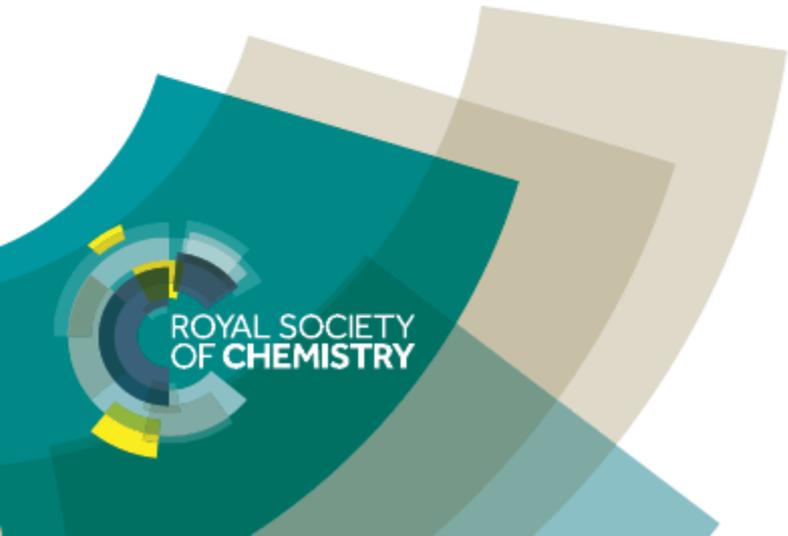


# Open Access Publishing in Chemistry: Opportunities and Challenges

Perspectives from the Royal Society of Chemistry



Emma Wilson ([wilsone@rsc.org](mailto:wilsone@rsc.org))  
Director of Publishing  
Royal Society of Chemistry  
Science Europe Workshop April 2017

To advance excellence in the chemical sciences



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# Royal Society of Chemistry

We promote, support and celebrate chemistry

The world's leading chemistry community, advancing excellence in the chemical sciences

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# Our Charter

- to foster and encourage the growth and application of such science by the dissemination of chemical knowledge;
- to establish, uphold and advance the standards of qualification, competence and conduct of those who practise chemistry as a profession;
- to serve the public interest by acting in an advisory, consultative or representative capacity in matters relating to the science and practice of chemistry; and
- to advance the aims and objectives of members of the Society so far as they relate to the advancement of the science or practice of chemistry

# In 2015, we achieved more for our community than ever before...

## Sharing knowledge

2.4 million visitors to *Chemistry World*



43,773

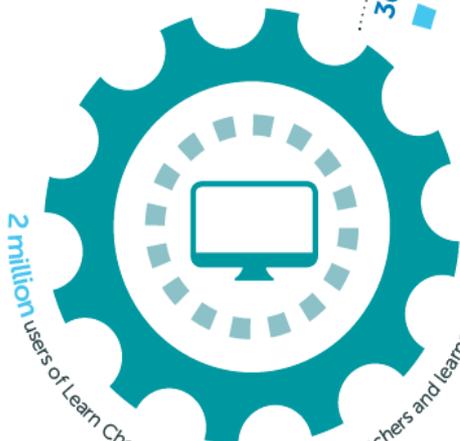
journal articles, making us the world's biggest publisher of quality chemical sciences research



100+

scientific conferences, symposia and workshops across five continents

## Developing skills



2 million users of Learn Chemistry, our online hub for teachers and learners



36,000 teachers, students and advocates in the UK engaged with by our education coordinators

