

Open Access: what do Spanish academics think and do?

The Open Science Journey: Experiences from researchers in Business and Law - IE University - 30th October 2024

Eva M. de la Torre

Profesora Titular de Universidad

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid – Reserach Group University & Society

Research Institute for Higher Education and Science

OPEN ACCESS

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What do Spanish academics THINK?

Sociodemographic analysis
on Spanish academics'
motivations to publish in
Open Access

02

What do Spanish academics DO?

My personal
experience



What do Spanish academics THINK?

Sociodemographic analysis on Spanish academics' motivations to publish in Open Access journals

Introduction

- Open Access (OA) publication of research = fundamental pillar of Open Science
- Encouragement of OA by supranational organizations and governments → but uneven incorporation of mandates and guidelines by country / HE system
- How are Spanish academics joining OA? How are they adapting to its new practices?

DOSSUE Project → Diagnosis of Open Science in the Spanish University system and mechanisms for its transformation and improvement

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ESTUDIOS / RESEARCH STUDIES

Motivaciones de los académicos españoles para publicar en revistas de acceso abierto: un análisis sociodemográfico

Jesús Rodríguez-Pomeda

Departamento de Organización de Empresas, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.
Instituto Interuniversitario UAM-UC3M, de Investigación Avanzada sobre
Evaluación de la Ciencia y la Universidad (INAECU).
Correo-e: jesus.pomeda@uam.es | ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5341-4042>

Adriana Perez-Encinas

Departamento de Organización de Empresas, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.
Instituto Interuniversitario UAM-UC3M, de Investigación Avanzada sobre
Evaluación de la Ciencia y la Universidad (INAECU).
Correo-e: adriana.perez.encinas@uam.es | ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5043-8447>

Eva M. De La Torre

Departamento de Economía y Hacienda Pública Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Instituto Interuniversitario UAM-UC3M, de Investigación Avanzada sobre
Evaluación de la Ciencia y la Universidad (INAECU).
Correo-e: eva.torre@uam.es | ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8415-6568>

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zenodo

Open Science Project DOSSUET: Diagnosis of open science in the Spanish university system and mechanisms for its transformation and improvement // Diagnóstico de open science en la universidad española e instrumentos para su transformación y mejora

Q Records

Members

Curation policy

About

<https://zenodo.org/communities/rossue/records?q=&l=list&p=1&s=10&sort=newest>

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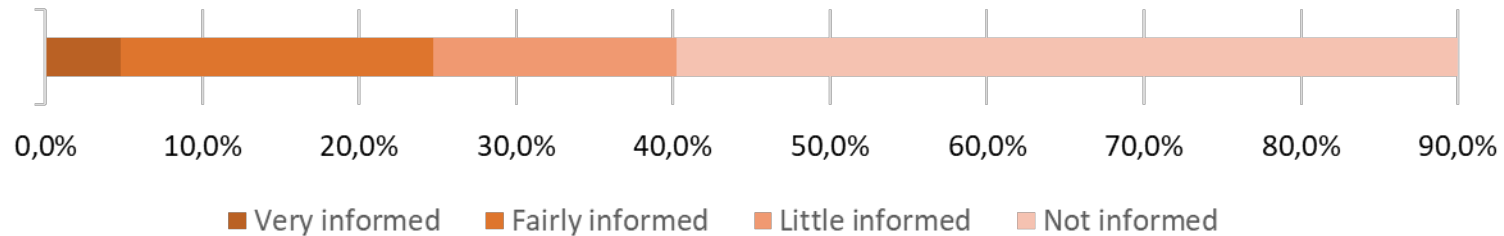
2021 Survey on Spanish academics - 251 answers

- Knowledge about OS and citizen science initiatives
- OS infrastructures and policies implemented at their institution
- Opinion on the evaluation practices of researchers
- Experience, attitudes and preferences regarding the publication of OA and Open Data

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2021 Survey on Spanish academics - 251 answers

Self-perception about Open Science Knowledge



Academics better informed:

- Up to 35 years old, assistants and PhD assistants
- From 61 years old onwards, Professors
- PhD holders (5 years)
- More than 50 publications (specially between 100 and 200 publications)
- Natural Sciences and Health vs. Arts and Humanities

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Perceived advantages of OA

	Media	Desv. Desviación
<i>Gran visibilidad para mi investigación</i>	3,86	1,109
<i>Incremento de la audiencia potencial</i>	3,68	1,115
<i>Conexión con otros investigadores</i>	3,57	1,145
<i>Crear grupos estables de colaboración con otros investigadores</i>	3,31	1,142
<i>Incremento del impacto de mi investigación</i>	3,75	1,086
<i>Tiempo de publicación reducido</i>	3,35	1,196
<i>Cumplimiento de mandatos legales</i>	3,05	1,224
<i>Cumplimiento de mandatos de mi universidad/centro</i>	2,96	1,259
<i>Rápida difusión del conocimiento</i>	3,92	1,054
<i>Incrementa mi reputación académica</i>	3,15	1,23

Individual benefits:

- Higher research visibility – wider audience
 - Impact gains
 - Potential collaborations
- Faster publication process
 - ↓
- But Spanish academics do not expect strong impact on their reputation.

