Attitudes of Scientific Journal Editors Towards Open Peer Review

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Introduction

- Changes in the peer review process and acceptance of open peer review - still mostly unchartered territory in Croatia
- Open peer review still not accepted widely still no change from the mainstream
- Inability of a potential authors to find guidelines of scientific journals (in Croatia and around the world) in substantial numbers offering open peer review or similar process

Open peer review

- Open peer review still not researched enough why?
- Not present in scientific community long enough?
- Ross-Hellauer and Görögh (2019): open peer review is "moving into the mainstream, but it is often poorly understood and surveys of researcher attitudes show important barriers to implementation"

Open peer review acceptance

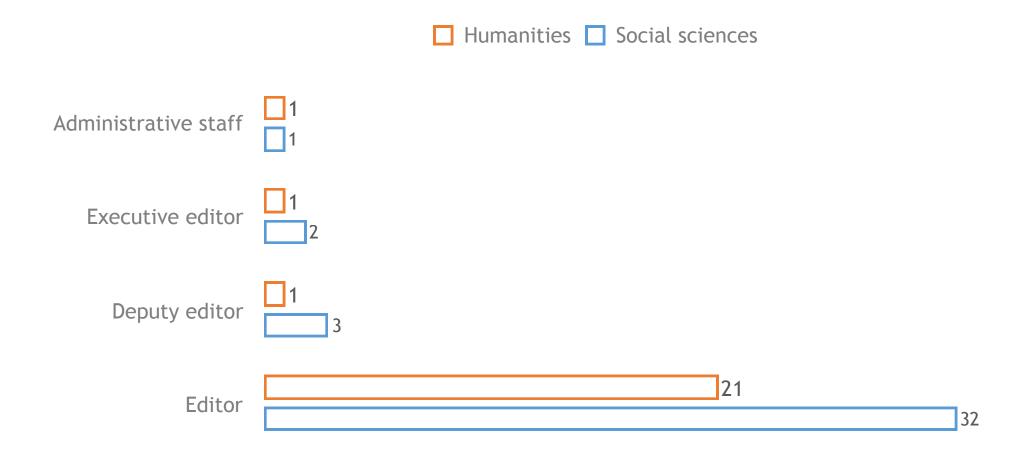
- Implementation of different innovations requires guidelines to guide this implementation in order for it to be widely accepted (Ross-Hellauer and Görögh, 2019)
- Uptake of new models of peer review appears to have been so low compared to what is often viewed as the 'traditional' method of peer review (Tennant, 2018)
- For Bali (2015) open peer review is not about speed of its implementation but potential of submitted manuscripts to be improved and published

Research - discovering attitudes of scientific journal editors towards open peer review

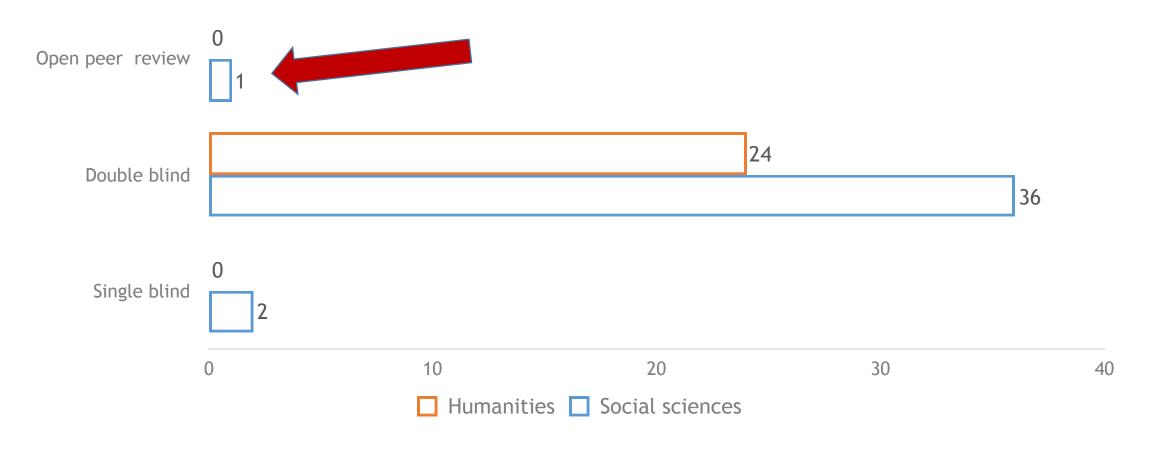
- Social sciences and humanities scientific journals
- Online survey + e-mail invitation: July 22nd till September 10th 2019.
- 143 e-mail addresses of Soc. Sci. journals at portal Hrčak (Hamster)
- 93 e-mail addresses of Human. Journals at portal Hrčak (Hamster)
- Return rate: 39 journals in soc. sci. and 24 in humanities.

