Useful organisations, projects and platforms

This section includes organisations, projects and platforms / tools relevant to OA book publishing.

- Organisations
- Platforms & services
- Projects

Organisations

AG Universitätsverlage (University Press Association)

AG Universitätsverlage brings together publishers from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and South Tyrol; its aim is to support publishers in representing their interests externally and to promote the exchange of experiences. The publishers affiliated to the AG primarily publish academic publications from their own institutions.

Find out more

Association of European University Presses (AEUP)

The AEUP is an organisation of and for university presses across Europe to help them build stronger relationships between them, to co-operate and share knowledge in order to reach common goals and to jointly address important issues in publishing. It is a strong collective group.

Find out more

Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP)

The Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers is an association of non-profit, scholarly publishers. Among others, they represent the interests of society publishers and other small, specialist presses. They provide webinars, training and other resources on a range of subjects including open access, and have been stakeholders in recent reports, linked elsewhere on Copim Compass, about OA and society publishing.

Find out more

Association of University Presses (AUP)

AUP is a membership organisation of non-profit scholarly publishers, publishing to high editorial and professional standards. It is a strong collective group.

Find out more

Copim Open Book Futures

Copim is a community of people, organisations, and infrastructures working towards equitable and sustainable open access for scholarly books. It takes a community-led and values-driven approach to these. It is also, from 2023-2026, a Research England and Arcadia-funded research project into this topic. It consists of numerous work packages about equitable OA funding, experimental publishing forms, metadata and archiving for OA books, and other topics.

Find out more

Forum for Open Research in MENA

FORM (Forum for Open Research in MENA) is a non-profit membership organisation to advance open science and open access throughout the Arab world, providing a platform for stakeholders to exchange insights and experiences about policy development and implementation.

Find out more

Irish Open Access Publishers (IOAP)

IOAP is a community of practice for Irish open access publishers that promotes engagement with the Diamond Open Access publishing model (free to publish and free to read).

Find out more

Invest in Open Infrastructure (IOI)

IOI (Invest in Open Infrastructure) is an organisation that seeks to collate and platform open infrastructures, with the aim to to drive informed, strategic, and coordinated investment in and adoption of open infrastructure. Among its tools are the Infra Finder, which helps would-be adoptees of open infrastructure to find the right solutions.

Find out more

JSTOR Open Access

The open access portal for JSTOR, a large scale platform and aggregator for (largely HSS) books, journals, images and primary sources. It could be used as an example of where the reader could look for content.

Find out more

Library Publishing Coalition (LPC)

The LPC is an independent, community-led membership association of academic and research libraries and library consortia engaged in scholarly publishing. Their website features a range of useful materials. It is a strong collective group.

Find out more

New University Presses (NUPs) in The Netherlands

A consortium of Diamond OA publishers in the Netherlands which aims to advance scholarly publishing.

Find out more

OAPEN/Directory of Open Access Books

The OAPEN Foundation is a non-profit dedicated to open access, peer reviewed books, hosting their central repository, the OAPEN Toolkit, and also the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB).

It aims to increase visibility and retrievability of high-quality OA publications and promote OA book publishing. It provides crucial services for a number of stakeholder groups, including PRISM: Peer Review Information Service for Monographs. This is a standardised way for publishers to display information about their peer review processes, aiming to provide transparency about publishing and thus build trust in the quality of OA books.

Find out more

Open Access Australasia

Open Access Australasia advocates for and supports practical initiatives on open access in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. It is a large community, with several written resources, groups, directories, and others.

Find out more

Open Access Books Network (OABN)

A shared community space / network for those interested in all things OA books, non judgemental, informal and open to all stakeholder groups. It also has its own FAQs, blog posts and other information. A great space for passionate conversations around OA books, it should be supported!

Find out more

Of particular interest may be:

Open Access Books Network: 'Mythbusters' video series

A video series by OABN to dispel key myths around OA books that may put prospective authors off. These address often-asked questions in an approachable and helpful way, and the answers are provided by relevant external partners including OA authors.

The videos are available here

Open Access Books Network: Around the World with the OABN

A series of blog posts which focus on OA books in a different country around the world, highlighting their regional experiences, problems and successes. This is an ongoing series that is still being updated, and unlike many OA resources provides (emic) perspectives from beyond the ERA.

Access the blog posts

Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association (OASPA)

OASPA is a diverse community of organisations engaged in open scholarship with a mission to encourage and enable open access as the predominant model of communication for scholarly outputs. OASPA encourage and enable open access as the predominant model of communication for scholarly output.

Find out more

Open access tracking project

An interesting community project and a good source of information e.g. tracking, collating and sharing on social media.

Find out more

OPERAS Metrics

OPERAS, referenced elsewhere in Copim Compass in different capacities, offers metrics about the usage and impact of OA books, providing consolidated usage data for the publisher's website but also other sites where the book is available.

Find out more

Open Access Institutional Publishers (OIPA)

The Open Institutional Publishing Association (OIPA) was founded to connect and encourage open access publishing within the UK. Their mission is to create a new source of support and advocacy for established and emerging university presses and institutionally-affiliated publishing operations striving for open access.

Their website contains a list of useful resources which they have plans to expand as per member needs. Although relatively limited it is a reliable resource and probably the go to for UK-based IPs.

Find out more

The Publishers Learning and Community Exchange (PLACE)

A helpful forum offering information on publishing processes and standards, developed by a coalition of Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), Crossref, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA). Currently journals-focused.

