

Accelerating the transition to open access

A transition to open access

As the world's largest Open Access (OA) publisher, Springer Nature is committed to accelerating the adoption of Open Science techniques and OA publishing world-wide. Open approaches benefit the whole scientific and research community.



Aids the application of research to solve real-world problems



Increases the public's appreciation of research

Facilitates collaboration



Fosters economic growth



We believe gold open access publication offers the simplest, the most open, and the most sustainable route to open access.

Transformative deals

“*Hybrid publication can, when approached strategically, be used to achieve a real transition to OA*”

— Chris Banks, Assistant Provost (Space) & Director of Library Services, Imperial College London

We have developed and successfully implemented “**Publish and Read**” deals based on OA, hybrid and society subscription journals over the past five years.

We have **transformative arrangements** in place with:
The Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Hungary, the UK,
Finland, Poland, Max Planck Institute and Qatar

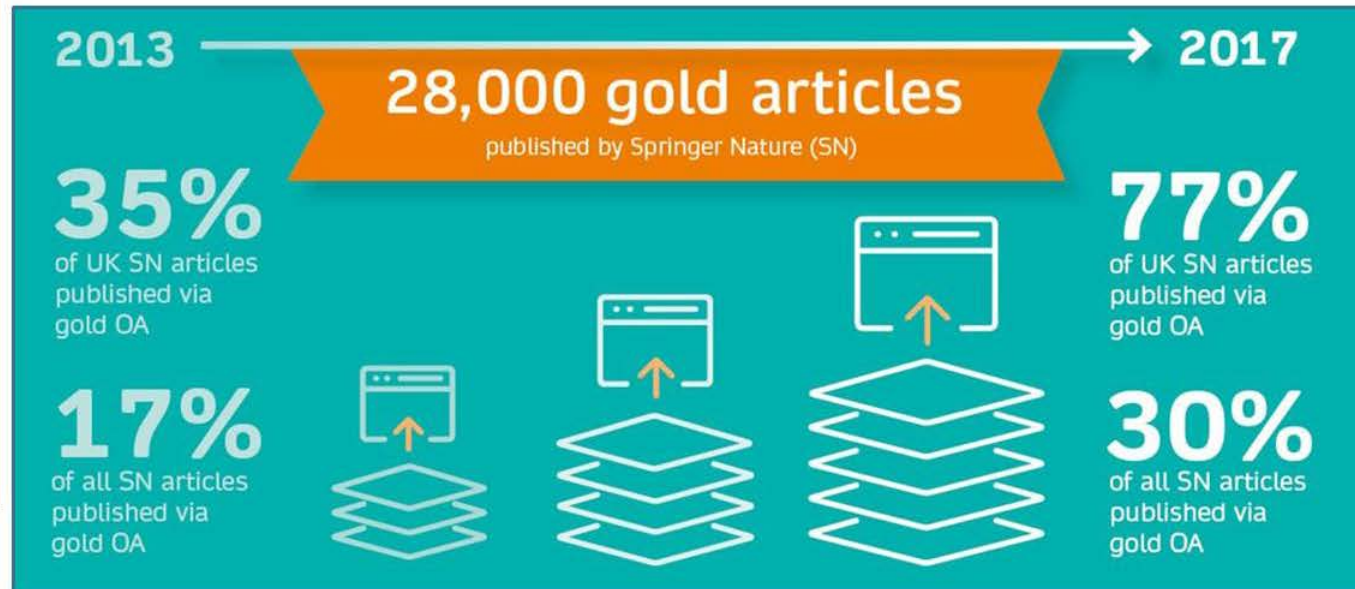
High levels of OA up take

In 2017, countries with these agreements showed high levels of OA publication: Austria 73%, UK 77%, Netherlands 84%, Sweden 93%

Transformative deals can achieve real progress in advancing open access – UK case study



<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6230813.v1>



Hybrids are
key to the
transition

Between 2013 and 2017...

