

## Institutions, Principles and New Policies: Advancing Open Science Worldwide



## ISSN news

### The ISSN Effect: 50 Years Connecting the World of Serials

In this article in Spanish, Juan Ignacio from the Metadata and Technical Coordination Department at the ISSN International Centre takes readers on a journey through 50 years of the ISSN network and its global impact on the identification of serial publications. The article explores the evolution of the ISSN alongside the digital publishing landscape, showcasing innovations such as the new ISSN portal and the ISSN-H cluster identifier. It also presents international collaborations in Latin America and complementary initiatives such as ROAD, The Keepers Registry and Transfer, illustrating the ongoing global impact of the ISSN on scholarly and publishing metadata.

[Read more.](#)



*Members of the ISSN Network at the ISSN Directors' Meeting, October 2025*

## **Saving Tomorrow's Scholarship: Why Digital Preservation Matters More Than Ever**

Digital knowledge is only valuable if it can survive the future. This article highlights CLOCKSS's mission to make digital preservation accessible to publishers and scholarly communities of all sizes, not just major institutions with advanced technical infrastructure. Built on the trusted LOCKSS technology and supported by a global network of libraries and publishers, CLOCKSS provides a community-driven solution to safeguard scholarly content against data loss, platform shutdowns, and technological change. The piece underscores that preserving digital scholarship is a collective responsibility — one that is essential to protecting the world's intellectual and cultural heritage for generations to come.

[Read more.](#)



## **Open science**

### **From Principles to Practice: How Institutions Are Shaping the Future of Open Science Monitoring**

A recent OSMI survey offers early evidence that institutions worldwide are actively adopting the Principles of Open Science Monitoring. Responses from 18 countries reveal growing commitment to transparency, reproducibility, and responsible self-assessment in research monitoring systems. Universities and research centres are integrating open-source tools, FAIR-aligned infrastructures, and accessible dashboards to support evidence-based policymaking and collaboration. The findings also show that the Principles are influencing institutional strategies and Open Access mandates. Looking ahead, organisations plan to strengthen self-evaluation processes, improve interoperability, and ensure monitoring systems remain open, inclusive, and adaptable to diverse research contexts.

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### **South Africa and Australia Push Open Science Forward with Bold National Policy Reforms**

South Africa and Australia are advancing major Open Science reforms aimed at improving transparency, accessibility, and equity in research. South Africa's

newly approved National Open Science Policy mandates open access for publicly funded research and promotes inclusive knowledge sharing, research assessment reform, and stronger infrastructure. Australia's leading research funders have introduced policies supporting preprints, open data, code sharing, and publication of negative results. Together, these initiatives signal growing international momentum toward more collaborative and accountable research systems aligned with UNESCO Open Science recommendations and broader efforts to democratize access to scientific knowledge.

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## Open access

### **Open, Global, Trusted: A Year of Growth for DOAJ**

The DOAJ Annual Highlights 2025 report celebrates a year of transformation, global collaboration, and renewed commitment to open access publishing. A major milestone was the creation of DOAJ Fonden in Denmark, securing the organisation's independent, community-driven future. The report highlights efforts to strengthen transparency in journal evaluation, expand regional and multilingual outreach, and support equitable access to scholarly publishing worldwide. Through strategic partnerships, technological improvements, and continued advocacy for trusted academic content, DOAJ reinforced its role as a leading force in advancing inclusive, sustainable, and high-quality open scholarly communication across the globe.

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## Libraries

### **Libraries Under Pressure: How Academic Institutions Are Reinventing Their Future**

The Ithaka S+R US Library Survey 2025 paints a vivid picture of academic libraries navigating a period of intense transformation. Faced with financial strain, staffing shortages, and rapidly evolving expectations, library leaders are rethinking priorities while embracing emerging technologies such as generative AI. The report highlights growing investment in AI literacy, research support, and data management, alongside concerns about privacy, scholarly communication, and long-term sustainability. Despite mounting challenges, libraries continue to position themselves as essential partners in student success, critical thinking,

and digital innovation — proving their role is more vital than ever in higher education's future.

