



ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL

Availability (absence) of required attributes

- Journal's registration in accordance with national legal requirements
- ISSN
- Publisher is registered as a publishing entity in its country of origin
- Founder/publisher is registered in accordance with national legal requirements
- Publisher (editor-in-chief) can be easily contacted by different means
- Aims, scope and mission of the journal are clearly stated on its website

Manipulation with Journal's title, founder or publisher

- Journal's title coincides with or is close to the title of another journal
- Journal's title includes reference to an institution (educational or government organizations, etc.), to which it has no relation
- Journal's title is not concrete or combines different scientific areas
- Publisher's or Founder's name includes reference to an institution (educational or government organizations, etc.), to which it has no relation
- A journal publishes articles with different scientific scopes

Manipulation with journal's or publisher's website

- A journal/publisher uses copyrighted content (text or media) without authors' permission
- A journal/publisher provides false information about founders, owners, sponsors, commercial activities, or doesn't provide it at all
- Journal's website provides irrelevant information
- Journal's/publisher's website contains general sentences for the description of key and specific points that do not afford to understand the essence of procedures and rules, as well as the nature of relationships between the owner, the publisher and the journal
- A journal falsely claims its presence in scientometric databases and indexing services. It also provides information about inclusion into dubious metrics and indices
- A journal/publisher claims to be "leading, prominent, outstanding, superior, etc."
- A journal/publisher falsely claims its membership in associations or partnership with organizations
- A journal publishes irrelevant materials (greetings, annual reports, advertisements, etc.)
- A journal provides irrelevant information concerning positions, awards, degrees, ranks of editorial board members/reviewers
- Editorial board consists of members who can hardly be identified, they have abandoned their research activity or have been included into the editorial board without their consent

Innovations and sustainable publishing trends

- Compliance of journal's/publisher's websites with all technical requirements concerning an efficient publishing process and optimal search for articles and primary data through search engines
- A journal supports open-access policy
- A journal provides information on access to subscription articles
- Articles obtain DOI
- Digital archiving of articles (Portico, LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, PubMedCentral, etc.)
- Comprehensive self-archiving policy
- A journal/publisher invests in anti-plagiarism software
- A journal employs Creative Commons licenses
- A journal provides a possibility to submit subscription fees, article processing fees and access to subscription articles through its website
- Subscription fee calculation is based on the share of open-access articles (in a hybrid journal)
- A journal provides "views and downloads" statistics on its website
- Subscription and publishing discount policy for developing (emerging) countries

Compliance with the publication ethics principles

- A journal provides comprehensive publication ethics principles, which are compliant with COPE standards and guidelines
- A journal clearly states all payments and embargo periods, associated with publication, as well as subscription information
- Aggressive and intrusive marketing policy
- Editor-in-chief, editorial board members and reviewers of the journal are engaged with many other journals
- Editor-in-chief systematically publishes in the journal
- A significant number of articles published in the journal are authored by scholars from journal's founding institution
- Level of self-citation by authors
- A journal establishes article submission deadlines and offers urgent publication
- A journal offers academic editing of the articles, translation services, etc.
- A journal offers to publish backdating articles
- A journal states that it does not take any responsibility for plagiarism, data fabrication, fake citations, etc.
- A head of founding institution also acts as journal's editor-in-chief
- A staff of founding institution systematically publishes in the journal
- A journal/publisher participates in the organization of fake conferences
- A journal/publisher takes part in fake conferences and seminars
- Citation level of the articles published in the previous issues of the journal
- A journal offers citation of its articles to the potential authors
- A journal offers quick peer reviewing of manuscripts for an additional fee
- Some social groups have priorities in publication
- A journal requires both submission and publication fees

Formal attributes, indicating the quality of articles

- Citation level of journal's articles in foreign scholarly journals
- Journal's articles are indexed in repositories, catalogs, databases, libraries, collections, etc.
- A journal provides full information about affiliation, country of residence, position, rank and contact details of the authors
- Quality of abstracts
- Compliance of articles with submission guidelines and instructions
- Relevance of the article's content to its title, as well as to journal's scope
- An article contains qualitative and relevant literature review
- The number of literature sources used, their relevance, links to the web page (DOI)

- Geographical diversity of references in articles
- An article published in English utilizes translations from English originals
- References list is prepared in Roman (Latin) script
- Number of co-authors, their affiliation
- Geography of published articles (by authors' affiliations)
- Level of journal's international collaboration
- Articles contain information, concerning research funding
- A journal provides submission date, acceptance date and publication date for the articles
- Titles of articles, their abstracts and keywords are provided in English
- Articles are written in sophisticated academic language
- A journal publishes articles in different languages which are defined by the editorial board

General information about the articles processing

- Acceptance rate of manuscripts
- A journal provides clear peer-review policy and complies with it
- Clear reasons for manuscripts' rejection
- A journal provides clear information concerning the publication period
- A journal provides comprehensive copyright policy
- A journal provides a comprehensive information, concerning conflicts of interests

Editorial staff

- A journal provides comprehensive information about editor-in-chief and editorial board members
- Editorial board consists of well-known scholars who possess substantial research expertise and experience
- Editorial board is based on gender equality principle
- Editor-in-chief and editorial board members have profiles in ResearchGate, ORCID, SSRN, Microsoft Academic, etc.
- Citation level of editor-in-chief's publications in Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar, Microsoft Academic, ResearchGate, etc.
- A journal provides list of reviewers

General description of the journal and its website

- Simplicity and individuality of journal's website and its structure, its integration into publisher's website
- The content of publisher's/journal's website is provided in academic language (other than English)
- The content of publisher's (journal's) website is provided in academic English
- A journal provides direct links that confirm its presence in scientometric databases and indexing services
- Journal's dynamic development for a long period of time
- A journal follows publishing frequency
- Significant fluctuations in number of published articles in different years