Results (a selection of)

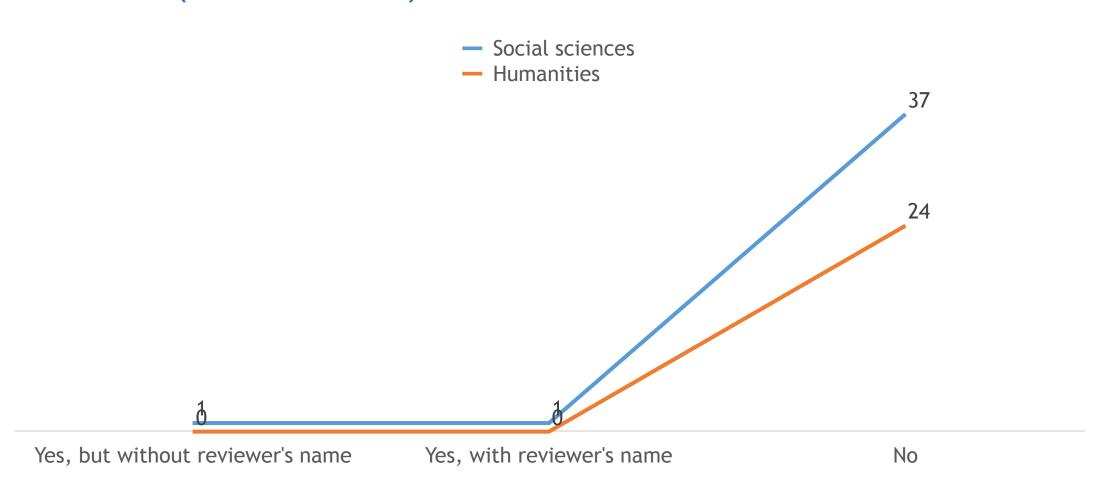
Role in journal? (N=38;24)



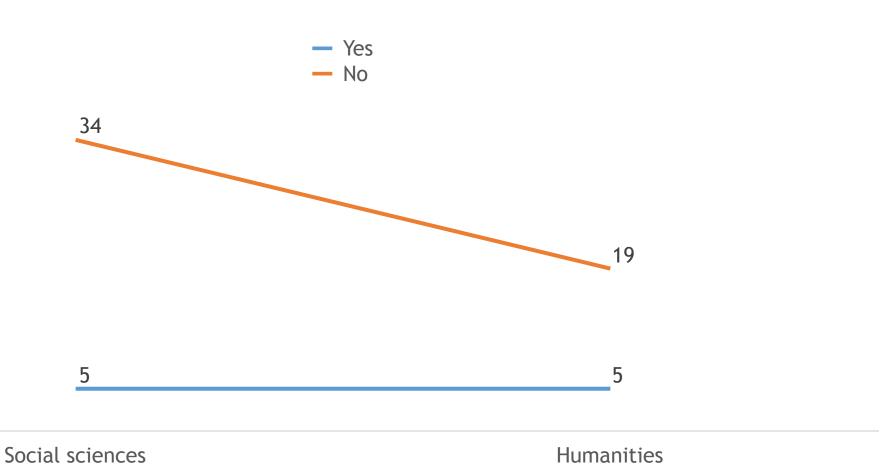
Type of peer review in journal? (N=39;24)



