

International Journal of Conservation Science (IJCS) is a high quality peer-reviewed journal devoted to the publication of original research papers in applied conservation science and its broad range of applications.

Our topics cover all disciplines and branches of modern scientific conservation; environmental & materials science and engineering, cross-related problems concerning research applied to conservation science, biodiversity conservation:

Conservation Science / Cultural Heritage
Biodiversity Conservation
Environmental Science and Engineering
Materials Science and Engineering



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Publication Ethics, Rights and Malpractice

in agreement with the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#)

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1.1 Alignment with COPE

IJCS follows the principles and Core Practices of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

Publishers and editors will take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred. Plagiarism software is used for the primary check-up of manuscripts. Research misconduct is not tolerated.

In no case shall the journal, publisher, or editors encourage such misconduct, or knowingly allow such misconduct to take place.

1.2 Editorial Independence

The Editorial Board operates independently of the publisher and the funding organization. Financial or institutional support does not influence editorial decisions. All decisions are based exclusively on scientific merit, originality, peer-review evaluation, and relevance to the journal's scope.

2. BUSINESS MODEL, REVENUE AND TRANSPARENCY

2.1 Revenue Sources and Business Model

IJCS operates under a Gold Open Access academic publishing model, funded primarily by APCs.

The journal is published with financial support from the Romanian Inventors Forum (*Forumului Inventatorilor Români – FIR*), a non-governmental, non-profit scientific organization.

2.2 Publication Fees

IJCS applies an **Article Publication Charge (APC) of 700 EUR, payable only after acceptance**, with discount options for invited scholars, outstanding manuscripts, and authors from lower-income countries.

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No advertising material is associated with published articles. The journal operates independently of commercial influence, and all editorial decisions are based solely on scholarly merit, peer-review evaluation, and scientific relevance.

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All electronic content (website, manuscripts, etc.) is stored in three different sources. A copy is preserved on two backup sources. In case of server failure, restoration is expected within 48–96 hours.

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this way, copies of articles are presented to the scientific community through these systems as an alternative to journals.

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Romanian Inventors Forum assumes responsibility for archiving all digital materials for as long as needed.

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We follow current standards and best practices in digital archiving and preservation.

4.5 Repository Policy

Authors are permitted to deposit:

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In institutional or recognized repositories, proper citation and a DOI link are provided. Authors are encouraged to preserve the final PDF on the journal website and update preprint records with publication links.

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Authors could choose an official or suitable online platform to archive articles through [Directory of Open Access Repositories](#).

5. PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

5.1 Ethical Oversight

Research misconduct is not tolerated.

All manuscripts are screened using plagiarism and AI detection software prior to peer review.

5.2 Editorial Oversight and Citation Integrity

The journal maintains strict editorial oversight to ensure ethical citation practices.

Editors and reviewers must not:

- Encourage excessive self-citation
- Request citation of specific articles without scholarly justification
- Manipulate citation patterns to influence journal metrics

Citation manipulation, including coercive citation practices, is considered research misconduct.

All references must be relevant and personally consulted.

5.3 Plagiarism, Reproducibility, and Falsification

Authors must report their work accurately and precisely in order to be reproduced by other researchers independently. Plagiarism and falsification in any part of the submitted paper are serious offences to the scientific community and must be strictly avoided.

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It is unethical for authors to submit multiple similar manuscripts for publication at a time. It is also unethical for authors to submit a manuscript that has already been published or is under review elsewhere.

The publication that exhibits substantial overlapping with two or more previous publications without appropriate cross-referencing or justification for the overlap, i.e., redundant publications, is accepted only if:

- (i) It strengthens academic discourse
- (ii) Proper citation to the original source is included

5.5 Data and Supporting Evidence

We support transparency and openness around data, code, and other materials associated with research. We expect authors to maintain accurate records of supporting evidence necessary to allow others to understand, verify, and replicate new findings, and to supply or provide access to this supporting evidence, on reasonable request.

Authors are encouraged to include a Data Availability Statement and deposit data in recognized repositories.

Authors may be required to provide raw data during editorial review to verify research findings.

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Authors should not include generative AI technology as a co-author or author on any submitted manuscript. Generative AI technologies cannot be held accountable for all aspects of a manuscript, and thus do not meet the criteria for authorship.

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The journal respects intellectual property rights and will act upon verified IP infringement claims in accordance with international publishing standards.

5.10 Research Involving Humans or Animals

Research involving humans or animals should be approved by relevant ethics committee(s) and should conform to international ethical and legal standards for research. We also expect authors to respect human participants' right to privacy, and to gain any necessary consent to publish before submitting to IJCS

Research must comply with relevant ethical standards and EU Directive 2010/63/EU. Human participants' privacy and consent must be respected.

5.11 Corrections, Retractions & Expressions of Concern (Post-Publication Corrections)

If a published article violates ethical standards, it will be retracted and the databases will be notified.

Authors involved in unethical issues may be banned from publication for a specified period.

Corrections or clarifications may be issued based on letters to the editor.

Possible actions include:

- Correction (Erratum/Corrigendum)
- Expression of Concern
- Retraction

Retractions follow COPE guidelines and remain permanently linked to the original article.

5.12 Process for Identification and Handling of Research Misconduct

The publisher and editors take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers involving:

- Plagiarism
- Citation manipulation
- Data fabrication or falsification
- Image manipulation
- Redundant publication

If an allegation arises, the journal will:

- Conduct preliminary assessment
- Contact the corresponding author
- Seek independent evaluation
- Notify institutions when appropriate
- Follow COPE flowcharts

The journal may issue an Expression of Concern while investigations are ongoing, in accordance with COPE recommendations.

