

SURVEY INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Ph.D. Thesis: Sustainability of collaborative models for Open Access academic e-books

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Description of the research topic and procedure

This doctoral research examines the sustainability of collaborative (crowdfunding) models (e.g., Reveal Digital, Knowledge Unlatched, Unglue.It) for Open Access (OA) academic e-books and seeks to determine which factors positively and negatively impact the decisions of institutions to participate (i.e., contribute funds).

In addition to quantitative data (which examine such factors as the institution's world and national ranking, its international outlook, number of FTE students and faculty, disciplines, and usage of OA titles on campus), this multi-national study is supplemented by this anonymous survey (consisting of 10 questions and taking five minutes to complete) to determine librarians' attitudes about global collaborative Open Access models, which require libraries worldwide to participate (i.e., contribute funds) for books to be published Open Access and made available globally without restriction.

The survey sample targets higher education librarians from university and national libraries across Europe that may or may not already participate in such Open Access projects and initiatives and hold various positions within their institutions. The survey will be open to participants from January 25th through February 15th, 2021.

Participant anonymity and data security

This survey is entirely anonymous, and your answers will in no way be able to connect with you or reveal your identity.

The data obtained in this research will be used exclusively for research purposes, i.e., to prepare the candidate's doctoral dissertation. After their collection, processing and analysis will be stored and available only to the researcher.

Risks and benefits

Participation in the research does not pose a risk to the participants, i.e., it cannot harm them personally.

You will not be compensated for your participation in the research. Still, your engagement will contribute to a better insight into the under-researched little understood, yet important area within library sciences.

The right not to participate

You have the full right to refuse to participate in the survey without any explanation, and you may also refuse to answer questions you deem irrelevant, as well as to withdraw at any time.

Feedback

All participants in this survey have the right to obtain feedback on the results of the research. They may send their inquiries to the Ph.D. candidate's e-mail address (mirelaroncevic@gmail.com) at any time upon the study's completion.

Consent

By taking part in this survey, you confirm that you have read and understood the researchers' goals and agree to participate in the research.