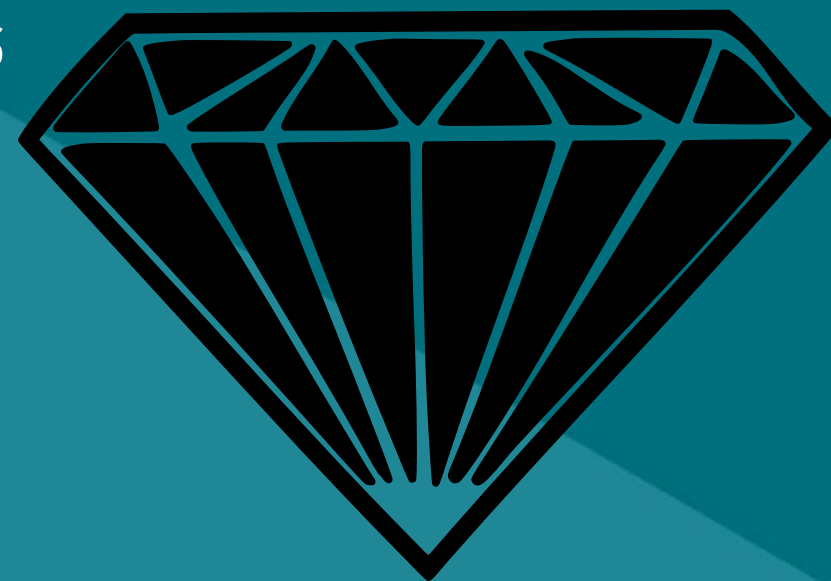


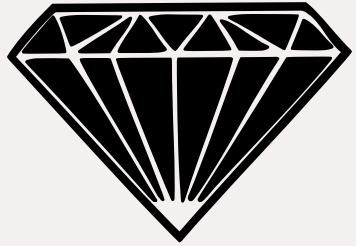


Developing and stabilising an open access journal: the case of CMC – Circular Materials and Chemistry

Open Science Day

Dr. Jonathan Dumont
University of Liège
27-11-2025

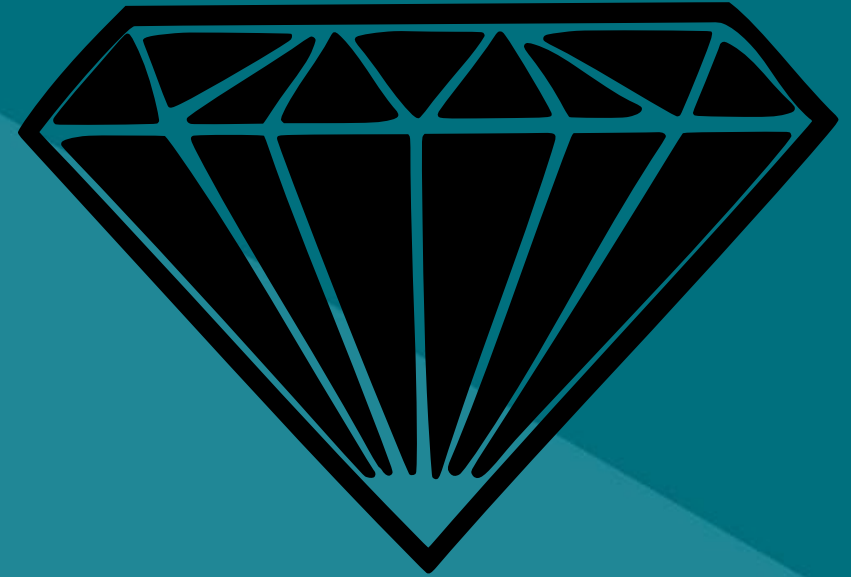




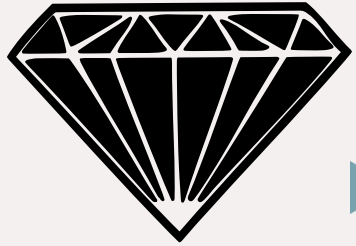
- ▶ **FWB COARA project**
- ▶ **Diamond Open Access**
- ▶ **Journal *CMC* – Methodology – Choices – Realisations**
- ▶ **Belgian Foundation for Diamond Open Access**