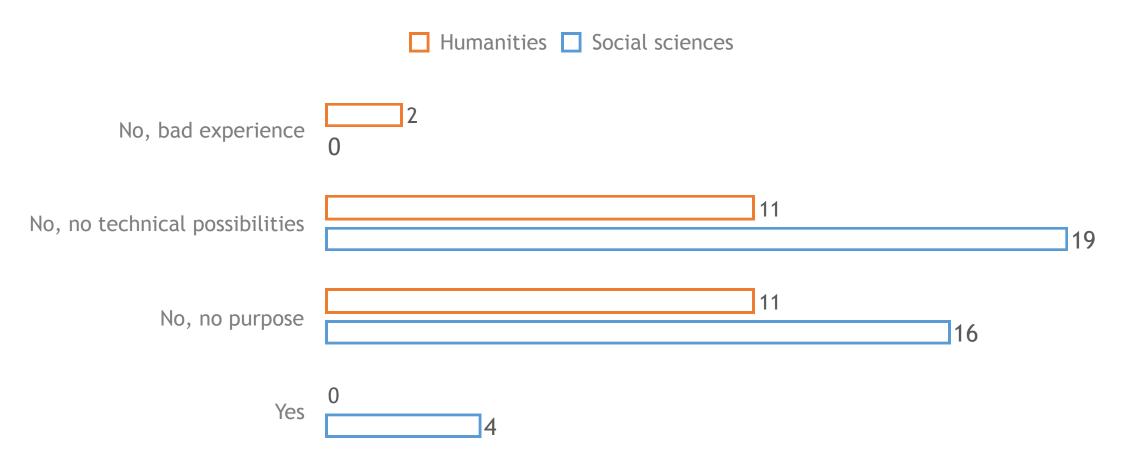
Publishing of review next to accepted article (N=39;24)



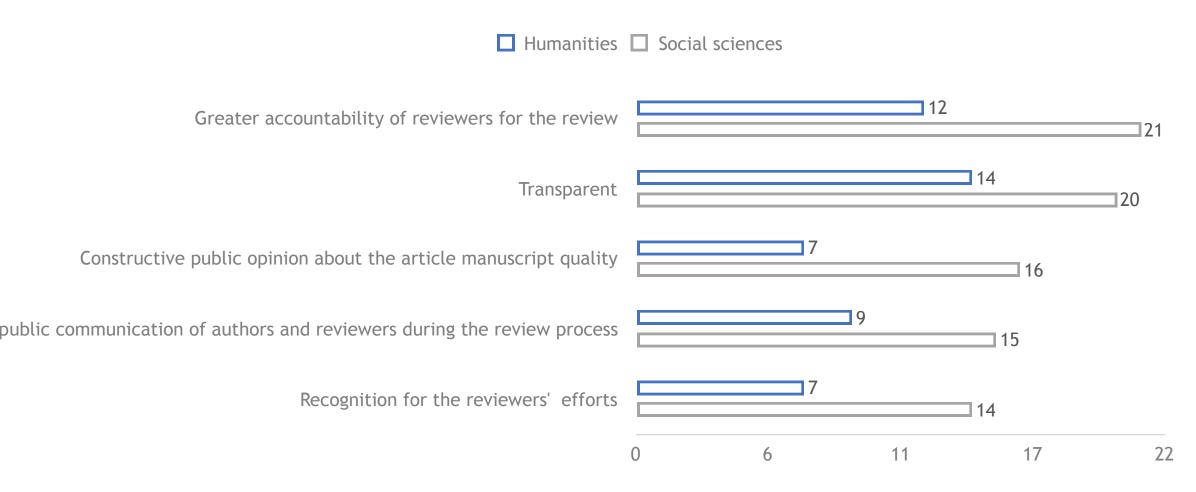
Research data publishing (N=39;24)



