POLISH PUBLISHERS OPEN ACCESS POLICIES DATABASE - FUNCTIONALITIES AND ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OPENNESS POLICIES

AGNIESZKA LESZCZEWICZ, MAGDALENA STANKEVIČ AND JACEK SIKORA

Gdańsk University of Technology, Library
11/12 Gabriela Narutowicza
80-233 Gdańsk, Poland

Abstract: The aim of the article is to present a base of Polish Publishers Open Access Policies as a tool supporting the scientific community in the implementation of openness policies. It is the first national platform to gather and analyze a publishing policy in the field of Open Access to Polish scientific journals. For scientists, it is a tool for searching for a Polish journal meeting certain criteria. It enables grant recipients to verify whether the journal meets the principles of Plan S. The database also provides information on the principles of using intellectual property. The functionalities of the database were analyzed based on NCN's policy comparing them with the principles of publishing research results in Open Access. The specific criteria used in the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database were compared with other databases: Arianta, SHERPA/RoMEO. The analysis shows that the Polish Publishers Open Access Policy is the only national database for Polish scientific journals, bringing together in one place information necessary for the scientific community on publication in Open Access. The database facilitates project preparation and implementation. Academic librarians, promoting the idea of Open Science, support the scientific community at each stage of the activity described, providing tools, knowledge base and competences.

1. Introduction

Free access to publications resulting from research financed or co-financed by public funds is the main idea of open science. The Open Access Movement was initially a bottom-up initiative of the scientific community and librarians

who saw a paradox, including the fact that large publishing companies were demanding excessive fees for access to publicly funded scientific articles. Over the years, scientific institutions and associations have signed several Open Access agreements and declarations, e.g. the Budapest Open Access Initiative [1] or the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities [2]. UNESCO's Preliminary Report of the Director-General on the first draft UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science of 30 September 2020 [3] defines Open Science as a concept covering various practices of sharing research results, strengthening scientific cooperation, exchanging information for the benefit of science and society and opening the process of creating and transferring scientific knowledge, taking into account social actors from outside scientific circles. Key areas, also known as the pillars of open science, are Open Access to publications, open research data, open scientific communication – including open source/open hardware – open educational resources, open evaluation and open science infrastructure, as well as openness to the diversity of knowledge and its sources and the way in which society is involved in science.

Openness in science refers to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge and to the verification of research results, and is also an extremely important element of good scientific practice. The transparency of the research process – from the stage of funding research projects through the collection and sharing of data to the publication in Open Access – is of particular importance for publicly funded research. The clarity of this process confirms the credibility of the research carried out, excludes scientific fraud and the possibility of plagiarizing. In 2018, with the support of the European Commission and the European Research Council, cOAlition S was established, i.e. an international agreement between research funding agencies and foundations. Poland is represented mainly by NCN[1] (Narodowe Centrum Nauki/National Science Centre).

The most important initiative of cOAlition S is Plan S [4] which aims to support Open Access to scientific publications. According to Plan S, all publications resulting from studies funded by the members of cOAlition S must be published in open journals or on open platforms, or should be made available in an open manner in the repository without an embargo period. Currently, Plan S applies to reviewed scientific papers. cOAlition S also plans to take a stand on Open Access to monographs and chapters in books, together with guidance on their implementation. cOAlition S also recognizes the importance of access to research data and encourages its sharing in open repositories. The entry into force of Plan S constitutes a significant step in the development of Open Access, and NCN's participation in this project proves that public funding of Polish science allows broad opening of science and access to knowledge for all interested parties.

---

1. NCN is a governmental grant-making agency responsible for providing financial support for the conduct of basic science research in Poland and various programs to assist scientists throughout their careers.

According to the principles of Plan S, authors and their institutions retain copyrights to their publications. In order to meet the requirements of the Berlin Declaration [2], all publications must be made available on an open license, preferably within Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY). Research funding institutions are required to develop criteria and requirements for the services to be offered by open journals, open platforms and open repositories. Where fees are levied for publication in Open Access, they will be paid by the funding or scientific institutions and not individually by researchers. The Plan S principle that each and every researcher should be able to publish his or her works in Open Access. Therefore, funding institutions are required to support the diversity of business models of open journals and platforms. Where charges for open publication are applied, they will be commensurate with the publishing services provided. The structure of such fees must be transparent in order to provide the market and funding institutions with data enabling the potential standardization of fees and setting their maximum limit. Funding institutions call on governments, universities, research organizations, libraries, academia and scientific societies to agree on strategies, policies and practices, with particular emphasis on ensuring their transparency. Funding institutions do not support a 'hybrid' publication model. However, where this is of a transitional nature and only in those cases where this is part of the transformation mechanisms, funding institutions may participate in the financial support of such mechanisms.

