

OAPEN Foundation Annual Report 2015

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Introduction

The OAPEN Foundation is dedicated to open access publishing of academic books. OAPEN works with publishers to build a quality controlled collection of open access books, mainly in the area of humanities and social sciences, and provides services for publishers, libraries and research funders in the areas of dissemination, quality assurance and digital preservation.

OAPEN (Open Access Publishing in European Networks) was developed as a 30-month targeted project co-funded by the EU in its eContentplus-program. The goal of the project was to achieve a sustainable publication model for academic books in humanities and social sciences and to improve the visibility and usability of high quality academic research in Europe.

OAPEN Foundation

OAPEN Foundation was established by the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the University of Leiden (UL), the University library of Utrecht University (UU), the Netherlands Academy of Sciences (KNAW), the National Library of the Netherlands (KB) and Amsterdam University Press (AUP). These institutes act as Participants in the foundation and are committed to provide financial support. The Participants form a Council that meets once every year. The Council elects the members of the OAPEN Board from its circle. The OAPEN Board can appoint one person from outside the Council in the board. In addition, the Board can establish an Advisory Board.

Board and Participants

On December 31 the Board consisted of the following members:

- Bas Savenije (president)
- Henk Wals (treasurer) - KNAW
- Astrid van Wesenbeeck - KB
- Kurt de Belder - UL

The remaining Participants are represented by Anja Smit (UU) and Frank Huysmans (UvA).

Funding

In the first three years (1 April 2011 - 31 March 2014) OAPEN Foundation received funding from the Participants and from NWO. NWO provided a yearly subsidy to match the financial support from the Participants. The total funding from the Participants and NWO amounted to 240,000 euro yearly. Subsequently, the Participants and NWO provided an annual subsidy of in total 55,000 euro for two years. A growing part of OAPEN's income comes from services and projects.

Objectives

The objectives of OAPEN Foundation as stated in the bylaws are:

- To stimulate open access publishing of academic books
- To further develop OAPEN as a platform for open access books
- To develop a sustainable business model for OAPEN

Activities in 2015

OAPEN Deposit service

The OAPEN Deposit service makes use of the OAPEN Library to provide a centralised repository for host-ing and disseminating OA books. The Deposit service consists of the basic services provided by the OAPEN Library and additional tailored services to support OA mandates from research funders and practitioners (research institutions, universities and their libraries).

Partners for the Deposit service

FWF deposits open access books funded by FWF in the OAPEN Library since 2013. At the end of 2015, the FWF collection contained 288 titles from 39 publishers. This resulted in 81,134 downloads in 2015, coming from 152 countries.

Knowledge Unlatched agreed to partner with OAPEN to host its first pilot collection towards the end of 2013. The whole collection, consisting of 28 OA books from 13 publishers, became available through the OAPEN Library in the first part of 2014. The collection received 23,481 downloads in 2015.

The Wellcome Trust became a partner in the spring of 2014, to host and disseminate all open access books and book chapters through the OAPEN Library. At the end of 2015, the collection consisted of 18 titles and 20 chapters, from 14 publishers.

New partners

OAPEN implemented the Deposit service for the Swiss research funder SNSF in a project called OAPEN-CH, launched in February.

In November, the grant agreement with the European Research Council (ERC) was formally signed. OAPEN-ERC is a two-year project to develop and implement the OAPEN Deposit service for OA books and chapters resulting from ERC funded research.

A brief description of these projects can be found in the section 'New projects'.

By the end of 2015, OAPEN reached agreement with an Austrian consortium to provide the Deposit service for OA books to all Austrian-based researchers. This is OAPEN's first countrywide service, supported by a consortium consisting of FWF, the [University of Vienna](#), and the publishers [Böhlau](#) and [Holzhausen](#). Researchers can submit their peer-reviewed open access books to the OAPEN library through a website maintained by FWF.

Library membership programme

OAPEN is preparing to introduce the Deposit service to Universities and their Libraries, as part of a Library membership programme. The programme will be targeted at research libraries and national libraries with an interest in supporting open access monographs in the humanities and social sciences. Members are entitled to make use of the OAPEN deposit service for OA books from their researchers. In addition, members will receive customised feeds of OAPEN's collections of OA books, regular usage reports and general reports regarding the transition to OA monographs.

