

Credit and Capital Markets: From 2022 Onwards Subscribe-to-Open-Journal

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The market for academic journals is under constant change. Since many years, scientists are ranked by publications and citations. However, pre-versions of articles are distributed and discussed long before the research is actually published in journals. This holds especially in economics and finance, the areas Credit and Capital Markets is active in. It is important that the work, once published, is not hidden behind pay-walls. Furthermore, even research funding organizations ask researchers that the results of funded research work are freely accessible. Thus, researchers have a keen interest to provide a frictionless access to their work, as a timely and unimpeded access to their published articles is a core determinant of the perception of the respective research within the scientific community, and of the personal success linked to this perception. Consequently, Credit and Capital Markets changes its policy to a subscribe to open (S2O) approach.

The idea of S2O is based on the following principle: For at least five years, all articles of Credit and Capital Markets are openly available online. Open access is granted for new issues. However, even past years will be made available for free. This is made possible through a guarantee and financial help from the ZBW, the Leibniz Information Centre for Economics. Obviously, this opening of the journal is a huge benefit for both our readers and authors. Articles will be read more broadly, and also be cited more frequently. In addition to our existing authors, this will presumably attract new authors. At the end of the process, authors and readers will have gained, and it will help us to strengthen the scientific research and debate on the topics the journal is focused on.

The relatively new principle of S2O was initiated in 2020, with only a few journals following this concept. Today, the number of S2O-journals has nearly

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quadrupled. We think that this is a very good approach, and we are happy to join this trend in publication practices. Making an article available immediately with no access barrier, leads to a more rapid and more widespread dissemination of research results – something from which the society as a whole may benefit. By converting *Credit and Capital Markets* to an open access journal we want to make our contribution to this positive development.

We now wish you a pleasant and interesting read with the current issue, which is, sic, also fully available online to any interested reader in the scientific community.