

# Next steps: Grey literature

- Identifying grey literature
- Additional search methods to identify papers that might have been missed by the structured search



# Searching for grey literature

Research not published  
commercially

- Conference abstracts
- Theses
- Study protocols
- Preprints
- Official documents & organisational reports



# Additional search methods - snowballing

- Forward & backward citation tracking
- Related articles linking
- Hand-searching conference reports & journals
- Searching trial registers
- Searching preprint archives
- Web searching
- Contacting authors, experts & organisations



# Snowballing on Google Scholar



# Registering your protocol

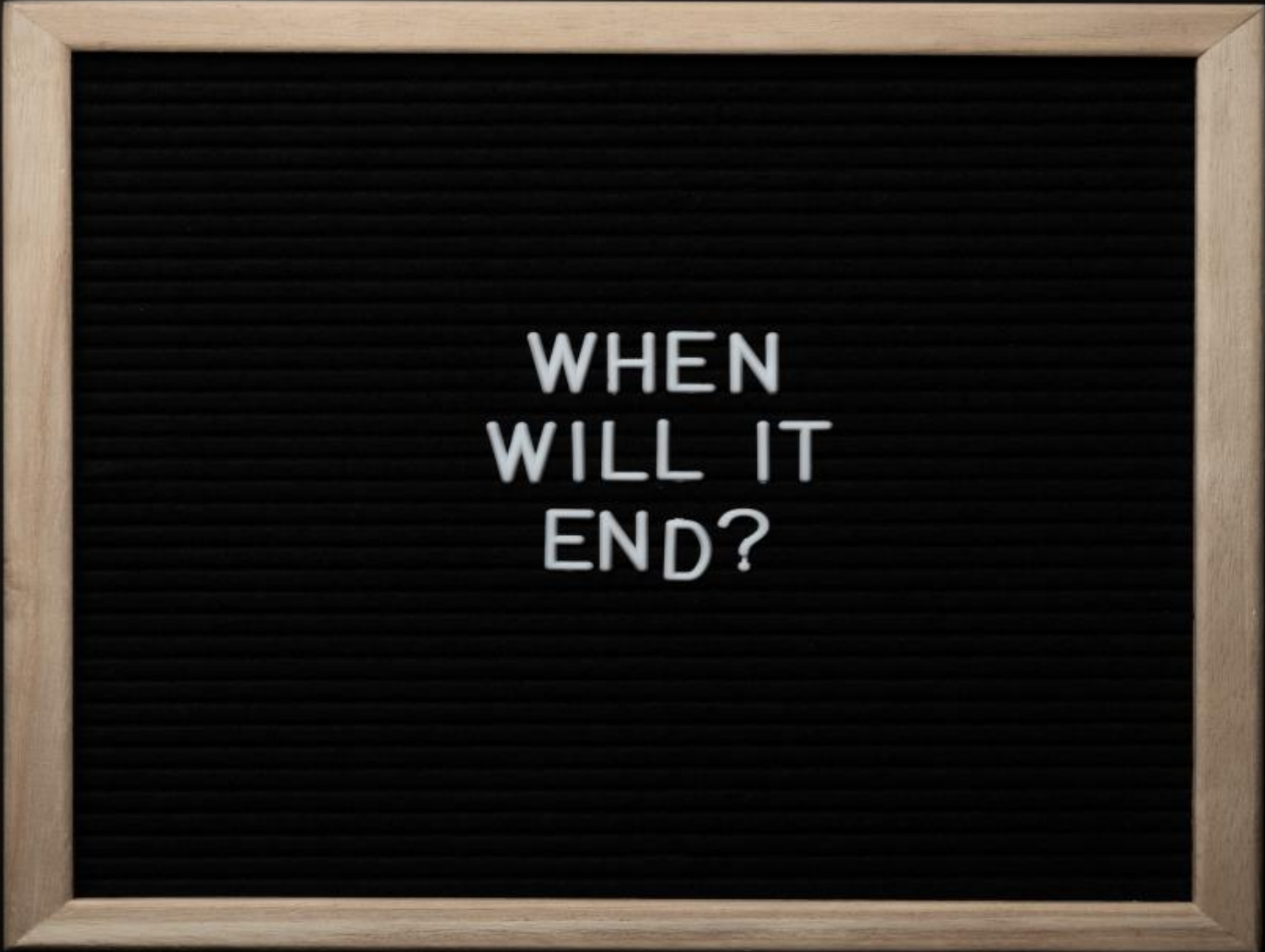
- Once your search methods are finalised, finish & register your protocol
  - PROSPERO
  - Publish in a journal which accepts protocols
  - Preprint archives



# Additional notes

- Managing your references – software choice
  - Reference management e.g. Endnote or Mendeley
  - Review management e.g. Covidence or Rayyan
- Note taking and reporting your search
  - PRISMA-S





WHEN  
WILL IT  
END?