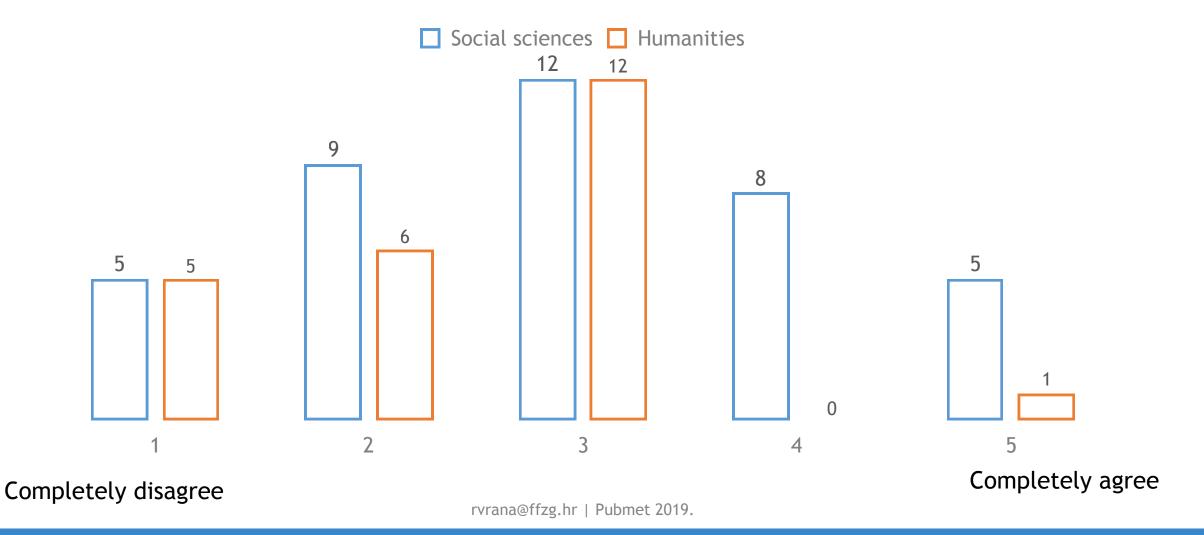
Public comments of published articles (N=39;24)



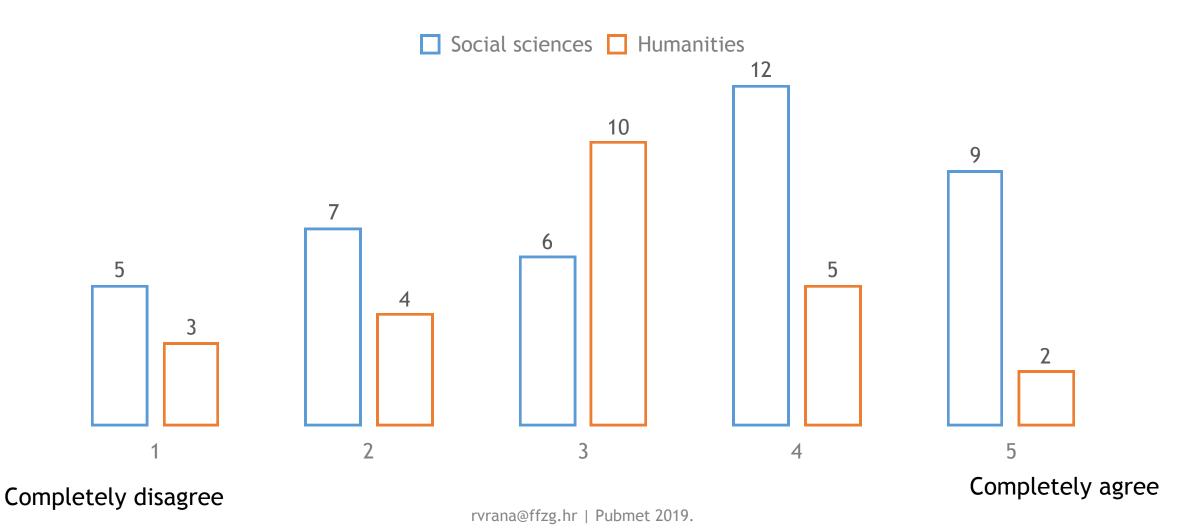
Open peer review characteristics (first 5) (N=34;23)