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## **University of South Carolina Libraries Join Google Books to Unlock Rare Collections for Global Access**

The University of South Carolina Libraries have partnered with Google Books to digitize and expand access to thousands of unique volumes from their collections. Through the Google Books Library Project, nearly 100,000 titles — many unavailable elsewhere — will become searchable online, significantly increasing the university's contributions to HathiTrust and long-term digital preservation efforts. Library leaders describe the initiative as a major step toward broader scholarly access and research visibility. The collaboration reflects growing momentum among academic libraries to use large-scale digitization partnerships to preserve cultural heritage and democratize access to knowledge worldwide.

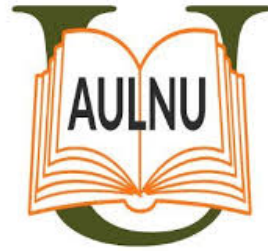
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## **Open Access, Closed Ethics: Nigerian Librarians Sound Alarm on Predatory Publishing**

University librarians across Nigeria are calling for urgent action against predatory journals, misinformation, and unethical publishing practices linked to the rapid expansion of open access publishing. During the Association of University Librarians of Nigerian Universities' 114th Bi-Annual Conference, participants warned that the improper use of artificial intelligence in scholarly communication is further threatening research integrity. At the same time, librarians emphasized the need for stronger digital infrastructure, responsible AI policies, institutional repositories, and open science strategies. The conference highlighted the evolving role of libraries as key actors in ethical scholarly communication and digital knowledge management.

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## Publishing industry

### **ResearchGate and De Gruyter Brill Scale Up Open Science Reach with 100-Journal Partnership Expansion**

ResearchGate and De Gruyter Brill have expanded their Journal Home partnership to include 100 journals across open access, subscription, and hybrid publishing models. The agreement introduces upgraded Open Access Agreement support and new Community Engagement tools designed to strengthen researcher interaction and journal visibility. By integrating journal content directly into ResearchGate's global network of more than 25 million researchers, the collaboration aims to increase discoverability, readership, and author participation. The initiative reflects growing momentum toward more accessible, community-driven scholarly communication and broader adoption of open access publishing workflows across disciplines.

[Read more.](#)



### **De Gruyter Brill Expands Subscribe-to-Open Success with 124 Journals Going Fully Open in 2026**

De Gruyter Brill has confirmed that all 124 journals in its DG2O Subscribe-to-Open program will publish open access in 2026, marking the initiative's sixth consecutive successful year. The milestone means more than 4,000 research articles will be freely available worldwide without publication fees for authors. Following the addition of 66 new journals, the program now represents the largest Subscribe-to-Open initiative managed by a single publisher. Spanning humanities, social sciences, and STEM disciplines, DG2O highlights growing institutional support for equitable and sustainable open access models that move beyond traditional APC-based publishing.

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## Scholarly communications

### **Beyond Citations: Can Social Media Redefine Research Impact?**

Can social media attention measure scientific impact as effectively as citations? This article explores the growing role of altmetrics — including mentions on X, blogs, news media, and online platforms — in reshaping research evaluation. The authors show how altmetrics capture immediate public engagement and broader societal visibility that traditional citation-based indicators often miss. At the same time, they underline important limitations, including inconsistent coverage and lack of standardization across disciplines. Rather than replacing bibliometrics, the study argues for a balanced approach that combines traditional metrics with altmetrics to provide a richer, more modern picture of research influence.

