



# **The Road Less Travelled:** Models for Transitioning Books to OA

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 **CEU PRESS**

# Agenda

Introduction to OA Books

CEU Press– *Opening the Future*

What's next

COPIM

# Snapshot of OA book world



602 publishers

36,947 books

DOAJ

100 publishers

16,172 journals,

5,890,831 articles

OA books market has many smaller players with publications in multiple languages, across a broad spectrum of subject areas

# OA book policies & mandates

- Few operating at a global level
- Some coordinated, nation-wide approaches
- Other mandates from individual institutions

## Issues arising around policies and books

- There is limited funding in HSS
- BPC model does not work well for all HSS
- HSS has a diverse content set
- R&P models only work for large publishers



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



Research  
Council of  
Lithuania



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
SCIENCE AND SPORT



# OA book funding

3 main sources of funding for OA books:

- Funding from research grants
- Institutional budget funds
- Crowdfunding from library budgets

Many business models being tested out  
for publishing OA books.  
No dominant model!

# Central European University Press

Traditional publishing  
model, changing rapidly  
post pandemic:  
aiming to be mostly  
OA for monographs

nearly  
**30**  
years  
old

**450**  
backlist titles

# Central European University Press

**279**

titles made  
open  
on Project  
MUSE

March-June 2020

downloaded  
**350,000**  
times, from  
**129**  
countries

**7**

of the top 10  
downloads  
were over

**10**

years old



# Central European University Press



Aiming to publish 25  
new monographs per  
year in OA format and  
with open licences

Existing  
University  
Presses

Combines  
membership  
& subscription  
models

Funds the  
OA frontlist..

..from backlist  
subscription

With &  
without OA  
budgets

Dynamic  
scaling



# OPENING

THE FUTURE

# subscription elements key points



- Unlimited access, DRM free for the duration of membership
- After 3 years, libraries own the backlist package in perpetuity
- No hidden fees, packages won't suddenly change
- 50 books - libraries choose from 4 packages
- Libraries can also support the OA frontlist without subscribing



