

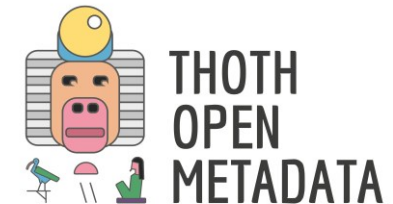
# The Open Book Futures Project:

## What are we doing and why?

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# Open Book Futures

- Open Book Futures aims to initiate a step-change in the ambition, scope and impact of community-led Open Access book publishing
  - Thoth Open Metadata
  - Opening the Future
  - Open Book Collective
  - Accessibility
  - Experimental Publishing

# Our Work Package

- Three main areas:
  - Role of National Libraries
  - Role of Repositories
  - PhD theses
- Guidance/training for smaller presses
- Guidance/training for authors
- Report on Link Rot

- Focus on smaller, scholar-led, open access presses
- PhD theses
  - First time many authors write a long-form piece

# Why – Presses

- To help these smaller presses
  - Few staff
  - No/limited in-house expertise – preservation, metadata etc.
  - Small number of books each year (0-50)
- Complement existing solutions
- To understand the current situation
  - National Libraries / Legal Deposit

# Why – Theses

- Only copy
  - No print version if e-only deposit
- Reliance on third parties for preservation
  - EThOS, Proquest
- What is the thesis deposit anyway?
  - Textual element, data, Practice theses?
  - Copyright/ethics for related materials?
  - Author deposit form – related documentation

# Philosophy

- Open Access
- Open Source (where possible)
- Multiple stakeholders
  - Authors, publishers, repositories, preservation platforms/organisations
- Not just the textual material

# Open Book Futures **Outputs**

A copim community project

- Thoth Open Archiving Network
- National Library case studies
- Report on Link Rot
- Toolkit for presses

# Copim Open Archiving Principles – Must haves

## 1. **Openly accessible content**

- The original published content (files) should be freely available to download by any reader with access to the internet, DRM free and under the same licence as the work itself
- Allows bulk downloads of content - to allow independent third party ‘rescue’ of content in case of archive failure
- A permanent url should be available to access the work (this means that the archived version url can be included within the metadata and DOI record of the work)

## 2. **Openly accessible metadata**

- Book metadata is archived using a CC-0 licence and available for all readers to download alongside the work itself.

## 3. **Openly verifiable archiving and preservation processes (for both content and metadata):**

- Publishing checksums to allow verification of content integrity
- Transparent version control
- Transparent processes for verifying content
- Transparent preservation processes (if undertaken) - maintaining original files

## 4. **Follows accepted good practice in operations as a digital archive**

- Including reliability and strategies for ensuring long-term provision of archiving solution

## 5. **Multiple geographically redundant copies**

# Copim Open Archiving Principles - Should haves

- 6. Support for retrieving and archiving additional content associated with the work, including:**
  - “Additional materials” provided to supplement the main content
  - Web pages referenced using URLs within the main content (mitigating against link-rot)
- 7. Clearly stated policies around removal of content (including take-down notices and retractions)**
  - As content is openly available the platform may receive ‘take-down’ notices: how to handle genuinely breaches of publishing laws from (malicious) requests from people (or states) motivated to remove accessibility to content
  - Retractions by the publisher? (historical interest in allowing access to retracted versions?)
- 8. Independence from private or government-controlled entities (entity redundancy)**
  - Similar to 7a above - how to mitigate against censorship in the archived content
  - Content hosted in diverse legal jurisdictions
  - Likely to require networked solutions rather than a single provider
- 9. Collation of usage statistics**
  - As content can be downloaded, it will be important for authors and publishers to be informed of accesses/usage from the repository

# Open Book Futures **Wrap up**

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- Multiple challenges for all stakeholders
- Open access status is not always captured
  - Files, metadata etc.
- Working with authors is key (e.g. PhD work)
- Not just text
  - Associated material etc.