

Supplementum for V years of MJCP

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On the occasion of V years Anniversary of the Mediterranean Journal of Clinical Psychology

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One of the possible ways to get rid of the rhetoric of anniversaries is to resort to the listener's benevolence by providing curiosity and usefulness for what he is celebrating. This happens a bit like when we look for didactic methods to avoid being boring and therefore to favor associative processes that arouse creativity, which is an original variant of imitation. This is the climate in which the Mediterranean Journal of Clinical Psychology was born, as for the purpose to compose music starting from seven notes and the relative semitones. I will propose short reflections, the longest of which places this Journal in the panorama of open journals, this product from our university, which places itself first of all on ethical issues, scientific research in general, specifically in the clinic that is a relationship, specifically in the dissemination with issues that involve themes such as conflict of interest and responsibility in training and updating of professionals. According to Braga F., Graziani M.S. and Panteghini (2013) the role of the Editor can be summarized as follows:

- a) Responsibility for the content of the journal;
- b) Maintaining an adequate scientific level;
- c) In the readiness to publish clarifications, corrections and if necessary, an apology;

d) In ensuring an impartial and confidential review of the AA;

e) In preserving from any conflicts of interest between the AA and the journal.

This mode must of course be considered ideal and no one can think of perfect Editors, as demonstrated by authoritative, prestigious and historical Western and Eastern Journals, such as the USA (west) and China (east) . In this case, this ideality must coexist with everyday life that is made of teaching, research and clinical assistance and that the service is rendered free by both the Editor, the editorial group and the service of the SBA. It is useful to say that MJCP exists because a high-tech university service has allowed it and if the intuition that originated it was a fantasy of mine, the product was made possible thanks to the work of the Editorial Manager first and then the editorial. In the three years we have offered the possibility of a supplementum, the publication also free of charge, of the abstracts of our national reference society, that is the section of Clinic and Dynamic Psychology of the Italian Psychological Association (AIP). Naturally choices will have to be made in the future, deriving from the growing number of requests. One of these could be that of a reduced periodicity, going from three to four issues published per year, but at present we do not have the resources to take this step; however, it seems to me a great result that the authors with these premises do not have particularly long waiting times compared to those of other Journals that we choose for our research. The relationship with the authors, however, is not simple especially when those with bibliometric sectors that experience difficulties in finding the funds, under the pressure of national qualifications, national and local competitions, evaluation and the institutions to which they belong. These obstacles are growing and I do not remember with pleasure the period of my life (90 ', 2000) for which I had to sacrifice my thoughts so that it was possible to publish and then resort to trivial results just to get the product. The question is different for the non-bibliometric sectors, for which I do not have knowledge I adhere to the Wittgenstein rule, that of being silent.

The second reflection concerns the MJCP in the context of the disciplinary scientific sector of Clinical Psychology and Dynamic Psychology, separate sectors but in the same scientific area; for the Dynamic Psychology sector we have been asked to be the national reference, even if only today informally. For Clinical psychology we must remember that the discipline deals with clinical applications

coming from research, usually psychological and the study of the representation of the Self, intrapsychic processes and interpersonal relationships. The applicative aspect of the discipline places it in a health environment for the study skills of psychological rehabilitation and for psychotherapy. It is well known that the vastness of intervention areas on the one hand offers numerous creative flexibility capacities, on the other it constitutes a limit for the overlap with other scientific areas such as those of other sectors of psychology or medicine (for example of the psychotherapy area). The possibility of offering an interdisciplinary orientation is one of the strengths of the MJCP even if we have not managed to involve the arts and religion studies sector, which are also a significant contribution in the field of rehabilitation and prevention. Inaugurating the fifth year, then we pass from an initial phase from which we learned autonomy, social skills, practice, and that is to make a network, to a state in which we hope to learn better styles of writing, evaluation of the time and space and those of classifiers that are proper to science. Let us now turn to a particular aspect to be pointed out because, as psychoanalysis claims the unconscious manifests itself in the details. Contrary to many scientific journals, we do not have a fixed cover. This *divertissement* arises from the choice of the Mediterranean Journal itself and from the fact that we are proud not only of being an Italian journal, but also of being a Journal published by a region in the center of the Mediterranean sea with all its cultural richness, the fact of being an island but not to be isolated for its history and therefore that crossroads of knowledge and today we could add looking at the migratory phenomena, of that pain that characterizes every clinical experience. The fact that in the last issue we changed the cover highlighting the relationship between clinical psychology and voluntary associations simply underlines the adherence to the role played by the new and current interest for the third academic mission that is the relationship with society and the dissemination of culture. In this sense the journal is honored to be at the service of the University also for these aspects; the fact that the Journal is international can be our way of experiencing internationalization and there is no doubt that the Journal was and will be a reason for exchange that goes beyond the basin of *mare nostrum*.

