



Multilingualism and Community Governance: Infrastructural Imperatives on the HSS Commons

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INKE

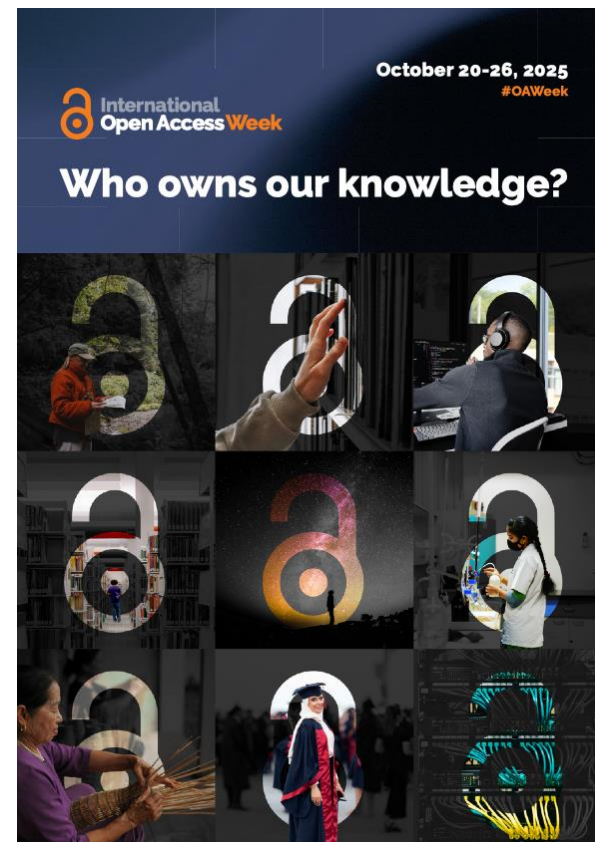
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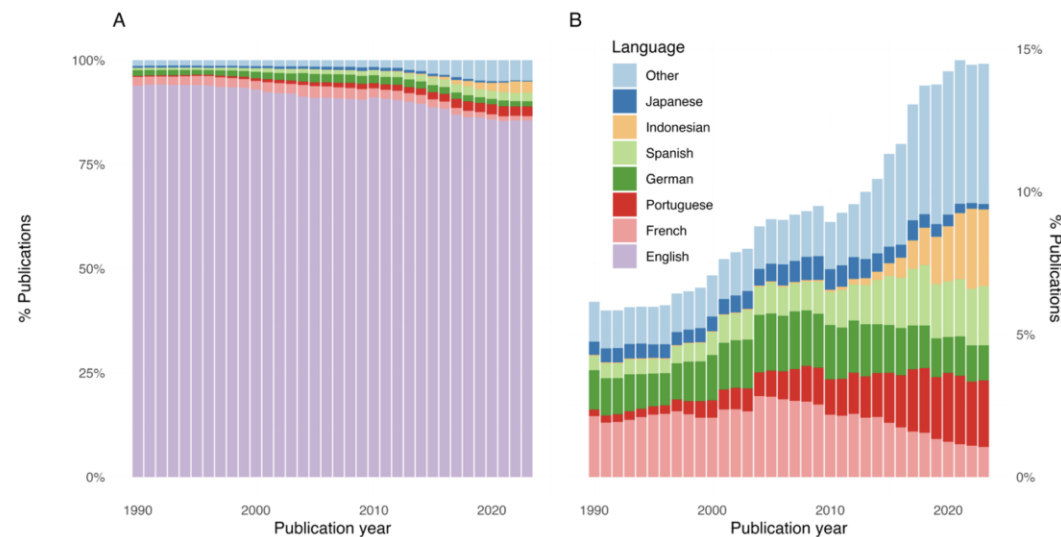
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Community Governance

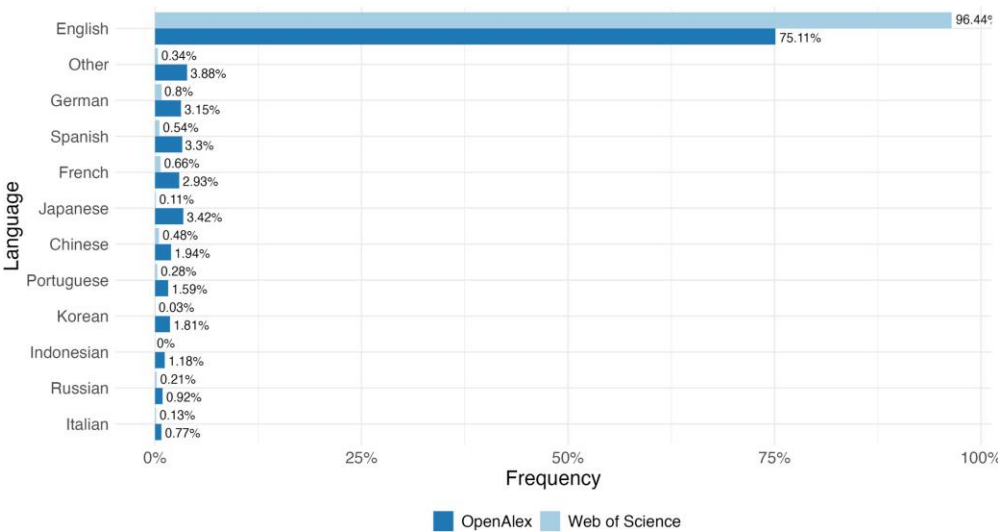


Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication



Percentage of articles indexed in Dimensions by language

(Pradier et al., 2025)