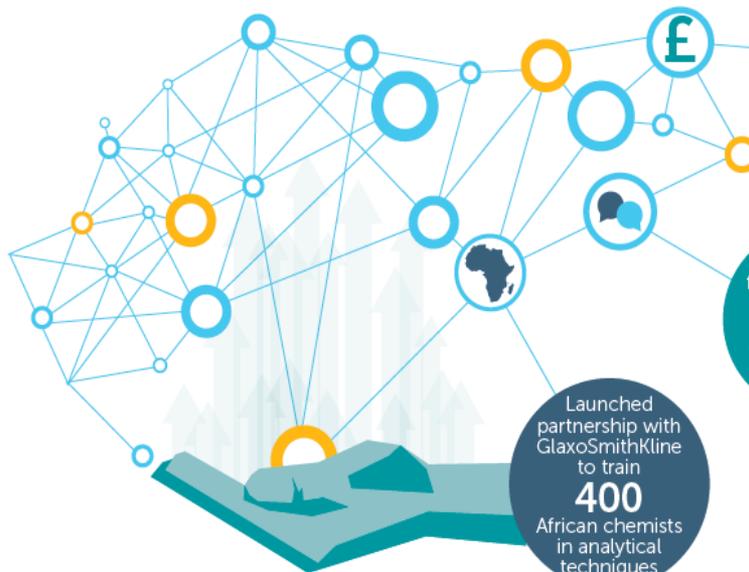
Scholarships awarded to

one in ten



new trainee chemistry teachers

## Bringing together and empowering our chemistry community



Campaigned to protect the UK science budget in real terms

Conducted first study into public attitudes to chemistry in the UK

Launched partnership with GlaxoSmithKline to train 400 African chemists in analytical techniques

## Working with members



1000+ careers consultations held with members

Grew to over 54,000 members in 125 countries



Looking to the future

Started the **Future of Chemical Sciences** initiative to help us understand how the chemical sciences might evolve over the next **10 to 20 years**

We publish to disseminate knowledge

The screenshot shows the Royal Society of Chemistry website. At the top left is the logo, which consists of a stylized 'C' made of overlapping teal and yellow segments, followed by the text 'ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY'. To the right of the logo is a search bar with the text 'Google™ Custom Search' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the logo and search bar is a horizontal navigation menu with seven items: 'About us', 'Membership & professional community', 'Campaigning & outreach', 'Journals, books & databases' (which is highlighted with a dark background and yellow underline), 'Resources & tools', 'News & events', and 'Locations & contacts'. Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Journals, books & databases'. The main content area features a large background image of an open book. On the left side of this area, the text reads 'Journals, books & databases' in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by 'Our publishing portfolio contains over one million articles, chapters and records from across the chemical sciences and related fields' in a smaller white font. On the right side of the main content area, there are two buttons: a yellow button with the text 'Read & search our journals' and a right-pointing arrow icon, and a blue button with the text 'View our books' and a right-pointing arrow icon.

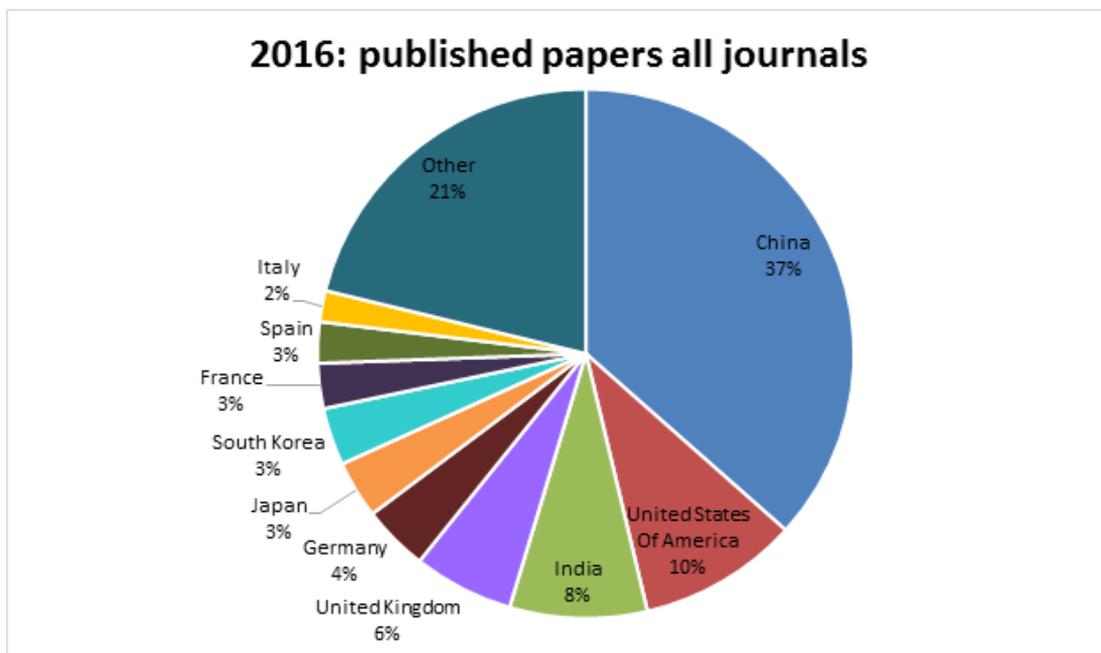
The screenshot shows the Chemistry World website. At the top left is a user navigation area with a person icon, 'SIGN IN', 'REGISTER', 'SUBSCRIBE', and 'SEARCH' with a magnifying glass icon. Below this is the main header 'CHEMISTRY WORLD' in a large, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the header is a large, stylized 'C' logo. Below the header is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: 'HOME', 'NEWS', 'OPINION', 'MATTER', 'ENERGY', 'EARTH', 'LIFE', 'CULTURE', 'CAREERS', 'PODCASTS', and 'WEBINARS'.