1. FWB COARA project



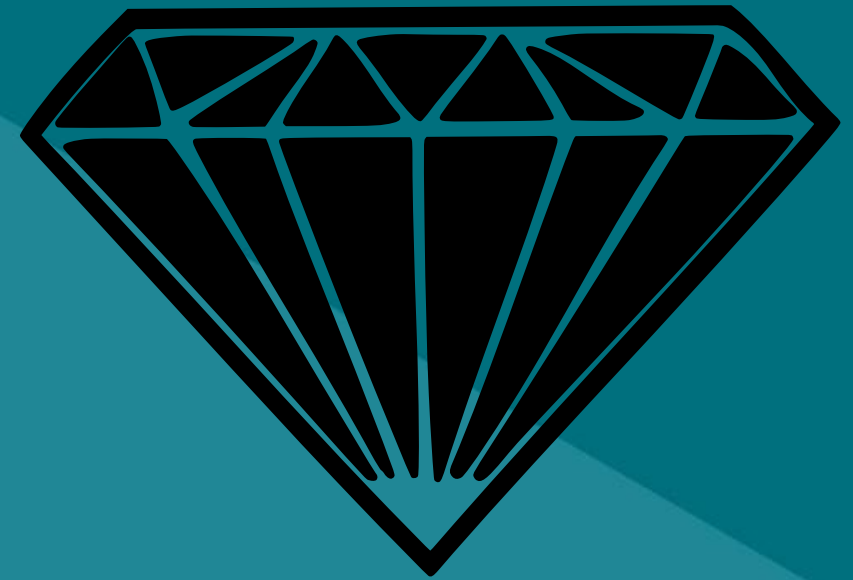
1. FWB COARA project



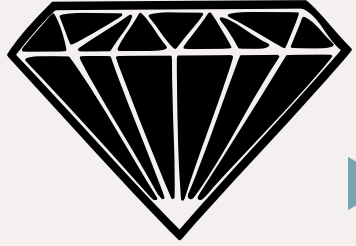
- ▶ **COARA** – *Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment* – initiative EU
- ▶ **FWB COARA** – Interuniversity project: reform of research assessment – End June 2025
- ▶ **5 Work Packages**
 - WP1 – New rules of research assessment (UCL)
 - WP2 – Open Data and Open Access (ULiège)
 - WP3 – Scientific Ethics (ULB)
 - WP4 – Scientific Integrity – Authorship, Publish or Perish (UMons)
 - WP5 – Career development and formation of researchers (UNamur)



2. Diamond Open Access

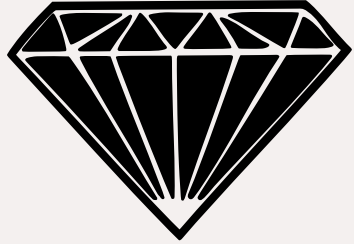


2. Diamond Open Access – Model



- ▶ **Free authors/readers – No APCs – No subscriptions**
- ▶ **Model for scientific publications – Only scientific criteria of assessment**
- ▶ **Non-for-profit – No dividends paid to shareholders**
- ▶ **Collaborative – By researchers for researchers**
- ▶ **Online and Open**
- ▶ **CC-BY Licences CC-BY – Preservation of intellectual property**
- ▶ **Fair economic model – Accessible to all despite economic differences**

