



Coffee Lectures

Free of charge and without embargo:
How to meet the SNSF's new open access requirements
using the Rights Retention Strategy

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22. November 2023, Webinar via Zoom

New knowledge in 10 minutes:

- What are the new open access requirements of the Swiss National Science Foundation?
- How to comply with the requirements by using the Rights Retention Strategy

Agenda

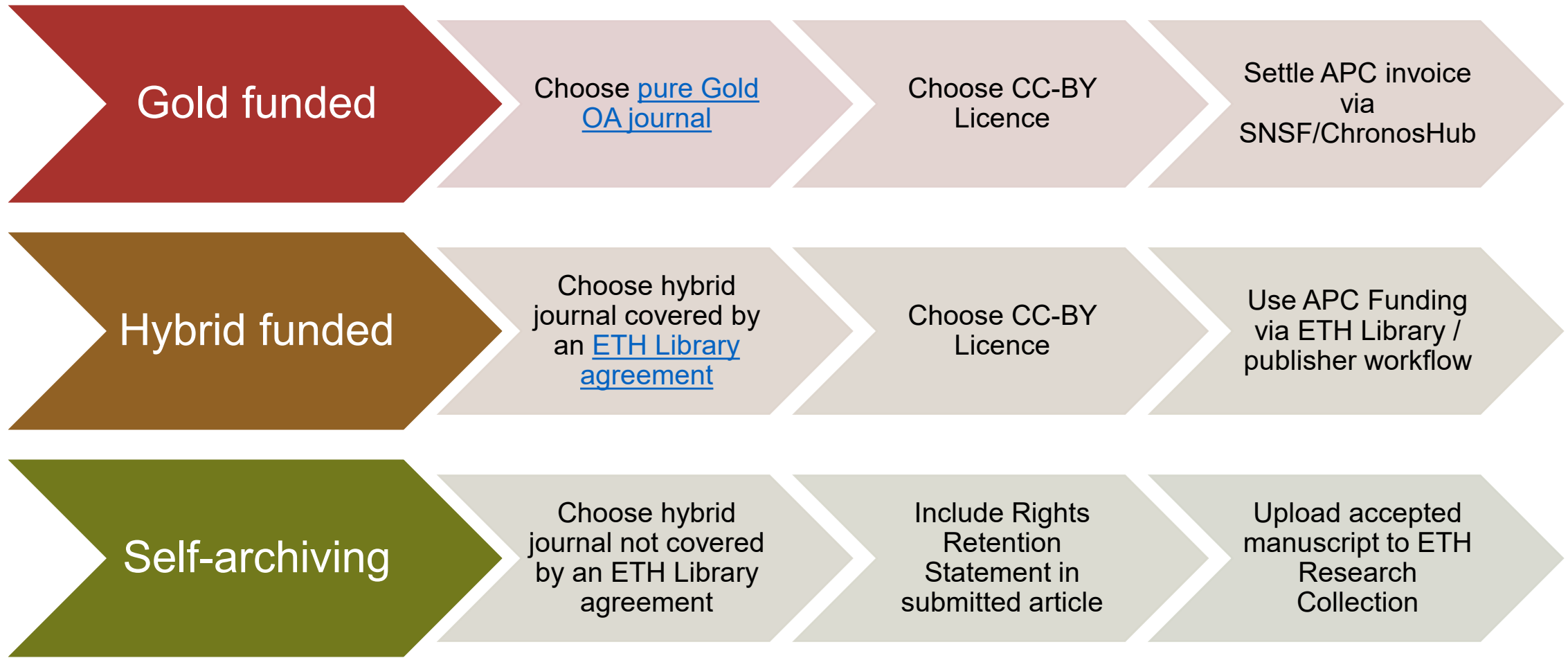
1. The new SNSF open access requirements
2. How to put the requirements into practice: 3 options
3. Self-archiving: The problem of conflicting policies
4. A potential solution: Rights Retention
5. How does the Rights Retention Strategy work?
6. How do publishers deal with this in practice?

