

Project applications of the call for proposals (212) – Deadline 31.05.2021

Primary Action line	ID	Short & full title	Leading institution	Partner institution(s)	Project Manager	Total cost & Funds requested	Decision Open Science delegation
Alternative forms of publications	212-001	sui generis → Abstract	UZH	n/a	Marc Thommen	101'000 (100%) 49'750 (49.3%)	Refusal Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publications	212-002	UZH Law → Abstract	UZH	UNIBE	Tobias Baumgartner	597'500 (100%) 290'000 (48.5%)	Refusal Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publications	212-003	CHIMIA_OA → Abstract	Swiss Chemical Society	n/a	Gillian Harvey	34'000 (100%) 17'000 (50%)	Refusal not eligible
Alternative forms of publications	212-004	GOAL → Abstract	ZHAW	HSLU ZHdK PHFR FHNW Associated partners	Elena Šimukovič / Andrea Moritz	782'600 (100%) 355'300 (45.4%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publication	212-005	OS-ADM → Abstract	SUPSI	FHNW HES-SO HKB HSLU ZHdK	Iolanda Pensa	798'460 (100%) 348'460 (43.6%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report

Primary Action line	ID	Short & full title	Leading institution	Partner institution(s)	Project Manager	Total cost & Funds requested	Decision Open Science delegation
Alternative forms of publications	212-006	PLATO → Abstract	UZH	UNIBE UNIGE UNINE ETHZ ZHdK	Katherine Hermans / Manuela Höfler / Andrea Malits / André Hoffmann	866'800 (100%) 433'400 (50%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report
National Monitoring	212-007	NOAM → Abstract	Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries	n/a	Susanne Aerni	200'000 (100%) 100'000 (50%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report
Alternative Forms of Publications	212-008	COP → Abstract	UZH	FHNW USI	Xinhua Wittmann	1'040'000 (100%) 520'000 (50%)	Refusal Evaluation report
Participation to international initiatives	212-009	FROWIN → Abstract	UNIBAS	UNIFR St. Gallen Abbey Library Berlin State Library ZB UZH	Ueli Dill	506'000 (100%) 253'000 (50%)	Refusal Evaluation report
Participation to international initiatives	212-010	OILS → Abstract	UZH	OILS	Christina Ambrosi / Joyce Kao	924'810 (100%) 200'000 (21.6%)	Refusal Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publications	212-011	dialectica → Abstract	UZH	Dialectica Open Access Initiative (philosophie.ch)	Philipp Blum / Jörg Löschke	486'060 (100%) 238'908 (49.2%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report

Primary Action line	ID	Short & full title	Leading institution	Partner institution(s)	Project Manager	Total cost & Funds requested	Decision Open Science delegation
Alternative forms of publication	212-012	GLOBEQUITY → Abstract	Swiss TPH	SSPH+	Anke Berger	312'900 (100%) 150'000 (47.9%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publication	212-013	OA - History Education → Abstract	PH FHNW	University of Kiel McGill University Montreal University of Salzburg University of Murcia UNIBAS	Monika Waldis	278'507 (100%) 134' 276 (48.2%)	Approval Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publication	212-014	SMW Platinum OA → Abstract	UNIBAS	SMW Supporting Association	Manuel Battegay	250'000 (100%) 125'000 (50%)	Approval with conditions Evaluation report
Alternative forms of publication	212-015	OS-CISS → Abstract	UNIBE	SGS EHSM	Claudio Nigg	56'000 € (100%) 28'000 € (50%)	Refusal Evaluation report

sui generis (212-001)

Sui generis is the first Swiss platinum (=diamond) open access law journal with a double-blind peer review. Since 2014 we publish high-quality legal articles from all domains of law in German, French and English. Today we are a widely respected journal in Switzerland and publish between 40 and 50 articles annually. We have already over 10.000 readers per month and the numbers are rising. We are the proof that legal platinum open access publishing is possible even in the conservative Swiss market. Furthermore, we believe that our form of publishing is equal if not superior to traditional publishing. Since we operate non-profit, our overall costs remain low. All our articles are and will always be immediately and freely available online as an enhanced PDF and HTML-version. At the same time, readers, authors, and institutions (e.g., law libraries) call for a physical copy of our articles to collect and/or share with colleagues. Therefore, in the summer of 2020 we have decided to produce physical prints of our journal. Up to now we have already shipped the third round of quarterly volumes. Not only will this allow us to be found in library book shelves alongside the traditional Swiss law journals, which is beneficial for the credibility of the journal, more importantly it is also a means to finance Platinum Open Access in the long term by binding our supporters to the journal. Before, sympathizers could only support us by donations, without receiving anything in exchange. With our new quarterly volumes, we meet supporters halfway and provide them with a high-quality product in exchange for a yearly contribution. In order to attain long-term sustainability, the sale of the quarterly volumes needs to be boosted through personal marketing effort. In our lean journal all the resources are exhausted by the publication process. We therefore need funds for the promotion. Metaphorically speaking, we need fuel to kick-start an afterwards permanently running engine.