If misconduct is confirmed, actions may include:

- Rejection
- Correction
- Retraction
- Institutional notification
- Temporary or permanent submission ban

Investigations are confidential, fair, and unbiased.

5.13 Appeals and Complaints Procedure

Authors may appeal editorial decisions in writing. Appeals are reviewed independently and may involve additional reviewers. The Editor-in-Chief's final decision after appeal is binding.

Complaints regarding editorial handling, ethics, or peer review are treated confidentially under COPE Core Practices. No retaliation is permitted.

6. PEER REVIEW PROCESS

IJCS uses single-blind peer review, with each manuscript being evaluated by at least two independent experts. Reviewers must have no conflict of interest.

Evaluation criteria:

- Scientific originality
- Methodological rigor
- Reproducibility
- Ethical compliance
- Relevance

Review time: 4–24 weeks. Revision does not guarantee acceptance.

7. CITATION ETHICS POLICY

Excessive self-citation is discouraged. Editors and reviewers must not request unnecessary citations.

Advertisements are not acceptable citation sources.

8. GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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- b. The contents of papers submitted to IJCS are the sole responsibility of the authors, who are fully responsible for any kind of plagiarism or errors.
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- d. If the papers have multiple authors, all listed authors should have a significant contribution to the work, all of them must approve the final version, and all of them must approve the submission of the paper; their contributions should be mentioned in the Credit Author Statement section.
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9. POST-PUBLICATION DISCUSSION

The journal permits scholarly discussion through Letters to the Editor.

Concerns regarding published articles will be investigated in accordance with COPE standards.

The IJCS publishes 4 regular issues/year (March/June/September/December) and could have Special Issues dedicated to scientific events.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

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Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background from literature.

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This should include key findings of the research, quantitative analytical performance figures (if appropriate) and their significance.

Abbreviations

Define all abbreviations at their first appearance in the text. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Acknowledgements

Insert acknowledgements only in a separate section at the end of the article before the references. List here those individuals who provided help during the research.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc.

Math formulae

Present simple formulae in the line of normal text wherever possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., A/B. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text.

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If with your accepted article you submit **color figures** then we assure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color on electronic format.

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The figures must be included on their position in the text. Use in line with text – setting for image (do not use text wrapping). Make sure that the figures to be cited in text (Fig. 1). Provide captions of the figures next to them, use Times New Roman, size 8. Example of figure caption: **Fig. 1.** SEM image of the surface: 500X

Tables

Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in tables do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please use Times New Roman, size 8.

Example of table caption: **Table 1.** The EDX composition of the obtained layer.

References

Please make sure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text.

Reference Style used is IEEE.

Reference style

Text: Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text [1]. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given. Example: "..... the research done by R. Donald [1], O. Michael and C. Ronald [2]. A. Pantiru et al [3] concluded that.... and other studies [4], [5], [6]". Also, more references could be included like [7]-[10]. **List:** Number the references in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

The references should be formatted according to **IEEE Publication Operations**, see here [\[instructions here\]](#). Up to 6 (six) authors should all be written, from 7, only first and et al.

Examples:

Material Type	Works Cited
Book	[1] D. Sarunyagate, Ed., <i>Lasers</i> . New York: McGraw-Hill, 1996.
Chapter in book	[2] G. O. Young, "Synthetic structure of industrial plastics," in <i>Plastics</i> , 2nd ed., vol. 3, J. Peters, Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1964, pp. 15-64.
eBook	[3] L. Bass, P. Clements, and R. Kazman, <i>Software Architecture in Practice</i> , 2nd ed. Reading, MA: Addison Wesley, 2003. [E-book] Available: Safari e-book.
Journal article	[4] G. Liu, K. Y. Lee, and H. F. Jordan, "TDM and TWDM de Bruijn networks and shufflenets for optical communications," <i>IEEE Trans. Comp.</i> , vol. 46, pp. 695-701, June 1997.
eJournal	[5] H. Ayasso and A. Mohammad-Djafari, "Joint NDT Image Restoration and Segmentation Using Gauss–Markov–Potts Prior Models and Variational Bayesian Computation," <i>IEEE Transactions on Image Processing</i> , vol. 19, no. 9, pp. 2265-77, 2010. [Online]. Available: IEEE Xplore, http://www.ieee.org . [Accessed Sept. 10, 2010].
eJournal	[6] A. Altun, "Understanding hypertext in the context of reading on the web: Language learners' experience," <i>Current Issues in Education</i> , vol. 6, no. 12, July, 2005. [Online serial]. Available: http://cie.ed.asu.edu/volume6/number12/ . [Accessed Dec. 2, 2007].
Conference paper	[7] L. Liu and H. Miao, "A specification based approach to testing polymorphic attributes," in <i>Formal Methods and Software Engineering: Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods, ICFEM 2004, Seattle, WA, USA, November 8-12, 2004</i> , J. Davies, W. Schulte, M. Barnett, Eds. Berlin: Springer, 2004. pp. 306-19.
Conference proceedings	[8] T. J. van Weert and R. K. Munro, Eds., <i>Informatics and the Digital Society: Social, ethical and cognitive issues: IFIP TC3/WG3.1&3.2 Open</i>

	Conference on Social, Ethical and Cognitive Issues of Informatics and ICT, July 22-26, 2002, Dortmund, Germany. Boston: Kluwer Academic, 2003.
Newspaper article (from database)	[9] J. Riley, "Call for new look at skilled migrants," <i>The Australian</i> , p. 35, May 31, 2005. [Online]. Available: Factiva, http://global.factiva.com . [Accessed May 31, 2005].
Technical report	[10] K. E. Elliott and C.M. Greene, "A local adaptive protocol," Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, France, Tech. Rep. 916-1010-BB, 1997.
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