Fully OA journals:

89%

increase in SN articles
published (2,355 to 4,445)

VS

Hybrid journals:

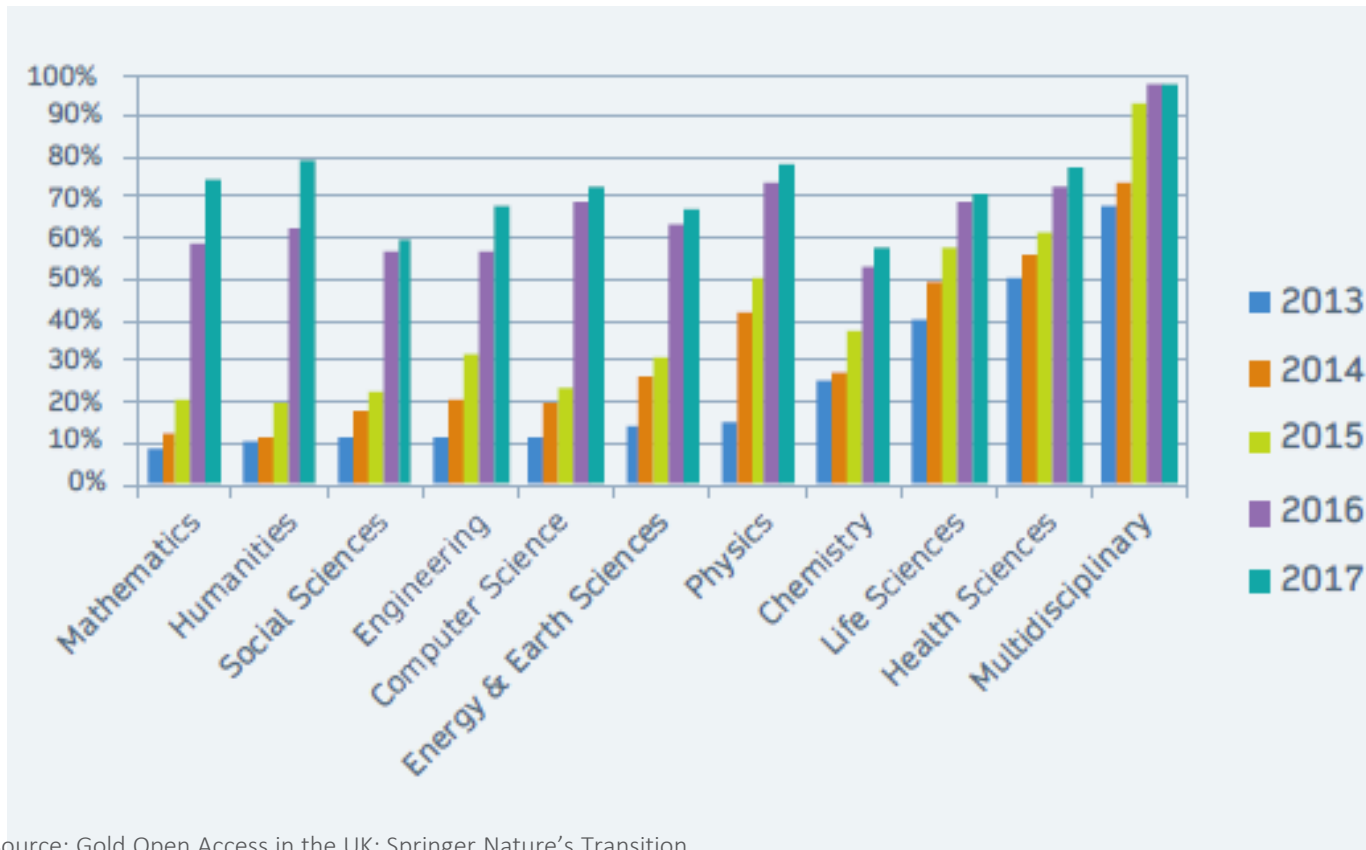
463%

increase in SN articles
published (594 to 3,908)

Transformative deals can achieve real progress in advancing open access – UK case study

74% of articles with UK corresponding authors published in Springer Nature's mathematics titles in 2017 were gold OA, up from 8% in 2013.