Currently, in line with the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and Science (formerly the Ministry of Science and Higher Education), individual universities and scientific units in Poland adopt institutional Open Policies (e.g. the Lublin University of Technology[2] and the Jagiellonian University[3]): guidelines for authors to publish research data in open repositories and make it available. Nowadays, institutions in Poland have created only policies of openness, but NCN has signed an agreement on Plan S [5,6].

2. Presentation of the database and its elements

In order to meet the principles of open science, the Gdańsk University of Technology has built a base that supports the scientific community in the process of opening publications, opening research data and open scientific communication. A digital platform has been created which gathers and analyses the publishing policy on Open Access, ownership of copyright and use of publication content by authors and recipients.

2. Polityka otwartego dostępu w Politechnice Lubelskiej (Open Access Policy at the Lublin University of Technology), http://www.pollub.pl/files/4/news/files/5941_Zarzadzenie, Nr,R-92-2020.pdf.

3. Polityka otwartego dostępu do publikacji naukowych i danych badawczych pracowników i doktorantów Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego (Policy of Open Access to scientific publications and research data of employees and doctoral students of the Jagiellonian University), https://pod.uj.edu.pl/polityka-otwartosci-uj.

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is part of the wider MOST Danych (Bridge of Data) project implemented by three higher education institutions from the Tricity: the Gdańsk University of Technology, the University of Gdańsk and the Medical University of Gdańsk, and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund within the framework of the Operational Programme Digital Poland for 2014 – 2020. The tools created under the MOST Danych project are part of MOST Wiedzy (Bridge of Knowledge) – a platform which, according to its name, is a bridge between scientists, entrepreneurs and society. The aim of the MOST Wiedzy platform is to increase the availability, coherence and reusability of scientific resources. This platform contains information on research infrastructures and scientific activities: scientist profiles, projects and inventions. It also contains three repositories: Publications of employees of the Gdańsk University of Technology, Open Access and Open Research Data repositories. These resources are made available in a clear form, navigation is easy and the data is correlated. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies are available on the MOST Wiedzy platform in the Journals catalog (Fig. 1). The database is non-commercial and is accessible to each user.
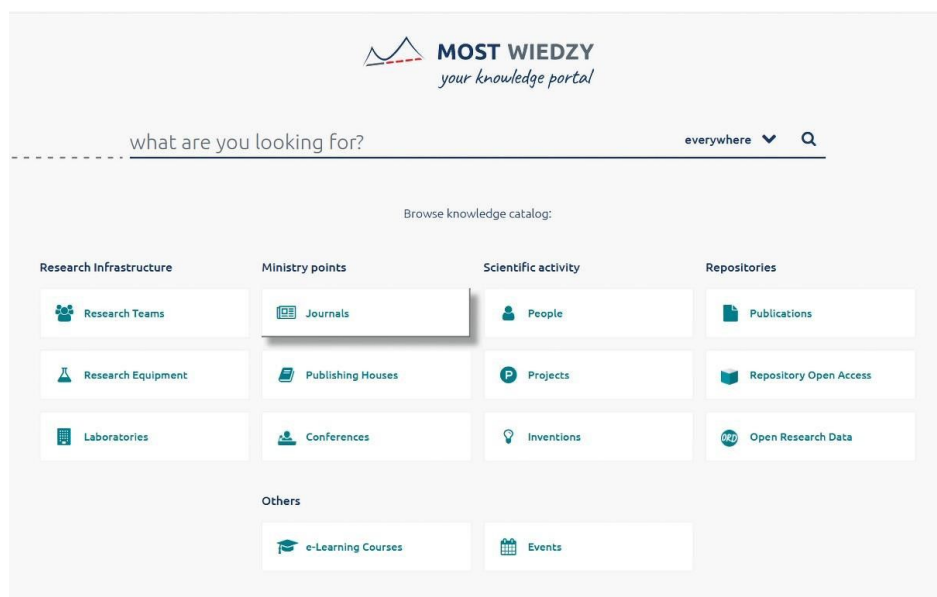
Figure 1. MOST Wiedzy platform website (https://mostwiedzy.pl/en/)

Recipients of the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies as part of the Bridge of Knowledge are mainly members of the academic community: researchers, doctoral students, students [7]. The database is also a convenient tool for academic librarians involved in the development of institutional repositories. The team developing the base consists of employees of the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology and the IT Services Centre of the Gdańsk University of Technology.

