



ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY IN POZNAŃ  
Scholarly Communication Research Group

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# The programme for supporting national scientific journals in Poland

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Emanuel Kulczycki

# Structure of Presentation

1. The context of the programme: Evaluation of Scientific Institutions in Poland.
2. Landscape of scientific journals in Poland.
3. The framework of programme support.
4. Next steps.

# 1.

The context of the programme:  
Evaluation of Scientific Institutions in Poland

# Poland

**38** million citizens

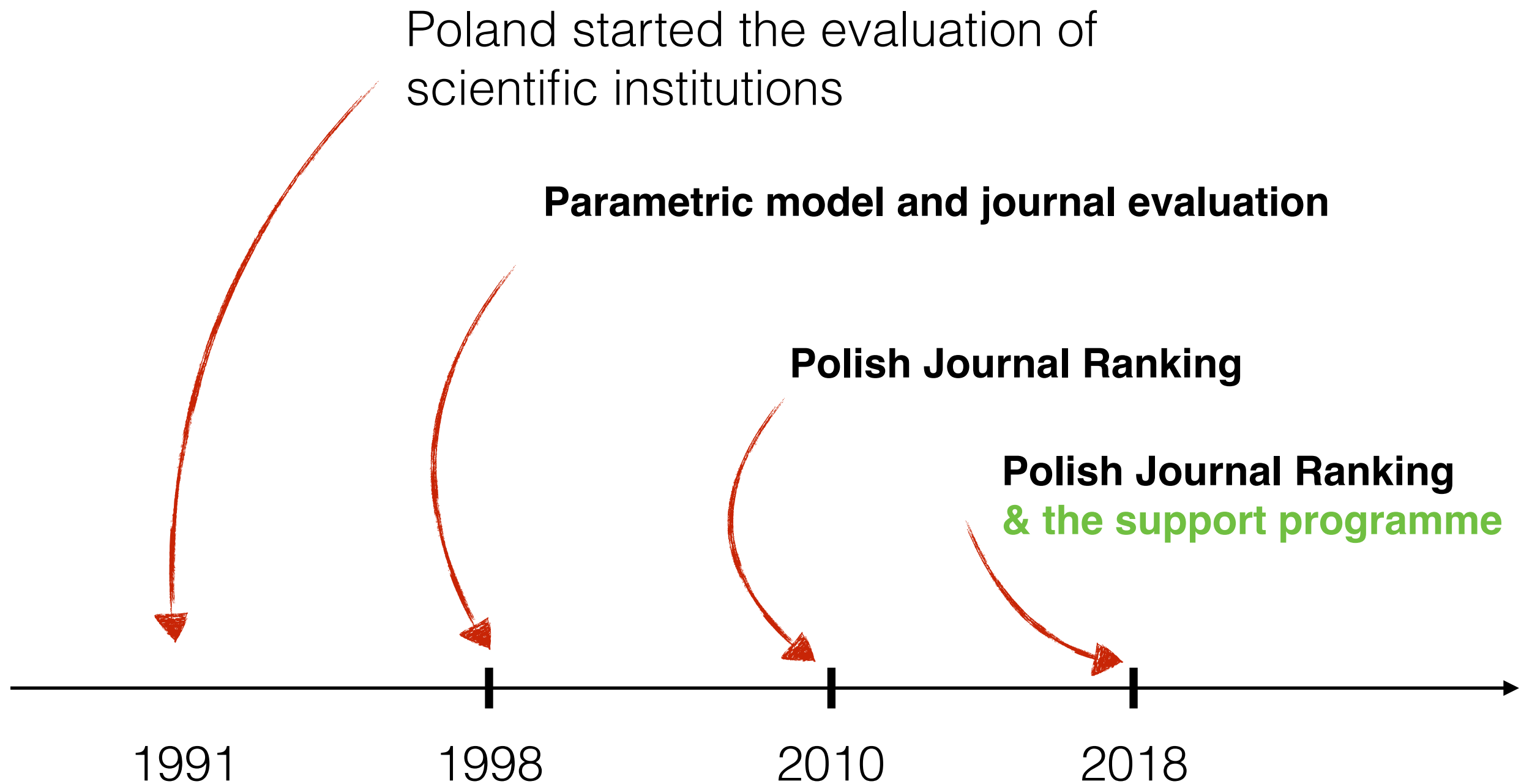
**430** higher education  
institutions

**110.000** scholars





# The History of Polish Research Evaluation



# Open Access in Poland

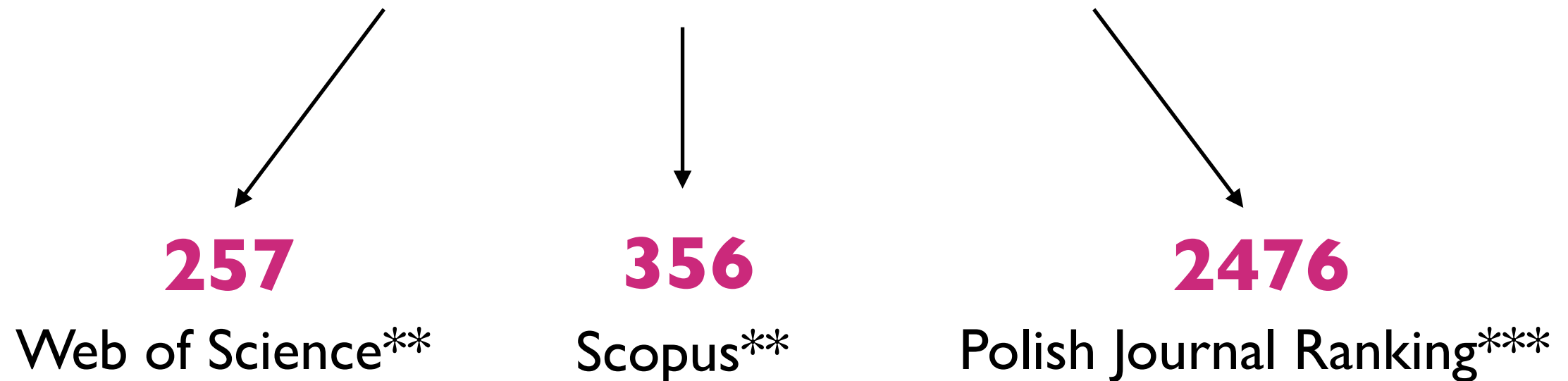
1. In 2015, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education in Poland has published „Directions of the development of open access to research publications and research results in Poland”.
2. Since 2019, all Phd theses will be published in open access.
3. Open access is favored neither in the national evaluation exercise nor in the journal evaluation.
4. However, in various Polish funding programmes, open access is mandatory (e.g. the National Science Centre in Poland has signed *Plan S*).

