

# Article processing charge – APC

## Can it be cheaper and how?

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## Some facts



SERIA

- small scientific community (up to 25000 researchers)
- participate in cca 290 (150 current) EU-H2020 projects
- 7000 articles/year in WoS, **1200 PhD**
- 80% of research is funded by the Serbian Government
  
- Serbia has adopted National science policy on July 14th, 2018

## APC/BPC – Article/Book Processing Charge

- ◎ The APC-funded OA model fundamentally changes the relationship among authors, publishers, and readers
    - ◎ before - subscriptions (often by libraries)
    - ◎ now - APC paid by the authors (often funders)
  - ◎ Cost of APCs adds a new dimension to the authors' decisions as to where to attempt to publish their
  - ◎ Focus of the publishers' marketing efforts is now on authors
  - ◎ Academic libraries' traditional role as an intermediary between the readers and the publishers disappears
- New role:** managing the payment of APCs for the authors at their universities.

## Questions and Goals

- ◎ How much do authors from the University of Belgrade pay?
- ◎ Make the APC/BPC more transparent, and
- ◎ Possibly make it less (in direct contact with publishers)

## Collecting data

- ◎ Source: Web of Science ([live example](#))
- ◎ extract data according to the following conditions:
  - one of the authors affiliated with the University of Belgrade (UoB),
  - **corresponding author** from UoB
  - Gold **open access**

Extracted: 1487 articles

## Online survey

- ◎ for each article we asked only 2 questions:
  - how much you paid APC - just the amount and currency code
  - from which funds (e.g. from the MPNTR project, from EC project, from the institution's own funds, "from its own pocket", etc.)
  - text/box for comments

◎ Invitation letter ([the most important](#))

# How it looks like



Univerzitet u Beogradu

UBG-APC

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Ispod je naveden spisak Vaših radova koji su objavljeni u časopisima koji se indeksiraju u WoS od 2015. do danas, i koji zadovoljavaju sledeće uslove: (1) rad je u otvorenom pristupu i (2) Vi ste navedeni kao *Corresponding author*.

Potrebno je da za svaki rad, dopunite dva podataka:

- Iznos koji ste platili sa oznakom valute (EUR, USD, RSD i sl). Dozvoljeno je da tu upišete i neki komentar (na primer: zaboravio sam, imali smo mogućnost da biramo, snizili su nam cenu, i sl.)
- Izvor sredstava iz kojih ste platili APC. Potrebno je da odaberete nešto od ponuđenih odgovora.

Obavezno nakon unosa podataka kliknite na dugme "Potvrdi".

Hvala Vam na trudu i saradnji, a ako imate neki komentar, ideju ili pitanje pošaljite e-mail na: [nauka@rect.bg.ac.rs](mailto:nauka@rect.bg.ac.rs)

## Radovi (1)

Čarkić, J; Nikolić, N; Radojević-Skodrić, S; Kuzmanović-Pficer, J; Brajović, G; Antunović, M; Milasin, J; Popović, B (2016)

**The role of TERT-CLPTM1L SNPs, hTERT expression and telomere length in the pathogenesis of oral squamous cell carcinoma**

JOURNAL OF ORAL SCIENCE, 58(4): 449-458

Izdavač: Nihon Univ, School Dentistry, Toyko

DOI: [10.2334/josnusd.16-0108](https://doi.org/10.2334/josnusd.16-0108)

Iznos: \*

Izvor:

-- Izaberite izvor --

Potvrdi

## Results 1

- ◎ 332 authors responded (for 498 articles)
- ◎ Paid nothing because:
  - paid by a foreign co-author from an institution that has publishing funds
  - at the time they submitted the work, there was no APC obligation
  - they wrote papers upon invitation (as many as 25 papers)
  - in physics, open access is provided by depositing the work in arXiv thematically repository
  - only 3 papers published by the *Royal Society of Chemistry* took advantage of the free voucher option (contract allow 25?)



## Results 2

- ◎ APC paid for 203 articles
- ◎ Some with discounts, because:
  - Serbia is middle/income country
    - ◎ Public Library Science, San Francisco / Frontiers Media Sa, Lausanne / Biomed Central Ltd, London / IEEE
  - based on the work invested as a reviewer on other works
    - ◎ MDPI, Basel / Wolters Kluwer Medknow Publications, Mumbai / Peerj Inc, London
  - membership in the association
    - ◎ Electrochemical Soc Inc, Pennington - one free OA article per year. The annual membership fee is 175 \$

## Results 3

◎ How much they paid (for 203 articles):

Amount	Number of articles
Less than 500 EUR	81
500-1000 EUR	57
1000-1500 EUR	28
1500-2000 EUR	33
More than 2000	4

Estimation: all Serbians authors pay more than 300.000 EUR per year

## Results 4

◎ Resources came from:

Source	Number of articles
from its own pocket	77
Ministry funds	13
EC funds	35
Something else	46
Institutions funds	32

## Dissemination of Results

- ◎ [2 page of results](#) to all of respondents
- ◎ [huge report](#) for Rector Office and Ministry
- ◎ University [Agreement with MDPI](#)
- ◎ Part of [OpenAPC](#)

## Collecting information

Publisher	Discount
Taylor & Francis	Corresponding author from Serbia discount <b>50%</b> APC.
SAGE	If all authors coming from Serbia, no APC. Corresponding author from Serbia discount <b>20%</b> APC. Promo code: EIFLOA
De Gruyter	Corresponding author from Serbia discount <b>30%</b> APC.
Elgar	Corresponding author from Serbia discount <b>50%</b> APC.

# Improve already Existing Service

**RCUB ProRef**  
Računarski centar Univerziteta u Beogradu


Agronomy (Basel) (2073-4395)

Pretraživanje

Brisanje

[O RCUB ProRef-u](#)

Rezultat

- **Agronomy (Basel) (2073-4395)**  SHERPA  
(APC)

MDPI ->

Na osnovu potpisanog ugovora, autori sa afilijacijom Univerziteta u Beogradu ostvaruju automatski popust od 10% na APC.  
Izdavač: MDPI

Izvor	Disciplina	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
WoS	Agronomy	21	21	21	21	22					
WoS	Plant Sciences	21	21	21	22	22					

Thank you