

**Let's speak about Predatory and non-Predatory Journals:
The following publishers are not predatory in any sense: IASTED,
ACTA Press, IARIA, IARAS, WSEAS, NAUN, IAENG, WIT
Press**

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Abstract: - Predatory journals—also called fraudulent, deceptive, or pseudo-journals—are publications that claim to be legitimate scholarly journals, but misrepresent their publishing practices. Some common forms of predatory publishing practices include falsely claiming to provide peer review, hiding information about Article Processing Charges (APCs), misrepresenting members of the journal's editorial board, and other violations of copyright or scholarly ethics. Because of their increasing prevalence, this article aims to provide helpful information for authors on how to identify and avoid predatory journals.

In this paper we test the following small Publishers and we have discovered that their reviews are real peer review. They have strict evaluation indeed. Actually they have rigorous peer review. Some times

better than some bigger publishers. They are reliable. They do not say lies. They do not target on the registration fees (APC). **So, they are not predatory**

- IASTED (Acta Press, www.actapress.com)
- IARIA (www.iaria.org)
- IARAS (www.iaras.org)
- WSEAS (www.wseas.com)
- NAUN (www.npublications.com and www.naun.org)
- IAENG (www.iaeng.org)
- WIT Press (<http://www.witpress.com>)

We sent several articles to some of their Journals (see below) and we found that they have a wonderful system of peer review, they do not claim fake impact factors or fake cites scores, they do not say lies and they do not target our money. We sent them many articles in the recent years and they accepted approximately 20% of the submitted articles. So, they are reliable, real, genuine Journals (and not predatory). See the list of the Journals that we tested in the Section 4.

Key-Words: - Fake peer review; deceptive journals, predatory publishing, predatory journals, non-predatory Journals, scholarly communications, publishing ethics. The following publishers are not predatory in any sense: IASTED, ACTA Press, IARIA, IARAS, WSEAS, NAUN, IAENG, WIT Press.

1 Predatory Journals: What They Are and How to Avoid Them

In [1], the authors claim the following:

Jeffrey Beall, a librarian at the University of Colorado in Denver, is often credited as coining the term “predatory publishers,” which he described as organizations that “publish counterfeit journals to exploit the open-access model in which the author pays. These predatory publishers are dishonest and lack transparency. They aim to dupe researchers, especially those inexperienced in scholarly communication.”

1 Beall also hosted a list of publishers he believed to be predatory on his blog, Scholarly Open Access, from 2012 to 2017, [1].

2 Since the popular “Beall’s List” was taken down, several other tools have been created to make it easier to identify which journals are reliable and which are potentially predatory, [1].

3. The main goal of predatory journals is profit. They attempt to deceive authors to publish for a fee without providing robust peer-review or editorial services, thereby putting profit over trustworthy and dependable science. For many,

career progression depends on publishing, so one may look for journals that promise to publish all submissions. However, there is variation in an author’s ability to assess an unfamiliar journal and this is how predatory journals are able to persist. The purpose of this article is to provide useful information for an author to assess whether or not a journal engages in predatory practices, [1].

2. Why you should avoid submitting to predatory publishers, [1].

In [1], Susan A. Elmore, Eleanor H. Weston say: Many authors first encounter predatory publishers when they receive emails requesting that the author submit an article to one of their journals. These emails can be extremely flattering, make promises to publish anything the author submits, or promise review and publication on an unusually fast timeline. It may be tempting for authors to submit to these journals, particularly if they are not aware that it may be a scam, or if they are in a hurry to be published. However, submitting articles to predatory journals may have serious negative consequences such as the ones listed below.

• **Fake peer review undermines the scientific conversation, [1].**

One of the most common forms of fraudulent publishing practices is for predatory journals to claim to provide true peer review when they do not. This practice leads to many problems in the broader context of scientific progress. Articles with flawed research or communication issues do not receive the benefit of peer feedback before publication and can be published with inaccurate information. Articles with low-quality or deliberately false information, which true peer review would likely catch, are also sometimes published in these journals. When articles like these are published under the false pretense of having received peer review, it can allow misinformation to enter the broader research community and slow or divert effort away from more legitimate lines of investigation.

• **Publishing in a low-quality journal can make your research harder to find and less likely to be used by others, [1].**

Because fraudulent journals are perceived to be low quality and untrustworthy, researchers in your field are less likely to browse those journals or read them on their own⁵. Therefore, articles containing important research findings may be passed over by the broader scientific community. Many popular citation databases also do not index low quality journals, so other researchers may not be able to find your work just by searching by topic.

• **You could be scammed and lose your work, [1].** The goal of predatory publishers is to convince authors to pay an APC while performing the least amount of work possible on the publisher's side. Sometimes, this includes not actually publishing accepted articles, taking articles or journal websites offline without notice, or publishing submitted articles before authors have signed a publishing agreement. Since many legitimate publishers will not accept articles that have been published before, submitting an article to a predatory publisher can be risky, even if you ultimately decide not to publish with them, [1].

3. Tools and strategies to avoid predatory publishers

To avoid predatory journals and publishers, there are a number of techniques that an author can employ. These can be as simple as looking through the journal's archives for articles that seem off-topic, checking that the APCs and review process are clearly stated on the journal website, or just checking for grammar and spelling mistakes in solicitation emails. There are also several tools and checklists now available for verifying the identity of publishers. [1].

