



KNOWLEDGE

Researchers' voice on open access

Introduction and research methods

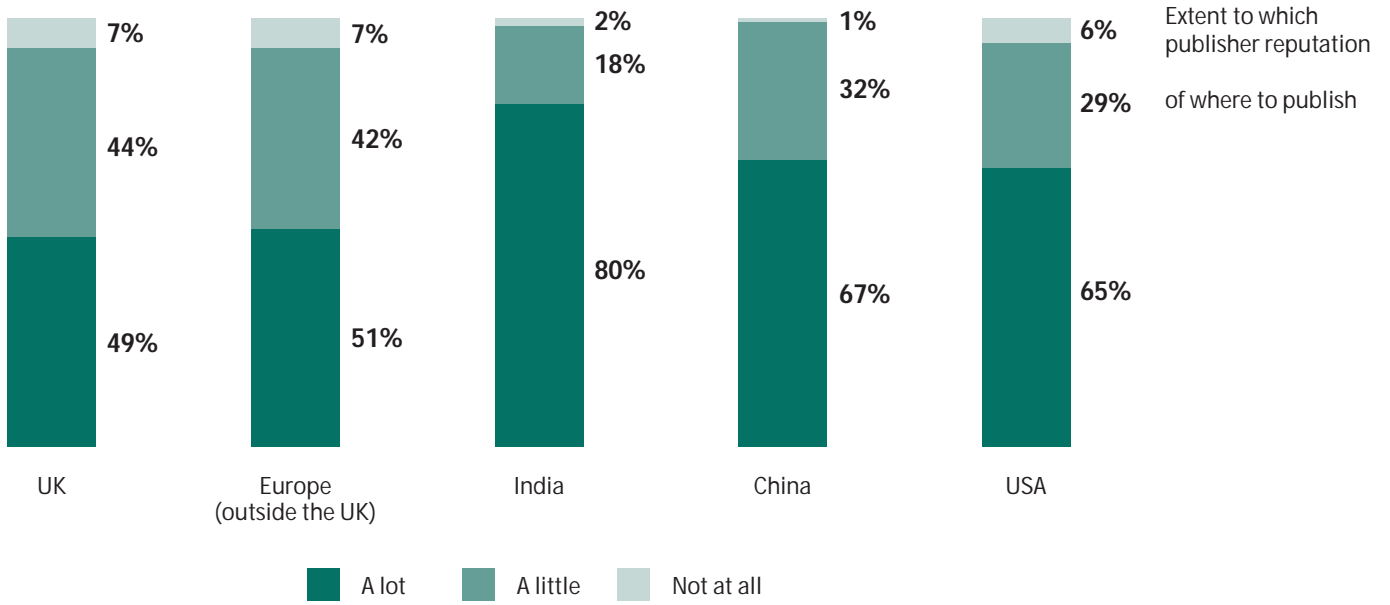
The Royal Society of Chemistry wants to give chemical sciences researchers a strong voice in the global conversation about open access.

As part of our work to do this, we commissioned a survey of chemical science researchers to

