Building Community around Policy with the Open Scholarship Policy Observatory

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CRKN Conference 2022

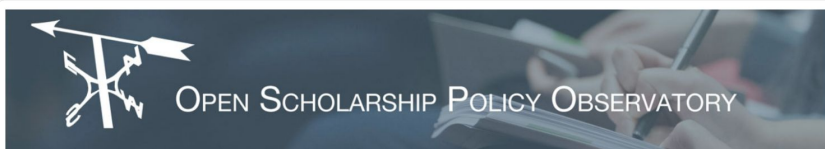# The Open Scholarship Policy Observatory

ospolicyobservatory.uvic.ca

- Launched in 2017
- An online hub for resources about open scholarship policy
- An initiative of the INKE Partnership policy cluster, led by Tanja Niemann (Érudit) and Lynne Siemens (UVic)
- Editorial team: Caroline Winter, Alyssa Arbuckle, Ray Siemens
- See Milligan et al., "The Initial Impact of the Open Scholarship Policy Observatory" (2019)

The Open Scholarship Policy Observatory

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Three types of content:

- **Observations**: Analysis of policy and policy changes, in English and French
- **Responses**: Critical responses to policy issues from INKE Partnership members
- **Policies**: Collections and clusters of related policies

ETCL — ELECTRONIC TEXTUAL CULTURES LAB

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OPEN SCHOLARSHIP POLICY OBSERVATORY

OBSERVATIONS AND RESPONSES   POLICIES   TWITTER ARCHIVE   ABOUT

This website is in beta. Let us know what you think!

Observations and Responses

The Fonds de Recherche du Québec Join cOAlition S

Posted by *Caroline Winter* on Jan 14, 2022 in *Observations, Observations and Responses* | *No Comments*

Edit Post

Lisez-le en français

This observation was written by Caroline Winter, with thanks to Tanja Niemann and Simon Van Bellen for their feedback and suggestions.

At a glance:

Title	The Fonds de Recherche du Québec Joins cOAlition S
Creator	The Fonds de Recherche du Québec
Publication Date	June 2021
Keywords	open access, funding agencies, scholarly communication

In June 2021, the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) announced that they were joining cOAlition S and implementing the principles of Plan S, including full and immediate open access to the research it funds.

The FRQ are the first Canadian funding organization and the first public funding organization in North America to join cOAlition S, which was founded in 2018 as a group of 11 European funding organizations committed to advancing open access, supported by the European Research Council (ERC) and the European Commission (see "Plan S and cOAlition S"). It has since expanded to include members from Africa, the Middle East, and the US (see "Plan S Update: The Expanding Membership of cOAlition S").

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The FRQ comprise Québec's three research funding agencies: Nature and Technologies (FRQNT), Health (FRQS), and Society and Culture (FRQSC). Representing almost a quarter of Canada's research community, the FRQ administered $253 million in research funding in 2019–2020 to researchers based in Québec (European Science Foundation, 2021). The FRQ also offers a Scientific Journal Support Program, which supports the publication of scholarly research in French, with priority to digital publication and open access (FRQ 2021). Their existing OA policy, in place since 2019, requires publications to be open access within 12 months of publication; in order to align this policy with Plan S, as of March 2023, this embargo period will be eliminated (Gouvernement du Québec, 2021).

Response from the INKE Community

Plan S and cOAlition S have been of interest to the INKE community since their launch, in recognition of the global nature of open scholarship. In its 2020 report *Advancing Open: Views from Scholarly Communications Practitioners*, the Open Repositories Working Group of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries—an INKE partner—expresses concerns about Canada's readiness to adopt a "transformative open scholarship model" such as Plan S (MacCallum et al. 7). The FRQ's extended timeline for eliminating its embargo period—nearly two years rather than the typical one—seems to address this concern, however. As the FRQ's press release notes, "Aware of the impacts that this change could have on the scientific and student community, the FRQ will gradually deploy the 10 principles of Plan S and establish measures to support members of this community" (European Science Foundation 2021; Gouvernement du Québec 2021).