Acquisition of new publishers

We were pleased to welcome almost 40 new publishers in 2015. Many of these were included in the Library through our partners in the Deposit service. Noteworthy publishers joining OAPEN were new OA publishers such as UCL Press and Stockholm University Press, presses from new countries like Tampere (Finland), AOSIS (South Africa), and established presses starting to publish OA books like Pickering & Chatto Publishers and IWA publishing (both UK), Seismo Verlag (CH), transcript Verlag (DE) and the University of Ottawa Press (CA). In addition, Ubiquity

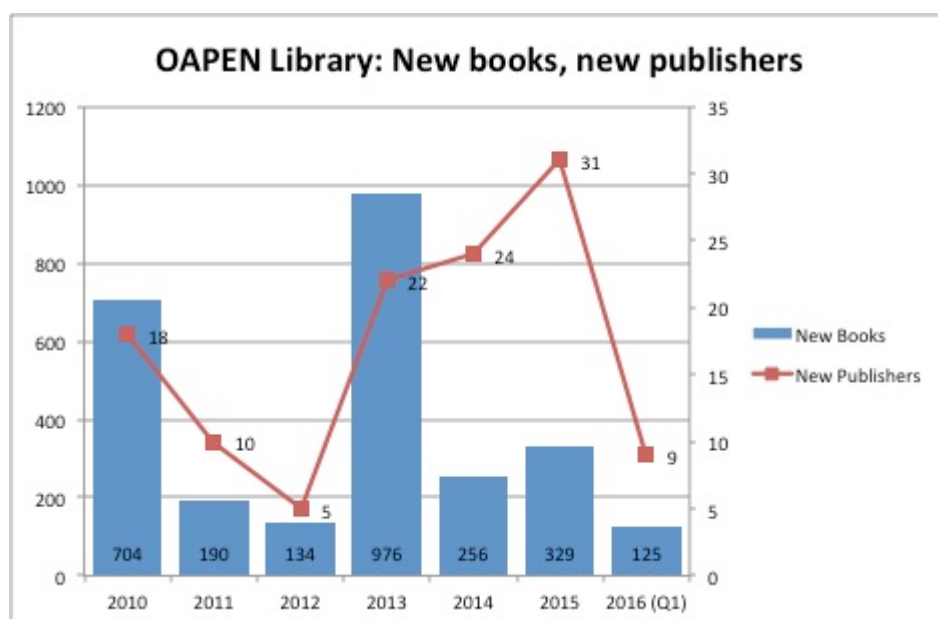
Press became a member, both for their own books and for the publishers that use their platform, such as the University of California Press. A full list of new members is included as Appendix 2.

OAPEN Library

Publishers and the collection

In 2015, 330 titles were added to the Library. A large contribution to this amount comes from the partners in the Deposit service mentioned above: the Austrian Science Fund (FWF), the Wellcome Trust, and SNSF through the OAPEN-CH project. Furthermore, the publishers University of Ottawa Press, University of Adelaide Press and ANU Press made a large number of titles available. The total number of titles by the end of 2015 was 2589.

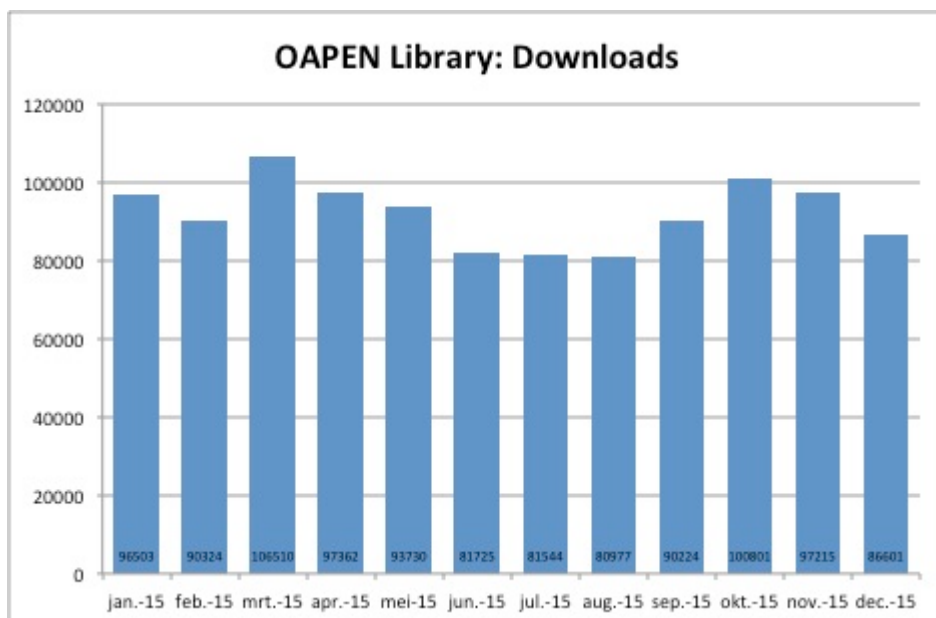
It is interesting to see that in the first three months of 2016, 125 new books were added to the collection. More than fifty percent of this growth comes from five publishers: Leiden University Press, University of California Press, ANU Press, Nordic Council of Ministers and Language Science Press



