

How Libraries Benefit from *Reference Global*, *De Gruyter's* Integrated Platform for eBooks, eJournals and Databases

Basics

On *Reference Global*, *De Gruyter's* integrated platform for eBooks, eJournals and databases accessible via www.reference-global.com, you will find all *De Gruyter* publications in one single place.

The number of published titles is continuously growing. In addition to over 1,000 book titles, more than 100 academic journals with up-to-date, peer-reviewed articles are currently available. *Reference Global* also hosts the *De Gruyter Journal Archive* containing nearly 100 of our active journals going back to vol. 1, issue 1, thus providing access to 200 years of academic history. Additionally, many of our print reference works will be available electronically as eBookPLUS. All of our databases are also accessible through our comprehensive research portal. The platform has numerous services supporting efficient, manifold and easy access to all electronic content published by *De Gruyter* on offer for scholars, librarians and authors in order to help with their academic research.

How libraries benefit from *Reference Global*

Reference Global offers permanent active linking using OpenURL and CrossRef-DOI ("reference linking") as well as continually updated links to all articles citing the article currently being accessed ("forward linking"). These key features help guarantee optimal benefits for users who are patrons of libraries and institutions. *Reference Global* also ensures straightforward management of *De Gruyter* titles within every library collection and of the corresponding usage statistics for librarians. Finally, it helps us provide flexible and customized purchase and access options for our institutional customers.

Users benefit as patrons of institutions

Users benefit from enhanced content in comparison to the print version such as additional audio, video, graphics and other data material. Table of contents alerts as well as new results for saved searches are provided by e-mail or RSS-feed. In addition, most frequently read and cited articles together with related contents are on display for the user.

New (Fall 2009): A new search functionality especially relevant for users accessing *Reference Global* content from workplaces in libraries has now been added: by ticking the box "Accessible content only", a user can restrict the search results to accessible articles. The search result list will then only contain titles which have either been subscribed to by the institution in question or are freely accessible anyway (e.g. Open Access publications or sample articles).

New (Summer 2009): Shibboleth access to *Reference Global* is now established for libraries and institutions in the United Kingdom. Libraries use Shibboleth to provide users with a single access point to all subscription products that users can also access remotely outside of the IP-network of the university. We have started our Shibboleth offer for *Reference Global* with the UK federation and will now follow it up with the German and the Swiss federations as next steps.

Straightforward management of the *De Gruyter* portfolio and usage statistics for librarians

Via the 'Institutional Administration' area directly on www.reference-global.com we offer libraries and institutions the possibility to download MARC records for their purchased content, to control their IP ranges we have in our system, to upload their institution's logo and banner text to the site, to set up a link resolver for the eJournals, to retrieve detailed COUNTER-compliant usage statistics themselves and to download our holdings files.

New (Fall 2009): *Reference Global's* usage statistics now also support Release 3 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for Journals and Databases. New reports have been added and existing reports have been modified to conform to this new release. One can now retrieve reports divided by journals versus books and also divided by report type.

New (Fall 2009): In addition, *Reference Global* has recently started to support the Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI) protocol, a web service that allows librarians to automatically request and download COUNTER usage reports. Librarians who operate a SUSHI client can find the request URL and their institution's requestor ID on the librarian administration interface.

New (Fall 2009): The librarian administration interface and usability has just been improved to make it even easier for librarians to select the specific COUNTER reports they want to receive. Among other things, the Breakdown by User Report has been removed from librarian administration interface. It has been superseded by the COUNTER Consortium Reports, which are specifically designed to report on individual member institution usage.

Online databases on *Reference Global*

New (2010): As of January 1, 2010, the following online databases have been moved from the GBV (North German Library Network) to *Reference Global* and can now be used and administered directly via this platform:

- **Allgemeines Künstlerlexikon Online/Artists of the World Online**
- **AIDA Online.** *Articoli italiani di periodici accademici*
- **Deutsche Biographische Enzyklopädie (DBE) Online** [Dictionary of German Biography Online]
- **Gemälde in Museen – Deutschland, Österreich, Schweiz/Paintings in Museums – Germany, Austria, Switzerland. Online**
- **IBR Online.** Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen geistes- und sozialwissenschaftlicher Literatur/International Bibliography of Book Reviews of Scholarly Literature in the Humanities and Social Sciences
- **IBZ Online.** Internationale Bibliographie der geistes- und sozialwissenschaftlichen Zeitschriftenliteratur/International Bibliography of Periodical Literature in the Humanities and Social Sciences
- **IJBF Online.** Internationale Jahresbibliographie der Festschriften/International Annual Bibliography of Festschriften
- **IJBK Online.** Internationale Jahresbibliographie der Kongressberichte/International Annual Bibliography of Congress (Conference) Proceedings

Purchase options for libraries and institutions

For libraries and institutions, *Reference Global* provides flexible, simple, and customized purchasing and licensing packages: you can buy individual eBooks, receive special offers on fixed eBook packages and take advantage of special offers on flexible eBook packages customized to your needs. eJournals are available on subscription. Subscribers benefit from perpetual access to the contents of volumes purchased, additional access to back-issues during the subscription period and attractive savings on our eJournal subject packages – a convenient and cost-effective way of enhancing any library collection. If you are not a current subscriber, you can of course buy single articles as well.

Growing interest in *Reference Global*

Numerous libraries, universities and institutions have been receiving our electronic publications via *Reference Global* since the platform started in 2008. Scholars, students, librarians and many more users have already registered with the platform and are continuously benefiting from our services and purchase options. All in all, we are happy to note a growing interest in *Reference Global* as a research portal for all academic disciplines currently covered by *De Gruyter*.