

A view from the Scrum on Open Access: challenges and opportunities

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Outline

- How the Brazilian system for evaluating grad programs work and how it impacts how Brazilian authors choose journals to publish, besides the cost aspect.
- State of the TAs and lists used to grant APC waivers
- Other initiatives on OA from the Global South, especially South America
 - Rede Scielo

Qualis CAPES overview

- List of journals maintained by CAPES (agency of the Brazilian Ministry of Education)
- Journals are divided into 8 strata based on their highest quantile rank from ISI WoS and Scopus
 - A1 to A4 (journals above 50% of the quantile) and B1 to B4 (below median quantile)
- This system is used mostly to evaluate graduate programs, but also in hiring processes for professors, post docs etc
- Some universities use the Qualis system to distribute funding to pay for APCs
 - My own university only allows me to pay for APCs of A1 and A2 journals, other journals have less money available

Qualis Periódicos

* Evento de Classificação:

Área de Avaliação:

ISSN:

Título:

Classificação:

Consultar

Cancelar

<https://sucupira.capes.gov.br/sucupira/public/consultas/coleta/veiculoPublicacaoQualis/listaConsultaGeralPeriodicos.jsf>

Open access and barriers to Global South

- APC can be a great barrier to authors in the Global South
- Not only because of the high price, but also because it's charged in a foreign currency, subjected to exchange rate change
 - Impossible to predict in the long term (how a grant manager could set aside a given value to pay APCs if they keep changing?)

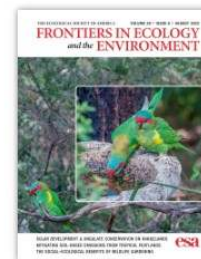
FRONTIERS IN ECOLOGY and the ENVIRONMENT

Write Back

Open Access perpetuates differences between higher- and lower-income countries

Pilar Santidrián Tomillo ✉, Eugenia Zandonà, Juan Pablo Iñamagua, Ana Payo-Payo

First published: 01 August 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/fee.2538>



Volume 20, Issue 6

August 2022

Pages 343-344

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Free Webinar: Assessing

Achieving an equitable transition to open access for researchers in lower and middle-income countries

This White Paper – produced in collaboration with the STM Association – provides an evidence base supporting practical recommendations towards the equitable and inclusive shift towards open access publishing in countries eligible for Research4Life participation.

Highlights:

- The Research4Life initiative has expanded in scope since 2002 to provide free or very low-cost access to the current research literature in over 10,000 registered institutions in eligible countries, helping address research inequalities from the readership side.
- Given an increasing focus on UN SDGs and a global transition in scholarly publishing models towards open access, this white paper examines how the playing field can be levelled from the authorship side also, permitting knowledge production in lower and middle-income countries (LMICs) to find a wider audience.
- Analysis is presented that suggests some practical ways in which researchers in LMICs can be supported in making this transition, and ensuring that the outcome should not be less inclusive than the current model.



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Published: 21 May 2008

Open-access more harm than good in developing world

[Raghavendra Gadagkar](#)

[Nature](#) 453, 450 (2008) | [Cite this article](#)

1978 Accesses | 9 Citations | 45 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

NEWS | 16 February 2022 | Correction [22 February 2022](#)

Open-access publishing fees deter researchers in the global south

Authors in low-income countries rarely published free-to-read papers, even when they qualified for publication-fee waivers.

[Diana Kwon](#)

Quantitative Science Studies

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Volume 2, Issue 4
Fall 2021



December 01 2021

Assessing the effect of article processing charges on the geographic diversity of authors using Elsevier's "Mirror Journal" system

Audrey C. Smith , Leandra Merz , Jesse B. Borden , Chris K. Gulick , Akhil R. Kshirsagar , Emilio M. Bruna  



> [Author and Article Information](#)

Quantitative Science Studies (2022) 2 (4): 1123–1143.

https://doi.org/10.1162/qss_a_00157 [Article history](#) 

Open access

- Think of alternatives...Analogy with cloud-based services
 - G Drive, Spotify, Apple Music etc -> **charge in local currency**
 - Why is this not the case for scientific journals?
- Importance of taking into account Purchase Power Parity (PPP)

