



Predatory journals

Identify them to better avoid them

- Please turn off your microphone during the 15 minutes presentation.
- I will be available for answering questions after the presentation.

Thank you!

The session starts at 12:00 pm.





Predatory journals

Identify them to better avoid them



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What is a predatory journal?



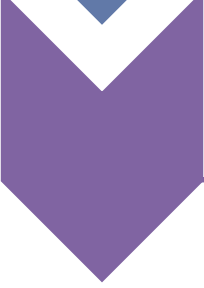
What are their main characteristics?



What are the consequences of publishing in these journals?



Why do researchers publish in these journals?



How to detect them?

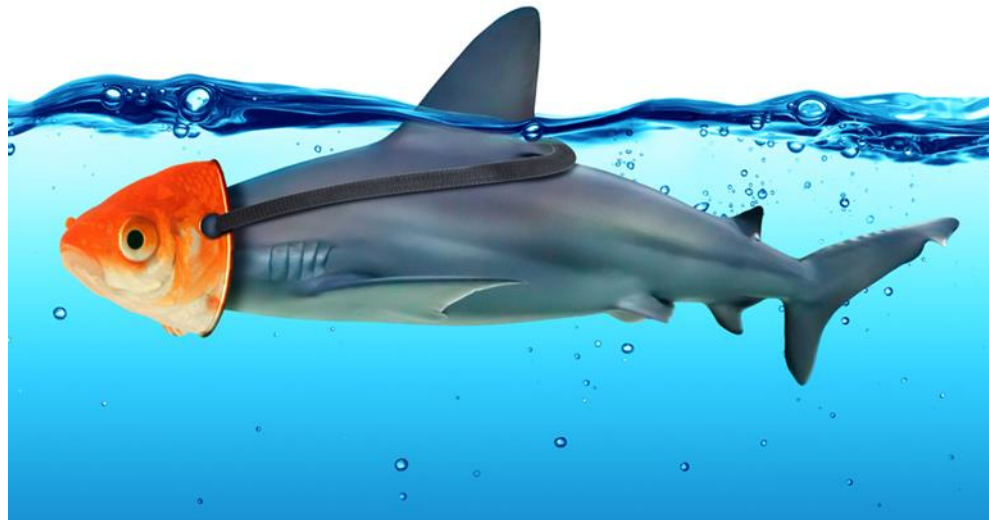


What is a predatory journal?

Focus on *Open Access* predatory journals

A supposedly scientific journal that charges authors publication fees without providing the editorial and peer review services expected of scientific journals.

Objective: make money.





What are their main characteristics?

- Payment required for publication (Article Processing Charge, or APC)
 - Unusually rapid acceptance of submitted manuscripts
 - Little or no peer review
 - Extremely short publication times
-
- Fake editorial board
 - Journal not indexed in major bibliographic databases
 - Falsified impact factor
 - Journal title usurped, website is highjacked
 - Solicitation by repeated mass e-mailings



What are the consequences of publishing in these journals?

Impact on science :

- Scientific approach published without being evaluated
- Dilution of the quality of science
- Openness to lobbies with dubious intentions
- Waste of funds, mainly public, allocated to research
- Undermines the reputation of quality OA journals

Impact on the researcher's career:

- Resubmission to a legitimate journal difficult, if not impossible
- Weakened reputation of the researcher



Why do researchers publish in these journals?

Most are trapped:

- lack of judgement
- lack of knowledge of the publication process, of its functions, and of research and publication ethics
- under "publish or perish" pressure

Others are less critical:

- to increase their number of publications
- to convince/trick the public (effectiveness of a drug, etc.)



How to detect predatory journals?

Directory of Open Access Journals = reliable OA journals

DOAJ OPEN GLOBAL TRUSTED

SUPPORT ♥ ▾ APPLY ▾ SEARCH 🔍

SEARCH ▾ DOCUMENTATION ▾ ABOUT ▾ LOGIN →

DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

Find open access journals & articles.