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Open Science for a shared and collaborative knowledge

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« Open Science is just good science! »

Jon Tennant (1)

Introduction

The conventional model of “Scholarly communication”, based on the publication in "tall access" journals and by preference in high-Impact Factor journals, has distorted over time, if not betrayed, its original vocation, that is to "communicate" science.

The year 1665 is often cited, being the year of birth of the *Journal des Sçavans* in France and of *Philosophical Transactions* in England, published by Henry Oldenburg to present advances in scientific research to members of the Royal Society. It is the founding date of the first scientific journals and marks the starting point of the privileged circuit for sharing scientific knowledge and encouraging the so-called "Great Conversation" (2) of science. This debate among scientists should be the true essence and the *raison d'être* of Scholarly Communication.

Since then, unfortunately, academic publishing has turned into a real business, "the most profitable obsolete technology in history" (3), dominated by the "Big Five", a cartel of the five publishing groups (Reed Elsevier, Wiley- Blackwell, Springer, Taylor & Francis, Sage) which rank in the highest positions in the international scientific publishing market, both in terms of profit margins (38% of Reed Elsevier's net profit), and the number of articles published every year, with a price spiral in subscription costs that peaked at 402% for the period 1986-2011 (4) (5).

Economic barriers are only one of the obstacles that restrict access to research findings. Paradoxically, although huge economic investments are made by the

institutions to enable the academic community to do research, much of the scientific literature is actually inaccessible. Jon Tennant remarks: "we spend 1/3 of the total global research budget (£59/175bn) in publishing and communicating results that 99% of people cannot access" (6).

Everything originates from the paradox underlying the conventional paradigm of scholarly communication. It is common knowledge that academic institutions bear the cost of research while authors give away for free to publishers their contents and their exclusive rights in order to publish in prestigious journals and boost their reputation and career. Universities can access these journals only if subscribed, meanwhile, authors, once again, provide, free of charge, their expertise to Editorial Boards as referees in peer-reviewing processes, value-added services that assure the quality of journals and that are reflected in the cost of subscriptions. Ultimately, the universities pay for research three, even four times over.

It must also be said that under the pressure of the strict "Publish or Perish" law and of evaluation systems, authors are encouraged to publish more and to choose leading impact factor journals for publication, thereby consolidating the oligopolistic structure of the scientific publishing market as well as also fostering a more artificial and competitive science, one that is less attentive to the scientific quality of results (7). This risk has also been highlighted by the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), (8) launched and promoted in San Francisco in 2012 by the American Society for Cell Biology and signed by more than 450 associations and over thirteen thousand academics. The DORA Declaration reminds all the actors involved in research evaluation processes that: "it is imperative thus that scientific output is measured accurately and evaluated wisely" and also recommends open and transparent practices in research assessment: "do not use journal-based metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an individual scientist's contributions, or in hiring, promotion, or funding decisions."

Open Science, as well as Open Access, an indispensable part of it, both aim to ensure the integrity of science and of the scientific knowledge publicly available on the web, as well as transparency and reproducibility thanks to the techniques of content extraction (text and data mining). The aim is "re-establishing the Great Conversation", because Open Science is collaborative, inclusive, sustainable and transparent.

"What is Open Science?", asks Jeff Rouder on Twitter: "Open Science is endeavor to preserve the right of others" (9).