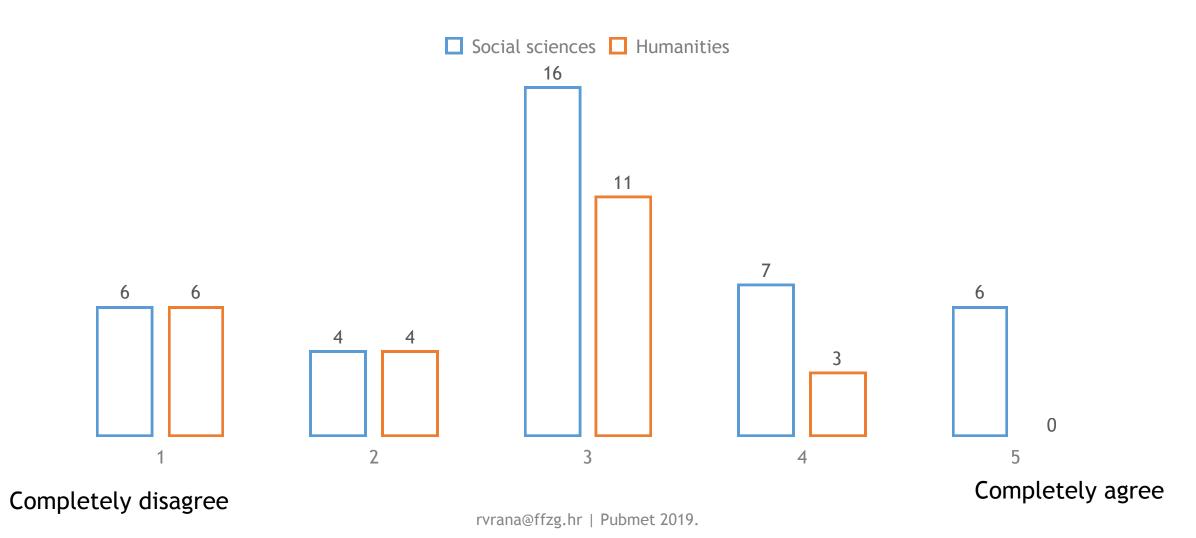
Open peer review could influence positively communication between authors and reviewers



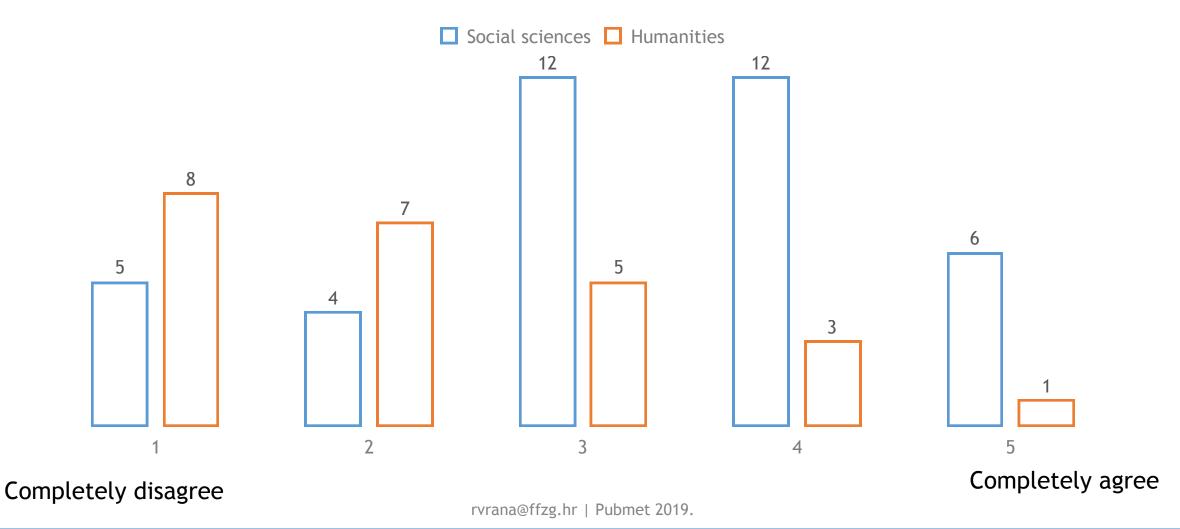
Open peer review could influence positively quality of review



