



**A better path  
to open access  
for the humanities**



# OLH Open Library of Humanities

**Scholar-led.  
Community  
owned.**



The Open Library of Humanities (OLH) is a scholar-led, not-for-profit academic publisher based at Birkbeck, University of London. We will never charge authors or readers to publish and access peer-reviewed research.

# For free. For everyone. Forever.

We believe that scholarship should be academic-led and community-owned – our goal is to liberate university research from commercial control. We've spent 10 years building a sustainable business model for funding diamond open access publishing, proving that it can be affordable and scalable.





### **34+ diamond OA journals.**

We launched as a publisher in 2015 with just 7 journals. HSS editors apply to join our programme and flip their journals OA from subscription models.



### **We developed our own software.**

Our publishing platform is used by 400+ journals worldwide, with 50+ clients using our hosted service. Clients include California Digital Library, UCL Press, University of Michigan Press, Iowa State Digital Press, Society for Clinical Data Management, University of Arizona Libraries.

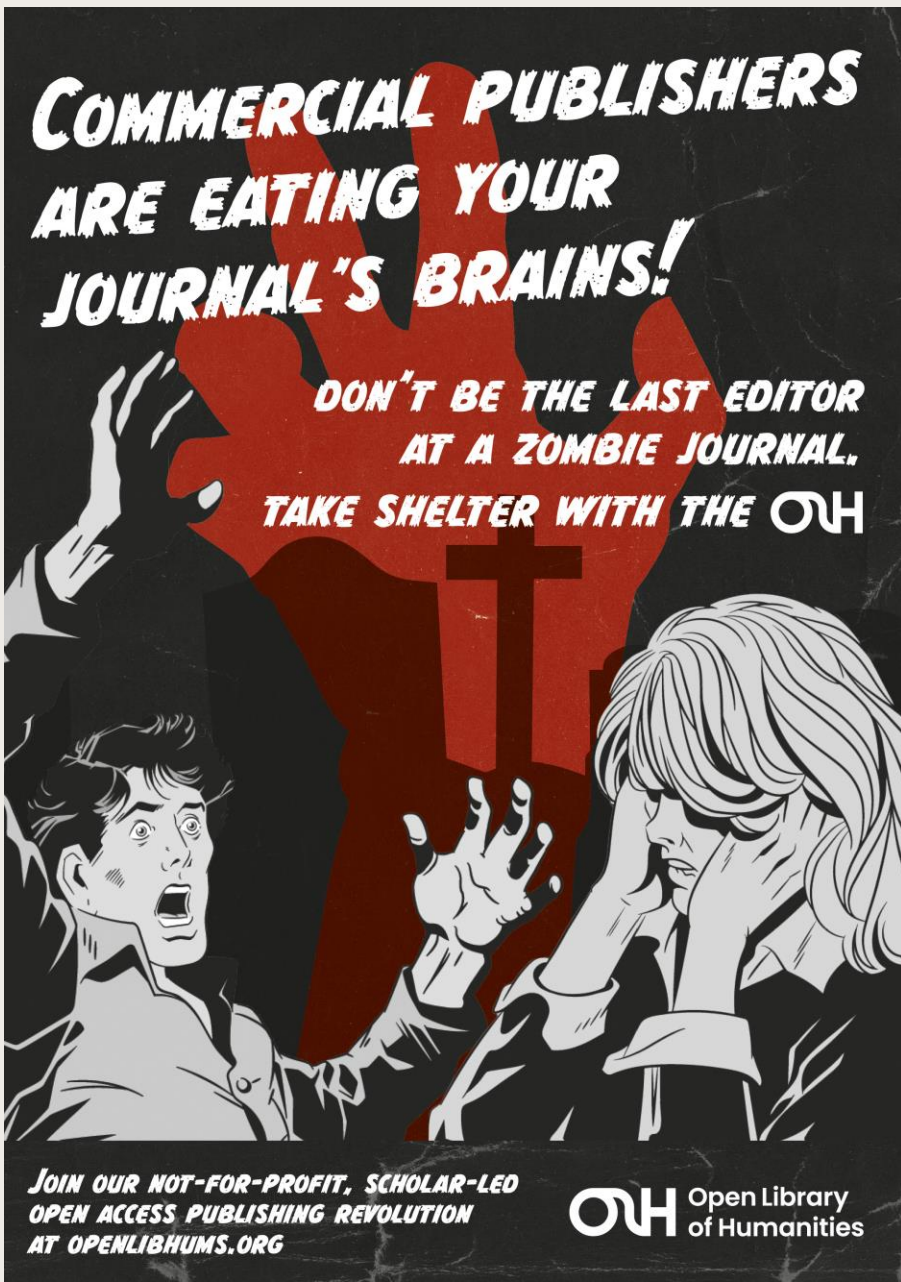


### **Funded by 340+ libraries.**

Our library members support our publishing activities. We are not-for-profit and our technology is open source under the Affero General Public License (AGPLv1).

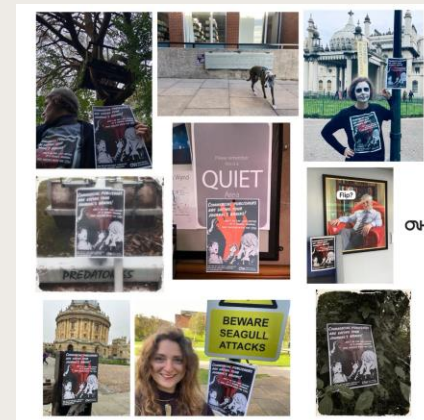


# Zombie Poster



## Social media campaign

- Share and display the Zombie Poster.
- Print the poster, put it up on your office doors and anywhere editors will see it.
- Take a photo of the poster, use the [#OAWeek](https://twitter.com/OAWeek) hashtag and tag [@openlibhums](https://twitter.com/openlibhums) on social media to make sure we see and share your photos.



- *Regeneration: Environment, Art, Culture* (who left the University of Nebraska Press)
- *Political Philosophy* (who left Wiley)
- *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* (who left Wiley)
- *Review of the History of Economic Thought and Methodology* (who left Emerald Publishing)
- *[in]Transition: Journal of Videographic Film & Moving Image Studies* (who left Media Commons)
- *Syntactic Theory & Research* (who left Wiley)