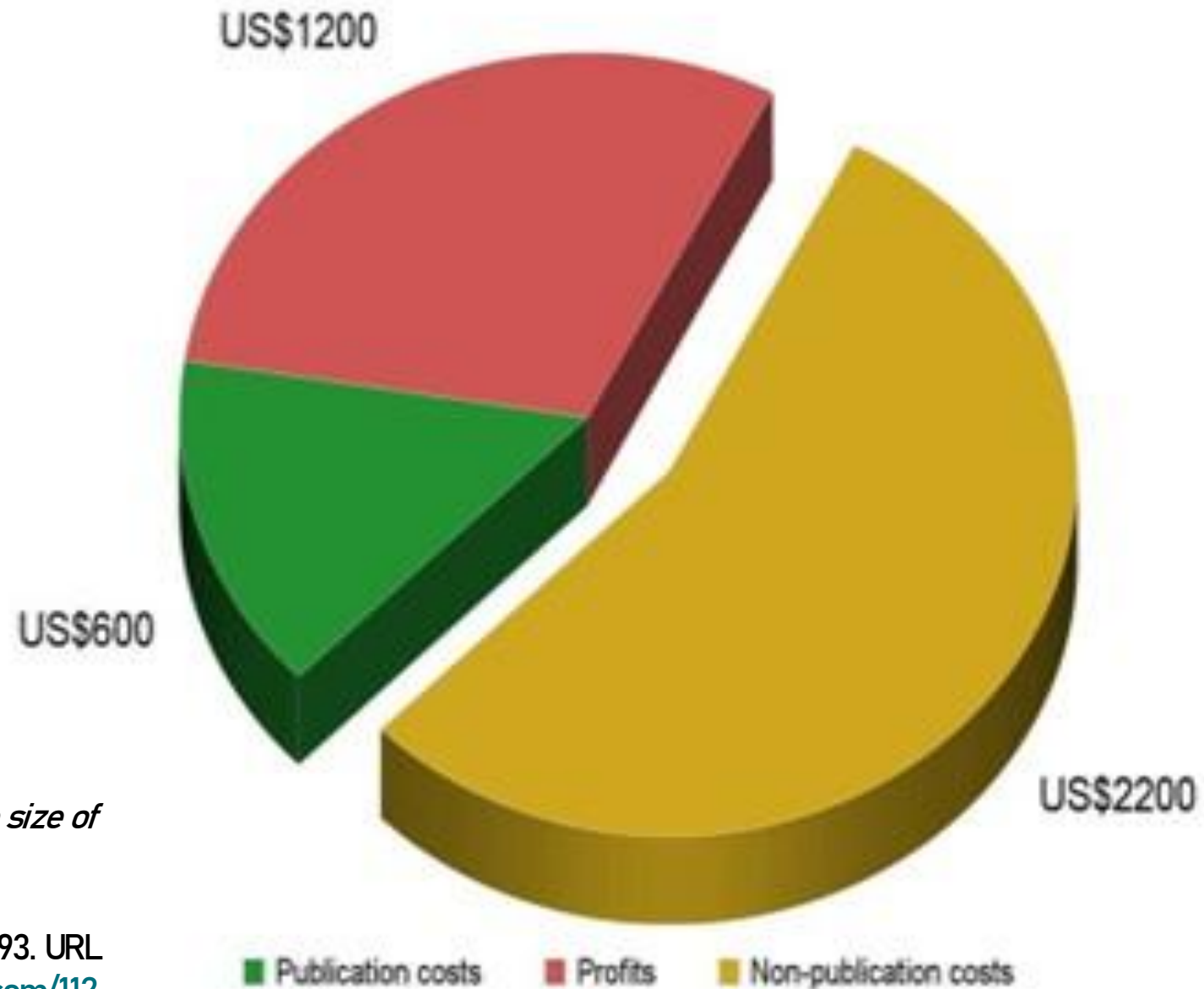
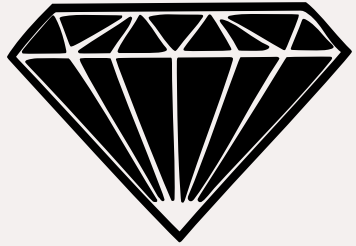
2. Diamond Open Access – APCs costs



	EES en FWB			Comparaison internationale (OpenAPC)		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
APC moyens - revues entièrement en accès ouvert	1 740 €	1 771 €	2 127 €	1 699 €	1 804 €	2 031 €
APC moyens dans des revues hybrides	2 147 €	2 453 €	2 852 €	2 393 €	2 493 €	2 737 €
APC moyens tout type de revue	1 737 €	1 958 €	2 248 €	1 803 €	1 878 €	2 091 €
Nombre d'articles avec APC identifiés dans des revues entièrement en accès ouvert	295	372	519	19 871	23 711	15 812
Nombre d'articles avec APC identifiés dans des revues hybrides	65	68	100	3 501	2 871	1 470
Nombre total d'articles identifiés avec APC ³¹	540	681	621	23 372	26 582	17 282

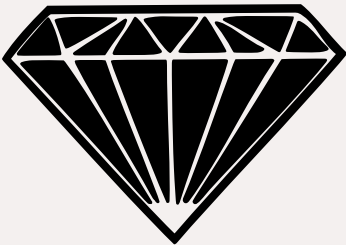
ARES, *Open Access 2023 report* (data 2022), p. 21.