# Our Global Research Community



# Our Global Research Community



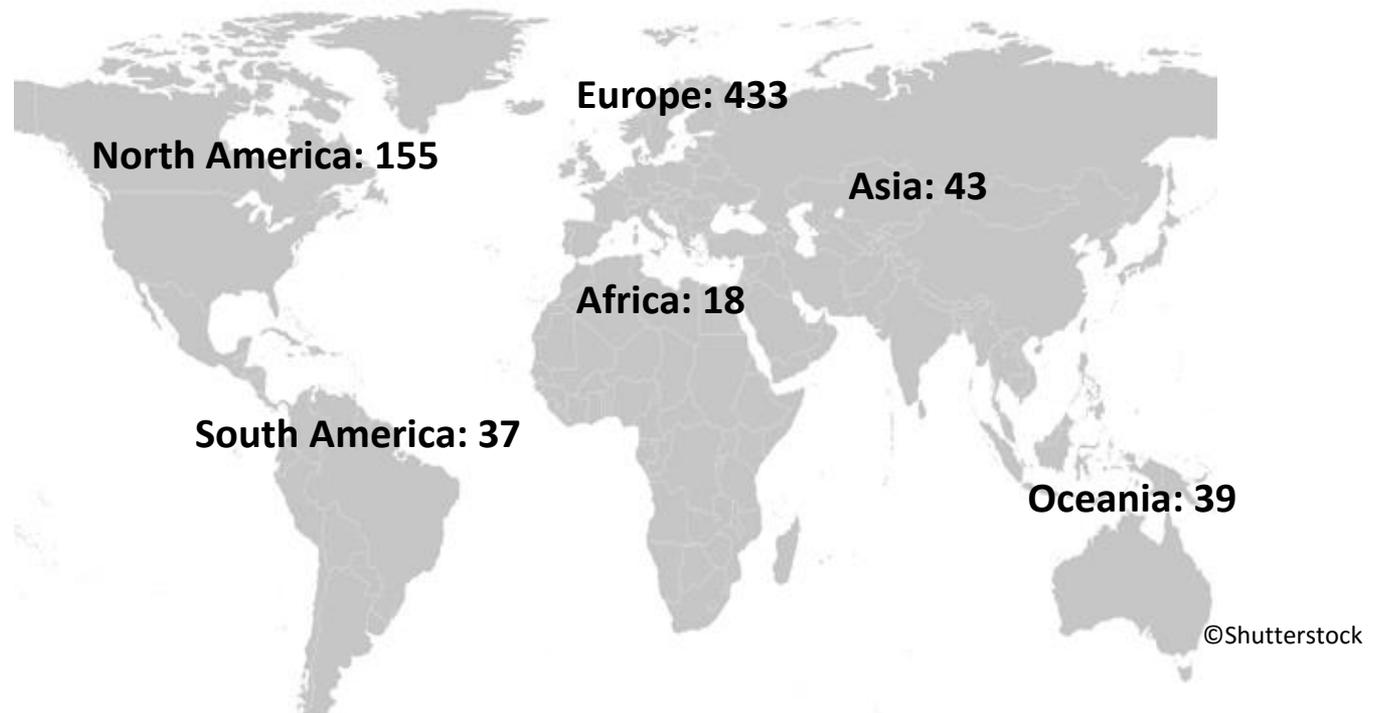


Our community's viewpoint is that OA is.....



