

## Peer Review

# Review of: "Navigating the Madness of Academic Publishing"

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This work is a personal account rather than an academic work on the current friction between academic publishers, institutions, and academia. It is true that the publishers are making too much profit. However, the system was not built in a day or by the publishers alone. The academic side has also been opting for the low-hanging fruits, avoiding voluntary work for running and managing society journals, for example. Here, institutions or funding agencies can more directly support academic societies rather than individual researchers. In the competitive world, personal achievements are often prioritized over societies; we need more collaborative and collective efforts to adjust such tendencies from the researchers' and institutional sides. We cannot simply blame commercial publishers; their strategies are at least legal, if not transparent.

The author needs to focus more on recent efforts to change this grave situation, such as the PlanS movement and Latin American OA journals. DORA is another movement toward such established systems. In his conclusion, preprints and ethics are mentioned, but all researchers have been aware of them for decades, yet still, little changes. Looking into the negotiation between PlanS and publishers will reveal more recent moves such as "transformative journals." Commercial publishers do not really wish for full OA, and this is the real reason for the extremely high APCs. The key is how to enforce full OA and how to decouple editorial contents from submitted articles in high-ranking journals.

## Declarations

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.