INKE partner Érudit has a collaborated with the FRQSC since 2006. Following the FRQ OA policy, all journals funded by FRQSC are OA through Érudit (Érudit 2021).

The FRQ, cOAlition S, and Open Scholarship

As the first Canadian funder to join cOAlition S, the FRQ are paving the way for other Canadian and North American public funders to join Plan S, which has become a global initiative.

Although research funded by the FRQ is not necessarily published in French, its joining with Plan S occurs in the context of other initiatives led by the Chief Scientist of Québec, including the launch of a francophone network on science advice for public policy, announced in September 2021. The report accompanying the launch of this network notes that French language research must be available in open access to all francophone researchers (Scientifique en chef 2021, p. 48). The FRQ OA policy also supports French-language scholarship as one of its core principles (FRQ 2019).

The news of the FRQ joining cOAlition was shared on the website of the Consulat Général de France à Québec, pointing to the fact that French OA policy is another important context for the FRQ's decision. Itself adopted in the context of broader European frameworks, including Horizon Europe, *The Second French Plan for Open Science: Generalizing Open Science in France 2021–2024* expands upon the first plan of 2018 to include open code, infrastructure to support data sharing, and an emphasis on generalizing OA more broadly, including through the translation of French publications to improve their accessibility. As noted in an article in *Times Higher Ed*, France's new Plan is one of the new national policies to emphasize support for diamond OA, a route to OA in which journals do not charge article processing charges or subscription fees (Matthews 2021). The Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), France's national research funding body, has been a member of cOAlition S since its inception, and many French researchers likely publish in Québec's French-language journals.

Works Cited

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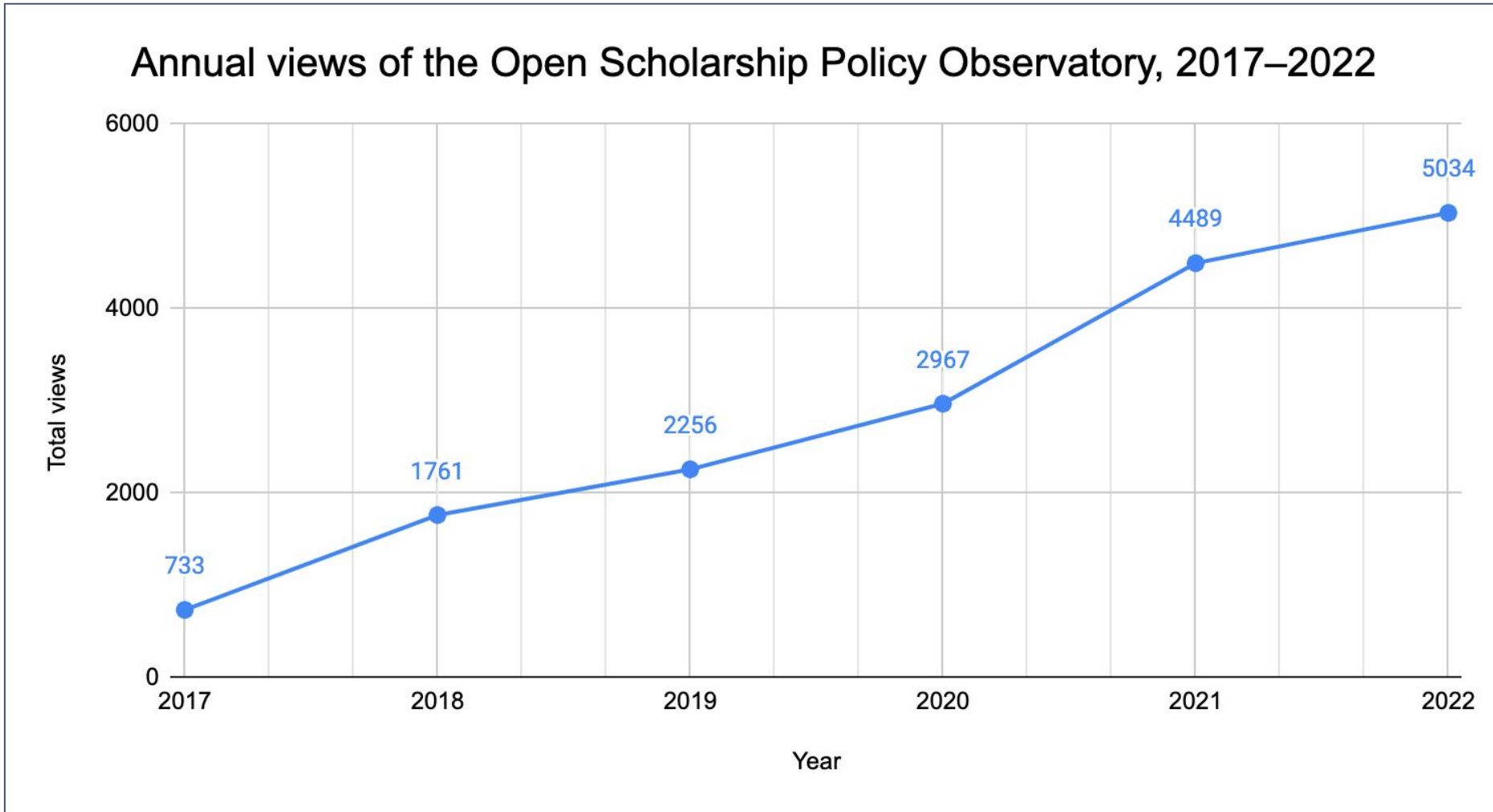
European Science Foundation. 2021. "cOAlition S Expands its Global Footprint as the Québec Research Funds adopt Plan S." *Plan S: Making Full & Immediate Open Access a Reality.* https://www.coalition-s.org/coalition-s-expands-its-global-footprint-as-the-quebec-research-funds-adopt-plan-s/.