-
-

1. Open access options are currently bottom of

2. The importance of publisher reputation and speed of publishing varies by region



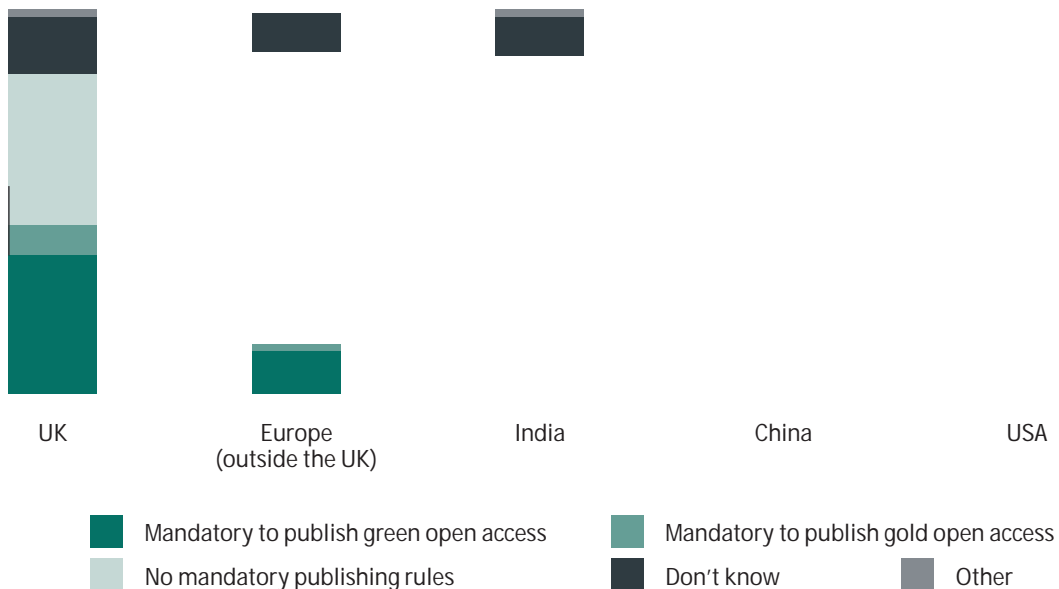
3. Nearly of third_of_chemi_researcher_from
India_also_incur_no APC_

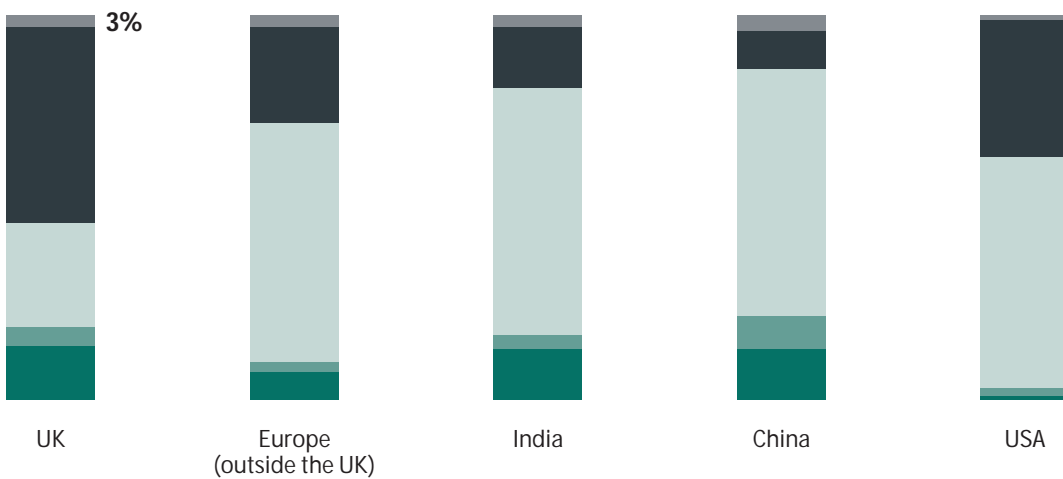
Q: Who funds any article processing charges (APCs) you incur? [Tick all that apply] your funding body

4. There is wide regional variation, and apparent confusion, in how researchers perceive the mandatory open access requirements

Respondents reported a wide range of answers for the open access mandates their research is subject to. In many cases, more than one type of mandate was reported, and more than mandated.

Q: How do the following organisations mandate how your research must be published? Mandatory to publish Green open access / Mandatory to publish Gold open access / No mandatory publishing rules / Don't know; Your institution / Your funding body / Your national government / Other





- Mandatory to publish green open access
- Mandatory to publish gold open access
- No mandatory publishing rules
- Don't know
- Other

5. Younger researchers are more likely to do more to drive a transition open access

While there was little regional variation in how people believe their peers are driving a transition towards open