# What libraries get



50

Each subscription includes 50 backlist titles

4

Choice of 4 packages - each with 50 backlist titles in each

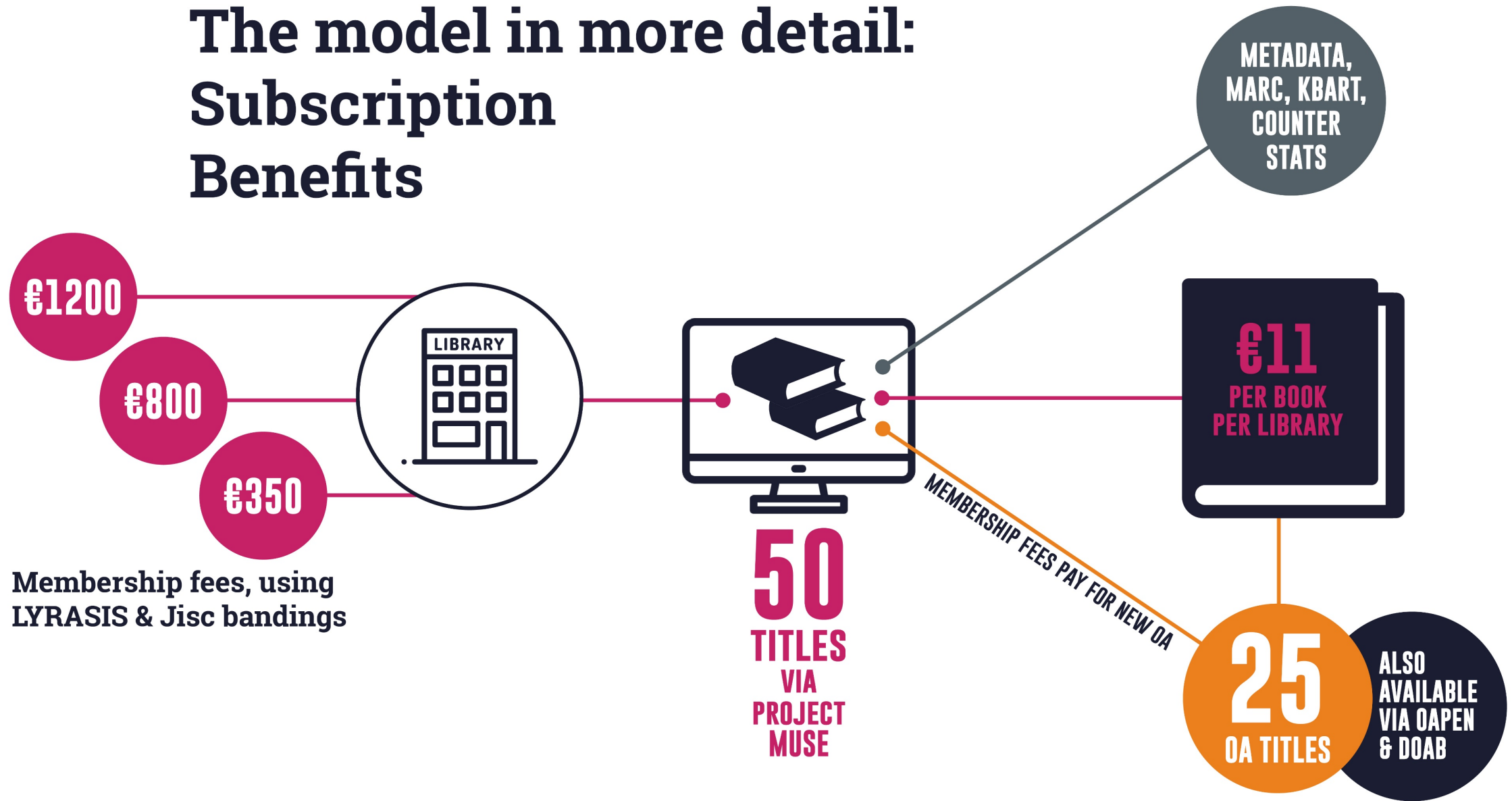
3

Membership is for 3 years, after which access is perpetual at no extra cost



Membership fees go towards enabling an OA frontlist

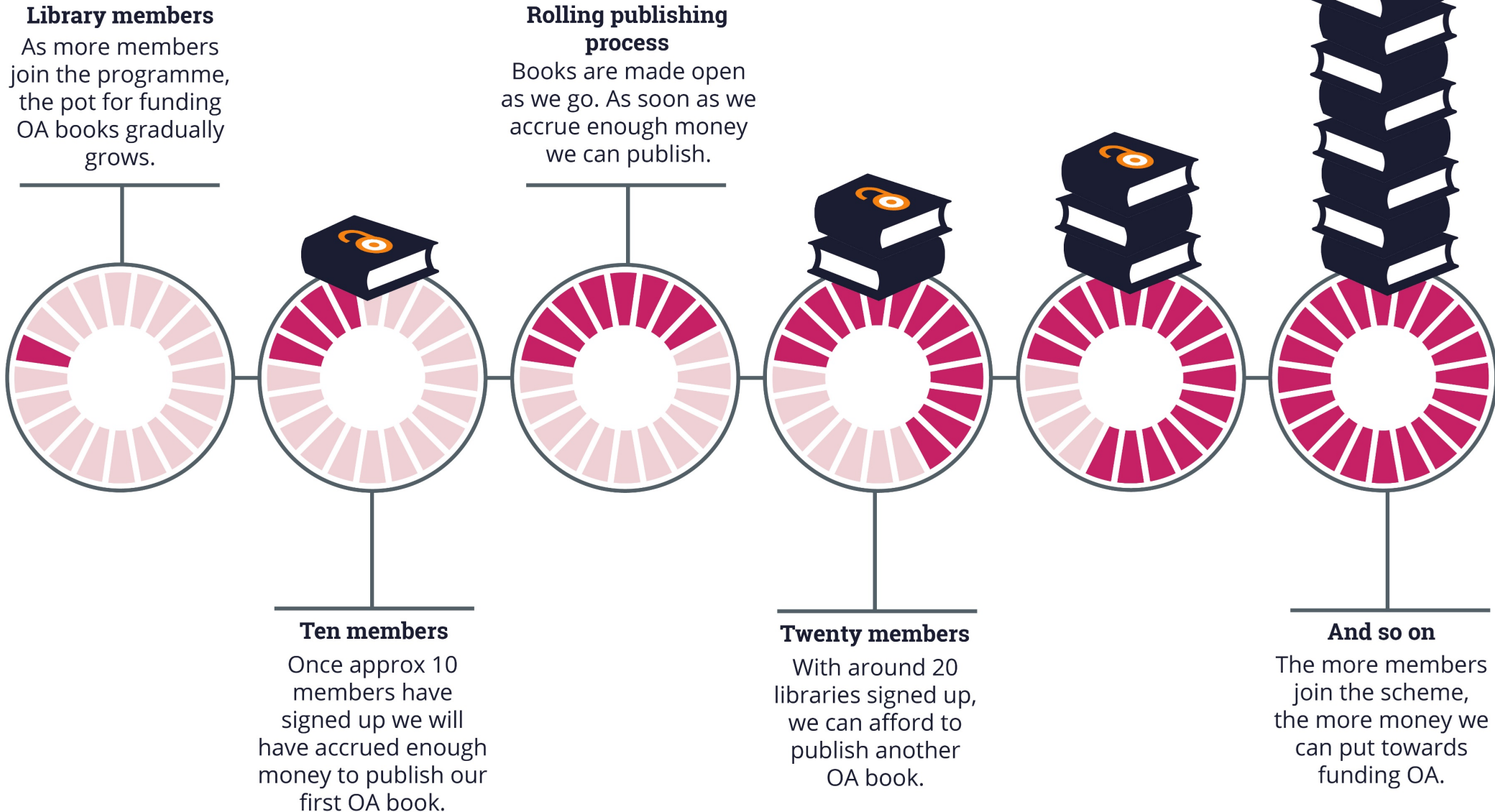
# The model in more detail: Subscription Benefits