The cornerstone of Open Access is to create an alternative channel to the

traditional scholarly communication model in order to ensure open, immediate and free access to the outputs of publicly funded research results without restrictions. Instead, Open Science concerns the entire research process and all the actors involved in it. Doing Open Science means, in fact, making accessible and sharing every single step in the research cycle, from data to protocols, from software to results, through collaborative writing platforms, open pre-print archives, open peer-review process.

Open Science proposes, therefore, a new approach, a change of paradigm in the way both research and science are produced and organized. As explained by Carlos Moedas in the opening speech to the 2015 two-day meeting held in Brussels “Opening up to an ERA of Innovation”: "Open Science describes the on-going transitions in how: research is performed, researchers collaborate, knowledge is shared, and science is organized. It represents a systemic change in the *modus operandi* of science and research. It affects the whole research cycle and its stakeholders, enhances science by facilitating more transparency, openness, networking, collaboration, and refocuses science from a 'publish or perish' perspective to a knowledge-sharing perspective. "(10)

The two routes to Open Access: the GOLD ROAD and the GREEN ROAD

While Europe has already taken its path towards innovation, setting the stage for the implementation of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)(11), i.e. the new powerful tool to improve Open Science and to share research data in Europe, Italian universities, albeit somewhat delayed, are still committed to fully implementing the two open access complementary strategies. These are the Gold Road and the Green Road that the Budapest Open Access Declaration (BOAI) recommended for the first time in 2002 (12).

The GOLD Road intends to launch a new generation of open access journals (the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) indexes 11,650 journals as of June 22, 2018.)

Open Access journals usually publish under Creative Commons licenses and in machine readable formats in order to allow text and data mining; they often publish research data together with the articles, guaranteeing more transparency, and allow authors to retain copyright. In most cases, Open access journals do not require payment of APCs (Article Processing Charges), which are particularly high in the OA hybrid model (a very expensive option offered to authors allowing them to publish open access articles in subscription-based journals). This hybrid model

could also become “a black strategy” in the presence of predatory publishers. It is important to note that in a recent working paper, the European Commission’s new funding programme aimed at the implementation of Open Science, Horizon Europe, proposes that “publication costs will only be eligible for purely open access journals, i.e. not for publishing in hybrid journals, and depositing a pre-print will satisfy the open access mandate obligations”(13).

Although being listed on the DOAJ is in itself an indicator of the quality of an academic journal, authors can also use the "Think, Check, Submit" (14) or the “Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association” website (OASPA) when selecting which journal to publish in(15).

Beyond the more traditional models of open access publishing, the various initiatives that offer innovative forms of open access publishing is nowadays a variegated panorama: ranging from mega-journals (one example being PLOS One), (16) to Overlay Journals that collect, in order also to encourage debate within the target community, articles of the same discipline deposited in open archives (e.g. the Telematic Bulletin of Political Philosophy in Italy) (17), eLife (18) or PeerJ (19) or other open access publishing platforms such as The Winnover, a platform that "encourages debate" (20) and which publishes not only the final drafts but also ideas and discussions and uses open post-publication peer-review, or F1000 Research (21) which publishes preprints and which also gives full transparency to reviewers' comments.

The Green Road is the practice of self-archiving the final manuscript accepted for publication or the publisher’s final version, if allowed, of a paper already published in commercial scientific journals in institutional or disciplinary Open Access Repositories. The benefits are tangible: authors can publish their papers in their journals of choice but metadata are immediately accessible, the full text will be available in accordance with the copyright policies of publishers and with the expected embargo times, without prejudice to the obligations deriving from Open Access Policies of the organizations that finance research (22) and of the institutional policies adopted by the universities.

In most cases these policies, approved by the academic bodies, impose an obligation to deposit scientific articles immediately after publication or acceptance by the journal, also setting limits on the time period within which the scientific products will be returned and available on open access. In 2014, at the Decennial Conference of the Messina Declaration, Italian universities signed the 2014-2018 Road Map, pledging to adopt institutional policies to support the green road (23).

In terms of policies for storing research data that researchers produce during their

research workflow, in Italy the Open Science Support Group (IOSSG) (created with the aim of promoting the development of Open Science and the European Open Science Cloud) has recently developed a Policy template for the management of research data that is to serve as a basic model for Italian universities wishing to adopt a policy on research data (24).