The task of librarians is to complete, supplement and verify data collected on the basis of publicly available information, as well as to analyze websites of journals. In many cases direct contact with them was also necessary for the information in the database to be presented in full compliance with the assumptions adopted by editorial teams and publishers of journals.

The aim of the database is primarily to collect reliable information on the publishing policy of journals. The librarian team contacted editorial offices to complete the information about the journals and the editorial teams, using the knowledge and involvement of librarians and could arrange information about Open Access policies on journal pages. The second important objective is to promote publication in the Open Access model. The assumptions of the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database reflect the so-called pillars of Open Science defined by the European Commission. This is done by promoting Open Access to publications through a clear presentation of the rules for publication. Support for the opening of research data is possible thanks to information on whether a journal recommends or obliges authors to deposit open research data. Another pillar of open science – open scientific communication – is carried out through intermediation between publishers and potential authors. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies are a tool for open scientific communication.

The profile of the developed journal contains basic data: ISSN and e-ISSN, links to websites, publisher names. The database contains also information on assigned scientific disciplines, in accordance with the applicable list of the Ministry of Education and Science[4]. The following sections contain data on journal scores in accordance with the applicable ministerial list – current and from previous years[5].

The database presents the following indicators: CiteScore and Impact Factor. An important element in the profile is the Model. This information is particularly important for those who apply for research support from research funding institutions. It has been indicated here, inter alia, whether the journal is published in the Open Access, Hybrid or traditional model. The profile contains information on the publishing policy of journals, important not only for potential authors but also for university employees, especially librarians developing university repositories. Data on licenses or type of contract will enable users of the database to understand how the author and the recipient can use the published article. The most advantageous for all recipients is the situation where editorial teams use Creative Commons licenses. Creative Commons Licenses offer the author the opportunity to determine the principles on which he/she wishes to share his/her works. The database will also indicate whether the journal allows self-archiving

---

4. Wykaz czasopism naukowych i recenzowanych materiałów z konferencji międzynarodowych, (List of scientific journals and peer-reviewed materials from international conferences), https://www.gov.pl/attachment/7839ea33-4b51-4bfa-b642-fa347f315fda.

5. Information on lists from previous years, https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja-i-nauka/ujednolicony-wykaz-czasopism-naukowych

and what its conditions are. The field Months of embargo contains information for how many months the author must refrain from disseminating his/her article.

The journal profile includes also information on the research data policy, provided that the journal recommends or obliges authors to deposit open research data – in which case a link to the information about the research data policy is provided. The Additional information field contains information e.g. on the need to provide the source of the original with DOI[6] or editorial plans for the implementation of the new rules and the previous license. This field also contains information whether the journal is indexed in the DOAJ[7]. For journals included in the SHERPA/RoMEO database[8], a link to the profile in this database is also displayed.

3. Functionalities

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database has its location on the MOST Wiedzy platform https://www.mostwiedzy.pl/en/ and is available for everyone concerned. The database can be accessed by selecting the Ministerial Points Journals tab from the group, without the need to log in (Fig. 1). After entering the Journals tab, the Journals Catalog is displayed. The simple and legible structure of the page of the catalog presents:

- top of the page: dialog box
- bottom of the page: alphabetical order
- left side: filters
- central part of the website: the catalog of journal records.

By default, the Catalog displays:

- 1000 best results;
- 50 titles per page;
- a list of titles of journals in alphabetical order from A to Z;
- paging a list of titles (Fig. 2).

The database allows the customer to personalize the display of the website by ticking an appropriate number of search results (20, 50 or 100 records) and the display layout (A to Z or Z to A). Thanks to the dialog box, the user is given the possibility to quickly search for a specific title of journals in the database. For this purpose, the title of the journal or its ISSN or eISSN, if any, will be entered in the dialog box. After approval, a journal record with the desired title will appear. When a part of a title is entered in the dialog box, the search result will be a list of journals with a previously entered phrase in their title.