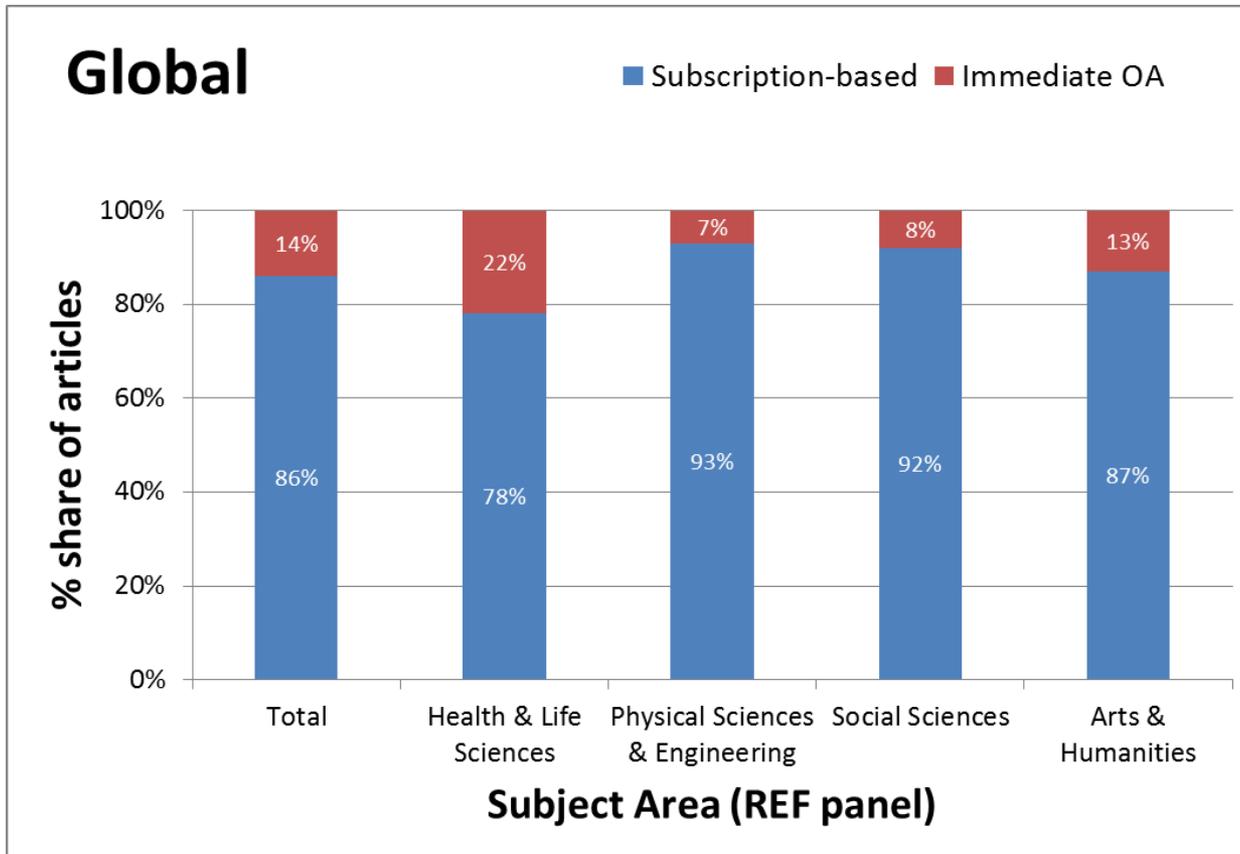
# How many Open Access policies are there worldwide?