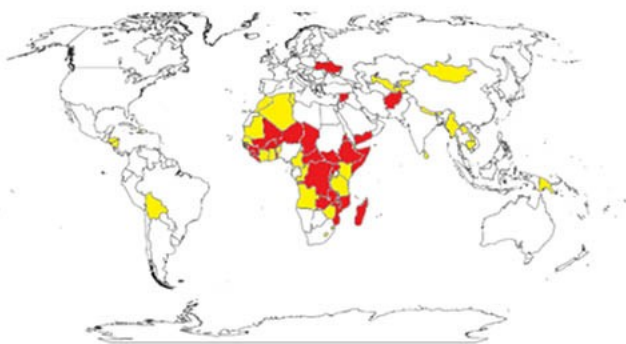
World Bank and Research4Life lists might not be enough

- Problems with World Bank list (used to give waivers)
 - Most low-income countries do not produce science at an international level
 - How many papers per year do we receive from e.g., sub-Saharan countries?
 - e.g. Brazil is an upper-higher income country (as most of Lat Am) and usually don't have waivers
- Need to come up with a better alternative list of countries based on science funding, currency exchange rate, etc

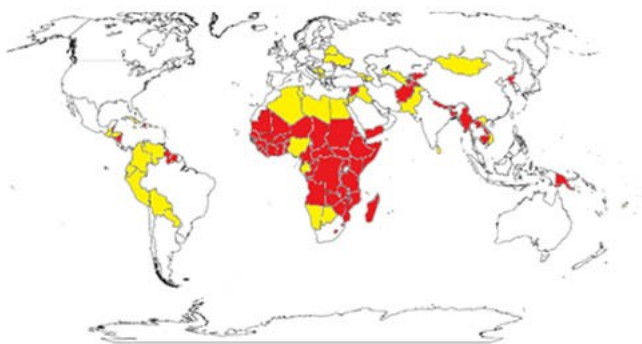
Guest Post – Article Processing Charges are a Heavy Burden for Middle-Income Countries

By ALICIA J. KOWALTOWSKI, JOSÉ R. F. ARRUDA, PAULO A. NUSSENZVEIG, ARIEL MARIANO SILBER | MAR 9, 2023 | 23 COMMENTS

World Bank



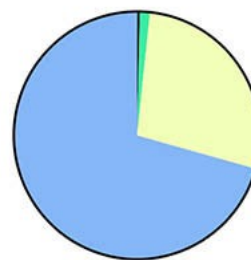
Research4Life



“Authors from middle-income countries which aren’t included in Research4Life (...) publish less in OA journals, suggesting they may be economically excluded from this option currently, prior to the projected full transition to an OA-only publication landscape in 2025.

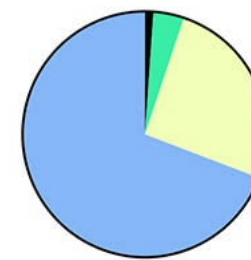
- Authors who qualify for APC waivers correspond to only 0.35% of publication origins are low-income economies, thus qualifying for full waivers in journals that adopt World Bank classifications. Lower middle-income economies, qualifying for discounts, correspond to 1.32%.
- When using Research4Life classifications, 1.12% of origins were from Group A, which qualifies for full waivers, and 4.05% from Group B, which receives 50% discounts.
- This demonstrates that even the more comprehensive current waiver and discount policy covers only a minute proportion of papers indexed in this database.