6. Digital Object Identifier of an electronic document that is permanently assigned, http://www.doi.org/

7. The Directory of Open Access Journals is a database containing a list of international, peer-reviewed scientific journals, access to which is free, https://doaj.org/

8. SHERPA/RoMEO is international database of information about publishers' policies, https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/

Figure 2. View of the website of the Catalog Journals in the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies (source: https://mostwiedzy.pl/en/magazine/catalog)

At the bottom of the page, the Journals Catalog contains contents in the alphabetical order. The alphabetical and numerical breakdowns allow the number of titles displayed to be limited to journals in relation to the first letter or digit of

the title that has been marked in the division. Typically, the list of the searched records is extensive, and it is then paged. Access to a unique set of data for specific journals will allow filtering the database. The selection of filters on the left side of the Journals Catalog was influenced by both: the Regulation of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (current Ministry of Science and Education) on the fields of science and the scientific discipline, as well as artistic disciplines [8] and NCN's policy on Open Access to the results of publications resulting from the research projects [5].

The possibility of limiting the number of search results starts the first of the filters: Field of science. According to the classification of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the filter contains seven main fields of science divided by discipline. The disciplines are available after expanding a specific Field of science (Fig. 3). The second filter includes Ministry points. Two dialog boxes provide the possibility of entering a specific value of points that the Ministry of Science and Education has assigned to a journal or enable entering the scoring range: "from, to". The values in the database are based on the current journal scores.

Another possibility of narrowing down the search results includes Ministry points – list. Three groups of journals are made available to the database user in this filter:

- Ministry Scored Journals List 2019;
- Not listed on Ministry Scored Journals List 2019 – a list of journals that are currently not on the ministry's list but are scored or have scores in their history;
- Unscored Journals List – journals from outside the ministerial list, without scoring.

The choice of the average annual number of journal quotes is allowed by the Citescore filter. In two dialog boxes, it is possible to enter a specific number of quotes or values: 'from, to'. The Citescore filter is based on the SCOPUS database.

The nature of the data collected and the subsequent filter are based on the current NCN policy [5]. According to the guidelines, the requirement to publish in the form of Open Access is now an integral part of the provisions of the agreement on the implementation and financing of a research project. NCN has introduced this criterion as a necessary condition for the recognition of the publication as a result of the project implementation, including the basis for eligibility of the costs of a completed project. By facilitating the user to search for journals specified by NCN, a filter was created in the database: Model (of a journal).

The following journal models are listed in this filter:

- Hybrid – journals, only part of which is published in Open Access;
- Hybrid – transformation agreement – hybrid journals that are transformed into Open Access journals;
- Traditional – printed journals with an electronic version under a copyright license
- Open Access – Open Access journals.

Another filter includes Polish magazines with publishing policy. This filter narrows down the search to those journals which have or do not have a defined publishing policy in the database:

- has in MOST Wiedzy – a verified publishing policy of a journal in the database,
- has not in MOST Wiedzy – no verified publishing policy.

Another filter is also used to limit the searched data set: Licenses. By using this tool, the user can limit the list of results to journals with a specific license, which is included in the contract between the publishing house and the author. The database creators have taken into account any and all possible options on the publishing market, with particular regard to NCN recommendations. NCN requires that publications which contain results from the project implementation should be available in the form of Open Access under a Creative Commons license, CC BY. For this reason, all Creative Commons licenses have been included in the list of licenses: from the most liberal to the most restrictive.

- No license – no agreement;
- Creative Commons – a list of CC licenses present on the Polish publishing market;
- Copyright;
- Publisher's own license;

The following filter was placed in the database as the last one: Journals with publications. In principle, this filter applies only and exclusively to authors who have the affiliation of the Gdańsk University of Technology. On the MOST Wiedzy platform, their papers may be placed by employees of the Gdańsk University of Technology due to the fact that relevant data is included in the university repository.

- record indexed in MOST repository;
- full text articles in MOST repository.

This is a transitional period because as part of the consortium of the Tricity universities, which, apart from the Gdańsk University of Technology, include: the University of Gdańsk and the Medical University of Gdańsk, employees of these universities will also be able to use this repository. Works on this part of the project are in progress.