Usage

Starting in 2013, a COUNTER compliant usage data service was set up in cooperation with IRUS-UK. IRUS-UK is a Jisc-funded repository and infrastructure service. COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources) is an international initiative serving librarians, publishers and intermediaries by setting standards that facilitate the recording and reporting of online usage statistics in a consistent, credible and compatible way.

In 2015, the OAPEN Library served 1,103,516 downloads.



Bi-annually, all publishers received a usage report containing the monthly totals plus the global usage, describing the number of downloads per country. Additionally, OAPEN has introduced a premium service for enhanced usage reporting as an option for interested members. The enhanced usage reporting contains details for each individual title and members can request additional reports, based on a selected time frame.

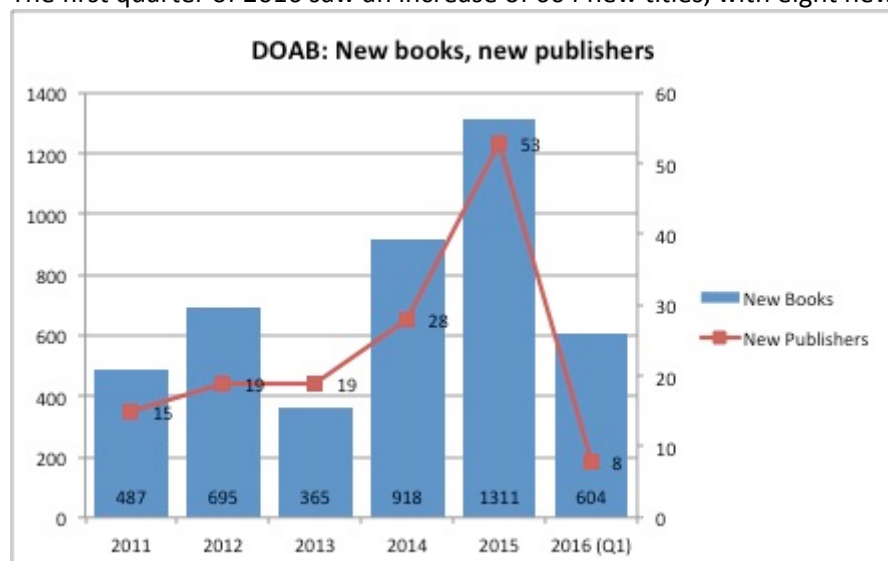
Directory of Open Access Books

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is a discovery service for peer-reviewed books published under an open access license. DOAB provides a searchable index to the information about these books, with links to the full texts of the publications at the publisher’s website or repository. The Directory of Open Access Books was officially launched on 1 July 2013.