[Back to top](#)

UZH Law (212-002)

Open Access (OA) study materials for law students: conception, production and distribution of digital study literature and development of an OA platform

The project of an "OA textbook series for law students" will serve as a pilot project to demonstrate the potential of digital teaching materials in terms of their availability and didactic value. While a new "UZH Law" platform for the retrieval of OA study literature by representatives of the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich will raise the visibility of the Faculty as a publisher of contemporary study literature. Finally, the project is intended as a prototype for a cross-faculty and nationwide infrastructure for OA study/specialist literature in order to meet the trend towards digitalisation and remote retrieval of library material. The project is motivated by the national open access strategy and aims at inspiring scientists and scientific institutions throughout Switzerland to take part in OA publication initiatives.

[Back to top](#)

CHIMIA_OA (212-003)

A new online platform for CHIMIA, the Platinum Open Access society journal of the Swiss Chemical Society

CHIMIA is an established and well-known international journal of chemistry that also functions as the society journal of the Swiss Chemical Society. The content is divided into peer-reviewed review-type scientific articles grouped in special topics of current interest written to inform the wider chemical community and articles by SCS junior and major prize winners, followed by Society content consisting of short columns by the SCS Divisions and information about Society matters and events. It has a 4-year impact factor of 1.159 and is indexed by PubMed, which is a strong incentive for potential authors. The Journal is available both online and in print: 10 issues are published each year according to a defined schedule with a print circulation of approx. 2300.

In January 2020, the journal was successfully flipped to Platinum Open Access. With this change, the SCS made the proactive move to support the Open Science policy of the SNSF, enabling all authors, including those receiving public funding to submit without restrictions of copyright or APC, with the articles immediately available under license CC BY 4.0. The publication costs are covered by the SCS through membership fees, advertising revenue, and the sale of some print-only subscriptions but the flipping did result in a loss in revenue from discontinued subscriptions and some page fees. Before flipping, subscribers to CHIMIA included the Swiss Academic Libraries and more than 80 clients in USA, Europe and Asia.

The first port of call of any journal is the website, which must be attractive, clearly branded, accessible, and easily navigable with no external redirections.

Up to now, CHIMIA has maintained three online platforms, which leads to confusion for readers and authors as well as to duplication of efforts by the publisher/SCS.

This project involves creating and optimising a single online platform, based on the OJS system, to host all the diverse offerings of CHIMIA from submission to publication and content hosting and will render the current website (chimia.ch) and the hosting of the scientific articles on ingentaconnect obsolete.

[Back to top](#)

GOAL (212-004)*Unlocking the Green Open Access potential in scholarly and professional journals in Switzerland*

The Swiss national Open Access (OA) strategy and its corresponding Implementation Plan are said to support “a mix of OA models”. However, previous initiatives have mostly focused on Gold OA models and levying of Article Processing Charges (APCs). At the same time, the Green OA road presents a viable and cost-effective solution to increase the accessibility of research results towards the national 100% OA goal. This is a particularly pertaining issue for journals which are not included in the ongoing efforts to sign so-called transformative agreements with major scientific publishers. With this project, we would like to address this hitherto neglected opportunity. Our ultimate aim is to build up more systematic and efficient workflows for self-archiving journal articles in institutional repositories. More precisely, this project aims at extracting the untapped Green OA potential by facilitating the cooperation between universities of applied sciences (FHs), universities of teacher education (PHs) and the publishers of scholarly and professional journals. These publishing venues have been shown to comprise a large majority of publications at this type of universities in Switzerland by the recently completed “Open Access for Educational and Applied Sciences in Switzerland” (OA-EASI) project funded by swissuniversities. For this purpose, we will draw on the results of the OA-EASI project and extend its work by including more recent data about publishing records from partner institutions. Building on this analysis, we will develop a set of policies, procedures and workflows for this type of research institutions and affected publishers in order to streamline Green OA self-archiving procedures. Our approach should support both aims: to establish formal, standardised Green OA policies that are easy to interpret for researchers and repository managers (incl. registering these new policies in SHERPA / RoMEO database, whenever possible), and to be responsive enough to the needs and circumstances at this type of universities and practice-oriented publishers. By the end of the project, good practices for implementing Green OA should be widely adopted by affected institutions in Switzerland and beyond. With this project proposal, a huge majority of FHs and PHs as well as a university of the arts in Switzerland have teamed up either as partner institutions or as associated partners. Our overall objective is to increase visibility and accessibility of publications from our institutions and to fill this gap in the OA landscape in Switzerland and beyond.