2. Diamond Open Access – APCs and dividends

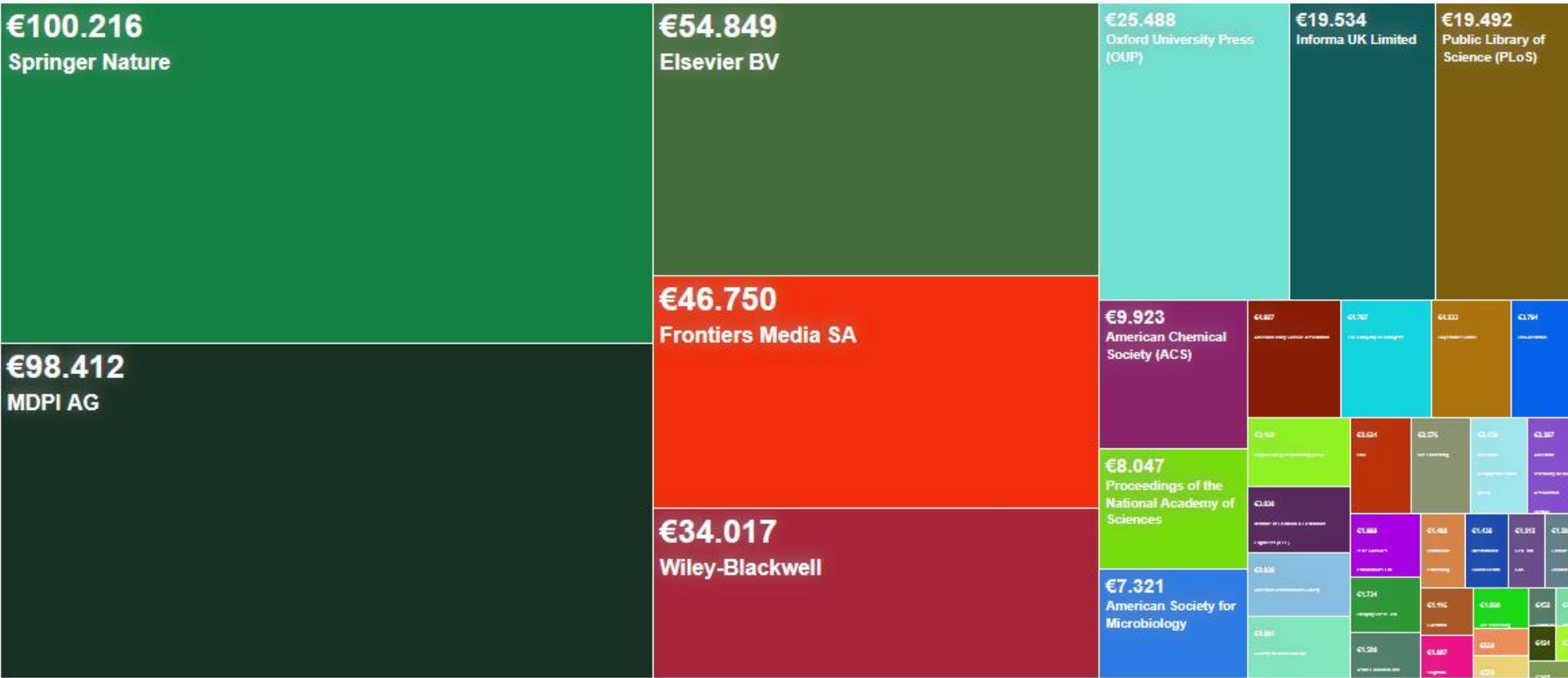


A. Grossman, B. Brembs, *Assessing the size of the affordability problem in scholarly publishing* (2019). Copyright, Fair Use, Scholarly Communication, etc., 112, p. 493. URL : <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/scholcom/112>.

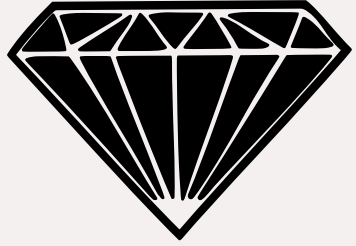
2. Diamond Open Access – APCs ULiège 2024



Total: € 480.836
2020: € 376.184



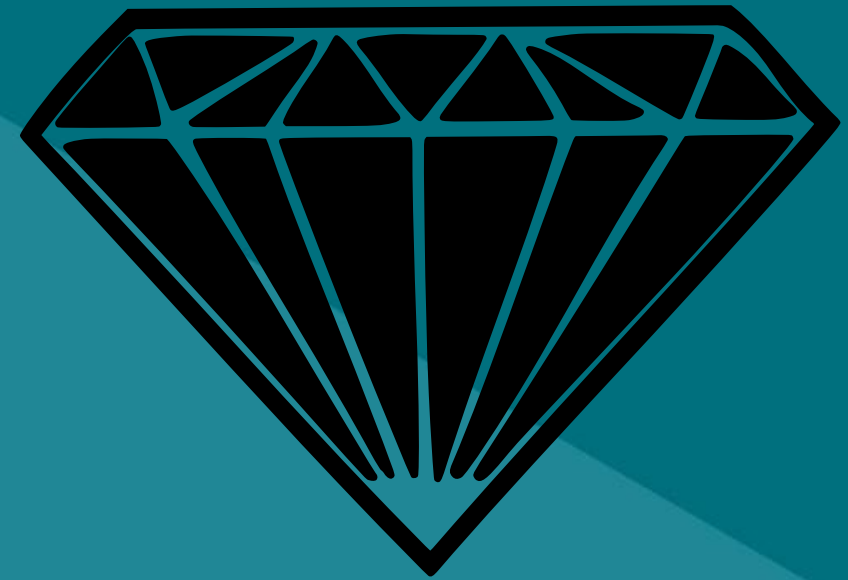
2. Diamond Open Access – Diamond OA turn