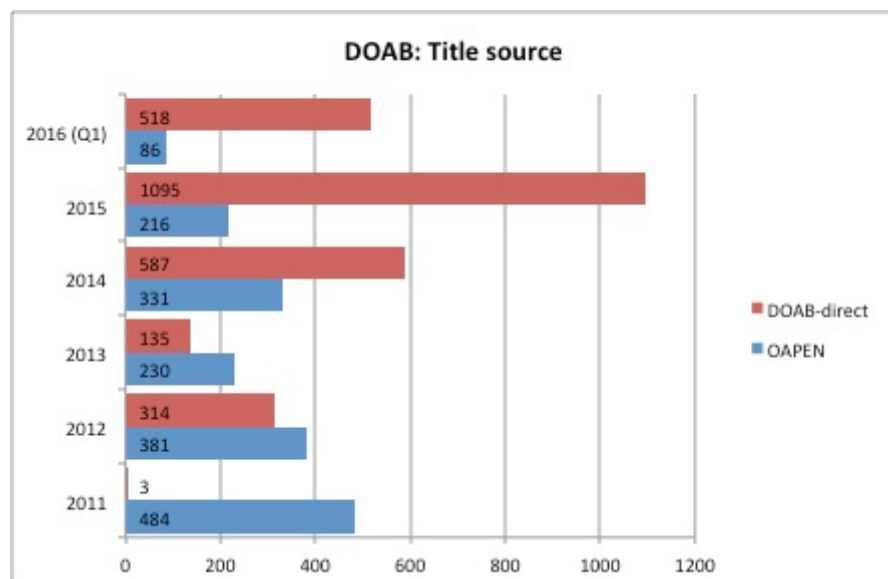
Publishers and the collection

In 2015, 1311 new titles were added to the Directory of Open Access Books, and 53 new publishers. The total number of titles listed by the end of 2015 was 3776.

The first quarter of 2016 saw an increase of 604 new titles, with eight new publishers joining DOAB.



The growth of titles in 2015 is predominantly caused by the autonomous growth of the DOAB service. While listings from the OAPEN Library contribute to the development, most titles are entered directly.



DOAB as usage enhancer

The Directory is proving to be a successful service to increase the usage of the books in the OAPEN Library. Apart from leading readers to the OAPEN website, this effect can also be measured by looking at the average downloads. The books that have been listed in DOAB are downloaded 512 times per year on average, compared to 252 times per year for books which are not listed: thus, books in DOAB are downloaded more than twice as much.

Partnership with OpenEdition

Since 2014, OpenEdition acts as a partner to support DOAB's activities. OpenEdition supports the aim of DOAB and its commitment to quality assurance of listed publishers and publications. OpenEdition has helped set-up a French version of the DOAB website. More in general, OpenEdition represents DOAB as a partner at events for the academic community and assists in developing our services for publishers and libraries.

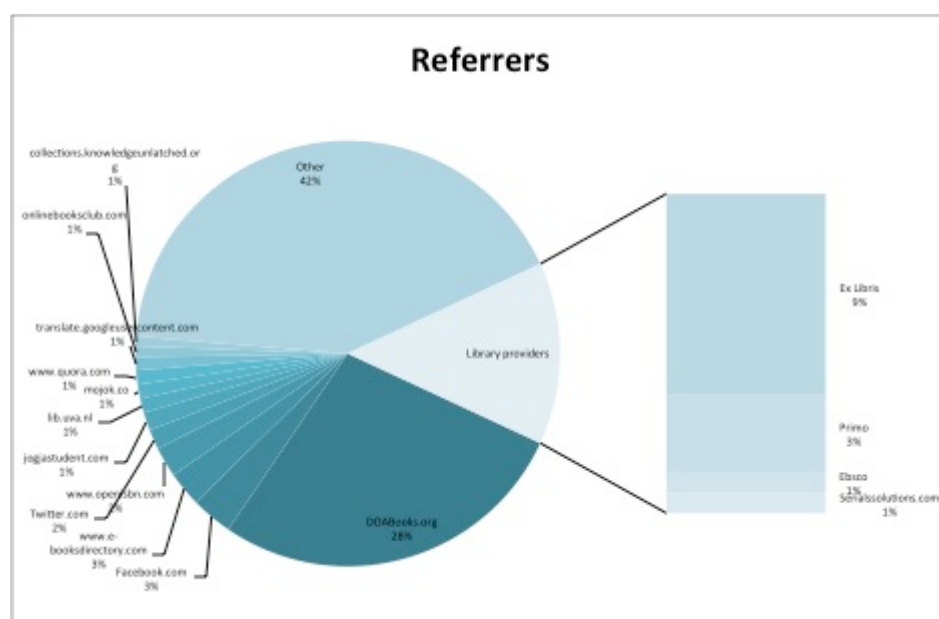
IFLA/Brill award

DOAB received the IFLA/Brill Open Access Award 2015 at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. The IFLA/Brill Open Access award is created to reward initiatives that facilitate and/or promote open access scholarly monographs in the humanities or social sciences. Winning the award can be and already has been deployed in marketing, acquisition, newsletters, and on social media to promote DOAB.