The functionality of the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is not only about facilities, possibilities of personalization of displaying and filtering the collected data. Taking into account the nature of the publishing market and its continuous development, the database takes into account the possibility of modifying and adding metadata by editors of journals or their publishers. The person submitting a modification or request to supplement the database with a title of the journal fills in a ready-made registration form available on the website https://pg.edu.pl/biblioteka-pg/formularz-zgloszenia-czasopisma of the Open Science Competence Center at the Library of the Gdańsk University of

Figure 3. Filters in Catalog Journals in Polish Publishers Open Access Policies
(source: own study)

Technology. After updating the database, the metadata editor will inform the reporter of the indexation by e-mail about the information contained in the form.

Information on journal policies and models during evaluation and implementation of grants (e.g. NCN) is important for scientists. It should be noted that it is also important for librarians who are largely helping to find this information. Data collected in the policy base is extremely useful in these processes. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is the only such base for Polish scientific journals and provides all the necessary information to scientists.

4. Functionalities on the example of NCN policy

NCN is an executive agency set up to support scientific activities in the field of basic research. In the field of experimental or theoretical work, the scientific activities concern the acquisition of new knowledge on the basis of phenomena and

facts, without focusing on practical application and commercialization. NCN's tasks include financing research, supervising its implementation, international cooperation in the financing of scientific activities, as well as inspiring and monitoring the financing of basic research from resources from outside the State budget. NCN, as a signatory to Plan S and a member of cOAlition S, has developed relevant guidelines and documents for applicants for funding research projects. Jointly with other research funding agencies affiliated to Science Europe, it has also undertaken actions to develop common European guidelines for the management of research data and the way in which it is made available in Open Access[9].

The first step in the introduction of the Open Access policy to data generated in the implementation of projects financed by NCN was the introduction of an annex to the project financing application form. The Applicant provides Data Management Plan (DMP) for the project implementation. The obligation to prepare the DMP has been introduced for competitions organized since June 2019. In this way, NCN has been involved in promoting and opening research data in the scientific community [9].

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database also supports initiatives concerning opening research data. Information on the research data policy is included in the journal profile. If the journal has a specific policy, this information is included in the profile, in the field Information on research data policy, and the link transfers to detailed data. Where the research data policy is in the implementation phase and detailed guidance is in the development phase, this information will be included in the journal profile in the field Additional information.

The next stage of NCN's implementation of the principles of Plan S was the introduction of an Open Access policy to scientific publications, called the OA Policy. It lays down the rules for publication in Open Access of research results from projects financed or co-financed from public funds. The Open Access policy was introduced by Regulation No. 38/2020 of the NCN Director [5] and by Regulation No. 40/2020 of the NCN Director [6]. The OA Policy was based on the principles of Plan S and in a very similar form is also implemented by other members of cOAlition S. The Open Access policy entered into force on the date of signature and covered projects under which contracts for the implementation and financing of research were signed after 1 January 2021. Annex 1 to Regulation No. 38/2020 of the NCN Director contains information, inter alia, on publication routes meeting the criteria with Plan S, on the eligibility of costs and other guidelines concerning licenses and preservation of copyrights [5].

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database enables searching for journals in order to meet the requirements of institutions, programs and agencies funding scientific research, including NCN, regarding Open Access to publications.

The database makes it possible to select a model for publishing journals. The first stage is the selection of the Polish magazines with publishing policy filter

---

9. https://ncn.gov.pl/en/finansowanie-nauki/otwarta-nauka

and the option has in MOST Wiedzy. Then selecting the Open Access option in the Model filter guarantees that the displayed list of journals will contain only those that provide free and immediate access to published articles. NCN defines Open Access to publications not only as free access to the article but also as the possibility for the recipient to reproduce, disseminate and use the content freely, in accordance with the CC BY license. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database provides the possibility of choosing a specific license. In Annex 1 to Regulation No. 38/2020 of the NCN Director, the clause on copyrights and licenses recommends using the CC BY 4.0 license. The combination of these filters is shown in Fig. 4. Alternatively, NCN allows publication on other licenses under certain conditions. An element distinguishing the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies from other databases of this type (e.g. Arianta) is the possibility to choose the model and the license.

Figure 4. Selected filters

Verification in the publication model database is important for the grant recipient and helpful in assessing the eligibility of publication costs. If publication

fees are to be financed from NCN resources, publication in hybrid journals should be excluded. The clause on the costs of the said appendix states that 'publication fees charged by hybrid journals (under route 2) are not considered as eligible costs and cannot be covered from the funds granted by the National Science Centre' [5]. On the other hand, the costs associated with the publication process of the so-called Article Processing Charges (APC) may come from NCN funds for the first and third publication routes.

