

From the Editor

It's not "open sesame" – It's been almost 30 years



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2 022. The year EMWA turned 30. After lockdowns and closures, it took several months for the world to "re-open". For the open access initiative, it's been almost 3 decades of trying to unlock the closed doors of publications and scientific data. Like EMWA, open access, too, has its roots in the 90s and it has been a long journey.

The list below is far from exhaustive; the dates might not be accurate. But it drives home the point that open access did not happen overnight. It is not as easy as turning the key or shouting "Open Sesame!"

Thank you to those who came before us, named and unnamed, who planted the seeds of open access, transparency, and public disclosure.

Our cohort needs to keep this growing so that future generations will fully reap the benefits.

Thank you to Tanya Stezhka, Chris Winchester, and Martin Delahunty for putting together this issue, EMWA's small contribution to the open access movement. Also thank you to our contributors, authors, editorial team, and the EMWA membership.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a wonderful (and open!) 2023.

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Below is a rundown of some key milestones:¹

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| 1993 | Open Society Foundation (OSF, formerly Open Society Institute) ² |
| 1997 | Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) ³ |
| 1998 | Public Knowledge Project (PKP) ⁴ |
| 2000 | BioMed Central ⁵
PubMed Central ⁶ |
| 2001 | Public Library of Science (PLOS) ⁷ |
| 2002 | Budapest Open Access Initiative ⁸ |
| 2008 | The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy ⁹ |
| 2014 | Open access as part of the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme ¹⁰ |
| 2015 | Good Publication Practice for Communicating Company-Sponsored Medical Research (GPP3) ¹¹ |
| 2016 | OpenPharma Initiative ¹²
The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship ¹³ |
| 2018 | Plan S of cOAlition S ¹⁴ |
| 2021 | Open Pharma recommendations for plain language summaries of peer-reviewed medical journal publications ¹⁵
Open Research Europe ¹⁶ |
| 2022 | Good Publication Practice 2022 ¹⁷ |