- ❑ **425 (59%)** require OA
- ❑ **300 (41%)** do not fully mandate

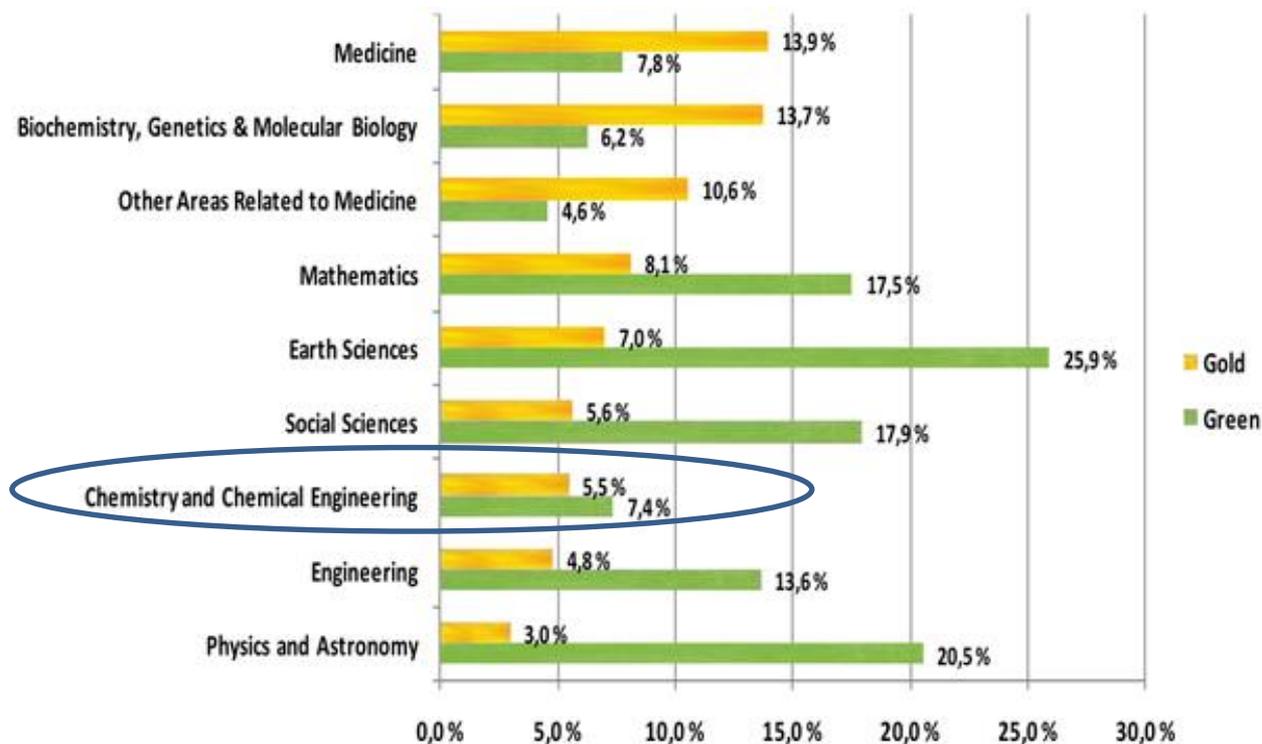


2016 data from Registry of Open Access Repository Mandates and Policies (ROARMAP)

# What about Open Access?



# Open Access in Chemistry



Björk BC, Welling P, Laakso M, Majlender P, Hedlund T, et al. (2010) Open Access to the Scientific Journal Literature: Situation 2009. PLOS ONE 5(6): e11273.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0011273

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0011273>



# Open Access at the Royal Society of Chemistry

To shape the future of Open Access publishing in the chemical sciences.

To be a sustainable partner and a trusted voice during the transition to OA while supporting our charitable activities to advance excellence in the chemical sciences



# Our Roles in Open Access

Leader

## **Influencing**

Partners, society publishers & policy makers

Educator

## **Informing**

Internal teams, referees, editors & board members

Facilitator

## **Serving**

Authors, librarians, funders & readers

## Our OA portfolio (and a collaboration)

- All our journals operate hybrid models
- Gold for Gold scheme has now been discontinued
- Concentrate more on the development of Open Access Products
- Develop sustainable OA transformation models as *RSC Read & Publish* (output based)
- Waive APCs for *Chemical Science*
- Flip *RSC Advances* with a discounted APC