## 2.

Landscape of scientific journals in Poland

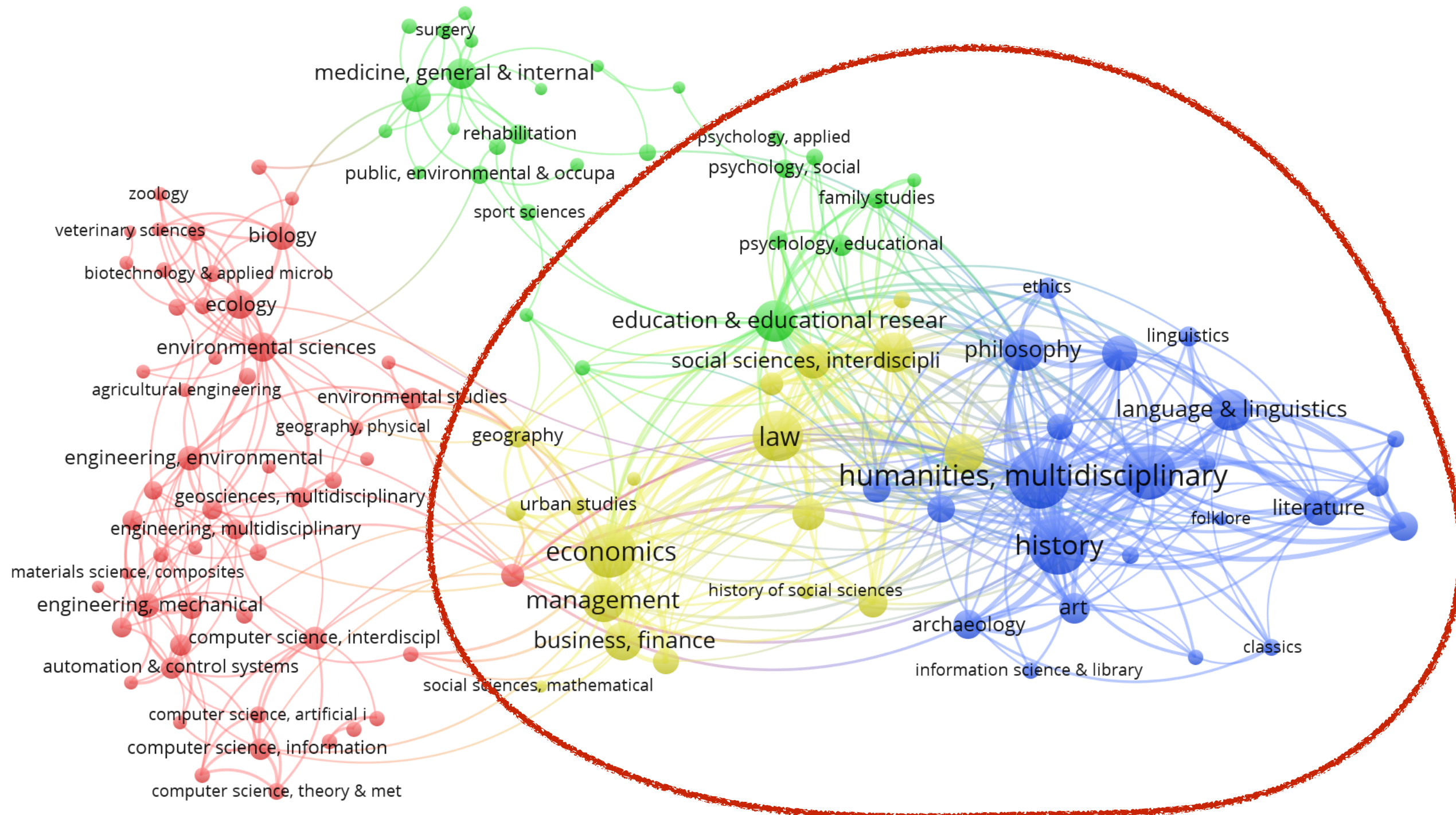
# Polish Journals

over **3,000** Polish scientific journals in all fields of science



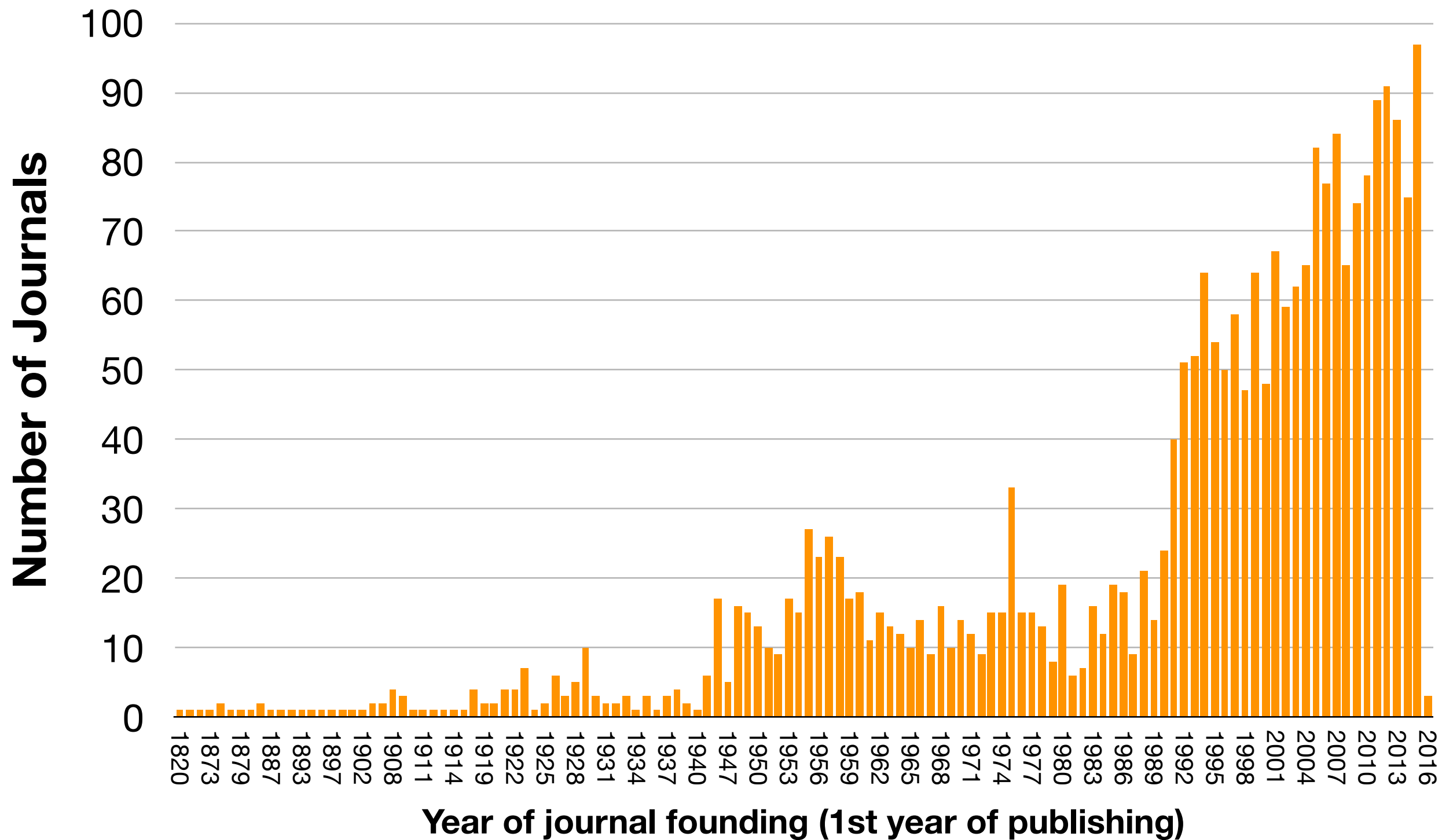
- \* ~10% of those journals is from social sciences and humanities
- \*\* ~20% of those journals is from social sciences and humanities
- \*\*\* ~60% of those journals is from social sciences and humanities