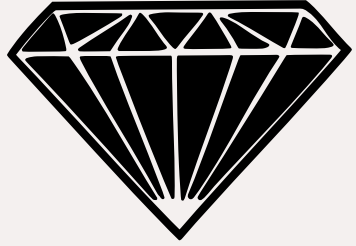
- ▶ **Diamond OA – Future of scientific publication**
- ▶ **European Union – Council resolution (23 May 2023) – DIAMAS project**
- ▶ **G7 – Sendai summit report (Japan, May 2023)**
- ▶ **UNESCO – The Global Diamond OA Survey**



3. Journal *CMC* – Methodology – Choices – Realisations

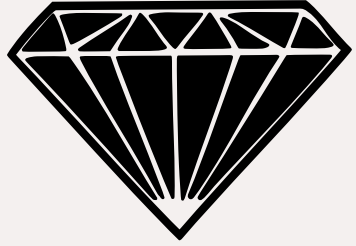


3. Journal *CMC* – Methodology



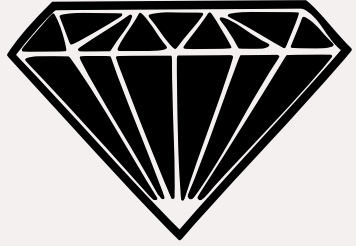
- ▶ **International** – English
- ▶ **High Quality** – Peer reviewed
- ▶ **High Level** – International scientific community
- ▶ **Critical Mass** – starting size
- ▶ **Field** – International / Filling a gap
- ▶ **Researchers** – With an international team of researchers
- ▶ **Dissemination** – Platform / Indexation strategy
- ▶ **Sustainability** – Viable and stable over 5 years
- ▶ **Proof of Concept** – Developing and strengthening the Diamond OA ecosystem

3. Journal *CMC* – Choices



- ▶ **Circularity** – How can we create materials that have a smaller environmental, ecological and social impact?
- ▶ **Interdisciplinarity** – Materials and Processes / Economy / Society
- ▶ **Difficulty** to publish interdisciplinary papers in this field
- ▶ **No international and important Diamond OA journal**
- ▶ **No strong European journal** – ACS
- ▶ **Strong potential in FWB**

3. Journal *CMC* – Realisations



Circular Materials and Chemistry

A Cross-Disciplinary Journal



Circular Materials and Chemistry – A Cross-Disciplinary Journal

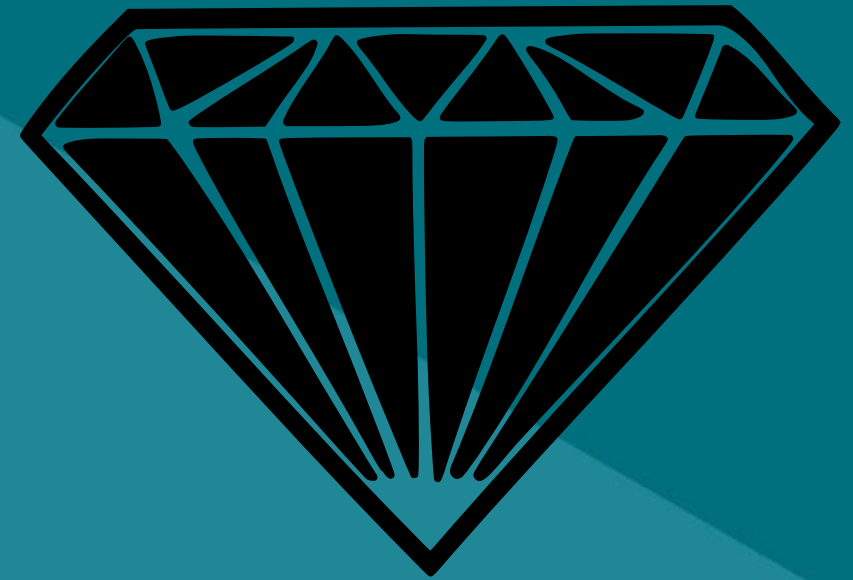
Circular Materials and Chemistry – A Cross-Disciplinary Journal is a new diamond open access journal dedicated to Circularity. It examines this concept from three viewpoints: **Materials and Processes, Economy** and **Society**. How are new bio or non-bio materials created and processed? What effect do they have on the economy, particularly production processes? And how are societies transformed by these new materials? CMC aims to address these fundamental questions in order to contribute to the development of a more sustainable global society and economy.



