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## **Why commercial publishing clashes with the intellectual ethics of research**

Today, academic publishing is dominated by large commercial corporations. The problems they cause are known. Their operation is extremely costly, while exploiting the free labor of academics. The transformation of journals into brands has seriously altered the publication system, polluting the academic culture with the perverse notion that what counts is not the science but the journal it is published in. This notion favors spectacular science over solid science, and consequently, cases of frauds have boomed. Finally, publishing corporations have been actively lobbying against open science while science is publicly funded. In this talk, I will argue that this situation is to be expected when publishing is controlled by profit-seeking entities. We tend to depict those corporations as engaging in unethical behavior, but this is a form of animism: a corporation is not a person, but an organization with no ethical dimension whatsoever, only the goal of maximizing profit. Because scientific truth is not a dishwasher, there is no magic that would align the pursuit of profit with the pursuit of truth. The only possibility for science to work is if its actors collectively commit to an ethic of truth. For this reason, commercial entities should have no significant power over the scientific enterprise. This implies in particular that the publishing system should be in the hands of the academic community, using the private sector only for the technical infrastructure, when necessary.