As regards disciplinary archives, there is a growing number of open pre-print archives, thereby ensuring maximum speed of dissemination for research results and enabling the reference community to comment thereon. The ArXiv open archive for physics, implemented in 1991, has recently been joined by other disciplinary preprint open archives in the areas of Biology, Psychology, Agricultural Science, Social Sciences (25).

The gold road and the experience of Messina with MJCP

MJCP is one of the eleven open access journals hosted on the Messina Open Journals platform (26). It was established in 2010 and is managed in house by the University Library System (SBA). At May 2018, O.J.M. hosted 11 active and 3 start-up journals, with a total of 1869 published articles and implemented a journal management and publishing system with Open Journal Systems (OJS). This was developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research (27). In fact, the SBA has been providing consultancy and technical support for the launch of publishing initiatives in digital format and open access which are managed or have an editorial board by staff of the University of Messina.

Although launched in 2013, the hard-won "goals" achieved over its five years of activity, are mainly attributable to compliance with a series of requirements, including timely publication and adoption of the ethical code. However, other aspects should not be ignored, namely the enthusiasm and team spirit with which the challenges brought by the initiative have been faced.

Today, the MJCP, issued four-monthly, already boasts a considerable number of articles published (219) by 273 authors, 206 of them Italians.

Notable achievements include the acceptance of MJCP into DOAJ (28), the International Directory of Open Access Scientific Journals within a very short time, and its inclusion in 2015 among the "Class A - Area 11 scientific journals" by the National Agency for Evaluation of Universities and Research (ANVUR).

In 2016, at the end of a long evaluation process, the journal was indexed, from 2017 onward, in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) (29), an extension of

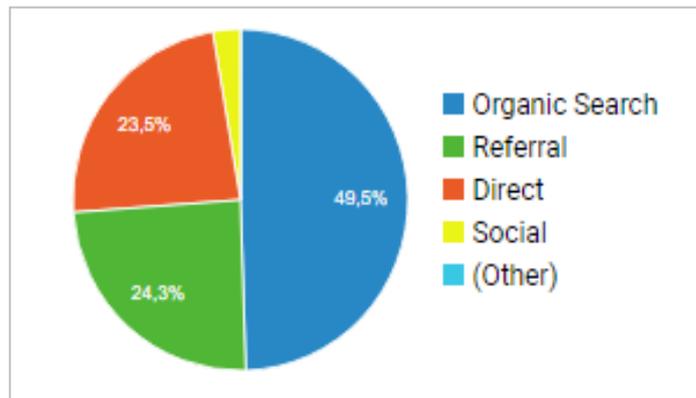
the citation Web of Science Core Collection database and a preliminary step for inclusion in the Web of Science. A similar process has ensured that the journal has been indexed, again from 2017, into SCOPUS (30), the citation database owned by Elsevier.

While the indexation on citation databases and the DOAJ has had a significant impact on the dissemination of the journal and its scientific content, the compliance of the O.J.S. platform with the OAI-PMH protocol (31) ensures that metadata can be traced by search engines. Its importance is reflected in the data emerging from an analysis of the views and downloads of articles published on the platform and extracted with the plugin "Stats & Reports" by O.J.S. which makes it possible to aggregate data on the origin of accesses and downloads, also in the COUNTER format (32).

From the data provided by Google Analytics for 2017, verified by an autonomous analysis conducted on the log files of the server hosting the OJM platform, it

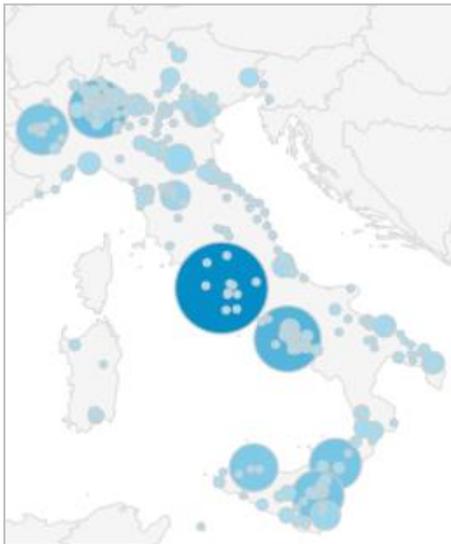
emerged that 7,560 users have visited MJCP and have viewed 38,986 pages during the 10,361 work sessions commenced.