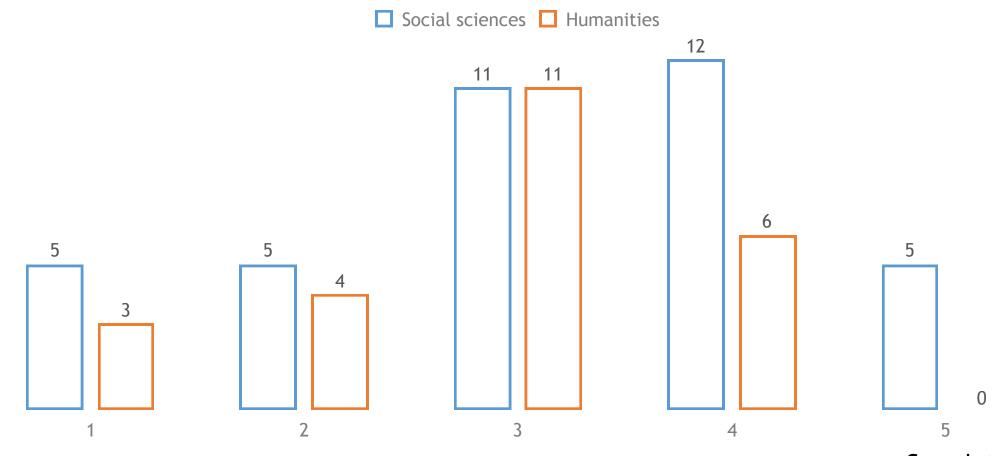
Open peer review could influence positively communication between reviewers and editors



Open peer review could influence scientists to send their article manuscripts to the journal



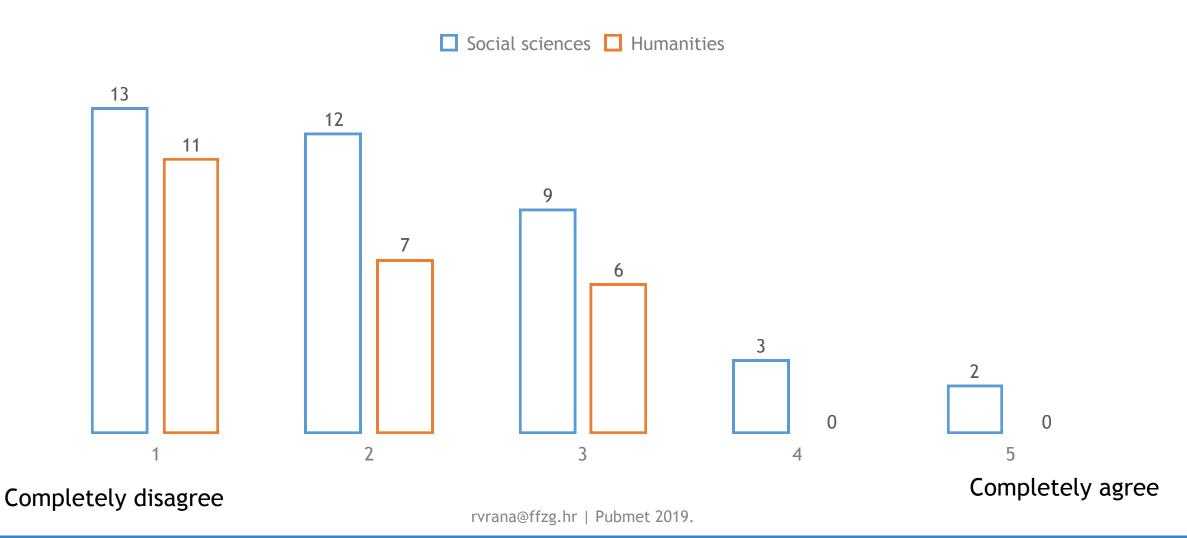
Open peer review could improve the peer review process in general



Completely disagree

Completely agree

My journal is completely prepared for implementation of open peer review (N=39;24)



Conclusion

- Open peer review still barely present in Croatia
- More promotion of open peer review would improve situation?
- More research about possible benefits of open peer review difficult taks in a small scientific community