Find out more

Project Muse

A large scale platform (and aggregator) focusing on humanities output, not uniquely OA content, could be used as an e.g. of where the reader could look for content.

Find out more

SciELO

SciELO (Scientific Electronic Library Online) is an index and database of books and journals, which hosts several OA titles. It focuses on articles from Latin America and South Africa, in Spanish, Portuguese, and English. These are largely scientific titles.

Find out more

SPARC Europe

SPARC Europe is a Dutch foundation advocating for open access, open science, open scholarship and open education within Europe. They collaborate with numerous European stakeholders to attempt to shape policy maximising the access and reuse of research and educational resources.

Find out more

Thoth

Thoth is a non-profit, open metadata management and dissemination platform whose active and successful outreach campaign has enabled revenue targets to be met. Thoth integrates into third party platforms, these collaborations enable seamless access to Thoth's metadata management and distribution capabilities across diverse scholarly platforms.

Find out more

View their github

Ulibros

Ulibros is the platform of EU_LAC. It helps publishers to facilitate and streamline metadata management, and also hosts a repository of OA book titles from across the region.

Find out more

Platforms & services

ASK UP

Rotating presses give first hand experience answers. Also an FAQ section and list of previously curated answers. We like the idea, unsure how widely used it is.

Find out more

Experimental Publishing Compendium

A comprehensive online resource created by Copim’s Experimental Publishing Group bringing together tools, practices, and books to promote and support the publication of experimental book publications. Shows the advantages and opportunities that online publishing can offer for innovative collaboration, interactions and experimentations.

Find out more

Open policy finder | Jisc

Formerly know as Jisc’s well established Sherpa toolsuite of resources (journals) - Open policy finder developed to support the UKRI OA policy for longform, it is still relatively new (released early 2024) and a limited number of publisher data sets included. This is increasing and it will move to live release in autumn 2024. Strong sector and funder support.

Find out more

OPERAS Pathfinder

A publication service finder for editorial managers, editors and authors at any stage of a publication project. Useful resource as caters for different stakeholder groups; currently in beta so not fully developed but hosted by Operas so watch this space…

Find out more

Open Book Collective

The Open Book Collective is that brings together open access book publishers, open publishing service providers, and knowledge institutions, including libraries, working in collaboration to secure a more sustainable and equitable future for open access books. They accept member organisations in the form of publishers and open infrastructure providers.

Find out more

Open Book Environment (OBE)

The Open Book Environment is a transparency dashboard about publishers, aimed at authors (and their funders) focussing on author fees, licensing, their policies on self-archiving, waiver and discount information, and any stated price justification. It is a very recent resource (2023) however, its longevity is unclear because it is a Google sheet maintained by two volunteer contributors. It also currently does not cover many publishers, but is being added to over time. It may be worth contacting the creators to ask about their long-term plans for the resource.

Find out more

Open Science resources | Latin America

A visual / interactive dashboard and an example of a multilingual, regional / RoW resource.

Find out more

OA Book Stakeholders | African Context

This relational diagram is an unparalleled resource in a very under-described region for OA books. While the EIFL report on OA in Africa is very detailed and informative it only deals with journals, while this focuses on books. The relationships are not always clear, and since this is a relational diagram it is not very descriptive, but it is a very useful starting point.

The PDF of the relational diagram and the mission statement accompanying it are available here

IOI Infrafinder

This tool, created by IOI (Invest in Open Infrastructure) provides an avenue for those seeking open infrastructure to search their database by infrastructure type, and along a variety of other parameters, to find appropriate solutions.

Find out more

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Find out more and **see their github**

Projects

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Find out more

DIAMAS

The DIAMAS project is an ongoing Horizon Europe funded initiative that aims to improve the efficiency and quality of Diamond Open Access (OA) publishing in Europe. It focuses on developing a European Reference Standard for institutional publishing and supporting Diamond OA publishers and service providers.

This page below hosts links to a number of DIAMAS resources on Diamond OA publishing. While many are journal-specific, some are more generic and/or aimed at Diamond OA publishers more generally. Included are a series of high-level and in-depth articles about Diamond OA publishing, DOAS (the Diamond Open Access Standard), and its components. It also contains self-assessment tools, a glossary, and a number of resources on sustainability for publishers, service providers and funders.

Visit the resources

PALOMERA

The PALOMERA project, which ended in early 2025, aimed to ensure academic books and monographs are not neglected in Open Science and Open Access policies. Subsequently, they created a set of actionable guidelines to support and coordinate funder and institutional policies for OA books, with the goal of speeding up the transition to OA for books in particular.

View the actionable recommendations

Additionally, a collection of documents such as reports, policies, statistics, survey results and interview transcripts relevant to OA policies regarding OA books in the European Research Area (ERA), it is hosted on OAPEN's website, and includes over 600 documents in various languages, open to anyone to browse and read. The Knowledge Base aims to help the community as a first step towards a better overview of what documents exist or are available.

View the Knowledge Base

Reasonable Costs for Public Access project (IOI)

Since 2023, Invest in Open Infrastructure has been conducting a project entitled "Investigating 'reasonable costs' to achieve public access to federally funded research and scientific data", with financial support from NSF - National Science Foundation.

Find out more

Towards an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME)

Towards an Open Monograph Ecosystem was a US-based project aimed at changing the way monograph publishing in the humanities and social sciences is funded. It published a concluding report about the author experiences with the TOME project, and more general conclusions about how the groundwork with authors and universities would need to be built on by any subsequent projects.

View the report