Open access dissemination

Digital dissemination is a central part of OAPEN’s services, based on metadata conversion and data exports for aggregators, intermediaries and libraries. OAPEN maintains daily data feeds in five formats to enable integration of the OAPEN collection into Library catalogues. Furthermore, to ensure maximum dissemination OAPEN works with a number of content aggregators and library suppliers, and enables integration in social media.

The chart below shows the results. It depicts the sources of traffic to the OAPEN website. Among the top referrers are the aggregators Primo Central (ExLibris), Serials Solutions (ProQuest) and EBSCO Discovery Service. We also see a lot of traffic via social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter and Quora.com. Furthermore, the traffic from E-booksdirectory.com and Openisbn.com is noteworthy: a sign that OAPEN’s reach is expanding beyond academia. However, the biggest single source of traffic is the Directory of Open Access Books.



eGranary Digital Library

The WiderNet Project is distributing the OAPEN Library via the eGranary Digital Library to serve people lacking internet access. The WiderNet Project is a non-profit organisation affiliated with the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill that promotes low-cost information and communication for underserved populations. The eGranary Digital Library, also known as "The Internet in a Box", is an off-line information repository that delivers over 32 million educational resources to people living in underserved areas of the world.

Isidore

[Isidore](#) is a search platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities developed by French research infrastructure [Huma-Num](#). Starting January 2015, Isidore enriches and indexes all books and metadata from OAPEN. The platform currently offers over three million digital resources in three different languages: French, English and Spanish.

Google Scholar

Until now, monographs were not indexed by Google Scholar, but thanks to the combined efforts of Anurag Acharya of Google Scholar and Frances Pinter of Knowledge Unlatched, the OAPEN Library is now indexed by Google Scholar.

Technical developments

OAPEN introduced a new feature for its publishers. It is now possible to deliver files and metadata for upload through CoreSource. CoreSource is a digital asset management and distribution service by Ingram. E-content and metadata are stored on their platform and publishers can use CoreSource to distribute files to business partners.

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) are essential in the standardisation of online identification of open access monographs. Therefore, it is now possible for publishers with books in OAPEN to add a DOI to their books' metadata. In doing this we want to adhere to best practice in open access book publishing, especially in the areas of impact measurement and digital preservation.

The Digital Production Centre of the University Library of the UvA, responsible for technical development and maintenance of the OAPEN platform, adjusted the system to enable indexing according to Google Scholar's requirements, and to make the OAPEN Library OpenAIRE compliant.

New projects

OAPEN is involved in several new projects, outlined below.

JISC Collections-OAPEN pilot project for centralised services for OA monographs

OAPEN is involved in a pilot project in partnership with Jisc Collections, to explore centralised pilot services with UK universities, aimed to support and encourage the publication of open access monographs. The project is carried out on co-design principles – to ensure it can meet the needs of universities and provide evidence of demand. It aims to set up and test central services, prioritising the following main functions:

- support quality assurance of OA books
- aggregation and deposit of OA books and chapters
- improve dissemination and discovery of OA books
- report about OA policies and usage

So far, the project resulted in two guides for OA monographs:

- Publisher information for OA book publishers: recommendations for information that open access book publishers should make available on their websites for the benefit of their stakeholders.
- Metadata for Open Access monographs: a metadata model for OA monographs.

OAPEN-CH

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) started the OAPEN-CH project in February 2015 in collaboration with interested academic publishers in Switzerland and a few other countries. The OAPEN-CH project's aim is to learn more about open access publishing and collect data on the use and the production costs of open access book publications. The goal is to contribute towards a better understanding and higher acceptance of open access for book publications and its benefits. The first call for submissions was issued in February. The results of the OAPEN-CH pilot study will be communicated at the end of 2017.

OAPEN-ERC

The ERC Work Programme 2015 specifically addresses open access to the published output of research. Under Horizon 2020, beneficiaries of ERC grants must ensure OA to all peer-reviewed publications relating to its results. This requirement includes monographs.

OAPEN was awarded a small grant to develop and implement the deposit service for OA monographs and monograph chapters resulting from ERC funded research. OAPEN-ERC will collect, host, and provide access to the books and book chapters resulting from ERC funded research in order to maximise dissemination and scientific and societal impact.

Promoting OAPEN and raising awareness for open access monographs

An important part of OAPEN's activities has to do with promoting open access as a publishing model for monographs and promoting OAPEN as a dedicated platform for OA books. This was mainly done through flyers, regular newsletters, taking part in book fairs and talking at conferences. This year more attention was given to social media.