☒ Journals ☐ Articles

In all fields ▾ **SEARCH**

80
LANGUAGES

135
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

13,436
JOURNALS WITHOUT
APCs

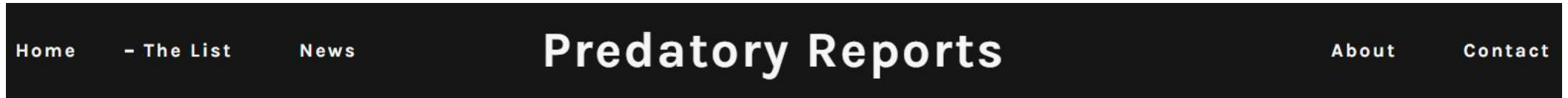
19,963
JOURNALS

9,394,757
ARTICLE RECORDS

<https://doaj.org/>

How to detect predatory journals?

Lists of predatory publishers and predatory journals



The Predatory Publishers List 2023



Publishers

The Predatory Journals List 2023



Journals

<https://predatoryreports.org/home>

How to detect predatory journals?

Decision support tools :



Checklist to help you determine whether a journal is reliable and meets the criteria of scientific rigour.

<https://thinkchecksubmit.org>



Reference this list for your chosen journal to check if it is trusted.

Do you or your colleagues know the journal?

- ☐ Have you read any articles in the journal before?
- ☐ Is it easy to discover the latest papers in the journal?
- ☐ Name of the journal: the name is unique; it is not the same or easily confused with another journal.
- ☐ Can you cross check with information about the journal in the [ISSN portal](#)?

Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?

- ☐ Is the publisher name clearly displayed on the journal website?
- ☐ Can you contact the publisher by telephone, email, and post?

How to detect predatory journals?

Decision support tools :



<https://app.lib.uliege.be/compass-to-publish/>



Testez une revue

Revue et maisons d'éditions prédatrices ▼

Méthodologie

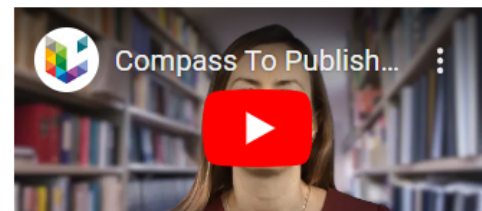
À propos ▼

Compass to Publish

Are you suspicious of a journal's authenticity? Is it a **predatory journal**?

These are legitimate questions if you're invited to submit a paper that:

- promises your rapid publication;
- has procedures and/or policies that look suspicious;
- is outside of your area(s) of expertise.



How to detect predatory journals?

Compass to Publish

The quantified scale comprises 7 shades of color, which are meant to categorize and explain the potential fake and/or deceptive character of tested journals:

Dark red	Your answers indicate that the journal is very likely to be predatory. It is best to avoid it altogether.
Medium red	This journal is highly suspicious. There are many signs indicating it may be a predatory journal.
Light red	This journal looks risky.
Yellow	Your answers make it hard to determine whether or not this may be a predatory journal.
Light green	The risk that this may be a predatory journal is fairly limited.
Medium green	This is most likely not a predatory journal.
Dark green	Rest assured! Everything seems to indicate that this journal is very unlikely to be predatory.

Useful links

- UNESCO : Identifying predatory academic journals and conferences. Factsheet. OPEN SCIENCE TOOLKIT. 2022.
<https://doi.org/10.54677/VQWQ5022>
- Predatory Publishing. <https://predatory-publishing.com/>
- Combatting Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences. InterAcademy Partnership. Report.
<https://www.interacademies.org/project/predatorypublishing>
- COPE: Committee on Publication Ethics | Promoting integrity in scholarly research and its publication. <https://publicationethics.org/>
- ULB intranet: [Predatory journals](#)

Thank you!

For any additional information,
do not hesitate to contact me:

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