World Bank

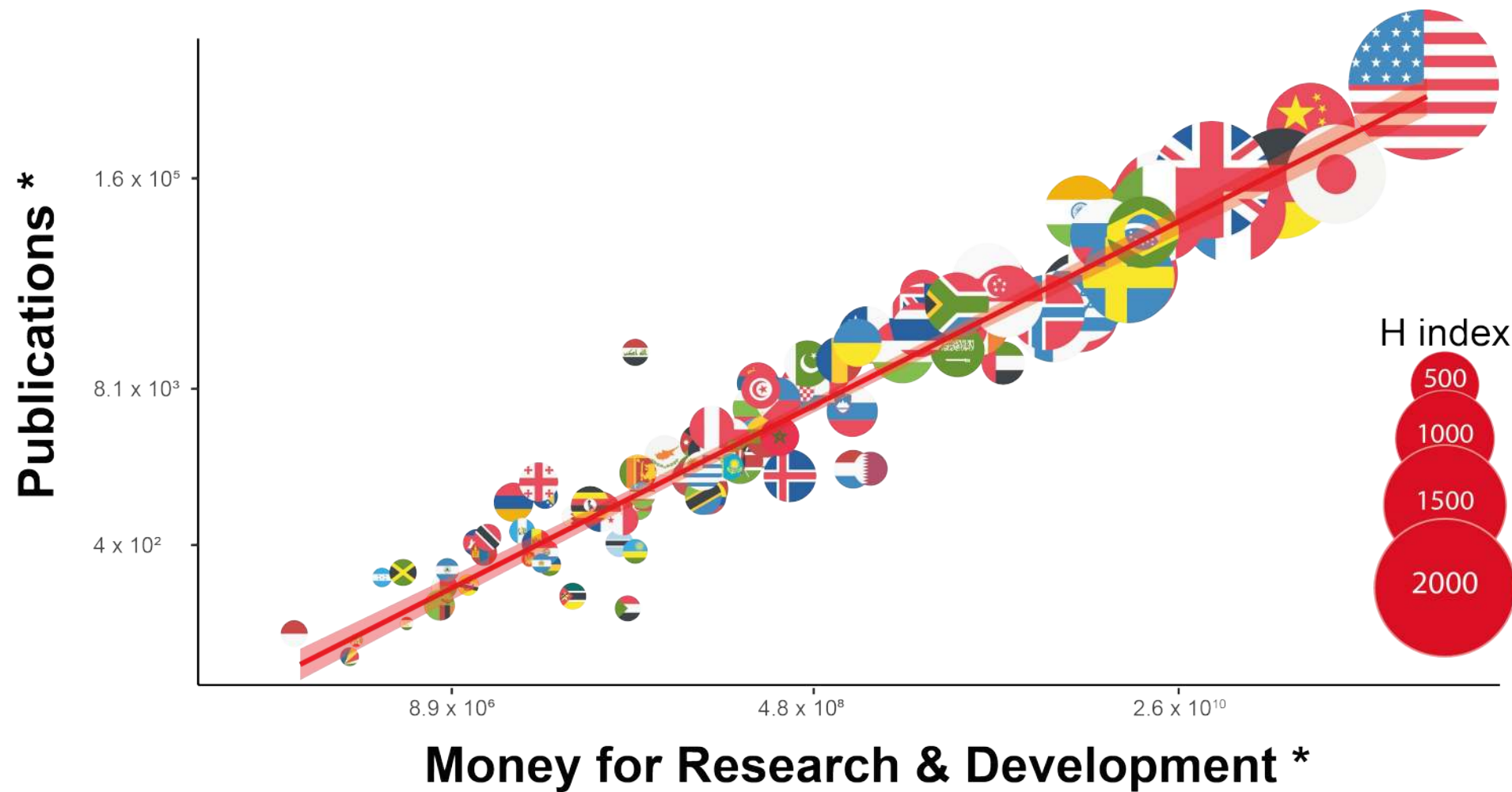


■ Low Income (waiver)
■ Lower Middle Income (discount)
■ Upper Middle Income
■ High Income

Research4Life



■ Group A (waiver)
■ Group B (discount)
■ Other Upper Middle Income
■ Other High Income



