technical training and pilot digitization sessions through June 7 at Makerere University. FCTEC, a South Africa–based firm, emphasized that digital preservation entails more than scanning—it

requires intelligent document processing, metadata management, security, and capacity building. Read more.

OCLC to Retire BibPURL Service by July 2025: Transition Support and Link Preservation Planned

OCLC will discontinue its Bibliographic PURL (BibPURL) service on 31 July 2025, with new user registrations ending immediately. BibPURL, active since 2001, allowed CONSER and BIBCO libraries to manage persistent URLs, supporting around 111,000 links from 28 institutions. Due to a 75% decline in usage and the rise of alternative services, OCLC is decommissioning it. While new PURLs can no longer be created or edited, existing links will still resolve, and associated URLs will be integrated into WorldCat records. OCLC is assisting current users during this transition and may eventually remove BibPURLs from records.

Open science

Streamlining Research Transparency: HAL–Nakala Metadata Interoperability Enhances FAIR Links

HAL and Nakala have implemented a standardized automatic metadata exchange system to efficiently link scientific publications with research datasets. Using the COAR Notify protocol, the two platforms synchronize their content: when a resource is linked on one, the other is automatically notified. This bidirectional exchange enhances interoperability, visibility, and compliance with FAIR principles. Initially developed under the European EOSC-Pillar project and now continued through the COMMONS project, the initiative supports open science by enabling integrated and seamless management of research outputs across platforms. Read more.

Open access

DIAMAS Publishes Global Policy Recommendations to Strengthen Diamond Open Access

The DIAMAS project has published international recommendations and guidelines to support Diamond Open Access (OA) publishing. These

guidelines, developed over two years through extensive community consultation, provide a flexible framework tailored for institutions, funders, sponsors, donors, and policymakers. They emphasize collective responsibility and collaboration among stakeholders to ensure the long-term sustainability of Diamond OA. The report focuses on strengthening research cultures, ensuring financial sustainability, and addressing authority dynamics in scholarly publishing. It aims to reshape scholarly communication through policy alignment, resource allocation, and ongoing dialogue. Read more.

Diamond Open Access and Open Infrastructures Shape Canada's Scholarly Journal Landscape

The article examines the evolution of Canada's scholarly publishing landscape, highlighting the pivotal role of Diamond Open Access (OA) and open infrastructures since the digital era's onset. It underscores how community-driven initiatives, such as Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project, have fostered equitable access to research without author fees. These platforms have empowered non-profit journals, particularly in the humanities and social sciences, to thrive. The study emphasizes the importance of sustained public investment and collaborative governance in maintaining a diverse, multilingual, and publicly controlled scholarly communication ecosystem. Read more.

DOAJ's Open Access Journals Toolkit Expands: More Languages, New Editorial Faces, Fresh Horizons

The Open Access Journals Toolkit—launched in June 2023 by DOAJ, OASPA, and an independent editorial board—has expanded beyond English and French to include Arabic, Portuguese, and Spanish, thanks to translations by SciELO Brazil, SciELO Mexico, and Knowledge E/DOAJ's Mahmoud Khalifa. Usage has steadily grown, with high PDF downloads and tens of thousands of site views. The Toolkit is actively updated by an international board; two new members from Bangladesh and Mexico recently joined. Upcoming updates

will add sections on legal, archival, accessibility, AI, preprints, and plagiarism policies. Read more.

Libraries

Safeguarding Knowledge Amid Warfare

In "Librarianship in Times of Conflict," Alice Prochaska explores the historical and ongoing threats to libraries and archives during periods of war and unrest. She highlights how the destruction and looting of these institutions have long been tactics of warfare, aiming to erase cultural memory and identity. Despite these challenges, libraries serve as vital sanctuaries for learning and resilience, offering solace and continuity. Prochaska emphasizes the critical role of organizations like Book Aid International in restoring access to books and rebuilding library services in conflict-affected regions, underscoring the enduring importance of safeguarding cultural heritage. Read more.

Knowledge Without Borders: The British Library's Global Engagement Report

On April 23, 2025, the British Library launched its "Knowledge without borders" report, detailing international collaborations during 2023–24. Highlighted is the Library's role as a global knowledge custodian, with 170 million collection items spanning 2,000 years in 200+ languages, preserved and made accessible through partnerships worldwide. Guided by its 2023–2030 Knowledge Matters strategy, initiatives focus on strengthening ties across Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and supporting the Endangered Archives Programme. Despite a cyber attack in October 2023, staff and partners

sustained essential services—training, digitisation, leadership and conservation—reinforcing shared learning and mutual understanding. Read more.

Fusion du Sudoc-PS et des PCPP : lancement du Plan de Gestion des Périodiques (PGP) et des AMI académiques 2025

À la suite d'un groupe de travail interministériel réuni en 2024 et 2025, les dispositifs Sudoc-PS et PCPP ont été fusionnés pour former le **PGP (Plan de Gestion des Périodiques).** Ce nouveau cadre distingue deux volets : des PGP **régionaux** pilotés par le ministère de la Culture avec la BnF, et des PGP **académiques** pilotés par le MESR via l'Abes et le CTLes. Un pilotage national coordonnera signalement et conservation. Le CTLes lance deux **appels à manifestation d'intérêt,** ouverts jusqu'au **15 septembre 2025**, pour soutenir les projets académiques thématiques ou disciplinaires.