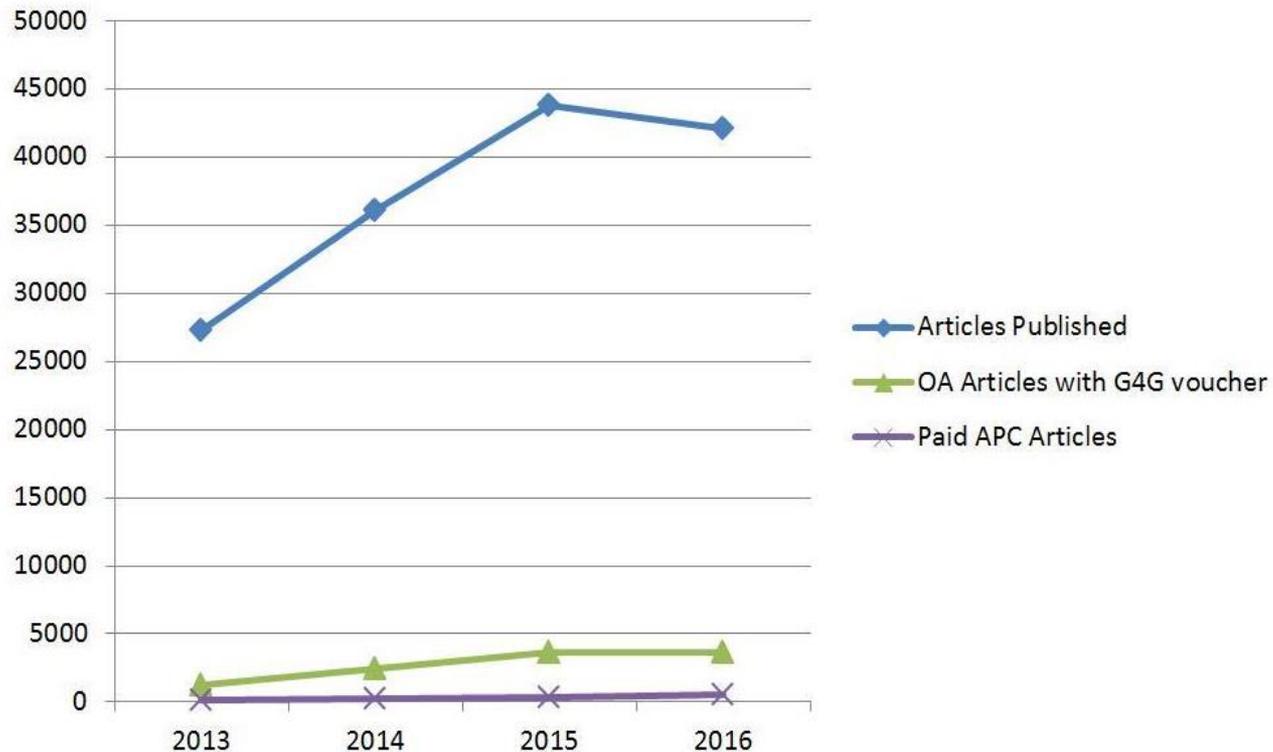




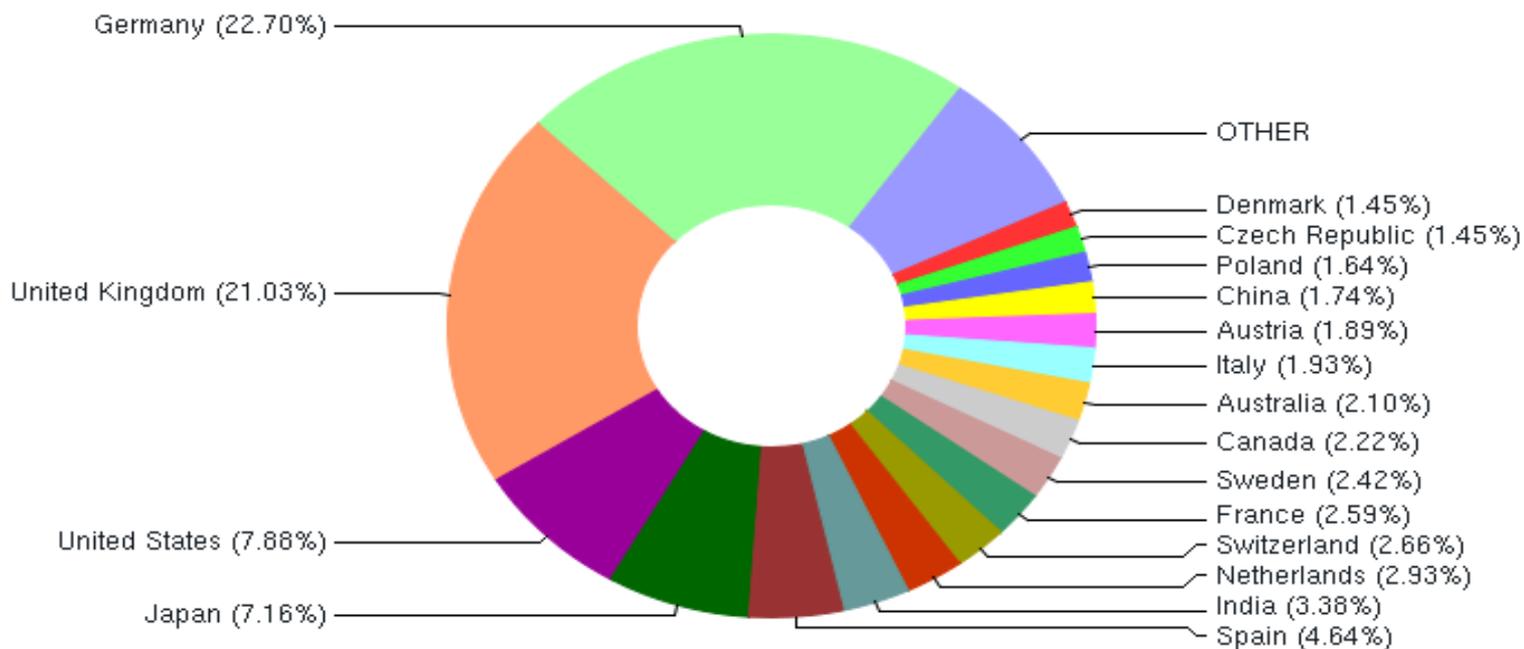
## Read & Publish License – quick definition

