



THE WHITE HORSE PRESS *Nomadic Peoples*



Nomadic Peoples Conversion to Open Access via Subscribe to Open (S2O)

Dear CNP members and *Nomadic Peoples* supporters,

We are writing to you as members of the Commission on Nomadic Peoples and current or recent subscribers to the Commission's journal, *Nomadic Peoples*, published by The White Horse Press.

The publishing landscape is changing rapidly and Open Access is now favoured over traditional subscription models. We have been considering for some months how to transform *Nomadic Peoples* to an Open Access journal in order to make it available to the widest readership possible, including those not based in academic institutions and facing other barriers to access to traditional subscription publications. *NP* engages with a wide variety of pastoralist and nomadic societies, often in the Global South, and offers incisive and policy-relevant analysis of their ways of life – but in practice most of those whose lives are thus analysed cannot access the research outcomes.

We would like to enable the pastoralist and nomad societies under discussion to engage more easily with *Nomadic Peoples*' content, fulfilling the journal's and the CNP's mission to treat these groups as involved subjects rather than research objects.

In practice, Open Access still requires the publication process to be funded, often by large donors or by charging author fees. We find the latter model inequitable and there are both practical and ethical problems with the former. We thus intend to try to flip the journal to Open Access by a 'Subscribe to Open' (S2O) process. Briefly, this model is based on existing subscribers continuing to support the journal such that its revenues do not fall below what is currently achieved through subscriptions – but if the revenue target is met, the journal becomes open to all. If the revenue target is not reached, you as a subscriber still get access but the journal does not become open to all. Thus, you are effectively continuing to buy a subscription but in the hope of contributing to the 'greater good' of Open Access.

The revenue target is based on our average annual subscription income over the last several years. How S2O works is explained succinctly here:

<https://subscribetoopencommunity.org>

In the first years of the S2O project we will also make one back volume Open Access in perpetuity if the target is reached to flip the current year to OA. From 2023, subscriptions will include full access to the backset during the subscription period.

Subscriptions will continue to be processed in the same way as normal. And print copies will be available for purchase.

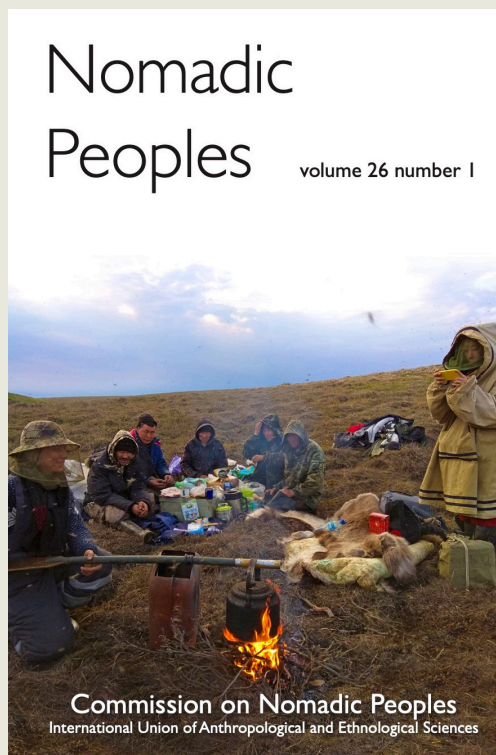
Open Access publications are demonstrably more read, cited and visible. So as members of the CNP, we hope we can rely on your support to ensure a vibrant future for *Nomadic Peoples*.

We would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions; and if you believe this new publication model for *NP* would be of interest to your networks please feel free to circulate this announcement and encourage them to participate.

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