Social benefits:

- Rapid knowledge dissemination

Regression analysis

The better informed you consider to be about OS, the more advantages you see in OA publication

+

No (significant) sociodemographic differences

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Perceived **dis**advantages of OA

	Media	Desv. Desviación
<i>Se perciben como de peor calidad científica</i>	3,15	1,179
<i>Se consideran de menor prestigio o estatus</i>	3,20	1,184
<i>Bajos factores de impacto</i>	3,08	1,138
<i>Costes de publicación</i>	3,48	1,201
<i>Riesgos para la promoción académica por el posible desprestigio</i>	2,99	1,163
<i>Mayor riesgo de sufrir un plagio</i>	2,78	1,235
<i>"revistas depredadoras" (*) en acceso abierto</i>	3,39	1,183
<i>carecen de evaluación por pares</i>	2,63	1,198

Publication costs (APCs)

Perception of OA journals:

- Lower prestige
- Lack of peer review & predatory journals
- Low impact factors

Related risks:

- Academic promotion
- Plagiarism

Regression
analysis

No (significant)
sociodemographic
differences

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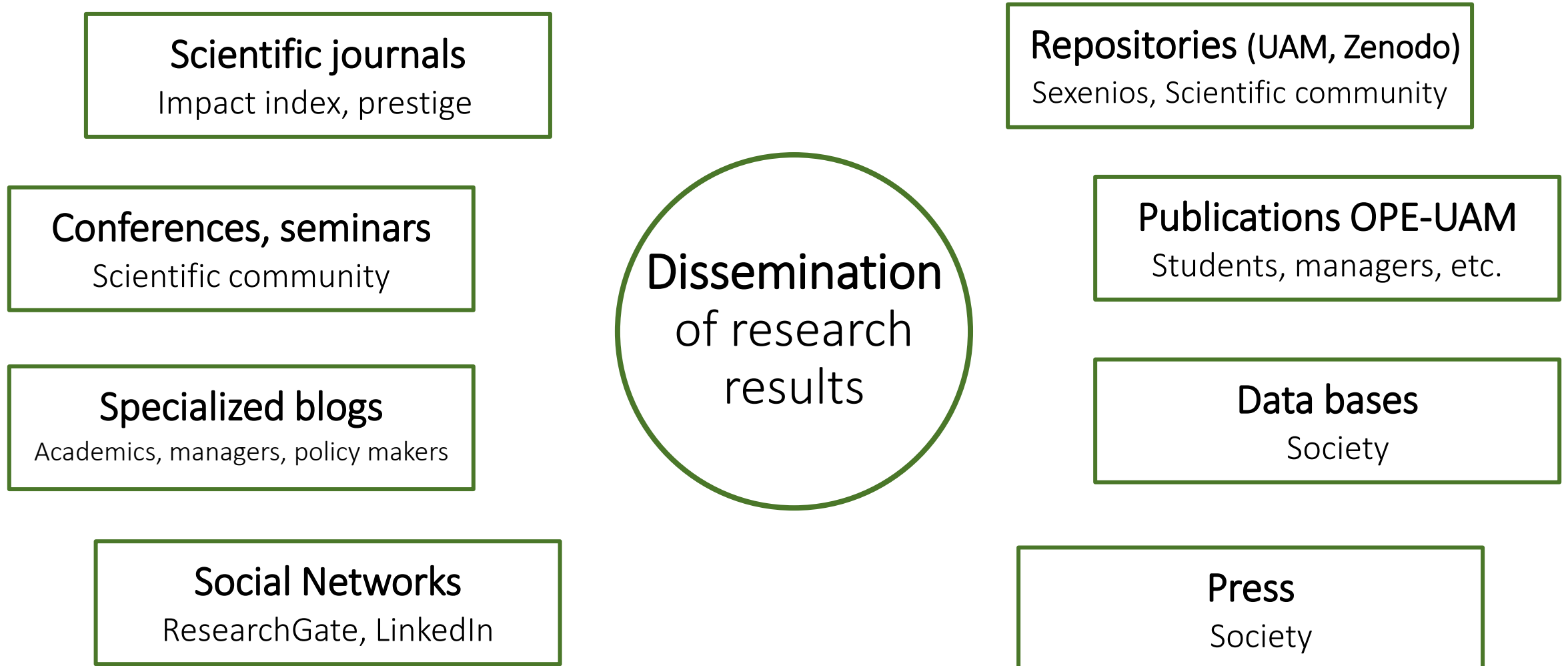
- Most informed scholars about OS: young, experienced, Natural Sciences, research active
- Not driven to publish in OA as a result of legal mandates and their respective universities
- Advantages of OA: greater dissemination, visibility, impact, audience and possibilities of connection with other researchers
- Disadvantages of OA: publication costs + lower scientific quality, prestige, impact factor → academic promotion
- Cultural change in process → moving from awareness (theory) to practice



What do Spanish academics DO?

My personal experience

How do I work? Open Science in my research activity



How do I work? Open Science in my research activity

- Competitive projects: funding for OA
- Citizen science and service learning:
 - Final Degree Project – collaborative / participatory
 - My subjects: taxation

In short...

- Is there an Open Science Culture?
 - Do I know my institution's infrastructure for OS?
 - Do I talk to my colleagues at my Faculty about how to do OS?
- Main concern → academic promotion
- Review of regulations and evaluation, contracting and incentive systems
 - New culture of evaluators?
 - Do we all have to carry out the same research activities at all stages of our academic career?

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Thank you for your attention

Eva M. de la Torre – eva.torre@uam.es

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