Open Access

EBSCO's Philosophy and Approach

Open Access (OA) resources have become more prevalent for global research, and EBSCO remains dedicated to serving libraries by supporting this important content.

Our goal is to enable curation, visibility, discovery, usage, impact and overall value for the world's critical research in any form, while providing the tools and services to create efficiencies for libraries across the research landscape. These services help to reinforce OA content as critical aspects of library collections and publisher offerings, and help develop OA as a vital avenue through which research is published.

Ultimately, our goals are in line with those of our customers. We aim to improve our services to libraries, help sustain open communities, and maximize the value we provide to researchers and end users. Our support of OA is in line with our mission to transform lives by providing relevant and reliable information when, where and how people need it.

Some of the ways that EBSCO supports Open Access, include:

EBSCO Discovery Service™ – Indexing for tens of thousands of high quality OA journals and other content sources via a combination of proprietary indexing and partner resources

Full-Text Databases - Providing curation and access to OA content alongside traditional, subscription-based journals; EBSCO adds value to OA records by applying subject headings and creating abstracts when these are not provided by the author or publisher; sophisticated accurate linking supports tremendous usage of OA journals on various platforms

Subscription Services - EBSCO offers journal order and management services for nearly 15,000 OA journals, including at an individual title level as well as for journals within e-packages; EBSCO's support of OA journal management includes the ability to auto-populate holdings in EBSCO Knowledge Services and maintain e-package updates to uphold availability and linking quality/accuracy

Knowledge Services™ – Applying holdings management value to OA content, enhancing availability and improving access through the highest quality links

Researcher Workflows - With new services emerging around research workflows and the Institutional Repository, EBSCO is helping to discover, promote, safeguard and preserve OA content

EBSCO Faculty Select™ - A tool designed to surface and promote OA, OER (Open Educational Resources) and DRM-free resources to connect library content with faculty members to better support curriculum needs and enhance student experiences

Subject Indexes – The world's leading subject-specific databases provide the highest level of curation and indexing for OA content

EBSCO Open Dissertations™ – EBSCO & BiblioLabs partnering to bring access to the world's theses & dissertations into an open service that drives traffic back to the IR for each contributing university, providing exposure and opportunity for authors; www.OpenDissertations.org

Open Databases - Curating, indexing and maintaining open databases to support environmental awareness, library & information science, education and more; www.LibraryResearch.com

Support of Open Communities - EBSCO is proud to support a myriad of initiatives and organizations via sponsorships and other partnerships to help sustain efforts and increase OA value and impact



Not only does EBSCO support DOAJ with a generous financial donation every year, their EBSCO Discovery Service and EBSCOhost platforms generate a lot more referrals to DOAJ than any other online platform. EBSCO's strong support of both open access and open source make them unique among library vendors worldwide.

Lars Bjørnshauge

Managing Director of DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)

A Note About Open Source: While OA is focused on content, EBSCO is a proud contributor to and leader of Open Source (software) initiatives toward the evolution of library services. This includes involvement with FOLIO, KOHA, Evergreen, various projects under the Open Library Foundation, and a number of other partnerships on the near horizon.