Thanks to Google Analytics, starting from the IP addresses of users,



it was possible to trace the "digital provenance" of visitors to MJCP. In our case, the information deemed useful concerned both the origin of the accesses in a strictly geographical sense, in order to create a map of the visits received by MJCP, and the behavior of users during navigation. For the latter, it was possible to know the different paths used by users to reach MJCP illustrated in the pie chart as follows : searches on general engines like Google, Yahoo! or Bing, are labelled as "Organic Search"; access via link placed on other web pages are labelled "Referral"; and lastly, "Direct" refers to direct access from the journal address of the entered directly on the browser or from favorites or browser history. The 23.5% of direct accesses emerging from the analysis can, in our opinion, be interpreted as a measure of user fidelity in the journal, one which suggests frequent and deliberate visits.

As regards "geographic origin", it is surprising that only 25.42% of accesses are from Italy despite the MJCP being a journal of the Italian scientific community of clinical psychology, the only one that publishes open access and characterized by a

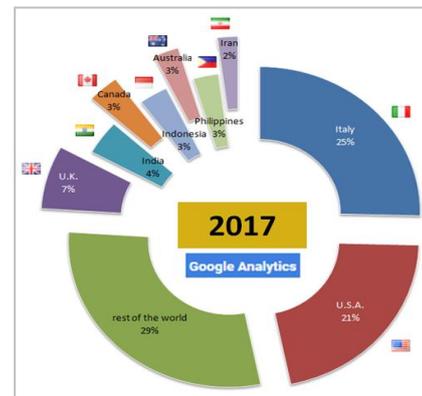


high percentage of Italian authors. Even more surprising, considering the headquarters of the journal, is to find Rome ranked first for number of visits, followed by Naples and Milan.

Open access to scientific contributions and the choice of adopting English as the language of publication can be traced instead to the percentage of 21.42% of accesses from the United States reported by Google Analytics.

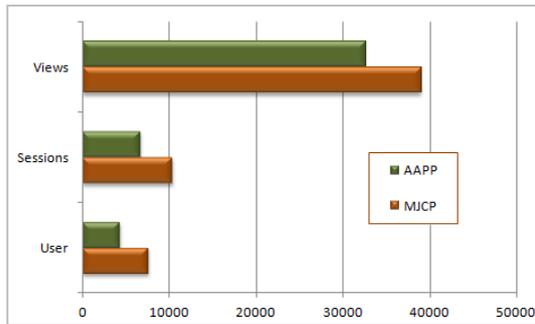
This data makes it possible to affirm, with reasonable certainty, the wide diffusion of the journal abroad and, consequently, the exposure in international contexts of the results of the research conducted by the Italian community, thus ensuring the broad "dissemination" of scientific knowledge, which Open Access pursues to guarantee a model of academic communication based on maximum dissemination and allowing re-use of the results obtained.

As regards the figures provided by the survey conducted by Google Analytics, this raised the problem of how to evaluate the actual spread of such a high number pages viewed: 38,986. The comparative method was considered suitable and used to compare the views obtained by MJCP with those of another academic journal edited by the University with similar characteristics (i.e. an open access digital journal hosted on the platform "Open Journals Messina" and indexed by the same citations and by DOAJ).



The choice made was AAPP (33), online since 2005. However, investigation was restricted to the accesses received by the two journals in 2017. The results confirmed, in our opinion, the relevance of the MJCP usage data : 4,303 users visited the AAPP site in 2017, compared to 7,560 for MJCP; 6,616 AAPP work sessions compared to 10,361 MJCP; 32,565 pages were viewed in AAPP compared to 38,986 for MNCP. The data therefore seem to confirm the impression that the MJCP has successfully reached its milestones. The reasons behind the journal's success could be due to the fact that it has a scientific community with a more specific disciplinary background than the AAPP. Its focus is therefore probably

more cohesive, and has thus become the prime journal in this field at national level.