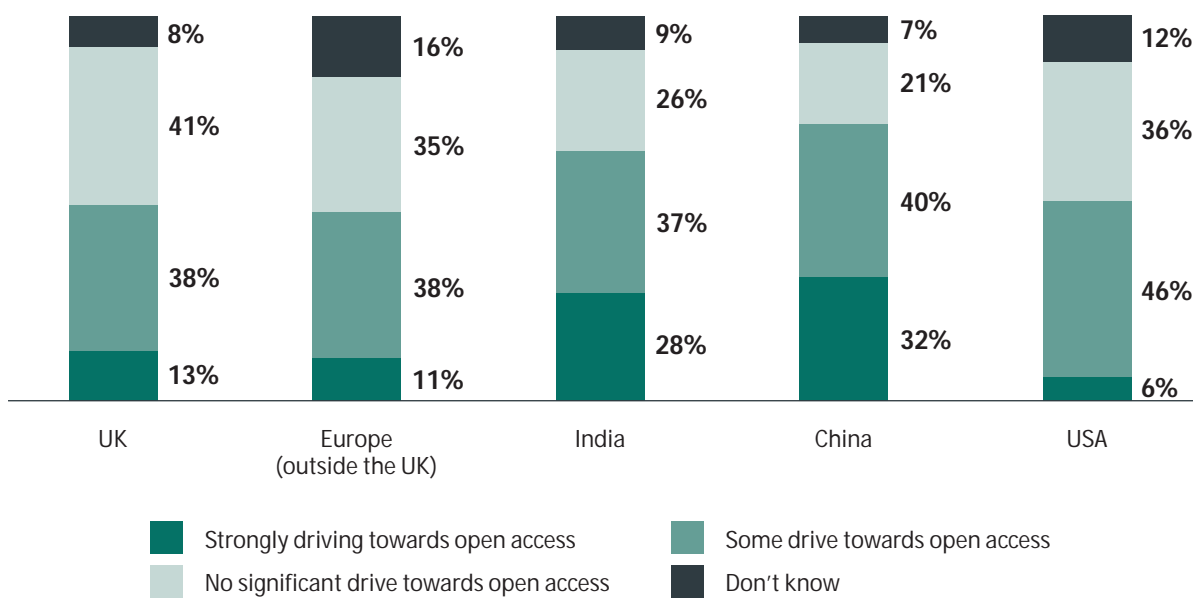


To what extent do you feel your peers are currently driving a transition towards open access publishing?

Base: 26-34 n=559; 35-44 n=294; 45-54 n=150; 55-64 n=102

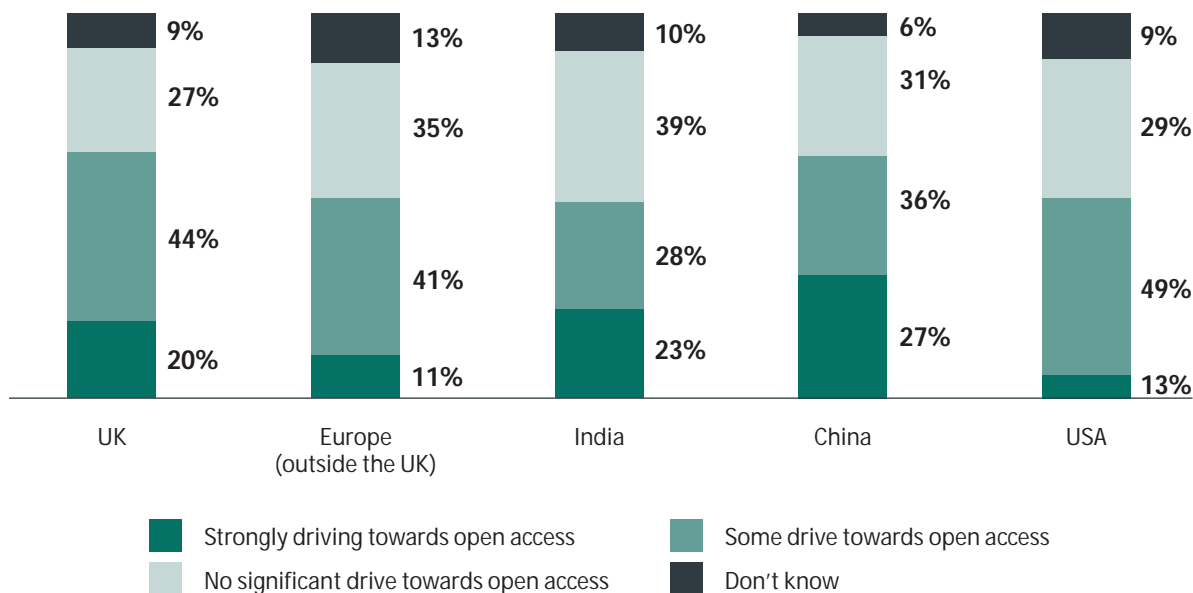
6. Perception of range of current drivers of a transition to open access, by region

to open access. Chinese and Indian researchers said publishers and learned societies / professional bodies driving the transition most strongly.