[Back to top](#)

OS-ADM (212-005)

Open Science for Arts, Design and Music

The disciplinary fields of Arts (photography, visual and performing arts, such as dance, theatre and cinema), Design (including sub-disciplines such as visual communication, industrial design, fashion design and interaction design) and Music (including sound and aural arts) present a series of complex issues related to the reuse and distribution of artwork and of third parties content under copyright, not accessible in public domain and subject to a series of restrictions. These disciplinary fields produce a wide range of multimedia outputs, they imply action-research and practice-based research, and they collaborate with specialized national Swiss publishing houses. This situation makes the implementation of Open Access in the disciplinary fields of ADM (Arts, Design and Music) particularly complex. At the same time, practices developed within these fields address issues which are relevant in other disciplines. The present project proposal aims at supporting the Swiss disciplinary field of ADM in implementing the swissuniversities Open Access action plan 2021-2024 in collaboration with key stakeholders. More specifically the project involves a network of Swiss schools of ADM and it develops centralised and local services. The centralised service produces guidelines and solutions for a selection of case studies with the support of a legal team, it produces webinars and training for the local staff, it involves Swiss institutions in international networks and it triggers Green and Gold Open Access among the publications in the field of ADM. At a local level, the different schools involved notify case studies, receive training and coaching to support their researchers, teachers and collaborators, to include Open Access and Open Data (i.e. copyright management, open licenses, multimedia formats, reviewing processes) within students' curricula and to negotiate with national publishers specialised in ADM. The project contributes to alternative forms of publications and it participates to international initiatives: it implements in 2022 the guidelines, in 2023 training and coaching, and in 2024 the negotiations with institutional, national and inter-national publishers. Institutions involved: SUPSI (Ticino), HES-SO (ECAL, Lausanne; HEAD – Genève; EDHEA, Valais), ZHdK (Zurich), HSLU Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst (Lucerne), BFH (Bern), FHNW (Basel). Letters of support from Swiss Federal Office of Culture, Pro Helvetia Swiss Arts Council, Swiss National Science Foundation, DARIAH-EU Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities, SARN Swiss Artistic Research Network, SDN Swiss Design Network.

[Back to top](#)

PLATO (212-006)

Platinum Open Access Funding

Much progress has been achieved so far within the national strategy to make all publicly funded scientific publications freely accessible until 2024. However, efforts concentrated primarily on negotiating Read & Publish agreements, Gold Open Access, Open Infrastructure and OA Monitoring. Funding agencies and many HEIs additionally supported researchers financially, providing grants for article processing charges. Little attention was paid to the so-called “Platinum model”, also known as “Diamond” Open Access. Platinum OA publications are free for the authors and the readers, because they are often funded by external sources, such as funding agencies, academic institutions, scientific societies or government grants, by sales of printed copies, advertising or sponsoring; in addition, considerable voluntary work from academics is invested. The present proposal suggests a project, which aims

- first at gaining more insights in the landscape of Platinum journals in Switzerland and
- second at developing innovative funding streams for a sustainable Platinum landscape in Switzerland.

These suggestions adapt results from a recently released study of a group supported by cOAlition S and Science Europe, since they recommend to set up funding plans and to create a (European) “capacity center” in order to better coordinate and support editors.

The proposed project brings together the participating HEI and the national organisations involved in funding or shaping Open Access measures; it also cooperates with the research communities and editors of Platinum journals. To get an overview of the Swiss Platinum landscape a study (incl. a survey) will be conducted first in form of a mandate. Workshops and roundtables will then be organized with the aim of involving stakeholders and raising awareness. As a result, scenarios for funding plans will be created and reviewed.

