

Information & FAQs for the preparation of a no-deal situation with Wiley in 2025

Version 1.0, 13 December 2024

This document will be updated when necessary and re-published with a new version number and date.

Background on big deal negotiations

Negotiations with publishers are part of the [Swiss National Open Access Strategy](#) and are based on the [LIBER principles](#) for Open Access negotiations. The negotiation aims and governance for the negotiations are defined by the [Delegation Open Science](#) (DelOS) and approved by the members of swissuniversities. The results and lessons learnt from the negotiations are regularly discussed among the stakeholders involved.

On behalf of swissuniversities, the [Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries](#) (CSAL) negotiates licences for access to digital publications. Almost all Swiss higher education institutions are covered by the consortial licences for the major academic publishing houses. For the consortial licences with Elsevier, Springer Nature, and Wiley, so called 'big deals' are negotiated. By signing the mandate, the mandating institutions commit themselves not to conduct parallel negotiations or prolong bilateral agreements between institutions and publishers for Open Access publications. Mandating institutions also accept a "no deal" state if the negotiations prove unsuccessful or require more time to produce the required results.

The negotiations with Wiley for their journal portfolio, covering both hybrid and Gold OA journals, started early 2024 and have not yet resulted in a mutually acceptable agreement. As the current agreement ends on 31 December 2024, preparations were put in place for a scenario without agreement as of 2025. Meanwhile, the negotiation team continues its effort to find a solution with Wiley.

Situation Overview and FAQ

For the mandating institutions and their researchers, a no-deal scenario will affect both **reading access and publishing in the Wiley journal portfolios**. The overview below shows the impact on reading and publishing for each of the Wiley portfolios.

Portfolio	Reading
Wiley Hybrid Journals ("Database")	Reading access is expected to continue until the end of January 2025 (grace period). Once Wiley disables access, journal content published from 1 January 2025 onwards will not be accessible, except if available Open Access. Perpetual access will be provided to content published during 2016-2024. Perpetual access to older content may be available but can vary by institution. See factsheet " How to get the Article " to retrieve articles through alternative channels.

Portfolio	Publishing
Wiley Hybrid Journals	<p>Researchers can still publish in hybrid journals without charges, but articles will not be made Open Access by the publisher.</p> <p>To make a publication Open Access use the Green OA route: The options and restrictions of self-archiving depend on whether a journal is owned by Wiley or a society partner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For journals owned by Wiley: Authors may self-archive the submitted (preprint) version of the article at any time and may self-archive the accepted (peer-reviewed) version after an embargo period. ➤ For society partner journals: They may have their own policies and authors should check the copyright policy of their chosen journal. <p>Please review the options and restrictions (e.g., embargo periods) on the publisher’s website.</p> <p>Researchers can also pay Article Processing Charges (APC) to publish Open Access in hybrid journals, but this is strongly discouraged since so-called “costs in the wild” weaken the Swiss negotiation power. It is recommended that institutions do not pay APC for hybrid articles from central funds.</p> <p>Researchers are encouraged to consider publishing their articles in journals with an existing agreement. Please ask your library for advice.</p>
Wiley Gold OA Journals	<p>No change to agreement period 2021-2024: Researchers can still publish in fully Open Access journals if they pay Article Processing Charges (APC). It is recommended that institutions do not pay for Gold OA articles from their central funds.</p> <p>Researchers are encouraged to consider publishing their articles in journals with an existing agreement. Please ask your library for advice.</p>

Frequently Asked Questions – FAQ

1. Will a no-deal situation jeopardise Swiss research and education?

*Experience in Switzerland and internationally shows that a contractless situation restricts access to literature but **does not significantly impede research and teaching**. Research articles can be obtained legally through alternative channels (see factsheet "[How to get the Article](#)").*

2. How long does a no-deal situation last?

A no-deal situation will last as long as there is no acceptable agreement with Wiley. The negotiation team will continue the negotiations with Wiley to find a solution.

3. Can institutions or researchers continue to pay APCs for individual articles?

Yes. Institutions cannot stop individual researchers to pay for their own publications. However, it is recommended that institutions do not pay for hybrid and Gold OA articles from central funds.

4. Will the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) pay Open Access fees for Gold Open Access journals of Wiley?

As is recommended in point 3., the SNSF acts in unison with the higher education institutions and will stop paying OA fees for Gold OA journals of Wiley.

5. If an agreement can be found later in 2025, will articles in hybrid journals be made Open Access retrospectively?

This will be part of the negotiations.

6. If there is a no-deal, “costs in the wild” are likely to increase. How will this impact the negotiations?

While “costs in the wild” are likely to increase during a no-deal situation, they will not change the Swiss baseline fees used for a potential agreement.

7. Can my institution subscribe to individual journal titles?

Yes, institutions can subscribe to selected journals. However, as in non-contractual situations with other publishers, it is important to keep these subscriptions to a minimum so as not to weaken the Swiss negotiation power.

8. How can authors comply with the Open Access requirement of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and other funders? Are they temporarily suspended?

If publishing in hybrid journals, authors can still comply with the SNSF’s OA requirements by applying the “Rights Retention Strategy” and depositing their final manuscripts in a repository (Green OA). In any case, the SNSF monitors compliance to its OA regulations sensibly and will account for a contractless scenario accordingly.