

# **Beyond Open Access** | Five prerequisites for a sustainable knowledge commons



Open access is about the democratization of knowledge.

However, as open access becomes widely adopted, there is a risk that we will accentuate the inequalities and unsustainability of scholarly publishing, through widespread implementation of pay to publish business models.



At COAR, we recognize the need to go beyond open access, to create an open and fair system for sharing research outcomes.

Our vision is a sustainable knowledge commons. A global commons that reflects the needs of different communities and regions, allows all researchers to fully participate, while also fostering positive change and innovation in scholarly communications.





# Five prerequisites for a sustainable knowledge commons

1

Strengthen local institution-based services that preserve and provide access to diverse and valuable research products

Connect local services to national, regional and global networks through the adoption of interoperable standards and practices

2

3

Begin to redistribute funds towards services that add value to the networks, such as peer review

Improve the processes used to evaluate research contributions to include a wider range of qualitative and quantitative metrics and indicators

4

5

Adopt the principles and governance that will ensure the commons reflects the needs of the global research community

# COAR: Building a global knowledge commons

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