

# Project Free Our Knowledge

Using collective action to solve problems in research



<https://www.freeourknowledge.org>



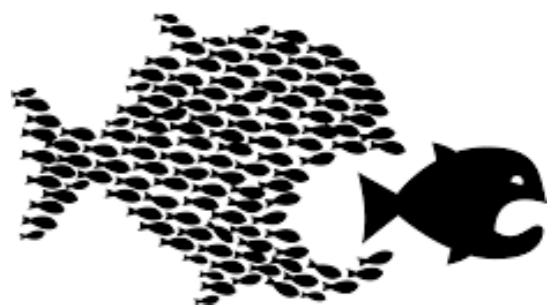
@projectFOK

*AIMOS - 7 Nov 2019*

*Cooper Smout*

# Scholarly publishing

- Problems
  - Slow (publication delays, paywalls)
  - Expensive (\$25b/yr = ~500,000 postdoc jobs)
  - Wasted time (re-formatting: 52 hrs/yr, re-reviewing = ?)
  - Competitive (40% depression, anxiety)
  - Biased, Promotes QRPs (impact-based metrics)
- Collective action problem: researchers compete to publish in high impact journals, which then harm our community (and ourselves) in the process
  - We have the power to drive change by collectively deciding on new rules and carrying them out



# Collective action for researchers

1. **Propose.** Someone creates a campaign asking peers to adopt a new behaviour



2. **Crowd.** Researchers pledge to act when there is sufficient support in the community (anonymously, if desired)

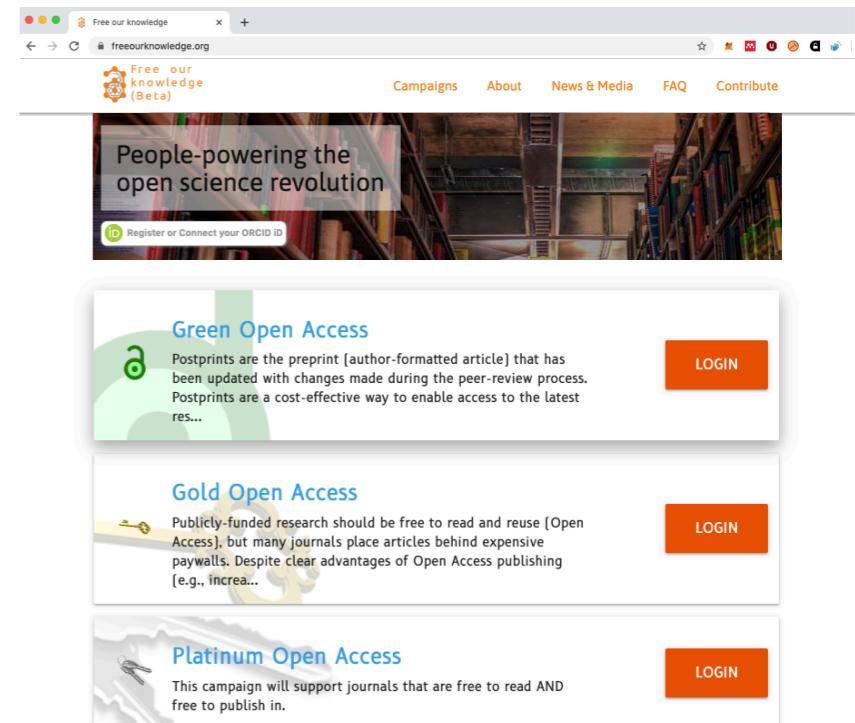


3. **Act.** When the target number of supporters is met, the new 'union' is listed on the website and carries out the new behaviour together



# Project Free Our Knowledge

1. Pledge  [www.freeourknowledge.org](http://www.freeourknowledge.org)
2. Follow  [@projectFOK](https://twitter.com/projectFOK)  [projectFOK](#)
3. Collaborate  [info@freeourknowledge.org](mailto:info@freeourknowledge.org)
4. Hackathon?



The screenshot shows the homepage of the [freeourknowledge.org](http://freeourknowledge.org) website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Campaigns', 'About', 'News & Media', 'FAQ', and 'Contribute'. Below the navigation is a banner with the text 'People-powering the open science revolution' and a 'Register or Connect your ORCID ID' button. The main content area features three boxes for 'Green Open Access', 'Gold Open Access', and 'Platinum Open Access', each with a brief description and a 'LOGIN' button.



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