# Landscape of Polish scientific journals



Social sciences and humanities

# Active Polish scientific journals in 2017



# Editorial standards in Polish journals

| Editorial standard   | The share of journals which have not implemented standard |
|--|---|
| Anti-plagiarism procedure                                      | 86%   |
| Software for editorial work (online submissions, reviews etc.) | 69%   |
| DOI  | 86%   |

**N = 2 719 journals**

# 3.

The framework of support programme



## Motivations for establishing a new programme

- ▶ For many years, Poland has run a grant programme for national journals. The main aim of this "old" programme is to financially support publishing new volumes and issues.  
In short: the old programme is just for “printing”.
- ▶ Editorial practices of national journals need to be improved.
- ▶ Now, in Poland, there are two programmes. The old one in which journals can apply for funds for “printing” and the new one that is designed to support journals in developing editorial practices.
- ▶ **Policymakers have assumed that improving editorial practices will allow to improve the scientific quality of journals.**

## The primary aim of this programme

1. The main idea of this programme is to support journals and improve their editorial practices what could allow them to come into international scholarly communication.
2. International scholarly communication is understood mostly in terms of communication and technical standards (DOI, open access etc). and not in terms of publishing in English.
3. The new programme is devoted to national journals which are indexed neither in Web of Science nor in Scopus.
4. The call for applications is announced every two years.
5. In each call, up to 500 Polish journals can be financially supported. However, the programme is devoted primarily to the SSH journals because they constitute 2/3 of the total number of Polish journals.

## **What journals can submit an application?**

1. Publisher (or editorial board) operates in Poland.
2. Journal is indexed neither in WoS nor in Scopus.
3. In two years before applying to the programme, a journal published all issues (e.g. at least eight issues published by some quarterly journal).
4. The share of authors from one institution (e.g. the University of Warsaw) is not higher than 50% in two years before applying to the programme.
5. Journal has implemented regulations compatible with the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).



## **Journals that will be funded in the programme are obliged to:**

1. Publish all issues in open access which will be published in the funding period.
2. A specific license or a form of open access is not stated. However, all issues need to be published in OA in six months.
3. Journals need to implement DOI and ORCID.







## Funding

1. Each journal can apply for up to **120.000** PLN (28.000 EUR) for 24 months.
2. A journal can apply for funding in each call (published every two years).
3. At the same time journal can apply for funding in the programme for „printing”.

## **What can funded:**

- DOI implementation.
- Software licenses for managing editorial and publishing works.
- Development of anti-plagiarism programmes or buying licences.
- Training for editorial staff.
- Creating new websites or making changes to the existing ones.
- Proofreading.
- Salaries.
- Other costs related to the increase of the quality of peer review.
- Other costs related to the dissemination of journals.

## Proposal assessment criteria

| Criterion  | Points |
|--|--------|
| The impact of the funding for the development of publishing and editorial practices                      | 0–30   |
| The importance of the activities planned under the programme for the internationalization of the journal | 0–25   |
| Budget   | 0–10   |
| Form of open access  | 0–10   |
| The importance of journal for the discipline   | 0–15   |
| The level of journal internationalization  | 0–10   |

4.

Next steps



## Next steps

- In February 2019, the results of the first call will be published.
- All funded journals will be counted in the evaluation systems in the same way as journals indexed in WoS or Scopus.
- The government has planned to establish the third programme for the best Polish scientific journals which should get a substantial amount of money: „Supporting the best, so that they can become even better”.
- The support programme should be evaluated and improved according to the evaluation results.

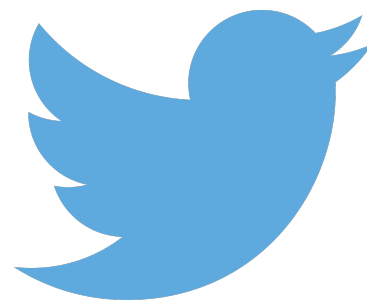
# Thank you

Photos: Unsplash.com

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[emanuelkulczycki.com](http://emanuelkulczycki.com)

contact: [emanuel@ekulczycki.pl](mailto:emanuel@ekulczycki.pl)



[@ekulczycki](https://twitter.com/ekulczycki)