- Reading Fee to allow access to content remaining behind a pay wall and to grant perpetual access rights
- Publishing Fee to publish gold OA in hybrid Journals, fee based on real publishing output (count of articles by corresponding authors in former years), upfront payment of APCs

# OA developments at the RSC over the last four years



# Geographical distribution of Gold OA articles published in RSC journals



Open access articles  
published in 2016  
by country



## Top ten countries publishing Gold OA articles in RSC journals in 2016

<b>Country</b>	<b>Number of OA Articles</b>	<b>% of total articles published</b>
Germany	940	56
United Kingdom	871	48
United States	327	8
Japan	297	20
Spain	194	18
India	141	4
Netherlands	123	39
Switzerland	110	30
France	108	9
Sweden	100	40

# Changing customer requirements

	UK 	Netherlands 	Germany  (just Max Planck Society)	Austria 
Wiley	✓	✓		
Elsevier		✓		
Springer	✓	✓	✓	✓
Taylor & Francis	✓	✓	✓	✓
SAGE Publishing	✓	✓		✓
RSC	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS		✓		

Deals with institutional consortia or set of institutes (ie MPG in Germany) that have a subscription component and a Gold OA component (hybrid journals) (ie Read & Publish by RSC). Deals sometimes done on a institutional level within the consortia.



# Changing customer requirements

## Jisc discussion

- Starting point was one offer across 63 institutes
  - UK librarian feedback
    - One size does not fit all
    - Many not interested in an offer that incorporates Gold OA
    - Green OA preferred option by some
- Now 4 options within the offer
  - One alternative is “ RSC Read & Publish”