In the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database not only filters but also elements of the journal profile make it possible to verify compliance with NCN guidelines on Open Access. The profile of some journals in the drop-down field Publishing policy includes, inter alia, information on the embargo and indexation in the DOAJ. Publication routes considered by NCN to be in line with the OA Policy refer to journals registered in the DOAJ or published without an embargo period.

In the journal profile, the development field Publishing policy also contains information on the condition of self-archiving. If yes, restrictions on the version of the article and the place of deposition will be laid down. From a grantee's point of view, this is important information as NCN considers the publication route 'in subscription journals (hybrid journals), as long as the Version of Record (VoR2) or the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM3) is published, by the author or publisher, in an open repository immediately upon online publication of the article (without any embargo period)' [5].

The following examples of journal profiles from different fields of science present three publication routes contained in the NCN guidelines. The first example (Fig. 5) includes the Studies in Second Language Learning and Teaching, a journal published in the Open Access model CC BY 4.0, indexed in the DOAJ and meeting the criteria of the first publication route. It represents, inter alia, the field of Humanities, the discipline of Linguistics.

Another example (Fig. 6) is the Dissertationes Mathematicae, a journal published in a hybrid model, which meets the criteria of the second publication route. In the profile, Additional information contains information about paid to publish as Open Access and free disposal of the publishing version – Version of Record (VoR), without an embargo period. It is a journal in the field of Natural sciences, in the discipline of Mathematics.

The third example (Fig. 7) presents the Journal of Applied Genetics, a journal published in a hybrid model with transformative agreements meeting the third publication route criteria. The journal is covered by an Open Access license under the so called transformative agreements inscribed in the Efficiency and Standards for Article Charges (ESAC-registers)[10]. It is a journal in the field of, inter alia, Engineering and Technology, in the discipline of Biomedical engineering. Additional information in the profile contains information for the author about the possibility of paid publication on the CC BY 4.0 license.

---

10. https://esac-initiative.org/about/transformative-agreements/agreement-registry/

Figure 5. Example 1 – the first publication route (selected profile elements, accessed: 12-May-2021)

The analysis shows that the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database makes it possible to search for Polish journals in order to meet the NCN requirements concerning Open Access to publications. When adopting the relevant criteria and selecting the appropriate filters, the Grantee will receive a list of journals which supplements with profile information. In order to verify the selected journal title, the Grantee may use the Journal Checker Tool [10].

5. Other tools to verify journals

The Journal Checker Tool has been developed by cOAlition S and is used to verify whether a publication in a selected journal meets the requirements of Plan S. The title or ISSN of the selected journal, the funding institution name and the Grantee's institution name should be entered in the relevant fields. The choice of journals is the responsibility of the authors. NCN recommends checking the journal criteria in order to avoid, for example, publishing in predatory journals. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database as well as the Journal Checker Tool follow these recommendations and complement each other. The

Figure 6. Example 2 – the second publication route (selected profile elements, accessed: 12-May-2021)

database is used to search for Polish scientific journals, and the Journal Checker Tool – to verify the results of these searches.

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database, available on the MOST Wiedzy platform gathers, as the only one, in one place information necessary for the scientific community concerning publication in Open Access for Polish scientific journals. Arianta – Polish Scientific and Professional Electronic Journals presents information about Polish electronic journals, including journals with unlimited access to full texts, as well as journals which make available on their websites only tables of content and/or abstracts. In addition, Arianta provides basic data, scores, disciplines and licenses. However, it is the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database that provides more information, especially the information relevant for publication in Open Access. The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database contains information on the publishing model, self-archiving places, embargo and research data policy not included in the Arianta. On the other hand, another database, SHERPA/RoMEO, contains, inter alia, information on the conditions of self-archiving. Unfortunately, Polish

Figure 7. Example 3 – the third publication route (selected profile elements, accessed: 12-May-2021)

scientific journals are not overly indexed in this database. The SHERPA/RoMEO also provides information on licenses, self-archiving places and embargos but the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is distinguished by the publication model and research data policy.