Book fairs

OAPEN was present at the London International Book Fair (April) and the Frankfurt Book Fair (October). OAPEN represented both OAPEN and DOAB.

Conferences

OAPEN was invited to give talks and presentations at several conferences. A selection is given below:

- Open Access: Managing the process, ARMA conference, 2-3 June, Brighton
- CERN Workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI9), 17-19 June, Geneva
- New models for libraries, LIBER conference, 25 July, London
- NSPF-ASSAf Workshop on OA monographs, 24 August, Johannesburg
- Informatie aan Zee 2015, VVBAD, 17-18 September, Oostende
- E-books for today and tomorrow, UKSG conference, 17 November, London
- Workshop OAPEN-CH, SNSF, 26 November, Bern

The paper 'Working towards Open Access for Monographs - A pilot with Jisc / UK universities' at the LIBER conference received one of the LIBER innovation awards, presented by OCLC.

Articles

Ronald Snijder wrote two articles based on OAPEN research data that were published in 2015:

- Better Sharing Through Licenses? Measuring the Influence of Creative Commons Licenses on the Usage of Open Access Monographs, Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication (2015-03-10) <http://dx.doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.1187>
- Evaluating the Impact of the FWF-E-Book-Library Collection in the OAPEN Library: An Analysis of the 2014 Download Data, D-Lib Magazine (2015-07-15) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1045/july2015-snijder>

Appendix 1: Larger OA Publishers in DOAB

Publishers with 20+ OA books	Number of books (16-03-2016)
Academia Press	26
Amsterdam University Press	232
ANU Press	388
Athabasca University Press	93
Bloomsbury Academic	131
Böhlau	172
Brill	184
Central European University Press	38
CNRS Éditions	47
Collège de France	102
De Gruyter	276
EDP SCIENCES	25
ENS Éditions	46
Firenze University Press	89
Frontiers Media SA	354
Institute for Local Self-Government and Public Procurement Maribor	25
Language Science Press	23
Ledizioni - LediPublishing	66
Manchester University Press	94
MDPI AG - Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute	53
Newfound Press	45
Open Book Publishers	73
Open Humanities Press	24
Oxford University Press	20
Palgrave Macmillan	30
Presses de l'Ifpo	123
punctum books	113
SciELO Books - Centro Edelstein	114

Publishers with 20+ OA books	Number of books (16-03-2016)
SciELO Books - Editora FIOCRUZ	88
SciELO Books - Editora UNESP	97
SciELO Books - EDUEPB	30
SciELO Books - EDUFBA	77
Springer-Verlag GmbH	77
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Figuerola Institute of Social Science History	81
Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Educación	26
Universitätsverlag Göttingen	209
University of Adelaide Press	52
University of Calgary Press	70
University of Michigan Press	30
Utah State University, University Libraries	97
Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften	24
Total	3964
Total Number of Books in DOAB	4380

Appendix 2: New publishers in OAPEN

Publisher	Year of entry
AOSIS	2015
Boydell & Brewer	2015
Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press	2015
Editions de Linguistique et de Philologie	2015
Editions IES	2015
Editorial José Martí	2015
EDP SCIENCES	2015
Guilford Press	2015
Hart Publishing	2015
IWA Publishing	2015
Jan Sramek Verlag	2015
John Benjamins Publishing Company	2015
jovis Verlag	2015
Konstanz University Press	2015
Language Science Press	2015
Librairie Droz	2015
LIT Verlag GmbH & Co. KG	2015
Nomos	2015
Orient Blackswan	2015
Oxford University Press	2015
Phoibos Verlag	2015
Pickering & Chatto Publishers	2015
Primus Verlag	2015
R. Valent	2015
Schwabe Verlag	2015
Seismo	2015
Stockholm University Press	2015
Tampere University Press	2015
transcript Verlag	2015
Turia und Kant	2015
Ubiquity Press	2015
UCL Press	2015
University of Adelaide Press	2015
University of Ottawa Press / Les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa	2015
Verlag Österreich GmbH	2015
Vittorio Klostermann GmbH	2015
Zaglossus	2015
Editions Alphil Presses universitaires suisses	2016
FrancoAngeli	2016
Naturhistorisches Museum Wien	2016
San Paolo – Gregorian & Biblical Press	2016
University of California Press	2016
University of Toronto Press	2016

Publisher	Year of entry
University Press of Colorado	2016
Yale University Press	2016