The new SNSF open access requirements

Regulations for projects submitted from 2023 onwards

OA mandatory for	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peer-reviewed publications (journal articles, books, book chapters)
Max. embargo period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Articles: 0 month• Books: 12 months
Licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CC-BY mandatory
APC funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available via ChronosHub, but only for articles in pure Gold open access journals

How to put the requirements into practice: 3 options



Self-archiving: The problem of conflicting policies

SNSF requirement

- immediate open access
- with CC-BY licence



Publishers policies

- embargos on self-archived versions in repositories: usually 6-24 months
- no CC-licences allowed at all or only very restrictive licences

Example Journal: **Current Biology (Elsevier / Cell Press)**

- Embargo on accepted version: 12 months
- Licence for accepted version: only CC-BY-NC-ND allowed

A potential solution: Rights Retention

- A [strategy](#) developed by a coalition of research funders called [cOAlition S](#)

National funders



Charitable and international funders & research organisations



European funders



A potential solution: Rights Retention

- Main idea
 - Researchers sign a **grant agreement** with their funder which requires them to make their articles open access without embargo and apply a CC-BY licence to their Author Accepted Manuscripts
 - These **agreed prior obligations between authors and funders take legal precedence** over any later Licence to Publish or Copyright Transfer Agreement that the publisher may ask the author to sign

How does the Rights Retention Strategy work?

Procedure recommended by SNSF (<https://oa100.snf.ch/en/funding/guidelines/>)

- Already apply the Rights Retention Strategy **when submitting an article**, to secure the rights to your own work while ensuring that the SNSF's OA obligation is met
- **Insert the following standard statement** when submitting an article, e.g. in the acknowledgements field:
“This research was funded in whole or in part by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) [Grant number]. For the purpose of Open Access, a CC BY public copyright licence is applied to any Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) version arising from this submission.”
- As soon as the AAM (author's accepted manuscript) becomes available, upload it to a repository (no embargo; OA immediately effective).

How does the Rights Retention Strategy work?

Additional recommendations from ETH Library & ETH Legal Services

- **Make sure that you inform the publisher** about the rights retention according to the SNSF requirement, e.g.
 - Insert the statement in the Acknowledgement section of the article
 - Insert the statement in the Acknowledgement / Funder / Comment field in the submission system
- **Document that you have informed the publisher**
 - Save the submitted version that includes the RRS statement locally
 - Make a screenshot of the step in the submission system where you have entered the RRS statement

How do publishers deal with this strategy in practice?

The Good...

- V. You retain the right to use your own Article, provided you give full acknowledgement of the published original, as follows, as long as this does not conflict with our business:
- a. You may use or deposit a copy of the version of your article incorporating changes made during peer review (the "Accepted Manuscript") to a free public institutional or subject repository, immediately after first publication in the Journal and make this available under a CC-BY licence. Such copy must include the following notice:
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Microbiology Society [Standard publishing agreement](#)

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Royal Society [Standard publishing agreement](#)

How do publishers deal with this strategy in practice?

... the Bad...

sion due to rights retention language in their manuscript. In these cases, journals from the Seismological Society of America and the American Society of Hematology informed the respective authors that rights retention is not permitted because copyright transfer and an embargo period is required for publication in their journals. As a consequence, the authors

Experiences from Cambridge University RRS pilot ([blog post](#))

Authors who opt to publish via the subscription route will be required to sign our standard subscription licence terms, which only allow the AM to be shared after an embargo period. The subscription licensing terms are incompatible with any attempt to assert prior rights to the AM, and require authors to confirm that Springer Nature's standard licensing terms will supersede any other terms that the author or any third party may assert apply to any version of the manuscript.

Springer Nature [statement](#) on self-archiving of papers containing Rights Retention Language

→ Note that this is in direct conflict with cOAlition S legal assessment!

How do publishers deal with this strategy in practice?

...the [ones who see a business opportunity]

ACS Joins Coalition of Publishers in Opposing cOAlition S Rights Retention Strategy



Sybille Geisenheyner
Feb 3, 2021 • 2 min read



Article development charge (ADC) for zero-embargo green open access

This option expands the choices beyond the free 12-month embargo route for those authors who do not already benefit from a [read and publish agreement](#) to comply with zero-embargo green open access mandates by posting their accepted manuscript to a repository without delay from acceptance.

The article development charge (ADC) is a flat fee of \$2,500 USD and is payable once the manuscript is sent for peer review. The ADC covers the cost of ACS' pre-acceptance publishing services, from initial submission through to the final editorial decision.

Help us crowdsource a list of experiences!

- There are various tools for checking compliance of journals with SNSF / cOAlition S requirements
 - [Journal Checker Tool](#) for general compliance check
 - [Sherpa Romeo](#) for conditions on self-archiving the Author Accepted Manuscript
- We would like to additionally compile a list of **real-life experiences** with publishers
- Share your experiences via e-publishing@library.ethz.ch so we can then share them (anonymously) with other ETH authors when they contact us
- Please also report any thoughts and feedback with the Rights Retention Strategy directly to the SNSF



Thanks for your attention!

Next Coffee Lecture:

“Use the crowd” – Why georeferencing of historical maps is valuable for science

29. November 2023, Webinar via Zoom
www.library.ethz.ch/coffee-lectures

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