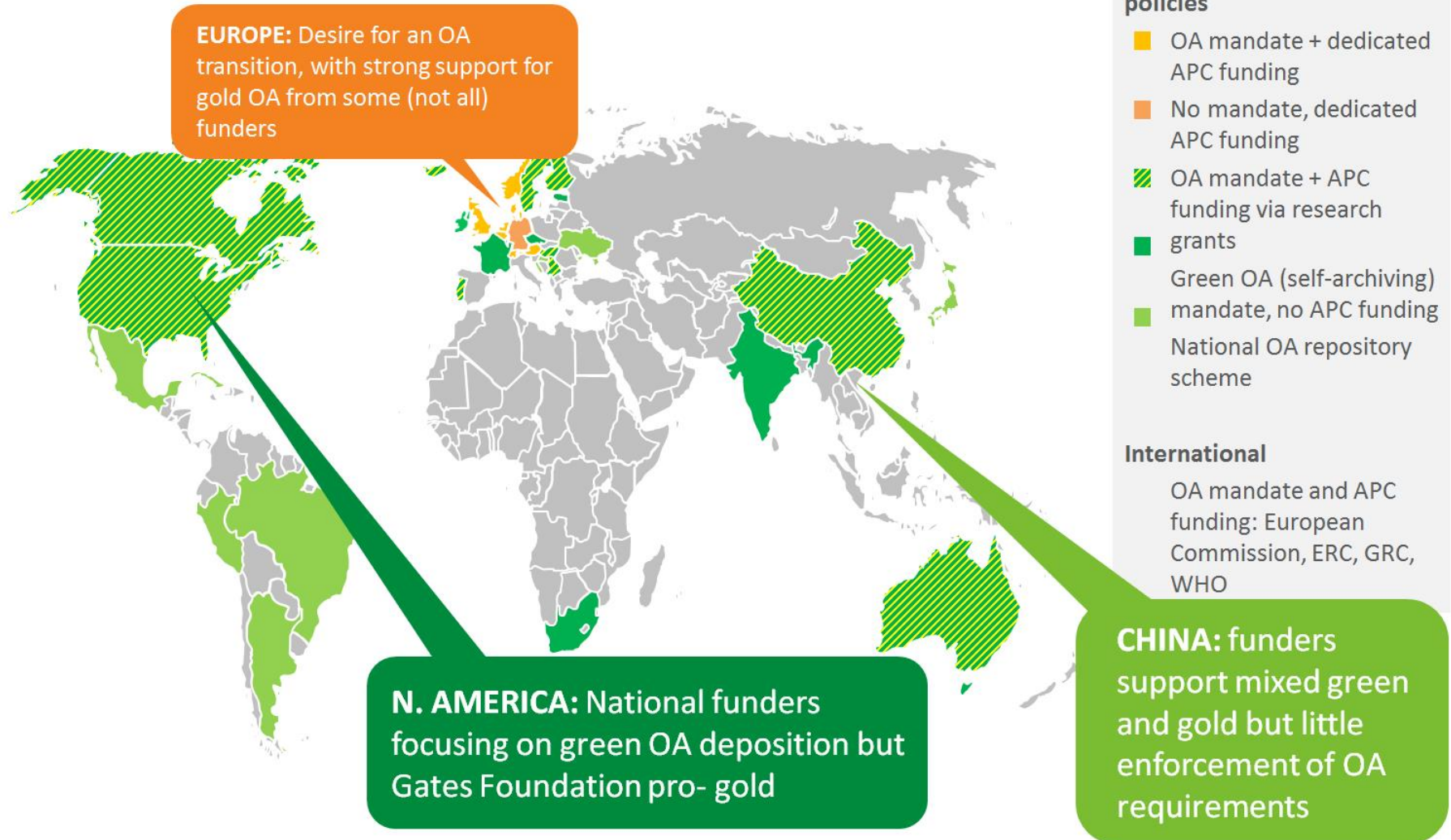
80% of articles with UK corresponding authors published in Springer Nature's humanities titles in 2017 were gold OA, up from 10% in 2013."



