SHERPA-RoMEO

Introduction

Sherpa RoMEO is a service run by SHERPA (Securing a Hybrid Environment for Research Preservation and Access) to show academic journals' copyright and open-access self-archiving policies. It is a European-based online resource (https://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/) that aggregates and presents publisher and journal open-access policies worldwide. Sherpa's most notable service is RoMEO, which is a database aggregating publisher archiving policies that allow researchers quick access to copyright and self-archiving policies of more than 25,000 global publishers.

RoMEO is an acronym for Rights MEtadata for Open Archiving. The database used a color-coding scheme to classify publishers according to their self-archiving policy. Every registered publisher or journal held in Romeo is carefully reviewed and analyzed by a specialist team that provides summaries of self-archiving permissions and conditions of rights given to authors on a journal-by-journal basis where possible.

The policy information provided through this service primarily aims to serve the academic research community. Since the service launched over 15 years ago, publisher policies and the open access sector have greatly changed. Open access policy can be complex and varies according to geographical

location, the institution, and the various routes to open access — all of which affect how and where you can publish your research.
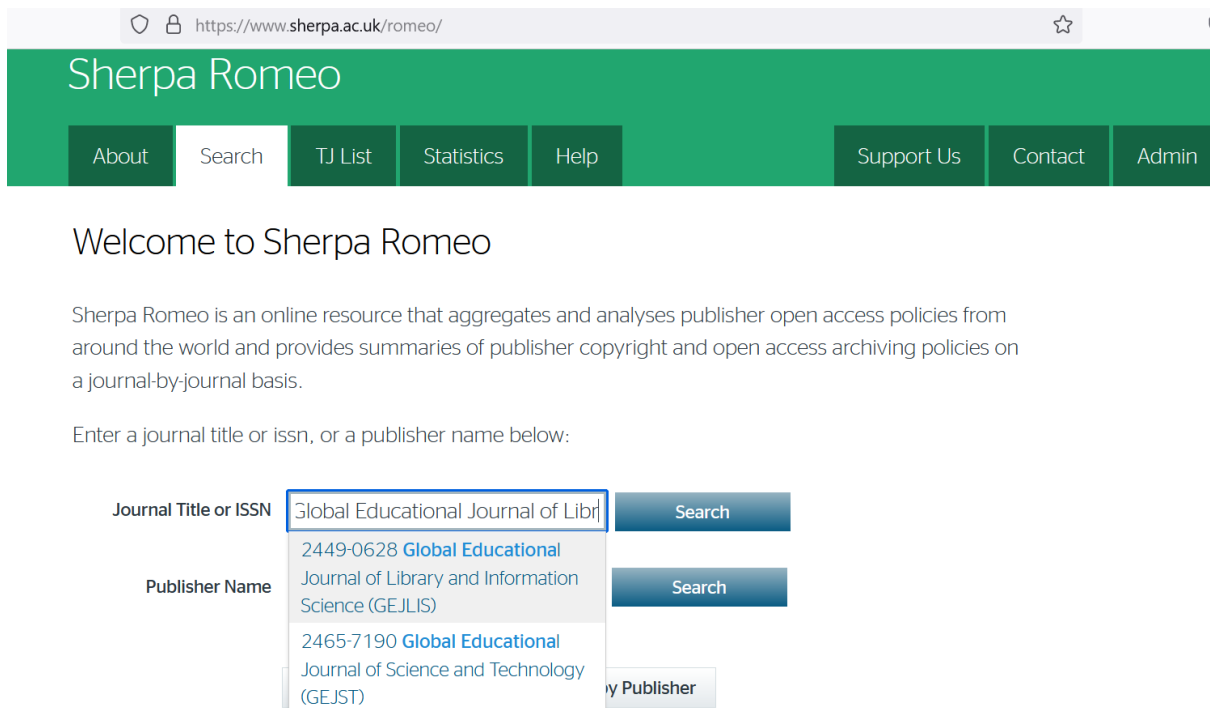
Need of Sherpa and Romeo

Authors, at times, find it difficult to self-archive due to some apprehensions about publishers' policies. This is why Sherpa Romeo exists - to offer a list of publisher permissions policies with respect to self-archiving. If an academic author wants to put their research articles online, they are faced with an increasingly complex situation. Evidence shows that citations to articles made openly accessible in this way are taken up and cited more often than research that is simply published in journals. Also, some funding agencies require Open Access archiving for their research, to increase the use of the information generated.

However, some publishers prohibit authors from using their articles in this way. Others allow it, but only under certain conditions, while others are quite happy for authors to show their work in this way. Authors can be left confused. Thus, RoMEO helps to clarify the situation. RoMEO contains publishers' general policies on self-archiving of journal articles and certain conference series. Each entry provides a summary of the publisher's policy, including what version of an article can be deposited, where it can be deposited, and any conditions that are attached to that deposit.

Publishing Policies of Publishers (Search by Journal Title or ISSN)

To get the details of the publication information, publisher policy, and record information, you need to enter a journal title or ISSN, or a publisher name or the name of the journal in the search box of the Sherpa Romeo website https://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo (Figure-1).

For instance, to know the publishing policies of the journal "Global Educational Journal of Library and Information Science", you need to type the journal title or ISSN in the search box and click on the search option. You will get details of *Publication information, Publisher's policy, Embargo, License,* etc.,

Figure 1: Sherpa Romeo's home page

Publication Information

The journal's publishing information includes the title, ISSN, URL, and the name of the publisher. The details are shown in Figure 2

Global Educational Journal of Library and Information Science

⌃ Publication Information	
Title	Global Educational Journal of Library and Information Science (GEJLIS) [English]
ISSNs	Electronic: 2449-0628
URL	https://www.globalscienceresearchjournals.org/library-information-science.html
Publishers	Global Science Research Journals [Commercial Publisher]

Figure 2: Publication information of the journal

Publishers Policy

The open-access pathways permitted by the journal policy are listed (Figure 3). This includes OA publishing details, Embargo, Licence, copyright owner, location, conditions, accepted version and submitted version.

Figure 3: Publishers Policy of the journal

Embargo

In the context of Open Access, an embargo is a restriction on public access to an accepted manuscript either until or beyond the publication date. Publishers can require two different types of embargoes: publication embargoes and press embargoes. It can be seen from Figure 3 that the "*Global Educational Journal of Library and Information Science*" has no Emagro. This means that there is no restriction on public access to an accepted manuscript either until or beyond the publication date

Publication embargo

These are applied to the full texts in a repository such as CentAUR. Most publishers require the AAM (Author Accepted Manuscript) to be embargoed

until the publication of the VoR (Version of Record) or beyond. Embargo periods vary but are typically 6-12 months after publication.

Press embargo

Press or news embargoes are restrictions for the benefit of press and media outlets. After acceptance, the final versions of papers are restricted from public view but are released to the press so that journalists have an opportunity to prepare high-quality press releases before general discussion by the media. Publication of both the press releases and the journal article coincide at which point the press embargo no longer applies. Press embargoes are not intended to restrict discussion and sharing between researchers but they do often appear at odds with institutional repository policies requiring deposit on acceptance.

License

Licenses are permissions given by the copyright holder for their content. Licenses can be applied to copyrighted material to permit certain uses of the material. Copyright is still held by the creator in these cases, but the creator has decided to allow others to use their work. Sometimes licenses are purchased and sometimes they are given freely by the creator. Licenses can be applied to allow reuse, redistribution, derivative works, and commercial use.