- *Quaker Studies* (who left a Liverpool University Press publishing partnership with OLH to become solely published by OLH)
- *Free & Equal: A Journal of Ethics and Public Affairs* (who left Wiley)
- *International Labour Review* (who left Wiley)
- *Theory & Social Inquiry* (who left Springer Nature)
- *Free & Equal: A Journal of Ethics and Public Affairs* (who left Wiley)
- *The International Labour Review / La Revista Internacional del Trabajo / La Revue Internationale du Travail* (who left Wiley)
- *European Journal of Psychoanalysis* (independently published; OLH funding prevents this journal reverting to a paywall)
- *Energy Humanities* (field-defining new journal)
- *The Hythe Review* (published in partnership with the87press)



# TAs are unaffordable & inequitable – it's time to build something better.

The UK's HE funding crisis forces libraries to make difficult decisions. Commercial “big deals” are the obvious place to save money and build a better community-led model for the future.



## 01. Cost effective.

University-based publishers are largely nonprofit. They're trusted and supported by academic communities.



## 02. Scalable.

University-based publishers already collaborate. Building on these relationships we can scale to offer hundreds of diamond OA HSS journals.



## 03. Sustainable.

Divesting funds away from commercial models allows us to invest in the long-term sustainability of community-led HSS journals.



## 04. Mission aligned.

OJC publishers are mission-aligned. We work cooperatively for the benefit of scholars. We work *with*, rather than *against*, librarians.





**Free access to hundreds  
of the world's leading  
academic journals.**

[GET STARTED](#)



**01**

**Publishing cutting-edge  
research.**

We publish leading academic journals that are openly available – free to read, published with no embargos, and with no author payments. We believe that high-quality research should be available to all.



**02**

**Giving back to research  
communities.**

We work closely with libraries and funders to support the transition from a profit-driven commercial publishing model to a community-governed publishing model. All funds are invested in our journals and the research communities that make them possible.