* axis in logarithmic scale

Rebouças, Moroti, Provete in review

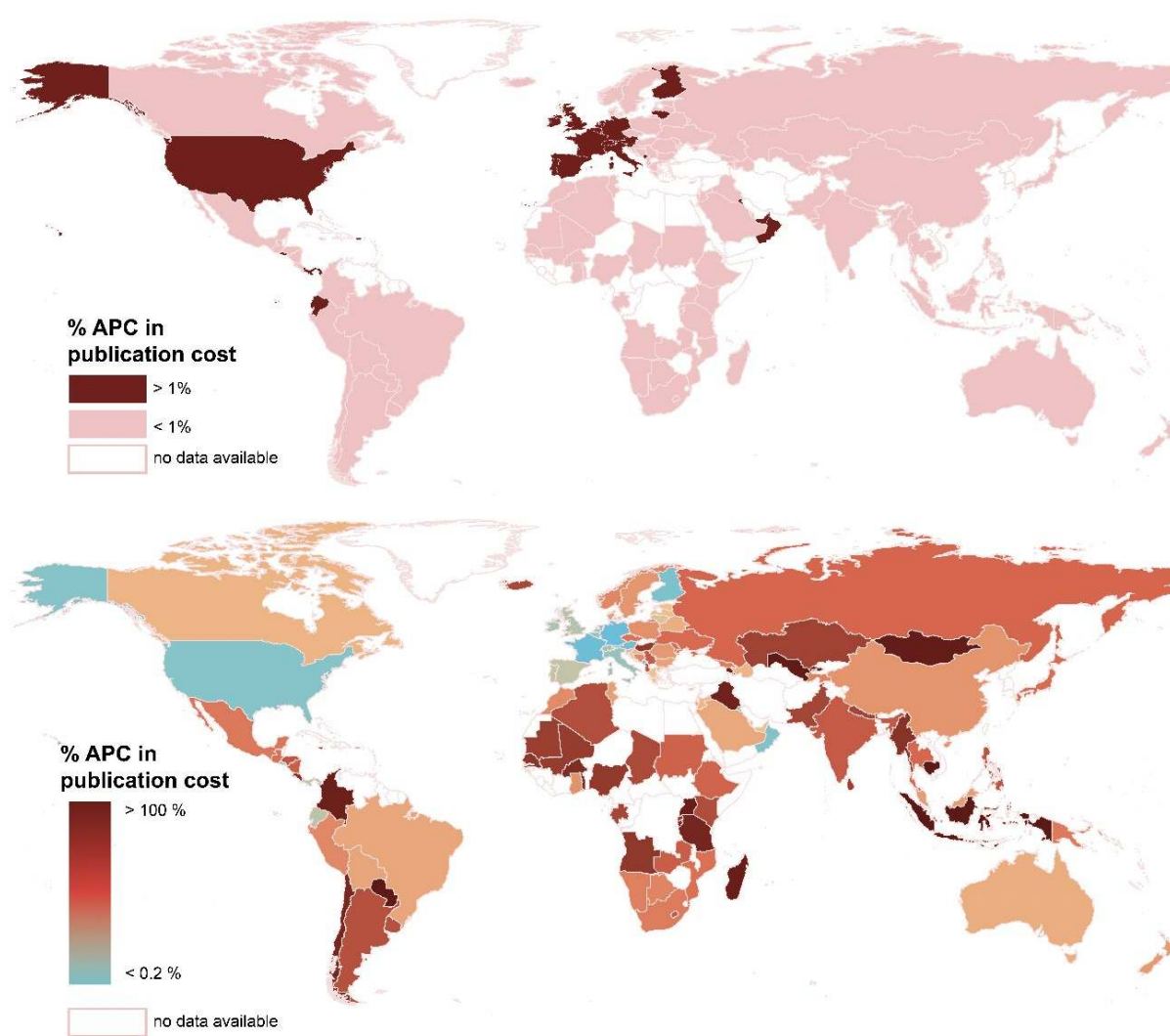


Figure 5: Feasibility of Author Publishing Charges (APC) in relation to a 1% publication threshold and the significance of APC based on Purchase Parity Price index in relation to publication cost for each country.

Rebouças, Moroti, Provete in review

The role TAs can have

- Transformational agreements are a useful tool for a transitional period, but need to be better worked
- Needs fast expansion towards the Global South