Source: Gold Open Access in the UK: Springer Nature's Transition

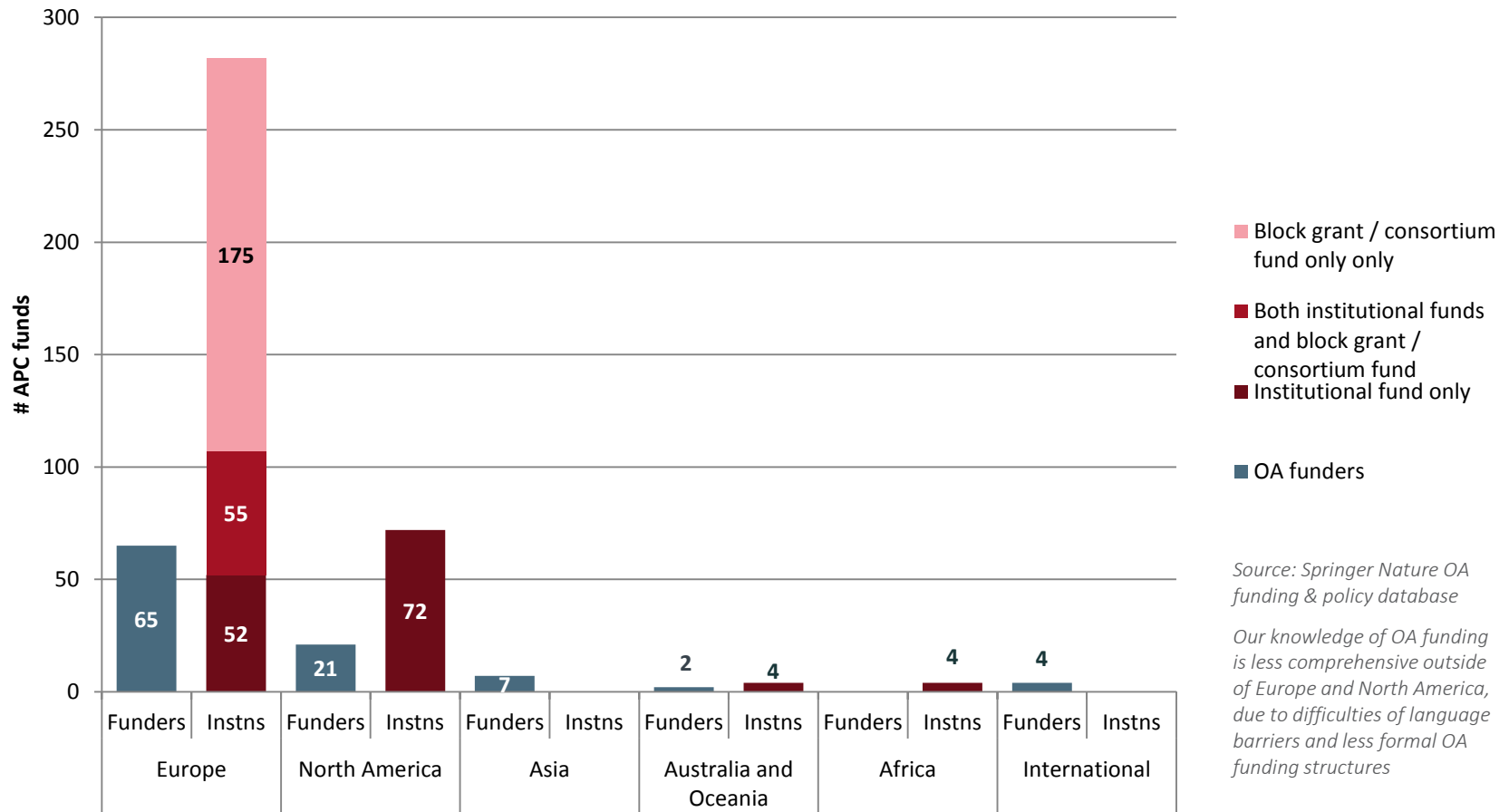
OA POLICIES: WORLD MAP

OA funding and policies vary regionally, and there is also fragmentation within regions