The project is planned in two phases. The goal of the first phase is to work out the baseline and assess the results of the study. In the second phase plans for innovative funding streams will be developed and reviewed with the stakeholders to enable sustainable Platinum funding in Switzerland.

[Back to top](#)

NOAM (212-007)

National Open Access Monitoring

The project National Open Access Monitoring aims to collect data on Open Access shares and make them accessible through a designated website. This responds directly with the demand of swissuniversities and its members to have a measurement of the degree of fulfilment of the Open Access strategy which aims to have all publicly funded research Open Access by 2024¹. Locating the project at the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries ensures involvement of all members of swissuniversities and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) as well as providing vital information for the negotiations on National Open Access agreements, conducted independently or in cooperation with swissuniversities (big deals). Further, it will build on existing infrastructures to maximise cost efficiency and develop a business model to ensure the sustainability of the service.

The project aims to fulfil three objectives:

- 1) Collect data on publications to determine Open Access share,
- 2) Make Open Access shares and data accessible, and
- 3) Secure future provision of the National Open Access Monitoring.

Data collection will be achieved via two methods. Firstly, the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries will enter a strategic partnership with Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZ Jülich) which has developed the Open Access Monitor Germany² providing analyses of journal publications based on Dimensions³ and the Web of Science⁴. Second, the project will conduct a national survey among the members of swissuniversities to determine Open Access shares. This will extend coverage of the National Open Access Monitoring to articles with no DOI and other publication types (i.e., eBooks and conference proceedings). The project will develop a visually appealing website to host a Swiss View of the Open Access Monitor, delivered through the cooperation with FZ Jülich, providing a visual representation of Open Access shares for Swiss Higher Education Institutions (HEI) as well as its underlying datasets and present the results of the national survey alongside. Finally, it will produce a business case that will ensure that the established service is kept running and potentially developed further.

The project National Open Access Monitoring meets directly with the demands for a Minimal Viable Product described in the project description for National Monitoring⁵. The project description was proposed by SLiNER to and approved by the Delegation Open Science. Contrary to the published description, the project will not include a commissioned external evaluation as the project aims to publish

¹https://www.swissuniversities.ch/fileadmin/swissuniversities/Dokumente/Hochschulpolitik/Open_Access/Open_Access_strategy_final_e.pdf

² <https://open-access-monitor.de/#/home>. Open Access Monitor is also presented as an effective use case of Open Access monitoring for interpretation and reporting (cf. <https://www.scienceeurope.org/media/cqllmhzo/se-oamonitoring-briefing-paper-2021.pdf>, p. 18)

³ <https://www.dimensions.ai/>

⁴ <https://clarivate.com/webofsciencgroup/solutions/web-of-science/>. Web of Science will not be included in the Minimal Viable Product. Rights to publish publication data from the Web of Science will need to be clarified.

⁵ https://www.swissuniversities.ch/fileadmin/swissuniversities/Dokumente/Hochschulpolitik/Open_Science/DeIOS09_07-c_OA_monitor_v2.pdf

all datasets. This allows any interested party to conduct their own analysis on the quality of the service. The combined approach of cooperation with FZ Jülich and repository survey ensures the production of the Minimal Viable Product at minimal financial expenditure while complying to developing international standards. The Minimal Viable Product can be continued as is at minimal cost, but also allows for further development, should members of swissuniversities wish to do so and decide to invest accordingly.

[Back to top](#)

COP (212-008)

Case Open Platform

Methodologically, case studies are suitable for the analysis of social phenomena with multiple and varying contextual influences, dealing with different forms of empirical material at the same time (George & Bennett, 2005). Case studies are widely used in organizational studies and across the social sciences; they are increasingly being used and with a growing confidence as a rigorous research strategy in their own right suggesting that case studies have become "one of the most common ways to do qualitative inquiry" (Dezin & Lincoln, 2011). Case studies have been regarded as appropriate when exploring new entrepreneurial topics, particularly in instances where existing theory might seem inadequate (Bagnoli & Megali, 2011). A significant proportion (20%-80%) of business education curriculum, unlike other traditional lecture-method-dependent subjects, is comprised of case studies (Byrne, 2012). Almost all the top management colleges in the world are adopting the case study method in their classrooms. Using case studies in teaching has proven to be an effective, complementary method to traditional textbook-based teaching as it takes students into the real business world and allows them to apply theories and models in developing concrete skills in "problem-solving, decision making in complex situations, as well as coping with ambiguities" (Boston University, n.d.).

