KoBSON, EIFL's partner library consortium in Serbia, has 66 member institutions and is hosted by the National Library. One of Tatjana Timotijević's responsibilities is negotiating with publishers for access to e-resources for KoBSON members. Tatjana is also EIFL Country Coordinator in Serbia.

KoBSON subscribes to e-resources from 17 content providers. These are well used: in 2020, there were over 1.8 million full-text downloads from these e-resources. Serbia's research output is also high: over 4,000 articles are published by corresponding authors from Serbia annually in Web of Science indexed journals.

The number of articles published in open access grew from 32% in 2017 to 40% in 2020. To encourage this trend, KoBSON negotiated agreements with Cambridge University Press for 2020 and 2021 that include open access publishing terms for their authors.

KoBSON authors have also been benefiting from the agreements that EIFL negotiates. “Through the EIFL agreements our researchers have the opportunity to publish in open access at waived or discounted article processing charges (APCs) in 1,176 journals,” said Tatjana.

“We are a small team at KoBSON and do not have the capacity or time to negotiate these complex agreements ourselves, nor do we have contacts with all the publishers where Serbian authors publish,” she said.

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– TATJANA TIMOTIJEVIĆ