Naylor Report / le rapport Naylor   open access / libre accès   open data / données ouvertes   open education / éducation ouverte   open government / gouvernement ouvert   open infrastructure / infrastructure ouverte   open science / science ouverte   PKP   Plan S   Plan S update / mise à jour du Plan S   policy / politique   publishing / édition   RECODE   recommendations / recommandations   reports / les rapports   repositories / les dépôts   research evaluation / l'évaluation de la recherche   research output / les résultats de la recherche   scholarly communication / la communication savante   SFU Library / Bibliothèque   social media / les medias sociaux   Tri-Agency / des trois organismes   UVic Libraries   Érudit

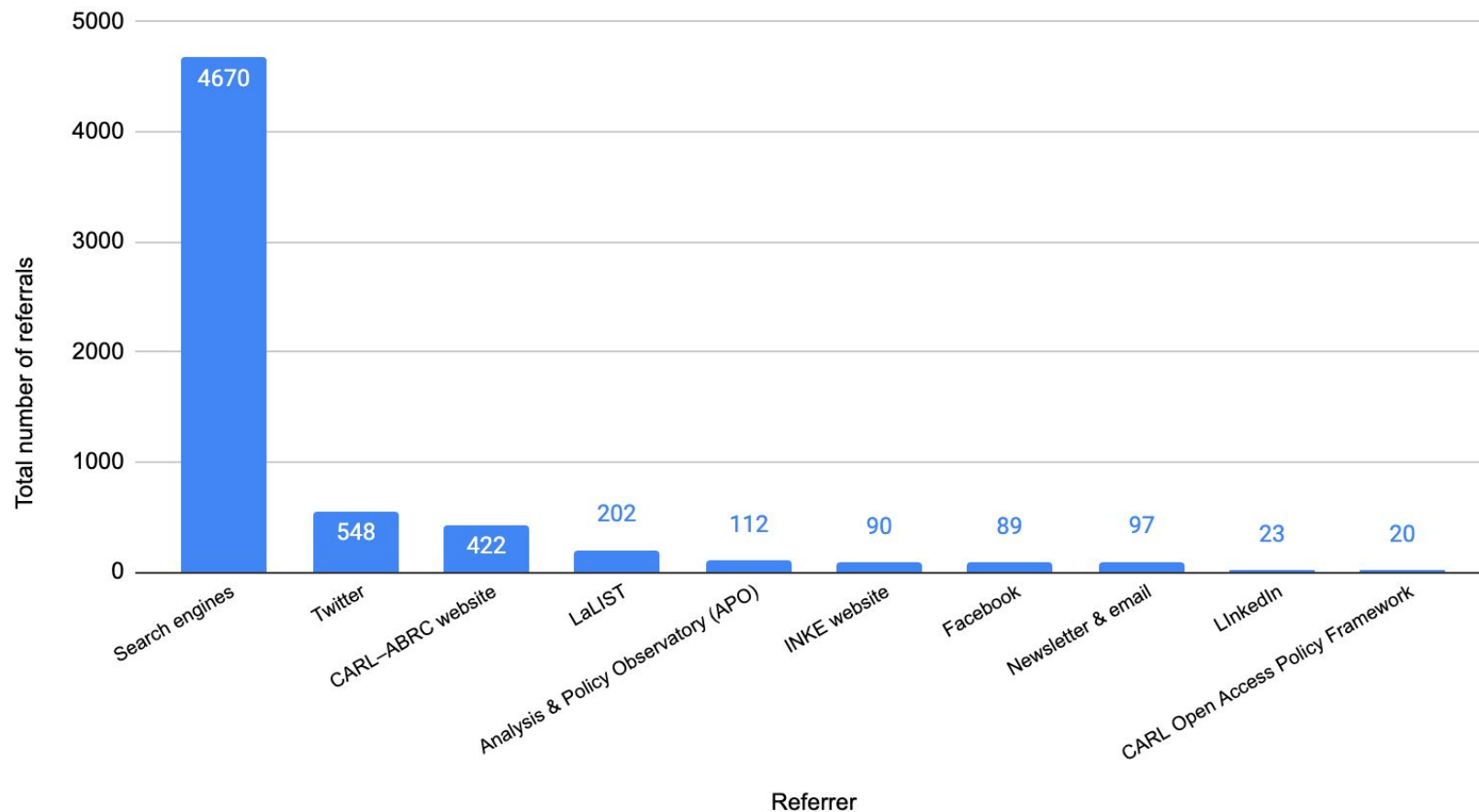https://ospolicyobservatory.uvic.ca/the-frq-joins-coalition-s/

Building Community

- The intended audience for the Policy Observatory includes
  - The INKE Partnership's partners and members
  - The extended open scholarship community
  - The public
- Topics emerge from the community
- Community members contribute by offering feedback on observations and writing responses

Annual views of the Open Scholarship Policy Observatory, 2017–2022

Referrers to the Open Scholarship Policy Observatory, 2017–2022

Referrer	Total number of referrals
Search engines	4670
Twitter	548
CARL–ABRC website	422
LaLIST	202
Analysis & Policy Observatory (APO)	112
INKE website	90
Facebook	89
Newsletter & email	97
LinkedIn	23
CARL Open Access Policy Framework	20

Source: Site Stats by Jetpack, retrieved Sept. 12, 2022

Common Search Topics

- Tri-Agency data management policies
- Review, tenure, and promotion guidelines
- Canada's Fundamental Science Review
- The G7 expert group on open science
- Canada's Roadmap for Open Science

The Open Scholarship Policy Landscape

en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Open_Scholarship_Press_Collections:_Policy

- Librarians, info professionals, and LIS play crucial roles
- The scholarly communications landscape is heterogeneous
- Tensions exist, but diversity is a strength as well as a challenge
- Open scholarship is fundamentally social and collaborative

The Path Ahead

- Policy is a key factor in advancing open scholarship, but implementation requires resources
- Infrastructure is emerging as a key issue: physical, technological, human
- The Open Scholarship Policy Observatory is a hub for information and an intellectual space

Thanks

Thanks to Alyssa Arbuckle, Ray Siemens, Tanja Niemann
and Lynne Siemens

References

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