However, the process of developing a case study has its constraints and consequently limits its access to a broader readership. The obstacles include: 1) Limited case sources. Faculty members normally get one chance for an interview and perhaps secure a company visit from contacting at least 3-4 companies independently in order to develop a case. 2) Lengthy publication process. Case publishing usually requires that case studies be tested in the classroom at least twice before publication, which often takes 1 1/2-2 years' time. By the time a case study is finally accepted for publication, the stories are often already out-of-date. 3) Less local-business relevant. Because of the dominance of case studies from North American business schools, led by the Harvard Business Publishing House, most available business cases are based on the problems confronted by multinationals or other large companies. There is a lack of case studies focusing on Swiss-based SMEs, which are, in fact, the backbone of the Swiss economy. 4) No-open access. Until today, case study publishing has been dominated by a few business schools and international case collection platforms. Case study users need to purchase the copyright as case study consumers.

On the other hand, many companies, particularly emerging companies, like start-ups or other small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are burdened with the financial pressure of hiring consulting firms to address their business challenges. We recognize that there is a match to be made between the demand for real business cases and problem-solving scenarios that emerge from the classrooms. Therefore, we propose the very first open access online platform in Switzerland – Case Open Platform (COP, temporary name), which allows companies to post their managerial challenges with the aim of receiving sound advice or proposed solutions to their issues. Depending on the research interest/teaching subject, professors can pick a case as the basis for field research and write-up a case study for publication. Students can select cases posted by the companies as their semester project or thesis topic.

[Back to top](#)

FROWIN (212-009)

Digital Publication of Manuscripts from Swiss Libraries and Archives on International Platforms

The Swiss libraries and archives owning medieval manuscripts are committed to establish a new sponsoring organisation for the e-codices platform, which will make images and descriptions of the manuscripts accessible via open access and enable scholarly exchange. The objective of the project FROWIN is to expand the international cooperation of the platform with comparable foreign platforms in terms of data exchange and scholarly cooperation. The project of the five partners (University of Basel, University of Fribourg, Stiftsbibliothek St. Gallen, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Staatsbibliothek Berlin for the German manuscript platform, the Handschriftenportal) comprises three parts: a) preparing manuscript descriptions of the University Library of Basel and the Stiftsbibliothek St. Gallen for publication on e-codices, b) developing a concept for importing the e-codices data into the Handschriftenportal and displaying them on this platform as well, c) implementing a French and an Italian user interface in the Handschriftenportal, d) evaluating the possibility of cooperations with the French platform Biblissima and the German Handschriftencensus.

[Back to top](#)

OILS (212-010)

Open Innovation in Life Sciences: Focus on Open Data practices of early career researchers

Open Innovation in Life Sciences (OILS) is a grassroots-initiated Swiss open science association (www.openinnovationlifesciences.com) supported by Life Science Zurich (common venture between UZH/ETHZ). OILS works with early career life science researchers (ECRs) to help them understand what open science is, provide them with opportunities to learn how to practice open science in their everyday research routines, and connect them with players in academia, industry, and society to promote open communication and collaborations.

We bring in experts and leaders in open science from all over the world via events such as our established annual open science + career development conference, regular public discussions, and workshops. While we touch on all aspects of open science, we focus on relevant topics supporting national open science strategies starting with Open Access and Open Data in our upcoming season of ECR-focused events. Through our activities, we build a community of life science ECRs to teach them the foundations of open science including the usage of modern digital tools and plant the seeds of culture change. Our activities interface with national and international partners, which enhance the top-down initiatives and efforts towards open science and amplify Swiss presence on the global open science stage. While we are life science focused, we welcome participants from all disciplines and career stages to our events and encourage life scientists to expand their horizons through interdisciplinary interactions.

Our vision is to endorse open scientific communications, strengthen collaborations among researchers, and integrate transparency in scientific research in a sustainable way starting with the ECRs, who are the innovation leaders of tomorrow.