Publishing industry

BISG Launches "Find a Rightsholder": Centralized Rights Contact Database

On June 3, 2025, the Book Industry Study Group (BISG) unveiled Find a Rightsholder, a free, centralized search tool cataloguing over 3,500 U.S. and U.K. imprints—including inactive and defunct ones—to streamline locating rights and permissions contacts. Managed by BISG's Rights Committee and chaired by Kris Kliemann, the tool supports standardized rights communication, reduces licensing errors, and unlocks new revenue opportunities. Users are invited to contribute corrections or new data to enrich accuracy. With this evolving resource, BISG aims to improve rights workflows and expand licensing potential across the industry. Read more.

Spanish-Language Version of Think. Check. Submit. Video Released to Support Responsible Scholarly Publishing

The Think. Check. Submit. initiative has launched a Spanish-language version of its animated video, offering Spanish-speaking researchers an accessible introduction to identifying trusted journals and publishers. The video clearly presents the core principles of the campaign and is ideal for inclusion in author guides, training programs, and outreach materials. Stakeholders are encouraged to share and embed the resource widely. This release was made possible with key support from Ivonne Lujano, DOAJ's Community Manager and Ambassador in Latin America. Watch it here:
https://youtu.be/9p6qfZWGCpE

Read more

Rethinking 'Predatory Journals': Power, Language, and Bias in Scholarly Publishing

In his article, Prof. Emmanuel Andrès critiques the term "predatory journal," arguing it's often misused by established publishers to marginalize emerging open-access journals that challenge traditional publishing models. While acknowledging the existence of fraudulent journals, he contends that the label "predatory" is frequently applied to legitimate journals that offer rapid publication and broader accessibility, particularly those serving underrepresented regions. This misuse, he suggests, serves to maintain the dominance of legacy publishers and restricts the democratization of scientific knowledge. Andrès calls for a more nuanced evaluation of journals, emphasizing transparency and ethical practices over adherence to traditional norms. Read more

Expanded Clarivate-CAPES Partnership Brings Enhanced Research Data to Over 400 Brazilian Institutions

Clarivate and Brazil's CAPES have renewed and expanded their partnership in a new five-year agreement, increasing institutional coverage by 57%. The deal

extends access to key research tools—including Web of Science, Journal Citation Reports, Cortellis Drug Discovery Intelligence, and Derwent Innovation Index—to over 400 universities and research centers across Brazil. This collaboration, ongoing since 2001, focuses on reducing regional research disparities by reaching remote areas. It supports academics, scientists, and policymakers in driving innovation, improving healthcare, and making informed, data-driven decisions throughout the country. Read more
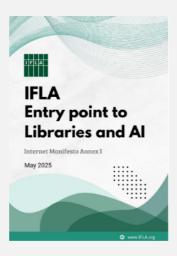
Scolarly communications

Rethinking Global Publishing: National Journal Ecosystems and the Limits of Mainstream Indexes

This study analyzes journal publishing in seven European and Latin American countries—Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Finland, Mexico, Poland, and Turkey—revealing diverse national ecosystems often overlooked in global publishing narratives. Using ISSN and national data, it finds that educational institutions dominate publishing in most countries, while commercial publishers have limited presence. Finland stands out with scientific/professional associations leading. Coverage by global databases varies widely: OpenAlex indexes over 50% of journals, whereas Web of Science and Scopus index far fewer. The findings underscore the need for bibliometric research to better reflect national publishing dynamics and data diversity. Read more.

Artificial Intelligence

Introducing IFLA's 'Entry Point to Libraries and AI': A Practical Ethical Guide

On 10 June 2025, IFLA released the "Entry Point to Libraries and AI" document to support librarians in evaluating the ethical use of AI in their institutions. It provides key considerations, real-life scenarios, and reflective questions focusing on principles such as freedom of expression, privacy, openness, and accountability. Rather than prescribing policy, it encourages informed discussions and aligns with IFLA's 2024 Internet Manifesto. This is the first in a planned series of thematic AI resources, aiming to promote responsible, inclusive, and sustainable AI implementation across library settings. Read more.

Events

Astana to Host IFLA World Library Congress: Uniting Global Library Leaders in Central Asia

Astana, Kazakhstan will host the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) from 18–22 August 2025—the first time it takes place in Central Asia. The event will unite global library leaders through sessions on AI in information services, children's and religious libraries, and legal archives. An international exhibition will showcase projects by librarians, students, and institutions. The congress concludes with guided tours of Kazakh libraries, offering insight into regional practices and fostering cultural and professional exchange. The ISSN International Centre will be present, reinforcing its commitment to global collaboration.