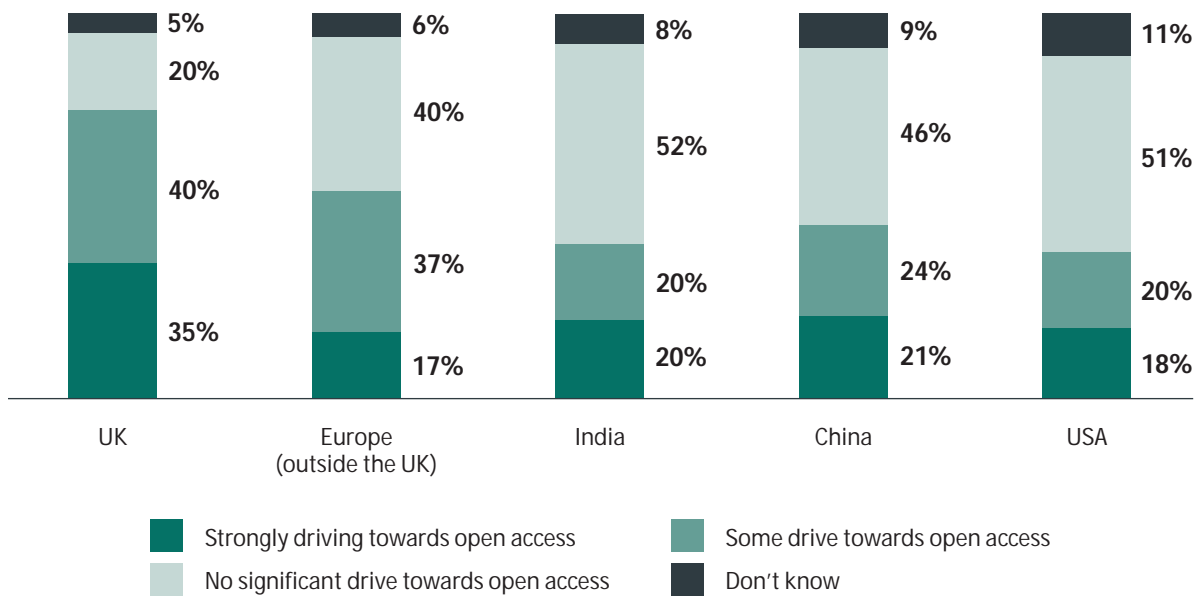
To what extent do you feel your **publishers** are driving the transition to open access?