Wiley Transformational Agreements



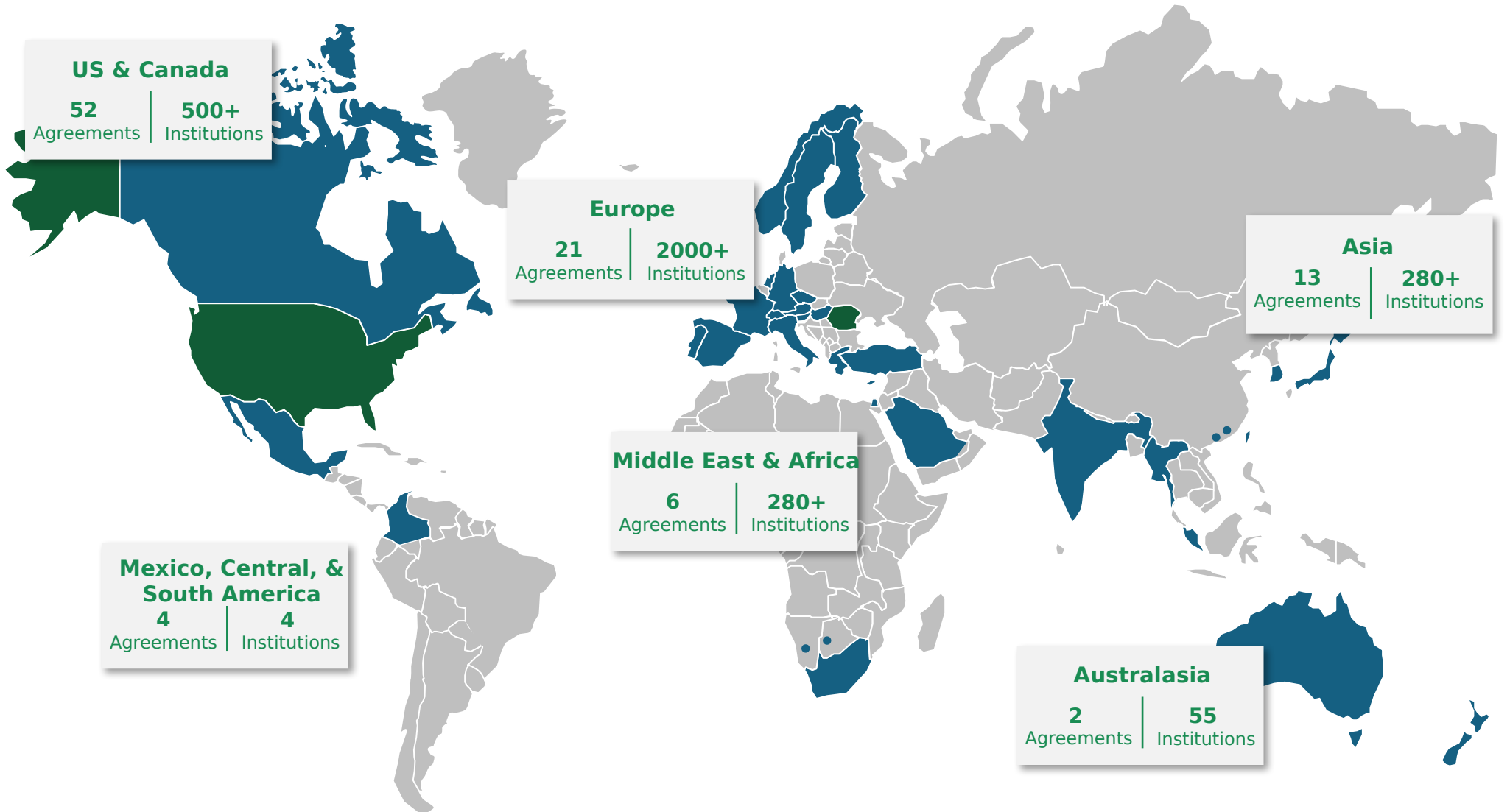
98
Agreements



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15th May 2024

Unicamp and Taylor & Francis Sign the University's First Transformative Agreement



New Read & Publish Deal will Support Unicamp Researchers to Choose Open Access.

CAPES consortium Brazil

Publish open access at no cost



**Quais periódicos da ACS estão incluídos
neste contrato? | Which ACS journals are
included in this agreement?**

Announced in February



The Brazilian scientific community is well aware that we have to move fast or rather be left out of the bussiness



One of those life's irony....



Open Science with IDEIA
Impact, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

The SciELO network began 25 Years ago as a platform for scientific journals in Brazil, funded by CAPES, CNPq and FAPESP. But quickly expanded throughout Latin America with the help of BIREME, and more recently Africa. Now it covers 1000+ journals all available free to read in a designed platform

Thank you!

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