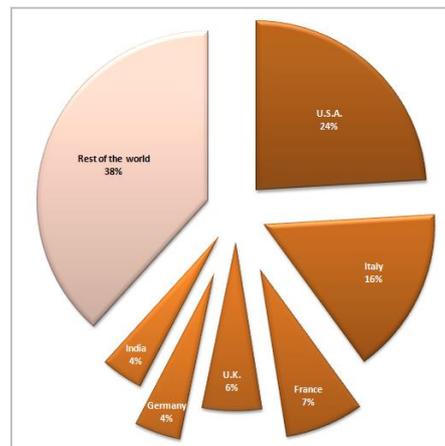


Indexing on the DOAJ Directory and on the citations databases, while also applicable to AAPP, will certainly have further accelerated its success.

However, other highly significant data emerge from the comparison between the two journals if we consider the data for

the articles downloaded via the OJS plugin. These data highlight not only the exponential growth of the articles downloaded in numerical terms, but also yielded unexpected results regarding the geographical origin of users.

In strictly numerical terms, what could be considered a normal and constant growth in article downloads - going from 4,272 in 2014 to 8,093 in 2016, became a real explosion in 2017 with 19,335 downloads, well over double the 8,093 for 2016. The data is even more surprising when compared to the 12,074 article downloads recorded by the same plugin for AAPP in the same year.



Once again the United States ranked top with 4,647 downloads (24%) compared to Italy (16%), which also had a high percentage of accesses to the journal.

The green road and the institutional archive of the "IRIS" University

In 2015 the University of Messina implemented "IRIS", CRIS (Current Research Information System) of the CINECA in order to facilitate the quality assessment procedures of scientific research (VQR) and the self-archiving of research products (34).

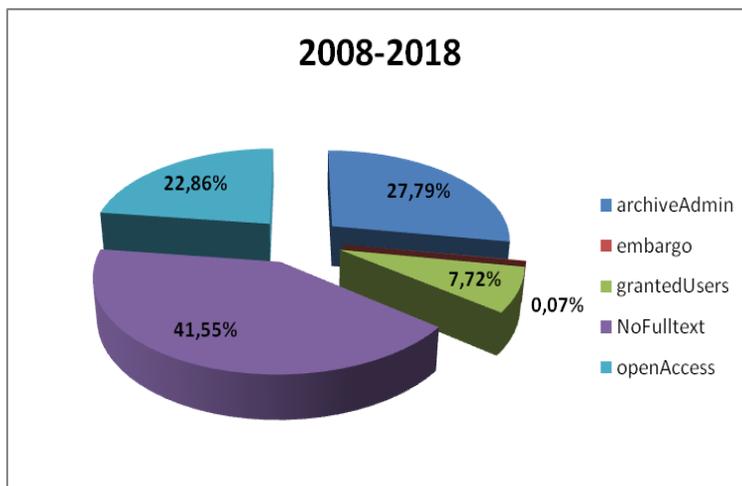
IRIS thanks to its compliance with the OAI-PMH protocol and its guaranteed interoperability of data, is already an archive of the University's scientific production. Moreover, with the adoption of the Open Access policy, it will become the institutional Open Archive of the University of Messina.

OA will make it possible to apply the well-known formula ID/OA, or "Immediate Deposit/Optional Access", within the IRIS Archive. Currently, publication metadata is available by open access immediately after the submission of scientific contributions to the platform. Full text, temporarily closed by default, will be

available on open access only after approval of the OA policy and in compliance with the embargo times stipulated by editorial policies. It is the University's intention to make modules for the self-archiving of research data available to the academic community in the course of the year 2018. These include: projects, awards, the curriculum vitae of teaching staff, laboratories, equipment, research groups, library assets, mobility and third mission.

Experience has shown that depositing research products into an Institutional Archive takes place mainly due to evaluation procedures, both external and internal (VQR, SUA-RD, ASN), and the increase in deposits occurs for all evaluation procedures.