[Back to top](#)

dialectica (212-011)

An Open Access Hub for Swiss Philosophers (OAHUBSP)

The Dialectica OA project is an initiative founded and run by and for academic philosophers based in Switzerland. Its goals are to promote and implement Platinum Open Access and Open Source based solutions and innovations for scholars of philosophy which address questions ranging from how to transform the peer-review process through how to publish scientific content and edit scientific journals to their collection and dissemination through scientific libraries. The Dialectica OA initiative therefore includes stakeholders of the microcosm of Swiss academic philosophy, such as scientific librarians, authors, journal editors and reviewers, taking into account the legitimate and broadly shared demands for cooperation and exchange of both know-how and technical support tailored to the specific needs and perspectives of the discipline and of the specific journal Dialectica.

The aims of the initiative and the gains of the present project go beyond one specific journal and one specific discipline, however. By providing a detailed description of available options and an overview of the Swiss OA cosmos ("the OA toolkit"), the Dialectica OA initiative will provide a model case, applicable to all Swiss journals in the humanities, primarily those funded by the ASSH/SAGW. By offering concrete help and guidance to such journals, in particular with respect to their business model, it encourages them to undertake an OA flipping themselves.

The specific aim of the present project is to develop, test, implement and document the "fishpond", a broad and adaptable tool for the triple-blind refereeing process of scientific journals in the humanities and social sciences. Entirely open source and improving on the functionality of commercial "editorial manager" systems, the planned platform enables collaborative discussion of the submitted papers by the members of the Editorial Committee, provides an open, adaptable interface with external referees and allows authors to stay informed about and actively participate in the discussion of their work. By documenting the evaluation process and connecting the individual work of the members of the Editorial Committee, the fishpond will develop a new type of research assessment. Continuously adapted to the needs and interests of all parties participating in the evaluation process, the fishpond model, its documentation and evaluation will be offered to the scientific community.

[Back to top](#)

GLOBEQUITY (212-012)

Promoting global equity in open access publishing

This platinum publishing fee waiver program provides scientist from low/middle income and from some countries in economic transition (LMIC+) with platinum open access (OA) over the next 3 years. The program counters a rapidly increasing inequity where scientists in LMIC face discriminatory hurdles as they cannot afford OA publication fees (APC). OA amplifies global inequities given that governments, universities and research institutions in LMIC+ cannot fund the APC and deals to support OA are mostly signed with high income countries (HIC) and wealthy research institutions. These strong barriers force LMIC+ researchers to publish in closed access journals where their research does not receive the same open reach. Alternatively, they must place HIC co-authors as first or corresponding authors to get free APC which jeopardizes their career tracks.

The Swiss open access journals [International Journal of Public Health](#) (IJPH) and [Public Health Reviews](#) (PHR) are dedicated to make a difference in providing equal access for high quality research from LMIC+. The journals have a pronounced global scope and are attractive for authors from LMIC+. The editorial strategy promotes diversity in country coverage and gender and promotes early career researchers. As APC are prohibitive for authors from LMIC+ the move to OA calls for an innovative platinum fee waiver program to remain an attractive hub for LMIC+ scientists, such as those collaborating in swissuniversities funded activities and networks like SUDAC with a range of global health oriented programs in COFER and CLOC.

Both journals provide thorough double blind peer review and rank in Q1 of the subject category Public, Environmental and Occupational Health (Scopus). The CiteScores of IJPH and PHR (2019) are 4.2 and 5.0, respectively. The Impact Factor (2019) of IJPH is 2.4 whereas PHR – currently in the phase of application for IF – would have an IF (2019) of 4 based on citations in the Web of Science.

These not-for-profit “society journals” are owned by the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) – a Foundation of 12 swissuniversities member Universities. The journals’ scientific editorial office is mandated to Swiss Tropical and Publish Health Institute (Swiss TPH), an associated Institute of the University of Basel with a long-standing record of LMIC-based research collaborations. As a not-for-profit Foundation, the SSPH+ core budget (covered by core contributions of the 12 universities) can only fund core operations of SSPH+. Projects such as the two journals are – and must remain – fully self-funded. The Editorial Office at Swiss TPH is able to manage the platinum program but it cannot fund it either. Thus, provision of a platinum fee waiver program requires funding. GLOBEQUITY will cover 85% of the APC for qualifying articles. Eligibility criteria include high quality and relevance of the research (see methods) and a successful blinded peer review. The program will only cover the publication fees if the authors do not qualify for other existing programs.