Base: UK n=198; Europe n=336; India n=442; China n=90; USA n=165

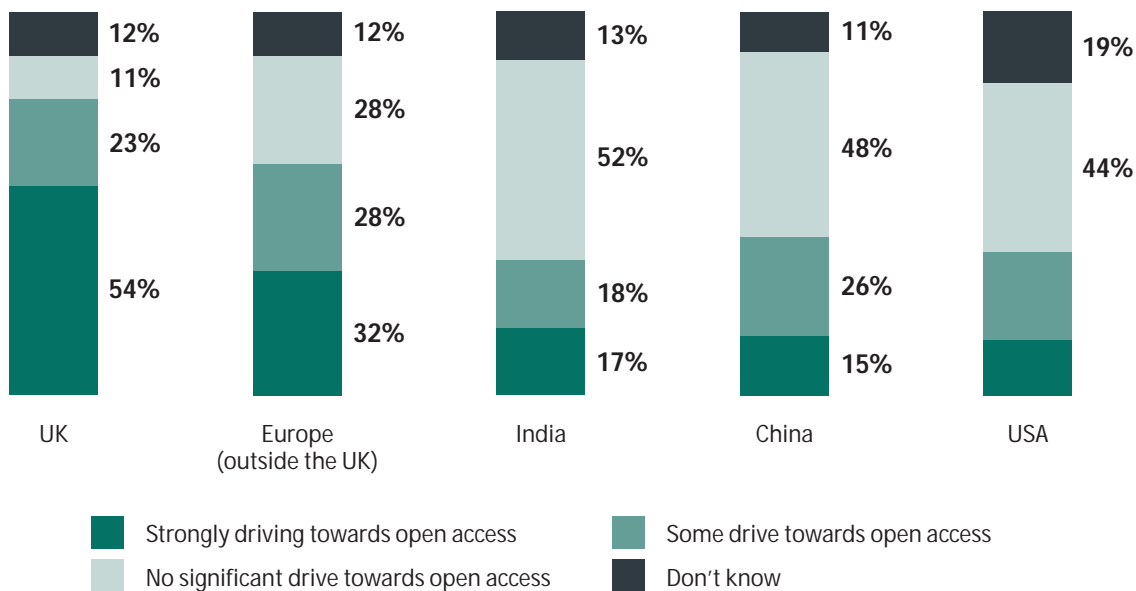


To what extent do you feel your **society/professional body** is driving the transition to open access?