**Note:** cost modelling is based on 250 subscriptions averaging €800 each. €11 per book is calculated on basis of 50 books by subscription + 25 OA books per year.

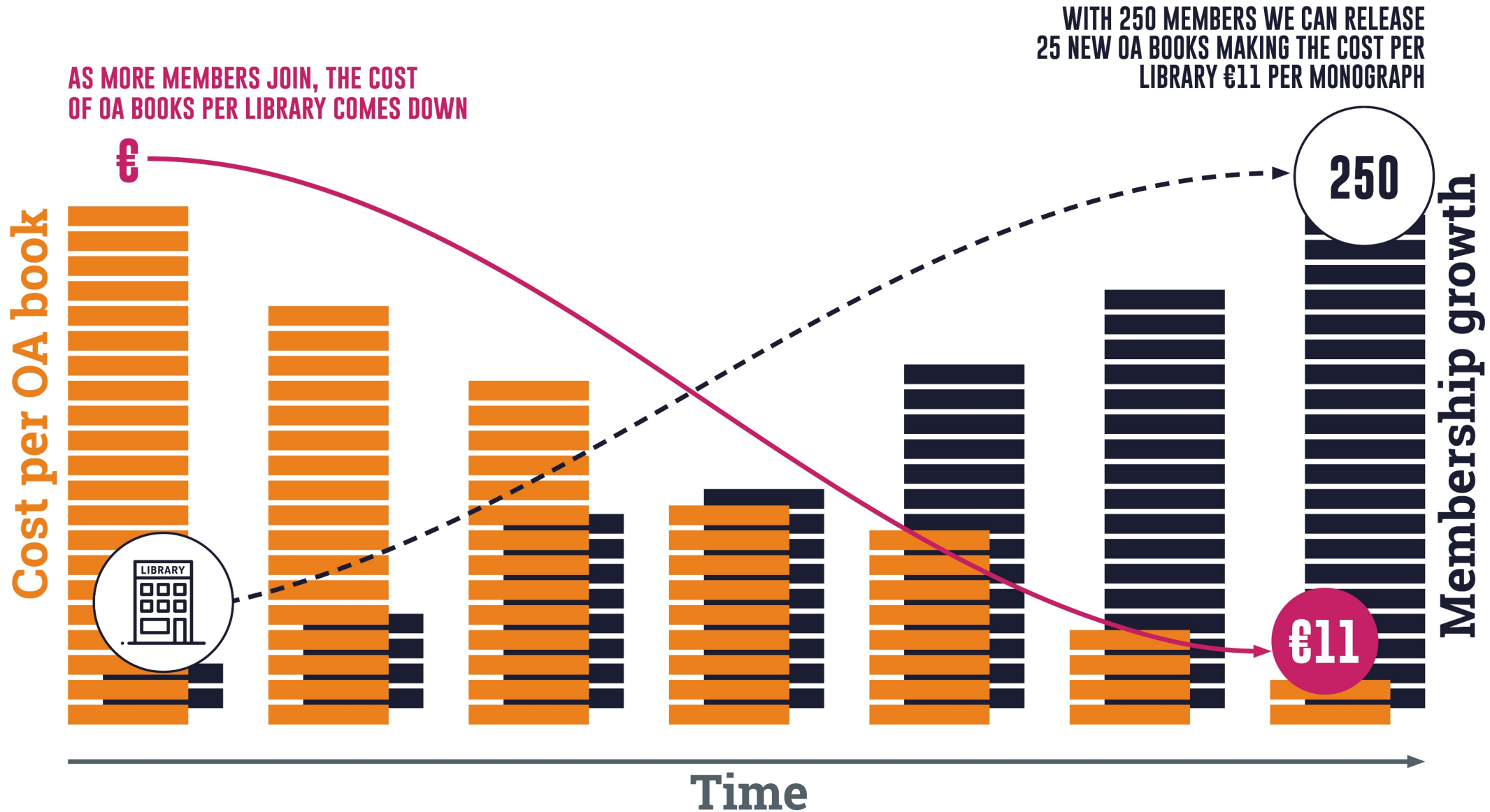


# The future is OA



**Note:** cost modelling is based on 250 subscriptions averaging €800 each. €11 per book is calculated on basis of 50 books by subscription + 25 OA books per year.