[Read more.](#)



## Standards

### **RDA Toolkit Starts the Countdown: Libraries Prepare for a Major Cataloguing Transition**

The RDA Toolkit has officially launched a one-year countdown to the retirement of the Original RDA Toolkit in May 2027, signaling a major shift for cataloguing communities worldwide. A new banner clock now reminds institutions to transition toward the Official RDA Toolkit and updated metadata practices. The RDA Steering Committee and ALA Digital Reference are supporting the move through webinars, training resources, implementation guides, and application profile tools. The initiative reflects accelerating global adoption of Official RDA and broader efforts to modernize bibliographic standards, linked-data workflows, and cataloguing practices for the digital era.

[Read more.](#)



## **Barcelona to Host Europe's Leading BIBFRAME Gathering as Libraries Accelerate the Shift Beyond MARC**

The 10th BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe (BFE 2026) will take place on 8–9 September 2026 at the University of Barcelona, bringing together library, metadata, and linked-data experts from across Europe and beyond. Focused on practical implementation rather than theory, the event will explore BIBFRAME migration strategies, interoperability, AI-driven cataloguing tools, hybrid MARC/BIBFRAME workflows, and Open Science integration. Organised in a hybrid and free-to-attend format, the workshop reflects growing momentum toward linked open data infrastructures and the modernization of bibliographic standards for libraries, archives, and cultural heritage institutions worldwide.

[Read more.](#)



## **Artificial intelligence**

### **Publishing Giants Take on Meta in Escalating Battle Over AI Training and Copyright**

Five major publishers — Elsevier, Hachette, Macmillan, McGraw Hill, and Cengage — alongside bestselling author Scott Turow, have filed a class-action lawsuit against Meta, accusing the company of illegally using millions of copyrighted books and journal articles to train its Llama AI models. The complaint alleges Meta sourced content from pirate libraries including LibGen and Sci-Hub and removed copyright information to conceal infringement. The case marks a major escalation in the global conflict between publishers and AI companies over training data, fair use, and the future of intellectual property in generative AI.

[Read more.](#)



## **Librarians Face the AI Dilemma: Balancing Professional Responsibility with Personal Ethics**

A new Choice360 article explores the growing ethical tensions librarians face as artificial intelligence becomes embedded in academic library services. While many professionals remain concerned about AI's impact on privacy, copyright, labor, bias, and environmental sustainability, the article argues that complete disengagement is no longer realistic. Instead, librarians are encouraged to adopt a balanced, intentional approach that combines AI literacy with traditional critical evaluation skills. The piece highlights the importance of transparency, ethical decision-making, and human-centered service while positioning libraries as key institutions for guiding responsible AI use in research, teaching, and information access.

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## **Events**

### **African National Libraries Forum @ National Library of the Kingdom of Morocco (Rabat, 10-11 June 2026)**

National libraries are entering a new era in which memory, open knowledge and artificial intelligence converge to transform access to information across Africa. Hosted by the National Library of the Kingdom of Morocco in Rabat on 10–11 June 2026, the African National Libraries Forum will bring together leading

experts and institutions to discuss digital sovereignty, heritage preservation, AI, and open access. The forum's objectives are to strengthen cooperation among African national libraries and to establish them as pivotal players in knowledge governance and innovation. Gaelle Bequet, Director of the ISSN International Centre, will be contributing to Panel 3, 'National Libraries, Open Access and Innovation', with a presentation on African journals, scientific visibility and access. Her talk will highlight the role of the ISSN network in enhancing the discoverability and international recognition of African scholarly publications.



## **XIV Eurasian Academic Libraries Conference (22-23 October 2026, Astana, Kazakhstan)**

The Eurasian Academic Libraries Conference (EALC), hosted by Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan, brings together librarians, researchers, and information professionals to explore the future of academic libraries in a rapidly changing world. Centered on themes such as collaboration, open science, AI, information literacy, and digital innovation, the event serves as a dynamic platform for sharing ideas, best practices, and international partnerships. Through presentations, workshops, and discussions, EALC highlights the evolving role of libraries as hubs for knowledge exchange, research support, and community engagement across Eurasia and beyond.

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ISSN International Centre  
45 rue Turbigo  
75003 Paris

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