6. Conclusions

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is the first national platform which collects and analyses the Open Access publishing policy in one place. The database is part of the MOST Danych project. The functionality of the database is a response to the needs of the scientific community. The unique filters used in the database, such as the publication model or the license, allow researchers to search the database for guidance, e.g. NCN.

The Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is constantly developing; additional functions and technical improvements are introduced in response to the demand of the database users. The sectional view of all fields and disciplines of knowledge and the technical solutions applied make the database not only a functional tool but also a platform for promoting scientific achievements. Resources are made available free of charge to recipients in a legible form. The database will promote publication in Open Access and support research data sharing initiatives. In the Polish context the Polish Publishers Open Access Policies database is the only database informing about the publishing policy of scientific journals, containing unique data for the scientific community. The database, the data and the functionalities presented therein facilitate research, project implementation and evaluation of scientific activities for scientists. For librarians, the database is a valuable tool for actively supporting representatives of the scientific world in all areas of their activity.

References

[1] Budapest Open Access Initiative 2021, https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/
[2] Max-Plank-Gesellschaft 2003 *Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities*, https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration
[3] UNESCO 2021 *Preliminary report of the Director-General on the first draft UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science*, *UNESCO Digital Library*, https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/en-_unesco_osr_preliminary_report.pdf
[4] European Science Foundation *Plan S. Principles and Implementation*, https://www.co-alition-s.org/
[5] National Science Center 2020 *Order No 38/2020 of the Director of the National Science Centre on the OPEN ACCESS POLICY AT THE NCN*, https://ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/zarzadzenia-dyrektora/zarzadzenieDyr-38_2020_ang.pdf
[6] National Science Center 2020 *Order No 40/2020 of the Director of the National Science Centre of 31 May 2020 amending Order No 38/2020 of on the OPEN ACCESS POLICY AT THE NCN*, https://ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/zarzadzenia-dyrektora/zarzadzenieDyr-40_2020_ang.pdf
[7] Wałek A and Lubomski P 2017 *The Bridge to Knowledge – Open Access to Scientific Research Results on Multidisciplinary Open System Transferring Knowledge Platform*, *TASK Quarterly* **21** (4) 333 doi: 10.17466/tq2017/21.4/e
[8] *Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 20 September 2018 on scientific fields and scientific and artistic disciplines* 2018, isap.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/DocDetails.xsp?id=WDU20180001818
[9] National Science Center 2019 *Letter of the Director of the National Science Center*
[10] *Journal Checker Tool* 2021, https://journalcheckertool.org/

Agnieszka Leszczewicz has been working at the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology since 1995. She is a graduate of the Polish Philology Department at the University of Gdańsk and completed postgraduate studies in Scientific Information at the University of Warsaw. She is a student of the Philological Doctoral Studies at the University of Gdańsk. In the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology , as a senior librarian in the Reader Service Section, she heads the Branch at the Faculty of Electrical and Control Engineering. She conducts training in First Degree Information Competence for students, as well as individual training for students, doctoral students and researchers. She participates in the Bridge of Data Project, as a metadata editor she collects information about the publishing policy of Polish scientific journals.

Magdalena Stankevič is a senior librarian at the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology. She works in Circulation Services as a coordinator of the Nanotechnology Regional Library (Branch Library of the Faculty of Chemistry and the Faculty of Applied Physics and Mathematics). She is also involved in the MOST Danych (Bridge of Data) project, where she is responsible for collecting copyright policies of Polish scientific journals. A graduate of Biotechnology at the Faculty of Chemistry at the Gdańsk University of Technology, obtained her PhD degree at the Medical University of Lublin. Her main areas of interest include academic libraries, international cooperation, e-resources, molecular diagnostics and medical genetics, Open Access and Open Science.

Jacek Sikora has been working at the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology since 2005. He is a graduate of Scientific Information and Library Studies at the University of Gdańsk and Information Security at the Jagiellonian College in Toruń. In the Library of the Gdańsk University of Technology, he has worked in the Collection Department, the Historical Section, and currently in the Reader Service Section, as a coordinator of the Branch at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Shipbuilding. He conducts training in 1st degree Information Competences for students, as well as individual and group training in databases and electronic resources for students and scientists. He participates in the MOST Danych (Bridge of Data) project, under which, as a metadata editor, he is responsible for collecting and verifying information on the publishing policy of Polish scientific journals. He actively develops his non-professional passions as a windsurfing instructor, avid sailor and enthusiast of classic and alpine skiing.