Base: UK n=199; Europe n=334; India n=441; China n=90; USA n=164

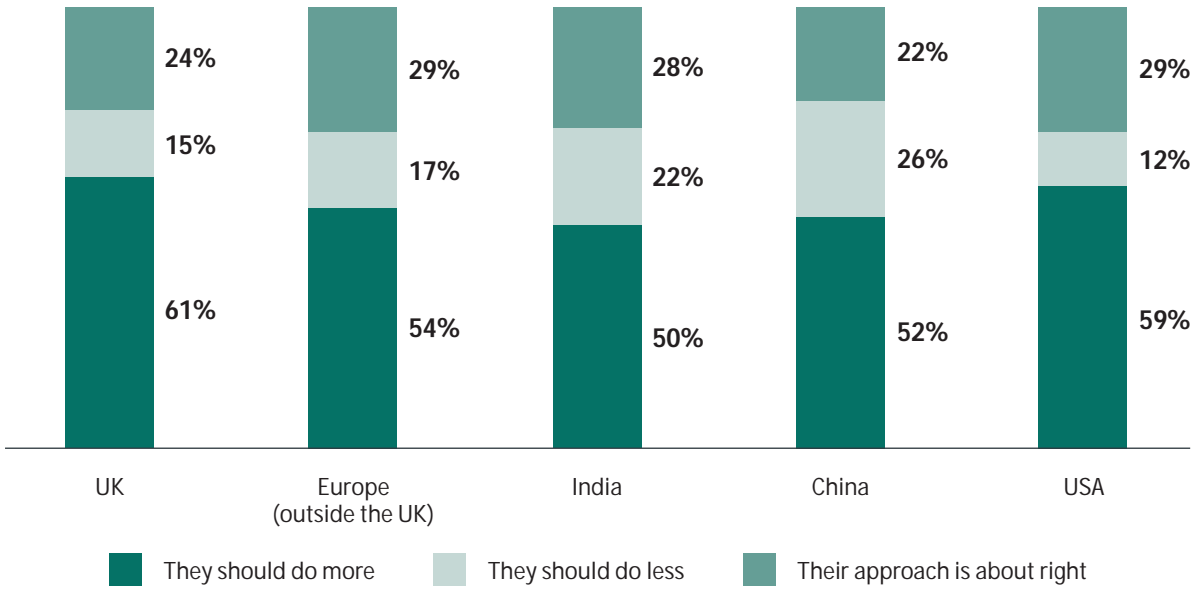


Base: UK n=201; Europe n=337; India n=444; China n=87; USA n=164



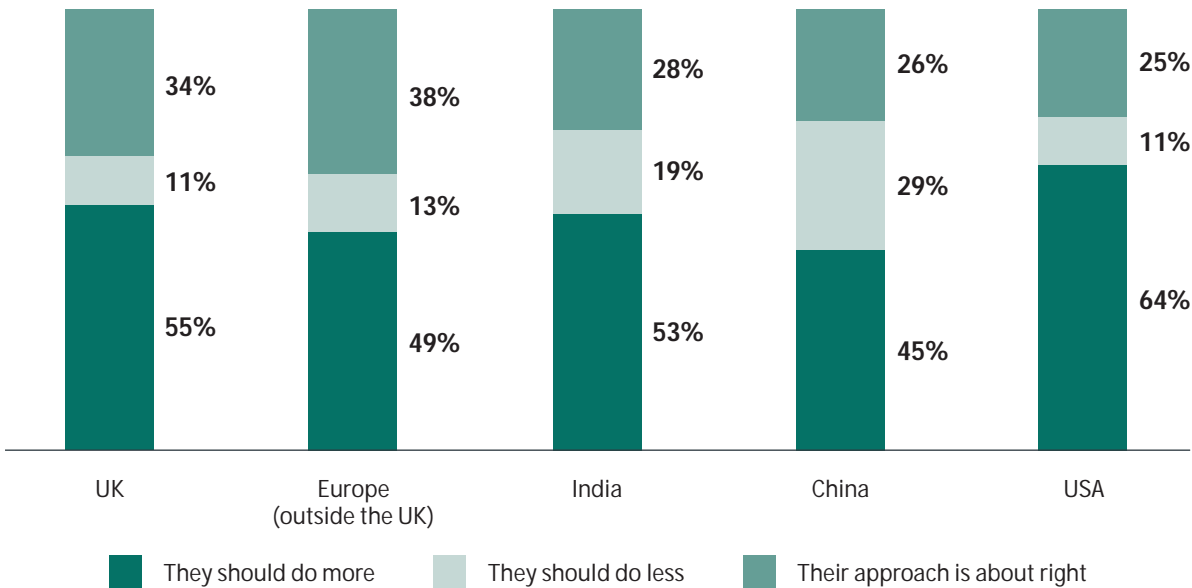
7. There is a strong desire for organisations to do more to drive OA

Researchers in the US were least likely to say their institutions and funders were strongly driving a transition to open access, and most likely to say those groups should be doing more.



To what extent do you feel your **publishers** ought to be driving the transition towards open access?

Base: UK n=199; Europe n=334; India n=434; China n=91; USA n=163



To what extent do you feel your **society/professional body** should be driving the transition to open access?

Base: UK n=200; Europe n=331; India n=425; China n=90; USA n=162

Base: UK n=200; Europe n=332; India n=425; China n=89; USA n=163

8. There is an opportunity overall of the impact of a global drive towards open access

across all areas than mid-career and established career researchers.

Q: What impact do you think a global drive towards open access publishing in the chemical sciences would have on the following?

9. Researchers in the UK and Europe respond more negatively to a scenario where open access is global, mandated with no change in the publishing industry.

*Your funder/research institution has just mandated that **all** funded research **must** be published open access. The way the publishing industry operates, and the publication options they offer, have not changed at all.*

Q: How would you feel about this?



Base: UK n=185; Europe n=298; India n=432; China n=90; USA n=153

to be slightly more negative, and in India slightly more positive.

Q: What would be the impact on: your ability to collaborate; your career progression; the visibility of your research?

10. There is global increased positive sentiment about an open access scenario where funders/institutions pay APCs

Global funders and research institutions have just mandated that **all** funded research **must** be published open access.

However The publishing industry has responded by making all journals open access in some way. Funders and institutions will cover APCs for research they fund.

Compared with Scenario 1, researchers were overall more positive, with larger positive changes in the UK and

Q: How would you feel about this?



Base: UK n=198; Europe n=325; India n=436; China n=92; USA n=162

researchers being most positive about the impact on career progression.

Q: What would be the impact on: your ability to collaborate; your career progression; the visibility of your research?



Base: Your ability to collaborate n=1,224; Your career progression: 1,227; the visibility of your research n=1,229

Appendix : data and methodology

The survey was mailed to 40,000 researchers spread internationally who had recently published with the Royal Society of Chemistry.