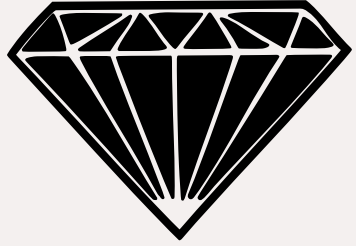
<https://popups.lib.uliege.be/cmc/>



4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond Open Access



4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Finding

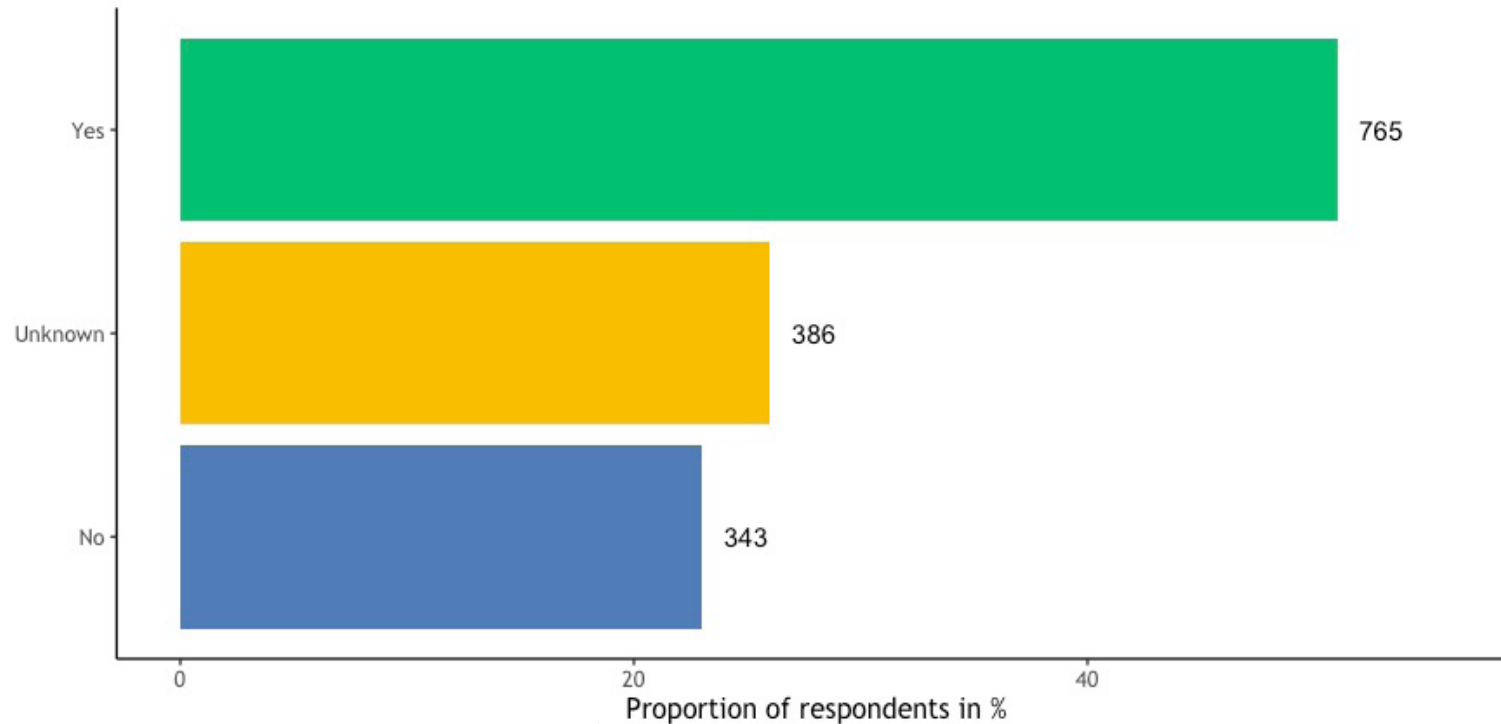


Is there a document establishing legal ownership ?

