

# No deal, no review

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#nodealnoreview

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## NO TO ELSEVIER'S UNFAIR DEALS

Since November 2016, more than 2700 members of the academic community in Finland have signed tiedonhinta.fi online petition which called for fair pricing for academic journal subscriptions and increased open access in the ongoing negotiation with international publishers. More than two thirds of those who signed the petition were prepared to abstain from editorial and reviewer duties in journals whose publishers are unwilling to meet the demands of the Finnish negotiators. It's time to stand by that commitment: no deal, no editing and reviews.

[CONFIRM/JOIN THE BOYCOTT](#)



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## STATEMENT

Unless a fair deal is presented by Elsevier, the Finnish library consortium (FinElib) will not renew its subscriptions to Elsevier journals in:

1	8	5	:	0	8	:	1	7	:	3	1	(/)
Days				Hours			Minutes			Seconds		/?

tir

Through this boycott we, the research community, signal strong demand for long-overdue change, wishing to accelerate the ongoing negotiations towards fair terms so that Finnish researchers can uninterruptedly continue to access and publish in Elsevier resources.

Elsevier continues to show disregard for its most valuable resource: the research community and its members. This has become clear during the 2016 and 2017 negotiations on journal subscription prices and conditions of open access.

In Finland, Elsevier has kept returning to the negotiating table with nothing to offer, in terms of sustainable pricing and reasonable open access, thus neglecting the FinElib consortium negotiation goals and the opinion of the Finnish research community (as manifested in the [tiedonhintta.fi](#) statement).

In Germany, the negotiations have similarly stalled, resulting in researchers having to go for weeks without access to Elsevier journals, many of the same journals they have published in, reviewed and performed editorial duties for without compensation.

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## How can I access the literature I need if subscriptions expire?

There are many ways to get your hands on a paper, ranging from contacting the authors to using the #icanhazpdf hashtag on Twitter. One of the easiest solutions is to install Unpaywall, a free browser extension, that tells you if there is an open access version available of the paywalled article that you are interested in. The system scans for papers in more than 5,300 repositories worldwide, including preprint servers and institutional databases. You can download it here: <http://unpaywall.org/>.

## How much are the current subscription costs?

Exact subscription costs are kept secret in most cases, due to confidentiality clauses in contracts. Fortunately at least in some countries this confidentiality has been successfully challenged through freedom of information requests. One of such countries is Finland. In 2015 Finnish research organisations [paid a total of 27 million euros in subscription fees](#). In recent years these costs have risen by as much as ten percent in a single year. Information on costs paid in Finland for 2016 is currently being collected and will be published soon on the government run [openscience.fi](#) website.

## Why boycott only Elsevier?

Elsevier has consistently proven itself to be the single biggest [opponent to open access](#) publishing. For example in Finland, despite tough negotiations, FinELib has been able to strike acceptable deals with Francis & Taylor and Sage and keep negotiations going in a meaningful way with Wiley and the American Chemical Society. This has [not been the case](#) with Elsevier.

## How is this boycott different from tiedonhinta.fi?

Tiedonhinta.fi was a statement directed at the Finnish research community. The aims were to inform the research community about the difficult negotiations and the possibility of losing subscription based access to many journals, and to create support for FinELib, so that they would pursue with their ambitious negotiating goals and not give in to an unfair deal under pressure. Tiedonhinta.fi flashed the possibility of a boycott, but didn't yet pursue it. "No deal, no review" is that boycott put into action. Because of similar struggles in other countries, we wanted to make the boycott open also to people outside Finland. We also felt that in order to challenge Elsevier's divide and conquer negotiating strategy, an international action would be necessary. ^

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**FIRST NAME \***

**LAST NAME \***

**EMAIL \***

**CONFIRM EMAIL \***

**COUNTRY AND INSTITUTION**

I will recuse myself from all editorial and referee duties for all Elsevier journals, until a satisfactory deal has been reached between Elsevier and my country's / my institutions negotiators.

[Your Signature]

**I DON'T WANT MY NAME TO APPEAR IN A PUBLIC SIGNATORY LIST**

**BCC YOURSELF**



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*Here, we provide a template for responding the invitations for editorial and reviewer tasks for journals that you wish to boycott. It is important also to let editors, most of whom are unpaid professional scientists, know why you are boycotting their journal. Please feel free to modify the template to suit your needs.*

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Thank you for your invitation to **[review a manuscript / act as an editor]** for **XXXX**. I am declining the invitation to support the **No deal, no review** boycott of Elsevier.

During the 2016 and 2017 subscription deal renewal negotiations Elsevier has shown disregard for its most valuable resource, the research community, by refusing to offer sustainable prices and open access for its journals.

I am worried that we will continue to see unfair deals being offered and negotiations in gridlock, as new renewal talks get underway all over the world.

This needs to stop.

Until a fair deal is reached between **[country/negotiating party]** and Elsevier, I will decline from all requests by Elsevier journals.

More information: [nodealnoreview.org](http://nodealnoreview.org)

With kind regards,

**ZZZZ**



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Here you can let us know that you have declined either editorial or reviewer requests for an Elsevier journal. Why? Because while it is important to show your support by joining the boycott, it is equally important to be able to quantify how many requests have been declined, in Finland and elsewhere. Over time, we will be able to demonstrate the effect of the boycott more tangibly.

Fields marked with an \* are required  
All the information below is processed confidentially.

**Type \***

Reviewer request

**Date** ⓘ

**Publisher \***

Elsevier

**Journal**

**Country \*** ⓘ

Finland



**Your institution**

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## Updates on situation in Finland

- [Elsevier trusts in traditions – no advancement in FinELib-Elsevier negotiations](#) Tuesday June 6th, 2017
- [\(In Finnish\) 27 miljoonaa vuodessa: tiedejulkaisujen tilausmaksuista kiistellään](#) Thursday January 26th, 2017
- [FinELib reaches agreements with publishers – Some negotiations continue in 2017](#) Thursday December 22nd, 2016
- [Finnish higher education and research institutes continue negotiations on open access with Elsevier](#) Thursday December 22nd, 2016
- [Statement from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture](#) Thursday December 8th, 2016
- [Unconfirmed signatures confirmed and added to the petition](#) Thursday December 1st, 2016
- [Not there yet – FinELib’s negotiations on scholarly e-journals still ongoing](#) Tuesday November 22nd, 2016

## Negotiations and deals in other countries

- [Germany: Elsevier restores journal access for German researchers](#) Thursday February 16th, 2017
- [Finland and Germany: “Finland joins the fray”, blog post by Gavia libraria \(the Library Loon\)](#) Friday December 23rd, 2016
- [Taiwan: More than 75% of universities have joined a collective boycott against Elsevier](#) Friday December 23rd, 2016
- [Germany: No full-text access to Elsevier journals to be expected from 1 January 2017 on](#) Tuesday December 13th, 2016
- [France: Universities at Clermont-Ferrand have cancelled subscription to the Wiley Full Collection for 2017](#) Wednesday December 7th, 2016
- [Germany: “Elsevier licence offer contravenes open access and fair pricing for scientific publications”](#) Friday December 2nd, 2016
- [The UK: “Time for Elsexit?”, blog post by Timothy Gowers](#) Tuesday November 29th, 2016



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Elsevier kahmii kolmanneksen tilausmaksuista – Tutkijoiden boikotti kustannusjättiä vastaan käynnistyi

Letter to Tiedonhinta.fi Signatories

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## Subscribe to email updates

**Email address:**

**SIGN UP**

## Contact person for the boycott:

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