**03**

**Building a sustainable future  
for academic journals.**

Our expertise as university-based publishers places us at the heart of the academic community. We provide a sustainable future for academic journals, providing financial, legal and technological support.

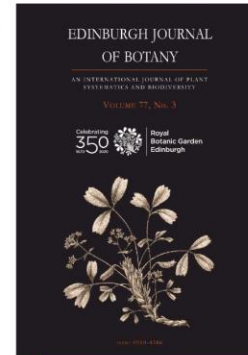
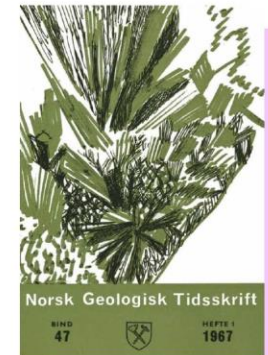
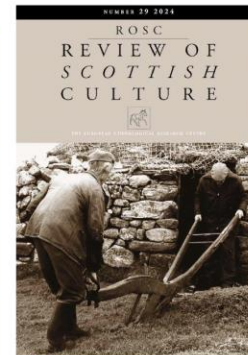
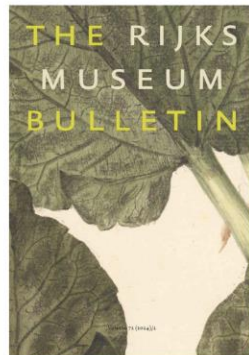
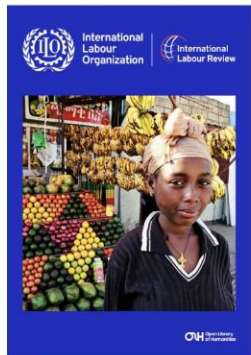




# Collection Highlights.

University-owned and scholarly society journals dating back 100+ years. Web of Science impact factor for most STEM titles & Scopus impact metric for most AHSS titles.

The majority of journals have open back content and all journals are indexed in DOAJ.



# Collection Features.

- Original academic research.
- Peer-reviewed articles.
- Academic integrity – editorial boards control their own journals
- Diamond open access – no paywalls & no author payments.
- Published by trusted university-based publishers.
- Community governed – no commercial providers & no shareholders.
- Rights retention for authors under CC BY & CC BY-derivative licenses.
- Comprehensive indexing & discoverability.
- Robust archiving using at least 2 approved services.
- Journals indexed in DOAJ.
- High-quality metadata standards.
- Usage data available for all journals and ROR checks available.



## **Evidence-based investment.**

Find out which OJC journals your academics are publishing in and editing.



## **Usage data.**

Usage data available at the click of a button. Learn which countries most frequently access OJC journals and how many page views / downloads articles receive.



## **Quality control.**

All OJC journals are indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals. Applications for new journals joining OJC are subject to a robust evaluation process.



## **Transparent costings.**

Find out what it actually costs to publish each journal, with transparent costings and funding streams clearly labelled.

# OJC Publishers so far...



Additional publishers can apply to join OJC from Y2 (2027) onwards.  
They will be subject to membership criteria monitored by the community governance of OJC members.





#### Community governance.

Read about our community governance structure, access board reports, find out when meetings take place, join as a member & get involved!



#### Journal support team.

OJC staff are on hand to support journals - applying to join, receiving funding payments, accessing professionalisation tools & more.



#### Website & catalogue.

Access our journal collections here. Browse by title, discipline, publisher, or scholarly society. Check journal & publisher information.



#### Metadata hub.

Check which OJC journals your academics are editing & publishing in. Access usage data for journals.



#### Management team.

OJC staff manage the Community Interest Company. They run board meetings, produce accounts & report to members. They also support the Journal Applications Committee.



#### Library engagement team.

OJC staff undertake library outreach & raise investment. They lead on academic advocacy, liaising with scholarly societies, editors, authors, and other professional networks.



#### Application portal.

Journals can apply to join OJC, or publishers can apply on their behalf. This is a competition process overseen by a Journals Application Committee.



#### Community hub.

Find out what's going on across OJC journals - discover new research, build your community, find out about our awards & prizes.



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Dr Paula Clemente Vega – [paula.clementevega@openlibhums.org](mailto:paula.clementevega@openlibhums.org)