There are 43,264 records currently on IRIS, of which 19,057 relate to journal

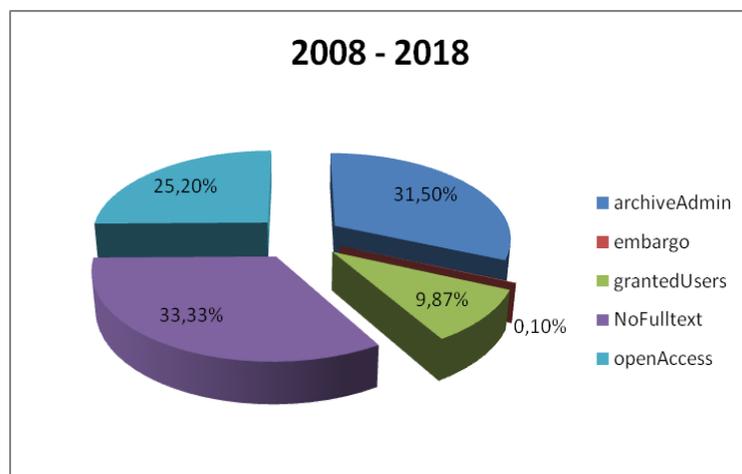


contributions. Of the latter, 66.67% are provided with full text attached (14,972 records).

The data on deposits, with the high number of publications already available in full text, are

undoubtedly encouraging. The figure seems to demonstrate the effectiveness of the organizational and communication strategy adopted by the recent VQR. A more indepth analysis of the attachments present cannot exclude, however, continued underlying uncertainty by authors regarding the choice of the type of license to be indicated on the platform. Those declared are interesting: 25.20% of the records are open access (5,658); 31.50% accessible only to system administrators (7,074); 9.87% accessible to registered IRIS users (2,217); 0.10% with an embargo (23).

The same confusion also seems to emerge for the indications of access options to the full text for which the University has decided to adopt a



prudent line of inaccessibility by default pending the validation of the products. A

concomitant factor seemingly influencing the increase in deposits of journal papers was the inclusion in the platform of the widget to link to the international Sherpa Romeo database (35). The latter allows real-time verification of publishers' open access policies.

Finally, the percentage of 31.50% of publications made accessible only to administrators may be due to the diffidence of the authors to open their scientific production to the world community, probably for fear of copyright infringement, but also due to the lack of information on both the advantages of open access and the negative effects of inaccessibility of their output.

The high numbers regarding access to bibliographic data suggests there is considerable potential to increase accesses if the full text were available on open access.

The reports generated show, in fact, that IRIS receives visits from all over the world; mainly Europe (96,879) and the U.S.A. (28,867). More detailed analysis of the data on accesses coming from Europe shows 56.17% not coming from Italy;



this significant figure demonstrating the full potential of open access.

It is testimony as to how depositing full texts in the institutional archive can affect the dissemination of research results and the

prestige of the institutions. Open access availability of research articles filed in IRIS, even if published in journals that are not open access, and therefore inaccessible in the absence of subscription, would make it possible to find them through tools such as Unpaywall, oaDOI or Open Access Button, which search the web and legally make available open versions filed by authors.

These tools include an versatile title matching function, using an algorithm that compares titles beyond differences in spacing and punctuation, or different titles shown in the various versions of the manuscripts. According to the official Unpaywall FAQs, its search engine finds full text for 47% of the articles. The success rate varies depending on the date and the topic of the article. In order to enhance the scientific research conducted by the University of Messina and to increase its visibility and scientific impact in terms of citations, the University Library System and the Scientific Research Organizational Unit have already

prepared the policy text for the publication of manuscripts on IRIS and, to ensure rapid and effective application, the workflow for the validation processes of metadata and research products has also been designed and the creation of an cross-departmental team is envisaged that, in addition to validation activities, will provide technical support to authors in filing procedures.

Hence, deposit in the institutional archive with the dissemination that follows can contribute to the recognition by the world scientific community of the contribution of the researcher to a specific field, perhaps achieving worldwide status. This motivation can also be extended to academics and researchers belonging to non-bibliometric sectors, since the evaluation indicators are currently only quantitative and only consider scientific contributions that have ISBNs or are published in scientific journals or ANVUR-rated class A journals.

This can be further extended to include doctoral theses produced by the University and for which an open access deposit is required in the IRIS Institutional Archive from 2017 (XXIX cycle). In fact, the 152 theses deposited in just under a year, have received visits from all over the world, with over 5,000 downloads.

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