**What is Equinox *Aperto*?**

*Aperto* and *Aperto Forum* are Equinox’s new ‘gold’ (author/funder pays) option for publishing peer-reviewed articles on a fully open-access basis across the range of our humanities and social science journals. We are introducing these options to enable authors to comply with funding body requirements where publishing research papers Open Access is a stipulation of funding.

From now on, contributors submit their article in the usual fashion to an appropriate Equinox journal. The paper is peer-reviewed in the normal way but once the article is accepted for publication, the contributor is asked to select the route she wishes her paper to follow to publication. There is no obligation to choose either *Aperto* option.

1. Traditional Model

Under the traditional model, Equinox does not charge any APC (article processing charge) for papers that have passed peer review and been accepted for publication. The journal is run on a subscription basis with ‘pay-per-view’ facilities enabling the purchase of single articles. Authors sign a Contributor Agreement (here is a sample Contributor Agreement) which transfers copyright to the publisher while reserving for themselves a range of scholarly usage rights including, of course, moral rights as author.

Income from subscriptions as well as any income deriving from the negotiation of subsidiary rights pays for the costs of publication. In the case of Society journals and most of our other journals, this income is shared with the sponsoring societies or editors in the form of profit sharing, royalties, fees or other benefits such as royalties from associated book series. Note that all of our journals already publish book reviews, notices and some other short pieces such as editorials on an open access basis without fees.

Equinox handles all permission requests and is responsible for ensuring that any subsidiary use is properly licensed and does not involve republication that would distort the argument or integrity of the original paper or which would involve plagiarism.

These journals are all offered as online-only or print + online subscription models for library purchase and for society journals online-access is also included as one benefit of membership.

In some cases, journals are moving towards a ‘continuous publication’ model whereby articles are copyedited, typeset and published as ‘Online Early’ upon acceptance and ahead of the rest of the contents of their issue.

Equinox makes provision for off-site, perpetual archiving of all issues of journals through participation in Portico and similar schemes to ensure preservation and allow former subscribers to have on-going access to content that they paid for.

Each year a number of our journals publish special thematic issues. These may also be published later as books with the addition of new material and other editorial changes. In such cases, contributors are sent new agreements for book publication

2. *Aperto*

The first of two new options, *Aperto*, involves the contributor choosing to pay an APC in order to make the article fully and permanently open access online in a subscription-based Equinox journal. Under this scenario, the article is scheduled as it would have been under the traditional model and will appear in both the print and online versions. The contributor is asked to sign a Contributor agreement in which grants Equinox a license to publish the article as the final, definitive, and citable version of scholarly record. The license outlines the rights which Equinox intends to grant to end users and which spells out some restrictions on re-use such as:

* No commercial use
* No creation of derivative products

*and* some specific endorsed/permitted activity such as:

* permission for text and data mining for scholarly and translation purposes

Here is a sample of the *Aperto* Contributor Agreement (PDF).

3. *Aperto Forum*

The alternative *Aperto Forum* option involves a different route to publication whereby an accepted article is immediately prepared for open access, online publication and is published electronically on the *Aperto Forum* website, with links and acknowledgments to the ‘sponsoring’ Equinox journal but does not feature in the regular print or online publication of that journal as part of an ‘issue’. The advantage of this option is speed of publication and the APC fees are lower.

Here is a sample of the *Aperto Forum* Contributor Agreement (PDF).

**How much does it cost?**

The fees for *Aperto* and *Aperto Forum* publication are journal dependent as well as subject area dependent. Please refer to the For Authors pages of each journal for actual fees.

*Aperto* fees for 2013 and 2014 are between $1,500.00 to $2,275.00/£1,000.00 to £1,500.00 per, regular, peer-reviewed article

*Aperto Forum* fees range from $750.00 to $1,500.00/£500 to £1000 per regular, peer-reviewed article.