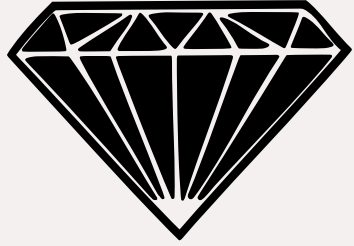
1494 respondents

386 Unknown

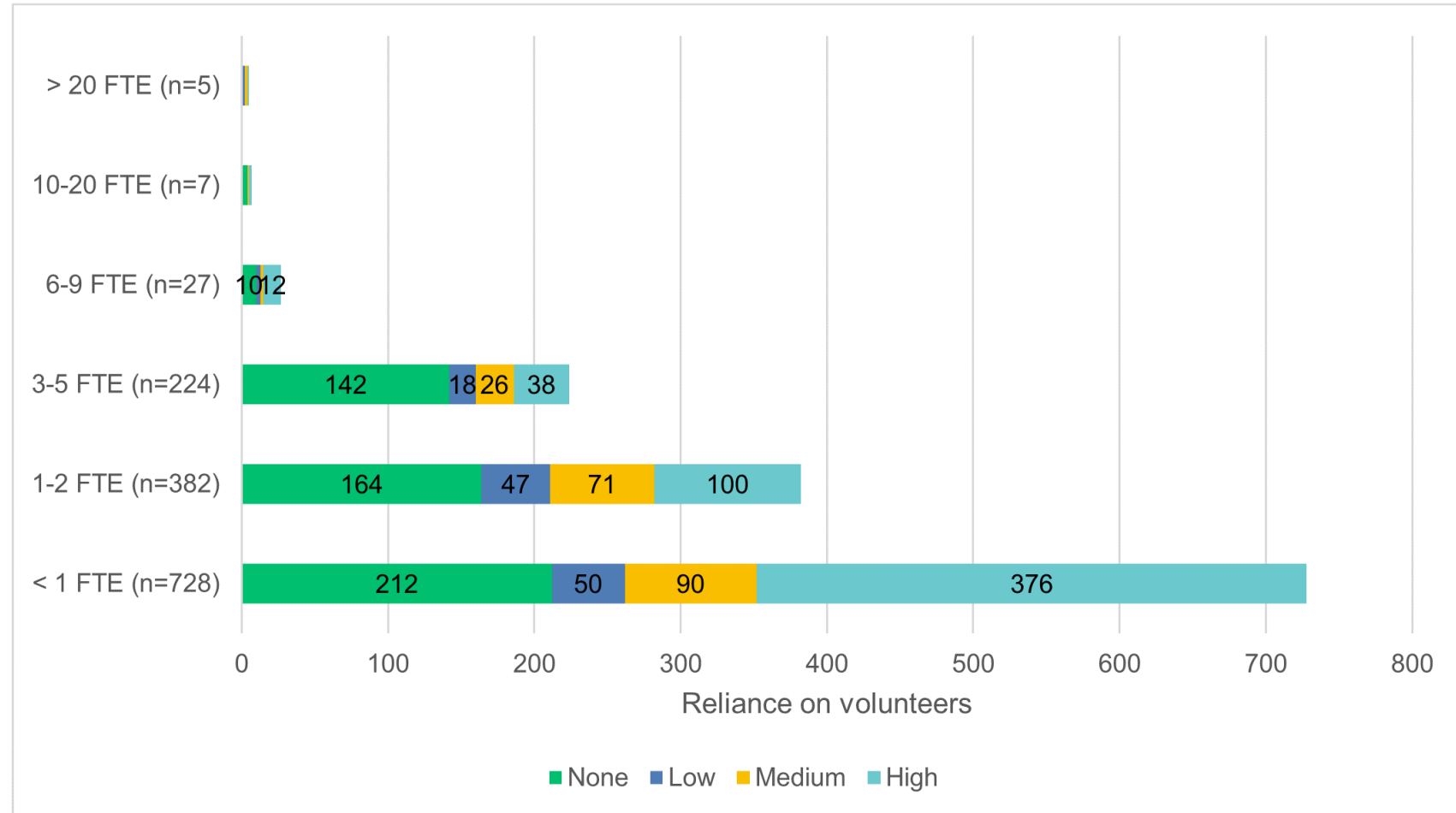
343 No



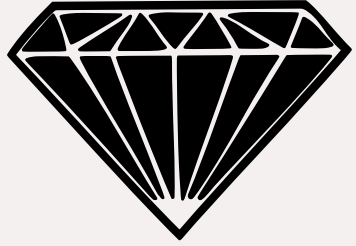
4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Finding



Reliance on volunteers by size of paid staff for journal editing and operational work