[Back to top](#)

OA - History Education (212-13)

This project aims to establish a new international, open access, peer-reviewed journal in history education with a particular focus on historical thinking, cultural contexts and educational agency. The journal "Historical Thinking, Culture, and Education" (HTCE) will publish empirical research papers in open access (OA) gold standard. Three central objectives underlie the proposed journal: (1) the dissemination of high-quality academic productions; (2) a quick turnaround rate; and (3) the necessity of community building and promoting a transnational dialogue. The idea is to initiate conversations in a comments forum that will enable our readership's ability to better understand what is being proposed in the scholarship we disseminate and to help our field of study move forward. Through transnational dialogue, we want to push important findings, theories, and methodologies to the next level, and to encourage an informed exchange within the growing community of history education scholars that will greatly benefit our field of study. In order to reach this goal, we aim to flip the well-established series of conference proceedings "Forschungswerkstatt geschichtsdidaktik empirisch" (est. 2007, peer-reviewed, edited book volumes) into a new Open Access journal and open it to the international community. The project will use the OJS platform Eterna from the library of University of Basel. A team of editors from University of Kiel, University of Salzburg, University of Murcia, McGill University Montreal, and PH FHNW will manage the editorial workflow. A broader editorial board and a board of reviewers accompany the new journal and ensure diversity. Starting in 2022, the HTCE journal will publish two journal issues per year. Main characteristics are Open Access gold standard, double-blind review by three reviewers, Early Access publications, and English language. The new journal will contain three sections: A regular research paper section, an emerging scholar section and an open forum section combined with a commentary forum for discussions. Two editors are responsible for each issue. They share the editorial work. A research assistant (PH FHNW) will support them and ensures a uniform approach. After the release of the first four journal issues, the editor team shall be expanded in order to distribute the editorial workload among several scholars and institutions and to reflect the diversity of perspectives on history education research.

[Back to top](#)

SMW Platinum OA (212-14)

Swiss Medical Weekly: A sustainable open-access platform for clinical medicine and biomedical sciences

To sustain and improve the Platinum open-access (OA) journal Swiss Medical Weekly (SMW), and to strengthen OA medical publishing in Switzerland and internationally, we propose three complementing working packages:

(A) The development of a sustainable, multichannel OA information platform consisting of (i) a new OA website for the SMW, (ii) implementing and integrating an OA preprint server for medical articles based on the Open Preprint Systems initiative and (iii) setting up new OA information channels via social media to inform about latest (bio-)medical research in Switzerland.

(B) The development of a sustainable and scalable OA peer-review/publishing platform by moving our peer reviewing process from the proprietary Editorial Manager platform (owned by Elsevier) to the open source project Open Journal Systems (OJS). With their experience in online OA publishing, the SMW team will actively contribute to the OJS network to build internal knowledge about OJS processes and to enhance the OJS by providing add-on open source codes, which should make the OJS more suitable for larger medical OA journals.

(C) Further development of our sustainable OA workflows: With fast international expert reviewing, in-house methodological reviewing by biostatisticians and epidemiologists, and with English editing at the expense of the journal, SMW offers researchers a service package that supports the researcher community and especially young researchers. Due to the increasing number of submissions and limited resources of the SMW, the journal is forced to constantly optimise its processes. We propose a systematic evaluation and optimisation of OA workflows as part of a separate working package and making the experiences available to a wider OA community.

A key aspect of this project is its scalability: the planned transition of a large journal with a large archive, a sophisticated website, and complex reviewing workflows to OJS will not only serve the SMW itself. Due to the open-source nature of the platform, the planned networking, and careful and freely accessible documentation, the project will also produce an output that smaller journals wishing to switch to platinum OA, or newly founded journals, can continue to use for themselves.

[Back to top](#)

OS – CISS (212-15)

Open Science proposal for Current Issues in Sport Science

This proposal is to facilitate platinum/diamond open access publication of Current Issues of Sport Science (CISS) - the official Journal of the Swiss and Austrian Societies of Sport Science (SGS and ÖSG). This funding will give the new editorial team time to identify and secure long-term sustainable financial support to be in place at the end of 2024. During this initial period of support from swissuniversities and other partners we will aim to obtain an impact factor, increase journal visibility, increase publication quantity and quality, apply to be included in numerous journal search engines and increase journal citations. Our vision driving this is for CISS to achieve an international reputation and visibility.

[Back to top](#)