Mirror, Mirror

The Growth of Mirror Journals

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1. The what …
2. … and the why of mirror journals
3. How can they help?
4. Potential problems
5. Next steps
What are mirror journals?
Spotting mirror journals in the wild
What are mirror journals?


Same editorial board, same mission statement, same criteria for selection
What are mirror journals?
2 Why are they needed?
Plan S recap

2021

“By 2020 scientific publications that result from research funded by public grants provided by participating national and European research councils and funding bodies, must be published in compliant Open Access Journals or on compliant Open Access Platforms”

Hybrid Open Access is not compliant with Plan S
Hybrid facts and figures

In 2009 there were 2000 journals offering hybrid options

Approx. 8000 OA articles published

In 2016 there were 10,000 journals offering hybrid options

Approx. 45,000 OA articles published

But most of the content of hybrid journals is not published OA

Up to 85% of journals would be off limits under Plan S

3 How can they help?
Researchers can still publish in their community favoured titles
Costs

No unexpected costs to pass on to researchers
4 Potential problems
Plan S

Are mirror journals just hybrid in disguise?
Metrics

Are these journals making the right type of impact?
Too many journals

Do we risk flooding the market?
The problem of predators

Can we help researchers avoid those who would take advantage of the confusion?
5 What next?
Next steps?
THANKS FOR WATCHING

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