

# The future of scientific publishing, for and by scientists

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# Situation and challenges

## Publishing landscape is dynamic

- In part driven by technological advances
- Evolving demands, in particular open access, value for money

## Subject is complex

- Many actors : heterogeneity and fragmentation
- Various historically contingent structures
- Interests of individuals and community often incongruous



Easy (i) to have an opinion and/or (ii) to get lost in details

# Position paper by DPG (published Nov 2021)

<https://www.dpg-physik.de/veroeffentlichungen/publikationen/stellungnahmen-der-dpg/wissenschaftssystem/dpg-positions-papier-zur-zukunft-des-wissenschaftlichen-publikationswesens>

## **In complex discussions, viewpoints of scientists easily get lost**

- Other players act on our behalf
- `Leidensdruck' is not sufficient to get many people focused

**Which issues are important for us?**

**Which changes would we welcome/oppose/be indifferent to?**

**What actions should we take ourselves?**

# Which issues are important to us?

## Open access

- In practise, assured by arXiv. Are we happy with arXiv? Stability?

## Quality assurance and `reputation allocation`

- Labour-intensive portion (refereeing) provided free of charge
- Decision-making outsourced to editors (but not always)
  - Is this where we want to be?
  - Multiple influences: which topics are prominent? How are results presented?

## Community-based innovation (e.g. SciPost)

- Entry barriers
- Who does the work? Scalability and Stability
- General problem: financing of `free` journals

# Which issues are important to us?

## Ownership

- Copyright; future use (including referee reports)

## Policy decisions

- Open access
- FAIR principles (code availability etc)

## Refereeing

- Labour-intensive portion (refereeing) provided free of charge
- Many suggestions for reform but no clear way forward

## Provide input for negotiations

- So that not all of us have to take case-by-case decisions