

Unit - Direktoratet for IKT og fellestjenester i høyere utdanning og forskning

Your reference

Our reference
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Expression of support for a common negotiating strategy for open access to research articles

Unit –The Norwegian Directorate for ICT and Joint Services in Higher Education and Research, has a national coordinating role for open access, and has started the process of preparing a national plan for open access. One of the key elements is putting in place a plan for negotiations with academic publishers with a view to reach the government's aim of open access to all publically funded research by 2024.

Universities Norway (UHR) hereby gives its full support to the following negotiation principles:

- Articles with corresponding authors from Norway shall be openly available at the time of publishing
- Publishing open access shall not increase total costs
- License agreements, costs and business models must be fully transparent
- Perpetual access to content published in subscription journals must be granted
- Agreements should demonstrate a move towards models where costs are related to the volume of Norwegian institutions article publishing output

Unit is renegotiating its agreements with four of the five largest international academic publishers; Elsevier, Wiley, Taylor & Francis and SpringerNature. There are a growing number of countries working towards the same goal of open access and negotiating with the same publishers. In Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and Austria, university rectors and heads of research are actively involved in the negotiations.

UHR supports the following strategy for Units negotiations with publishers:

- Unit shall negotiate agreements that ensure open access to research results, according to the aforementioned principles.
- University rectors/heads of research will participate in the negotiations with the four publishers mentioned above.
- UHR view a continuation of the current subscription agreements as unsustainable, and is committed to achieving the goal of making publically funded research openly available through a constructive dialogue with publishers. UHR will recommend reviewing the renewal of agreements that do not meet their requirements.

Yours sincerely

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