Percentage of articles indexed in OpenAlex by language

(Céspedes et al., 2025)



Monolingual Research Infrastructure

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Category	Count
Publications	159m
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Patents	170m
Grants	7.9m
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Datasets	42m
Altmetric data points	280m

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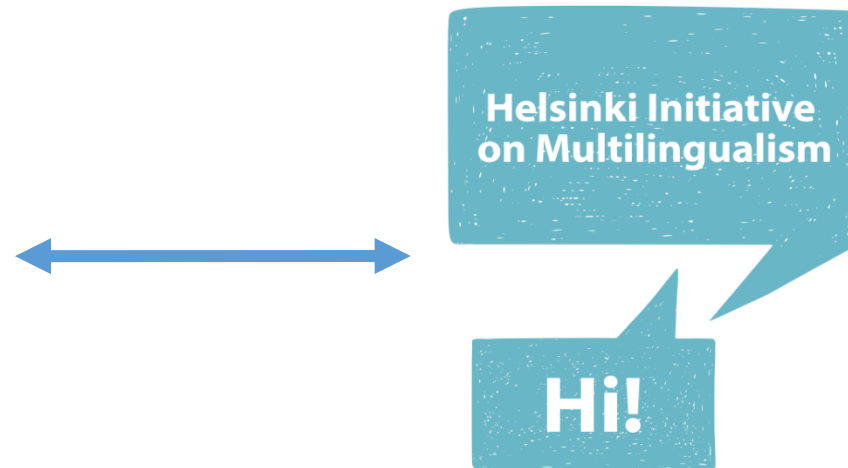
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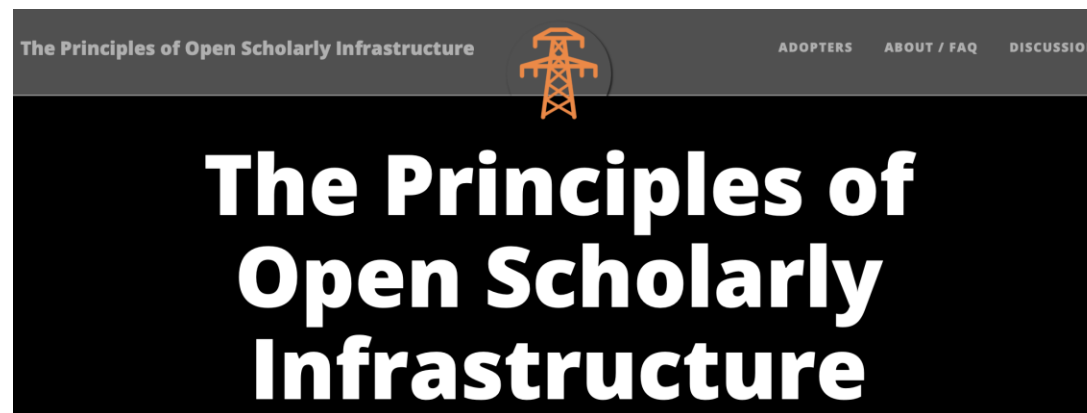
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#InAllLanguages



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Multilingualism as Infrastructural Imperative: Language Diversity in Digital Knowledge Commons [[es](#)] [[pt](#)]

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.63744/cdnak973twq>

Abstract

Multilingualism has been gaining importance in the digital humanities and scholarly communication, but the infrastructure used to disseminate scholarship has mostly remained in English. Monolingual research infrastructure creates a language barrier for non-Anglophone speakers to access scholarly outputs and reinforces the idea that English is the only legitimate language for disseminating scholarship. Drawing from the debates on multilingual DH and scholarly publishing, we argue that any digital research infrastructure purporting to support knowledge diversity across disciplinary and national contexts must actively work to provide tools to facilitate, publish, and promote research in languages other than English. To show how multilingualism can guide infrastructure development and foster connections with diverse audiences, we describe the translation process of the interface of a research infrastructure, the Humanities and Social Sciences Commons, into four languages: French, Spanish, Bangla, and Portuguese.

What is the Canadian HSS Commons?

An open online space where humanities and social sciences researchers and stakeholders can gather to share information and resources, make connections, and build community



To sign up for a free account or learn more, please visit hsscommons.ca.



Key Features

- Canadian servers / digital research infrastructure
- User profiles, with Single Sign-On through ORCID / Canadian Access Federation
- Subject repository for OA resources (assigns DOIs, follows FAIR guidelines)
- Research-sharing, communication, and management tools:
 - E.g., interest groups, collections, blogs, discussion forums, member-to-member messaging, Q&As, site-wide calendar, and more



Community Governance

ACADEMIA

ResearchGate

 HSS COMMONS

<i>Coverage across the scholarly enterprise</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Stakeholder governed</i>	✗	✗	✓
<i>Non-discriminatory participation or membership</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Transparent governance</i>	✗	✗	✓
<i>Living will</i>	✗	✗	✓
<i>Regular review of purpose and community value</i>	?	?	✓



Thank you!

Please feel free to get in touch with any comments or questions:

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