

Transcript of video contribution by

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My name is Marcia Barbosa. I am a theoretical physicist from the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, but then also the Secretary of Strategic Programs and Policies from the Ministry of Science and Technology. Open Science. What a wonderful idea! Science available for everyone. The taxpayers pay for the science. The taxpayers have the right to access the knowledge, the publications, the data.

Is that wonderful? Unfortunately, in our world, there is no free lunch. So when you publish something, either the readers or the people doing the work, doing the science are required to pay for it. At the same time, when you decide that all the detail will be available, someone has to pay and construct the infrastructure for having this data available for everyone.

And suddenly, the Global North decided that all the science, all the publications, all the data have to be available at a certain year or date. And now, we countries for the South that struggle for having science been done, that struggle for publishing, that the struggle for constructing the infrastructure, because we want to publish in the journals that belong to the Global North, we have to obey a rule that's established in other countries.

For me, that doesn't sound like okay. We need to construct a way in which you don't have equality, everybody being equal for the publications or pay equal to have all the storage, all the data storage. But you construct equity, in which countries that are under development, like Brazil, Mexico, like India, will not have to pay the same amount to publish in these highranked journals.

We have to discuss with the publishers why the article publication charges are so high. What are the costs for creating a journal? A journal in which we don't receive salaries to be reviewers, we do not receive salaries for producing the work, we don't receive salaries for providing the articles in a specific format which suits the publishers. We have to discuss this way in which only the rich ones are able to publish in the high-ranked journals. But also we have to discuss the availability of the data, immediate availability of certain kinds of data, which costs us a fortune to construct this data. For instance, when you have high-energy research in which the costs are really high, the data is only available after having some time in which we keep the data for ourselves.

The same should apply for other types of data, like biodiversity. It would be completely unfair to have right away the biodiversity data for certain areas of the world, particularly Brazil, available right away. Let's discuss. Let's discuss and construct equity, not equality. Thank you very much.