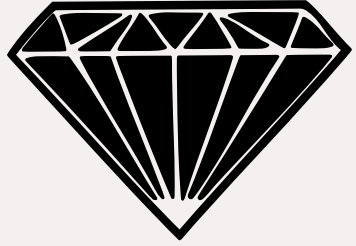


4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Finding



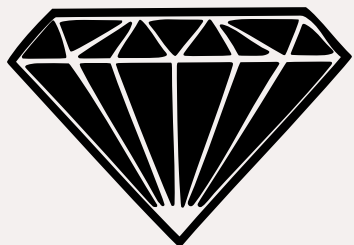
- ▶ **No Federal Diamond OA initiative in Belgium**
- ▶ **Platforms** – ULiège, UCL, KUL, UGent
- ▶ **Groups** – Reliade, university and interuniversity reflexion committees
- ▶ **EU national initiatives** – France (Fonds science ouverte), Germany (SeDOA), Netherlands (Open Journals) – 20 national initiatives

4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Objectives



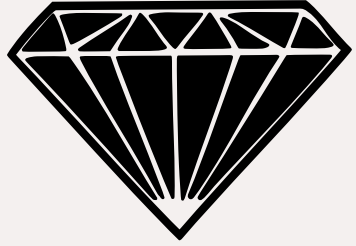
- ▶ **Public Benefit Foundation** – Serving the Common Good
- ▶ **Diamond OA Foundation** – 3 objectives
- ▶ **Gathering** – Actors of scientific research BE / INT
- ▶ **Disseminating** – Diamond OA ideas and practices
- ▶ **Supporting** – Vademecum / Juridical status / Editorial services
- ▶ **Journals** – Diamond OA / Interdisciplinarity / Focus STM
- ▶ **Actors** – Fl.- Fr. univ., FNRS, FWO, BELSPO, Academy / INT – CNRS, DIAMAS, UNESCO, etc.

4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Objectives



	Fondation	ASBL
Définition et création	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Création par 1 ou plusieurs personnes (physiques ou morales) Apport de patrimoine propre (« suffisant pour assurer la viabilité de la fondation et mener à bien son but ») Constitution par un acte authentique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groupement de minimum 2 personnes (physiques ou morales) Pas d'obligation d'avoir un patrimoine de départ Un acte sous seing privé suffit (sauf pour les AISBL*)
Objet philanthropique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oui pour les fondations d'utilité publique (FUP), pas systématique pour les fondations privées (FP) et les associations (par exemple associations professionnelles) 	
Gouvernance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conseil d'administration (min. 1 administrateur) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assemblée générale des membres Conseil d'administration
Obligations spécifiques		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintien du registre des membres Mention dans les statuts des conditions d'adhésion et de sortie, du montant des cotisations etc.
Comptabilité et fiscalité	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obligations comptables et fiscales largement identiques (fonction de la taille et de la nature des activités) Mêmes conditions pour la déductibilité fiscale des dons au niveau de l'agrément fédéral Éligibilité à certains subsides au niveau fédéral, régional, communautaire etc. 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dans un nombre limité de cas, les subsides (ex. éducation permanente) ou l'autorisation de fournir certains services (ex. médiation de dettes) sont réservés aux ASBL à l'exclusion des fondations.

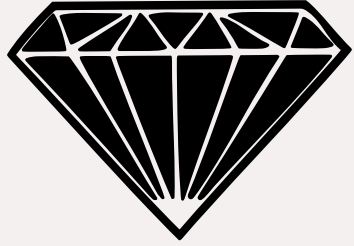
4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Creation



- ▶ **Notarised deed → Ministry of Justice → Royal Decree – Min. 1 year**
- ▶ **Articles – Objectives, activities, internal rules**
- ▶ **1 or more founding members – Research institutions and non-for-profit organisation actives in Diamond OA**
- ▶ **Executive Board – 1 representatives/founding member**
- ▶ **Secretary general and (optional) delegates – Chosen by the executive board for the everyday management**
- ▶ **Fundings/founding-member – “Enough to ensure the foundation’s functioning”**



4. Belgian Foundation for Diamond OA – Annual Budget



- ▶ **1st year – €115.400**
- ▶ **Personal costs – Secretary general – 1 FTE – €90.500**
- ▶ **Operational costs – €15.000**
- ▶ **Editorial board costs – €9.900**
- ▶ **Founder member entry ticket – €11.000 – 10 members min.**
- ▶ **External funding – Donations, Calls, etc.**

Year	Personal costs	Operational costs	Editorial costs	Annual totals	Total 5 years
2025-26	€90.500	€15.000	€9.900	€115.400	
2026-27	€91.700	€15.000	€9.900	€116.600	
2027-28	€92.200	€15.000	€9.900	€117.100	
2028-29	€97.300	€15.000	€9.900	€122.200	
2029-30	€99.200	€15.000	€9.900	€124.100	
					€595.400