OA funds by world region

Formal OA funding is concentrated in Europe



Source: Springer Nature OA funding & policy database

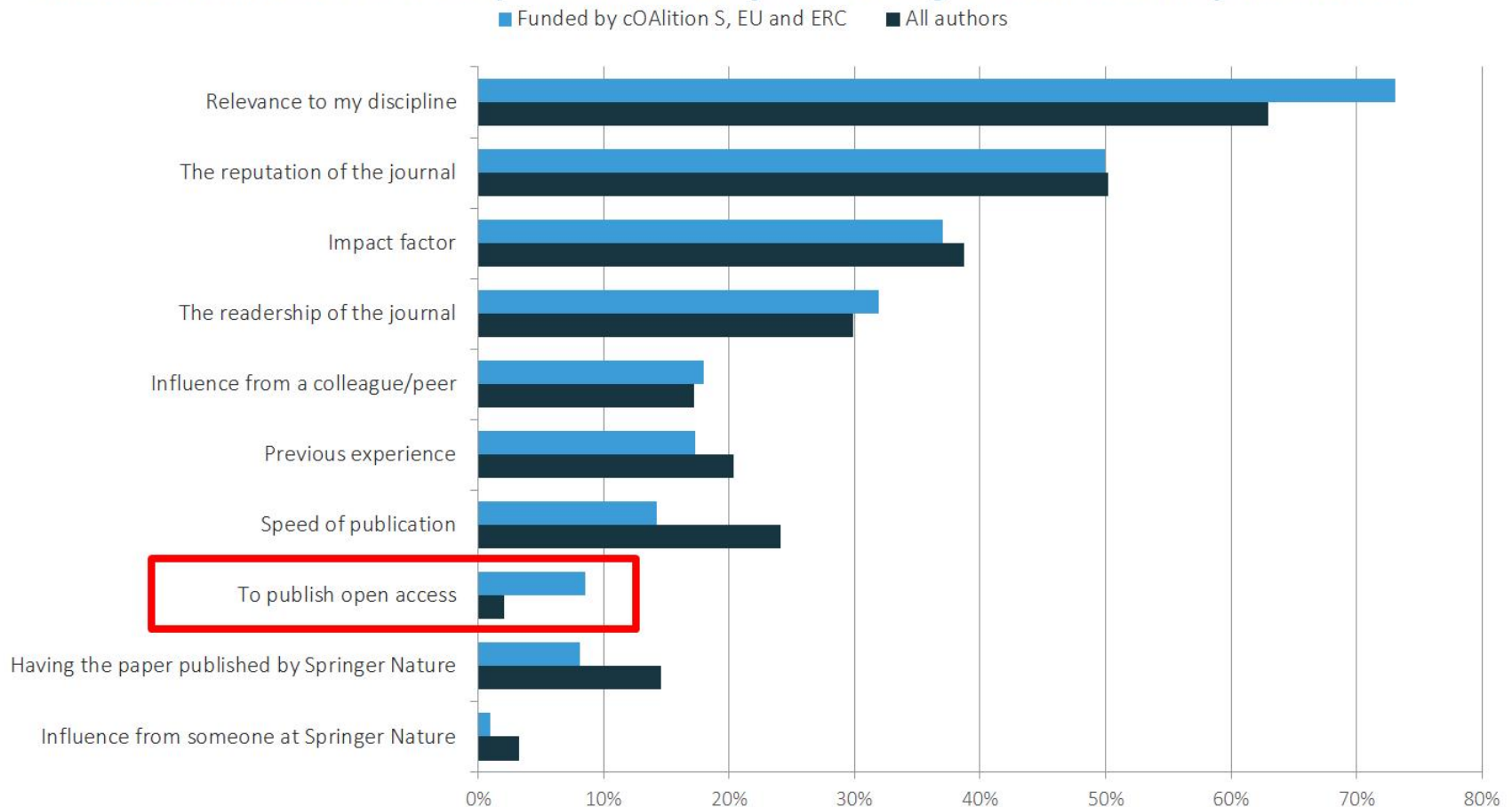
Our knowledge of OA funding is less comprehensive outside of Europe and North America, due to difficulties of language barriers and less formal OA funding structures

Working towards a global level playing field

Increasing the evidence base around the benefits of Open Access and promoting them to the researcher community

Low awareness amongst researchers about the benefits of OA
OA is not a primary driver for publication decision

What were the three most important reasons for choosing to submit to the journal XYZ?



Advantages of open access for authors

A significant advantage for open access (OA) articles

On average:

4x
more
downloads



of OA articles than
non-OA articles

1.6x
more
citations



of OA articles than non-OA
articles across all subjects

2.5x
more Altmetric
attention



OA articles attracted
1.9x more news mentions and
1.2x more policy mentions

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6396290>

Plan S

The principles of Plan S and Springer Nature's position

Springer Nature supports the intention to move faster towards a system where publicly-funded research is openly available at the point of publication

We proposed six recommendations to cOAlition S in order to deliver Plan S:

1. Work towards a **global level playing field** by increasing the evidence base around the benefits of OA
2. Make **transformative deals** a key part of Plan S
3. **Allow 'hybrid' and 'sister' journals** to be Plan S compliant
4. Work together on a **sustainable solution for highly selective journals** and non primary research content in journals
5. Utilise market forces and competition to **ensure 'reasonable' APC levels**
6. Support **innovative access platforms** being built to provide early access to primary research.

Hybrid OA plays a critical role in supporting the transition to OA

In the absence of a global approach to open access from funders and governments, hybrid journals have an important role to play and provide the choice and independence authors need.

In 2017, 18% of Springer Nature's gold OA articles were published in hybrid journals.

Research and the communication of it is global and changes in publishing models in one part of the world need to take into account other regions.

Many academic fields do not have the funding necessary for open access; funders and governments in many parts of the world are not prioritising Gold OA

For the foreseeable future, we need to offer a variety of publishing models to ensure that all authors, no matter what or where they are studying, are able to publish their research.

Thankyou and Questions!