# *RSC Advances*



Large broad scope journal

Impact Factor 3.289

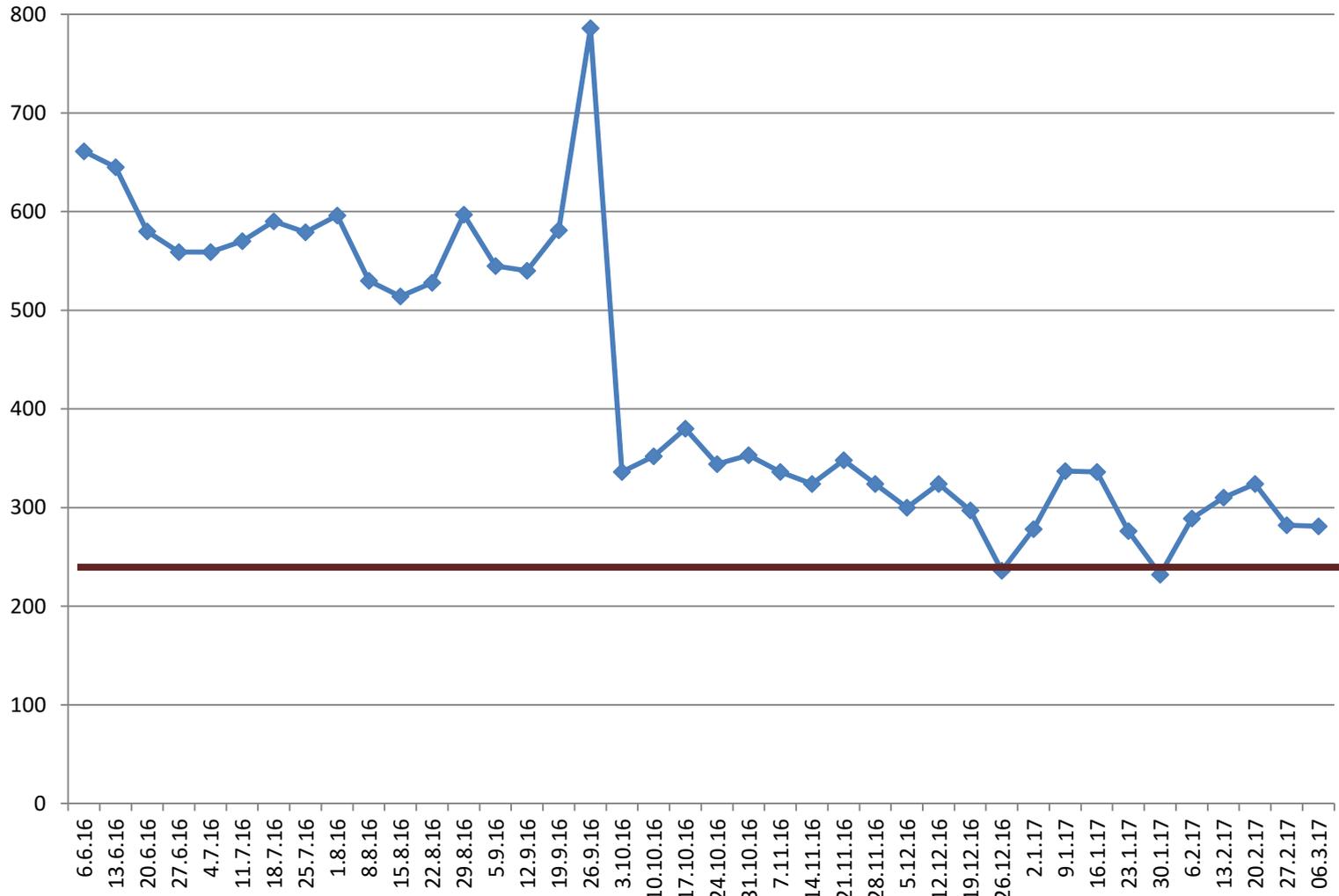
Transitioned to open access supported by APCs

- All APCs discounted for 2017 and 2018
- Regional APC pricing

Estimate over 7,000 articles will be published in 2017

Largest contributor is China

# What happened?





# What happened?

- No change to scientific topics published
- No change in the quality of work submitted
- Change in geographical distribution of articles





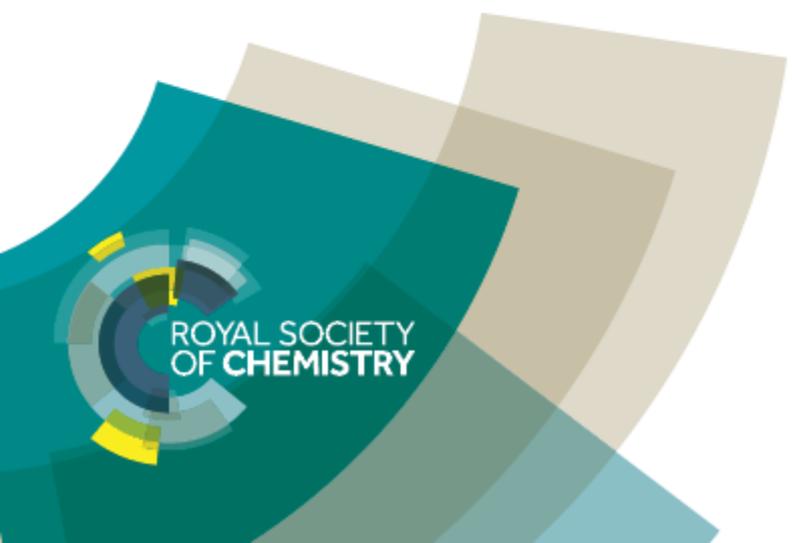
# Closing Observations

- Complexity likely to continue
- The role of Green OA?
- One size does not fit all
- Research is a global endeavour
- Our research community is global
- Our global research community does not have “one voice” on OA
- Have come a long way...still some way to go



# Thank you

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Director of Publishing  
Royal Society of Chemistry  
Science Europe Workshop April 2017

The logo of the Royal Society of Chemistry, featuring a stylized circular emblem with various colored segments (teal, grey, yellow) and the text "ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY" in white capital letters.

ROYAL SOCIETY  
OF CHEMISTRY