# As members go up, costs come down



**Note:** cost modelling is based on 250 subscriptions averaging €800 each. €11 per book is calculated on basis of 50 books by subscription + 25 OA books per year.

# Value for money

Our highest membership fee  
for one year's access to 50  
titles is equal to half a single  
journal APC!



# Opening the Future in a nutshell

**Library subscribes to package of non-OA books offered by publisher**

choice of three different packages, each containing 50 backlist books



Package access is available to subscribing library only

**Publisher makes backlist package of non-OA books available to members only**

package is available only to members - with perpetual access granted to that library after three years



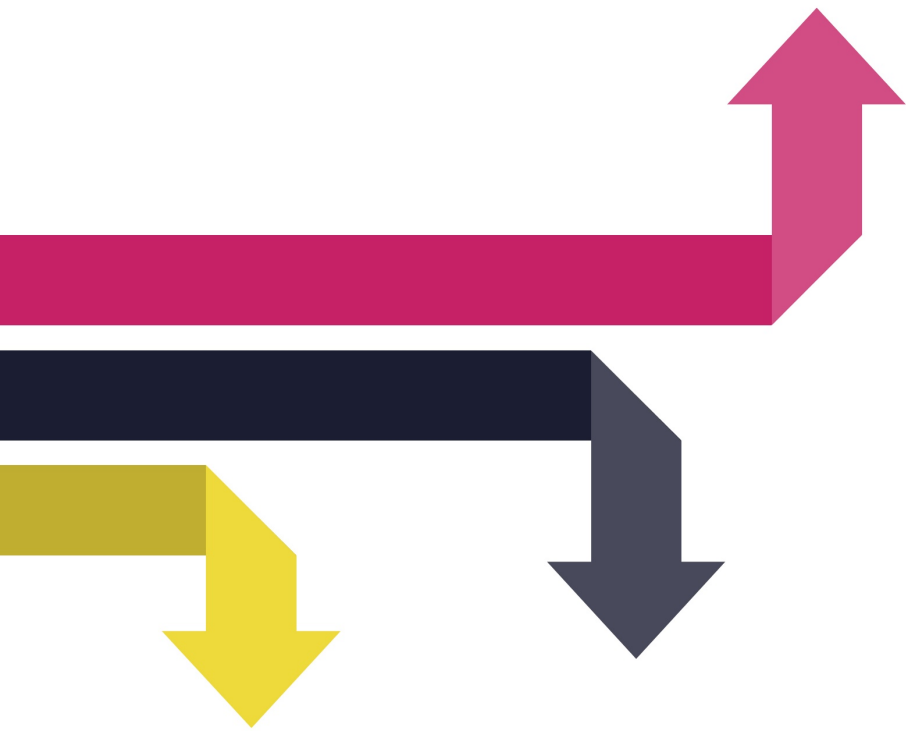
Books in the subscription package remain non-OA

**Publisher uses subscription money to publish new OA books**

membership fees are used to produce new books that are then made freely available to anyone



OA books are available to everyone



## **Three strata**

Opening the Future,  
MIT and  
other library  
subscription  
models

### **Large, well-funded academic presses**

MIT's D2O has a subscription threshold  
before OA titles can be released

### **Small/medium-sized academic presses**


Low risk, no threshold models  
like Opening the Future

### **Scholar-led born OA presses**

Open collectives working together  
to provide combined offers



# What Next?

- We need creative solutions to dealing with large number of small presses
  - Concentrate on reducing workflow burdens through standardising processes
  - Support efforts at improving discoverability, visibility and access
  - Reduce costs by streamlining aggregated backroom services
  - Demonstrate the financial benefits of the OA route
  - Find ways to 'flip' library acquisitions budgets to support OA books
  - Carry out evaluations of new models
- 

# £3m

Research England & Arcadia



## International partnership

Libraries

Universities

OA book publishers

Researchers

Infrastructure providers

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<https://openingthefuture.net>