



Resolution Two:

Endorsing the “Eight principles for reform of scientific publishing” and working together to achieve reform.

ISC/GA-2/DOC.18.2

[For adoption]

PREAMBLE

The International Science Council’s vision of science as a global public good envisages the scientific enterprise as globally inclusive and sensitive to diverse perspectives. Ideas, evidence and data must be disseminated widely, and be openly available for sceptical scrutiny, revision and use, through efficient and accessible publication systems. Widespread concern about systemic shortcomings in these priorities stimulated an ISC community debate that led to articulation of the principles set out in the ISC report “Opening the record of science: making scholarly publishing work for science in the digital era”¹.

RESOLUTION

This 2nd General Assembly of the International Science Council resolves to:

1. Endorse the principles below as a guiding framework for necessary reform of scientific publishing.
2. Work together to achieve reform.

¹ <https://council.science/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-02-19-Opening-the-record-of-science.pdf>

PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING

1. There should be universal open access to the record of science, both for authors and readers, with no barriers to participation, in particular those based on ability to pay, institutional privilege, language or geography.
2. Scientific publications should carry open licences that permit reuse and text and data mining.
3. Rigorous, timely and ongoing peer review must continue to play a key role in creating and maintaining the public record of science.
4. The data and observations on which a published truth claim is based should be concurrently accessible to scrutiny and supported by necessary metadata
5. The record of science should be maintained in such a way as to ensure open access by future generations.
6. Publication traditions and the bibliodiversity of different disciplines and regions should be respected, whilst recognizing the need for communication and interoperability in the shared enterprise of knowledge.
7. Publication systems should be so designed to continually adapt to new opportunities for beneficial change rather than embedding inflexible systems that inhibit change.
8. Governance of the processes of dissemination of scientific knowledge should be accountable to the scientific community.