4. Five ways to spot a predatory journal or publisher [9]

In [9], the author shows 5 ways to spot a predatory Journal or a Predatory Publisher

a. If the journal does not require APCs, it is not a predatory journal, [9].

The whole culture of predatory publishing (and predatory congress organizing) is founded on getting easy money from researchers. If publishing in the journal does not cost you anything (be sure to read carefully all the information in the webpage and the email-offer you received), you can be sure that the journal is non-predatory (although its scientific quality may not be good).

b. If the journal is classified in Publication Forum at least to level 1, it probably is not a predatory journal, [9].

In the Publication Forum, maintained by the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, journals are classified by expert panels to four different categories (0, 1, 2, 3). At level 0 there are publications which are not thought to fulfill the criteria set to scientific publications (as at level 1). This may be because the journal is a trade journal or because it is still so new that the editorial etc. practices of scientific publication are not yet fully established. The level 0 includes also the publications which are judged to be predatory journals. In contrast, the level 1 does not include predatory journals because they do not usually fulfill the strict criteria demanded. Therefore if the journal is classified to at least

level 1 in the Publication Forum, you can usually trust it to be a high-quality publication channel. It has to be noted, however, that in level 0 there are quite acceptable publications which do not profess to be scientific research publications. In addition to Publication forum, another good place to search for quality open access publication channels is Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). The criteria for the journals to be accepted to DOAJ is strict and once the journal is accepted to DOAJ, it probably is no predatory publication. The directory includes search by fields of science and you can also choose between free and APC- journals.

3. If a journal's peer -review process is very quick or seems artificial, it is probably a predatory journal, [9].

Predatory publishers are interested in money instead of advancing scientific research and therefore the peer-review process is a necessary evil which has to be dealt with minimum time and effort – the process is either a mock-one or non-existent. Very often it is extremely quick, lasting a week at most which is almost unheard of in responsible journals. Typically the article is accepted with minimal revisions or as it is. This is one of the reasons why some proper journals are transferring to open peer-review process.

4. If the journal sends you email-messages and offers constantly, you should be suspicious of its intentions, [9].

Researchers are lured by active spamming. Predatory publications are very active in presenting their services. For example, after a conference or an article published they often send you a whole lot of offers (like publishing the article you just published or publishing a presentation you gave in a conference). Sometimes the offer concerns a membership in their editorial board. Be critical of these offers

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the responsible journals usually do not need this kind of marketing because they will receive enough manuscripts without asking. So if you are receiving a lot of spam from publishers like Lambert, Science PG or ImedPub, just ignore them or at least check to what level they are classified in the Publication Forum.

5. If the content of the journal is suspicious, it may be a predatory journal. Finally, the most important way to spot a predatory journal is to look at its content, [9].

There are often helpful discussions on suspicious journals in social media channels, especially Twitter. If the articles do not seem to be scientific or are very grandiose, the emphasis in the journal is clearly not the promotion of research. If the field of the journal is very extensive or the name of the journal pompous, this is also suspicious. If you do not recognize any member of the editorial board or none of your colleagues are aware of the journal, it is best to check it from the Publication Forum, DOAJ or Wikipedia. Most of the predatory publishers are located in India, Africa and other third world countries. It is good to check whether the peer-review process and APCs are presented clearly in the webpage of the journal. It is also worthwhile to check Google or Twitter for discussions of the journal or its publisher

4. Some Small Publishers which are NOT Predatory

We have tested the following Publishers and their reviews are real peer review. They have strict evaluation. They have rigorous peer review. They are reliable. They do not say lies. They do not target on the registration fees (APC). So, they are not predatory

- **IASTED (Acta Press, www.actapress.com)**
- **IARIA (www.iaria.org)**
- **IARAS (www.iasaras.org)**
- **WSEAS (www.wseas.com)**
- **NAUN (www.npublications.com and www.naun.org)**
- **IAENG (www.iaeng.org)**
- **WIT Press (<http://www.witpress.com>)**

We sent several articles to the following Journals and we found that they have a wonderful system of peer review, they do not claim fake impact factors or fake cites scores, they do not say lies and they do not target our

money. We sent them many articles in the recent years and they accepted approximately 20% of the submitted articles. So, they are reliable, real, genuine Journals (and not predatory)

- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON SYSTEMS AND CONTROL
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON ELECTRONICS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED AND THEORETICAL MECHANICS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON HEAT AND MASS TRANSFER
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON FLUID MECHANICS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS
- Financial Engineering
- International Journal of Environmental Engineering and Development
- International Journal of Chemical Engineering and Materials
- International Journal on Applied Physics and Engineering
- International Journal of Applied Sciences & Development
- Engineering World
- Int. J. of Applied Mathematics,
- Computational Science and Systems Engineering
- Int. J. of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Int. J. of Computational and Applied Mathematics & Computer Science
- PROOF
- EQUATIONS DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE
- MOLECULAR SCIENCES AND APPLICATIONS
- EARTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN CONSTRUCTIONS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON COMPUTERS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON ADVANCES in ENGINEERING EDUCATION

- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON SIGNAL PROCESSING
- WSEAS TRANSACTIONS ON ACOUSTICS AND MUSIC

6. Conclusion

In this paper we test small Publishers and we have discovered that their reviews are real peer review. They have strict evaluation. They have rigorous peer review. They are reliable. They do not say lies. They do not target on the registration fees (APC). **So, the following publishers are not predatory**

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