**How do I pay?**
The fee is paid via an e-commerce transaction and invoicing will take place on acceptance of the article after peer review. Payment can be made via credit card, or an invoice can be requested. Payment for a Forum article is due 14 days from the date of the signed Contributor Agreement. Payment of the APC for an article published under the *Aperto* model is due upon publication of the issue in which the article appears. For any questions, please contact <a href=”mailto:ynazareth@equinoxpub.com>Yvonne Nazareth</a>, our Journal Services Manager at the time your paper is accepted.

**Are any taxes applicable?**
Authors resident in any of the countries of the European Union must add UK Value-Added Tax (VAT, currently 20%). Institutions outside the UK paying the fee on behalf of the author and who provide their VAT registration number will not be charged UK VAT.

**Under what circumstances are refunds made?**

If, before publication, we reasonably consider that the article should not be published, on the advice of our legal counsel, we may decline to publish the article, in which case we would refund the open access article publishing fee.

If, after publication, we reasonably consider that the article should be retracted or removed from our website, for example, because of a breach in author warranties, we may retract and withdraw it, and in such case will be under no obligation to refund the open access article publishing fee.

**Under what circumstances might the APC be discounted or waived?**

Editors of journals cannot grant waivers. If you qualify, you can request a waiver directly from <a href=”mailto:ynazareth@equinoxpub.com>Yvonne Nazareth</a>, our Journal Services Manager at the time your paper is accepted.

Equinox Authors

Authors or series editors of, or contributors to, Equinox books, or members of the editorial boards of any Equinox book series or journal are entitled to a discount of 25% on APCs if verified as self-funding. Eligible authors are those whose works are currently in print within the Equinox portfolio or whose works were originally published by Equinox. Self-funding contributors to previous issues of Equinox journals are also eligible for this discount.

Funded APCs on work by Equinox authors qualifies for a 15% discount.

Contributors from Emerging/Developing Regions

Contributors from regions lists in the Research4Life qualify to have their fees waived.

<http://www.research4life.org/institutions/>

Institutional Partners

Institutional partners are those that will have paid a one-off annual membership fee of £1000.00 (2013/14) or which have current subscriptions to Equinox journals of a minimum annual value of £1000.00 (2013/14) Contributors based at such institutions are entitled to a 15% discount on the article publishing charge for their article, should they wish to publish on an open-access basis, either under *Aperto* or *Aperto Forum.* Articles by Equinox authors from such institutions will further qualify for their author discount (except when author/self-funded).

**How will *Aperto* Affect Subscription Prices?**

This option is being launched in 2013. We review the subscription prices of each journal annually to assess what degree of take-up the *Aperto* option has had among contributors and make an appropriate adjustment to each journal’s subscription price. The baseline prices will be those set for the 2014 annual renewal cycle.

**Why is Equinox Imposing Restrictions on Re-use?**

Our new *Aperto* and *Aperto Forum* contributor agreements are based on the principles of the specific license proposed by the Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND 3.0<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>.

While some publishers are following the recommendations of the Creative Commons ‘Attribution By’ license model which allows the creation of derived works or the omission of passages from a published work or changes to a published work such as the right to translate, adapt, abridge, produce ‘treatments’ based on the original, and so forth), we are not. The reason we have made this choice is because we think this kind of use can easily lead to violation of an author’s moral rights and we believe we serve a vital role by retaining the right to pre-authorize such use to ensure that your moral right to the integrity of your work is not compromised and that correct attribution is made.

Furthermore, where content in the article is identified as belonging to a third party, it is the obligation of the user to ensure that any reuse complies with copyright policies of the owner. As publisher, it is our role to make this clear to any potential licensee. We do not believe that the market will ‘police itself’ in this respect.

Finally, we are introducing new terms to our Contributor agreements whereby the author/s of articles published under the *Aperto* or *Aperto Forum* options will share directly in any subsidiary rights income that their articles attract. This will be in the form of a royalty payment of 10% on net receipts, payable 30 days from the date that Equinox receives any remittance.

If you have any queries about our open access policies, please contact us.

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