

Annual Report **2021**



Academic Open Access Publishing
since 1996

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About MDPI

As a pioneer in academic open access publishing, MDPI has been focused on serving and strengthening the scientific community since 1996. In 2021, MDPI journals continued to have considerable impact in the open access publications market. Our purpose is to provide a valuable service to the academic community.

Our mission is to foster scientific exchange in its various forms, across all scientific disciplines. The driving principles behind everything that we do are the following:



ACCESSIBILITY

We offer all readers free and unlimited access to the latest research and science. All of our content is published in open access format and distributed under a Creative Commons License, which means free distribution and the right to share and reuse published articles.



EFFICIENCY AND SPEED

We adhere to a rapid publication procedure to ensure cutting-edge research is quickly disseminated, using thorough and precise editorial work. A first decision is usually provided to authors within two to three weeks; once accepted, papers are published within approximately one week.



SERVICE

We aim to provide a reliable service that supports scholars and their work. By offering digital publishing solutions and research-tailored services to disseminate open science, MDPI supports scientific communities worldwide to make a positive impact on research. We are constantly developing and improving our technology and digital products for scientists, including our peer-reviewed paper publications on mdpi.com, the platform Preprints for early publications and our scientific conferences tool Sciforum.



FLEXIBILITY

In a changing and evolving publishing environment, MDPI is constantly adapting, developing, and improving its digital solutions and services to meet the needs of research communities. By incorporating feedback from authors, editors, and readers, we are constantly strengthening our leading position as an open access publishing house.



SIMPLICITY

All of our tools and services can be found in one place and prioritize user-friendliness. Simple processes keep our editorial process highly efficient and cost effective.



SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a key theme in our journals. We support this by ensuring the long-term preservation of published papers and the future of science through partnerships, sponsorships, and awards.



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We are committed to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diversity. Our focus is on eliminating barriers to participation, extending equal opportunities across all stakeholders, and ensuring that our practices and policies promote equitable treatment and do not allow, condone, or result in discrimination.

Message from the CEO

In 2021, at MDPI we made headway in our quest to drive scholarly publishing towards greater flexibility, speed, and transparency, with free access to all published content.

Although the academic publishing market slowed down in 2021, after an exceptional year in 2020, we gained a greater share of the open access market in terms of total publication output: 14% of Gold Open Access content appeared within MDPI journals.

Overall, we published 235,638 peer-reviewed articles, an increase of almost 50% from the previous year.

The distribution of authorship across all parts of the world is a true testament to MDPI's global reach. Our workforce of 5700 employees (an increase of 53% from 2020) collaborates to provide our global service from 19 offices worldwide, including new offices established in 2021 in Canada, Poland, and Singapore.

25 YEARS OF MDPI

Indeed, 2021 was a special year, in which MDPI celebrated the 25th anniversary of its original foundation.

Since 1996, MDPI has been at the heart of the transition to open access, pushing boundaries and setting the pace for the evolution of publishing services. MDPI's mission continues to be about putting the author at the center of everything we do, and ensuring that rigorous, high-quality research is disseminated as widely and as quickly as possible.

MDPI's focus on service can be traced back to the company's origins. The founder, Dr. Shu-Kun Lin, believed scientists deserved a better service from the publishing world, and he therefore created an organization to fulfil this need. He was keen to establish MDPI as an author-focused publisher, rooted in the scientific community, run by scientists for scientists.



Today, MDPI is a significant presence in the academic publishing market. Defined by our energy and strength, we pride ourselves on being a constantly evolving organization that focuses on flexibility, service, and transparency. We invest in our people, recruiting to ensure that we have the necessary capacity and skills to serve the global scientific community.

EXPANDED COVERAGE

We are grateful to collaborate with a highly qualified group of more than 2000 Editors-in-Chief who guide our editorial processes and drive the progress of MDPI journals.

In 2021, 84 new titles were launched, and two journals were acquired by MDPI from other publishers.

Eleven journals were accepted for coverage in the Science Citation Index Expanded (Web of Science): *Axioms*, *Batteries*, *Bioengineering*, *Biomimetics*, *Drones*, *Fire*, *Fishes*, *Inorganics*, *Journal of Functional Biomaterials*, *Lubricants* and *Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease*. Additionally, three journals (*Behavioral Sciences*, *Journal of Intelligence*, and *Systems*) were accepted into the Social Sciences Citation Index (Web of Science).

In total, 85 MDPI journals received an Impact Factor within the Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate, 2021), of which 96% increased their Impact Factor from 2019, and 38% ranked among the top 25% of journals, in at least one category.

Fourteen journals were accepted for coverage within Scopus in 2021: *Instruments*, *Quantum Beam Science*, *Quantum Reports*, *Societies*, *Antibodies*, *Administrative Sciences*, *Epigenomes*, *Heritage*, *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, *Children*, *Philosophies*, *Cells*, *Ceramics*, and *Smart Cities*.

This past year, 159 journals received a 2020 CiteScore (Scopus, 2021), of which 90% of our journals increased their CiteScore from 2019, and 32% of journals ranked among the top 25% of journals, in at least one category.

PEER REVIEW

The 2021 Peer Review Week was held from 20 to 24 September. In a video produced for the event, we shone a light on some of the people at MDPI who are working hard behind the scenes to ensure the most efficient and high-quality peer review for all manuscripts. At MDPI, we value reviewers' work and fully understand that peer review is the most important stage in the editorial process.

To promote transparency in peer review, MDPI provides all authors with the option of open peer review, in which review reports and authors' replies are published alongside articles. We believe that increasing openness in the peer

review process is beneficial for all parties, to enhance trust and provide readers with an insight into the editorial decision-making process. In 2021, 22% of the authors publishing in MDPI journals opted for open peer review.

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability remains at the core of MDPI's mission. For over two decades, MDPI has been supporting sustainability by concrete actions and internal organizational behavior as well as by promotion of research in the area through one of its flagship journals, *Sustainability*, and the World Sustainability Forum conference series. In 2020, we initiated the Sustainable Development Goals Book Series, centered on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), pursuing environmentally and socially relevant research which contributes to efforts toward a sustainable world. Other MDPI journals publishing related research in the field are: *Climate*, *Environments*, *Water*, *Land*, *Energies*, *Clean Technologies* and a few others.

As an organization, since its inception MDPI has always had a very low carbon footprint, striving to maintain low costs and efficiency in all its activities: electronic publication and communication, printing books and articles only on demand, keeping travelling to the strictly necessary physical presence. In 2021, we signed up to the United Nations' SDG Publishers Compact.

LOOKING AHEAD

We close 2021 with a celebration of 25 years of MDPI, feeling proud and accomplished. We step into 2022 with excitement to continue our mission towards making open science available for all.



Delia Mihaila
Chief Executive Officer

25 Years of MDPI

1996

MDPI's founder, Dr. Shu-Kun Lin, is a chemist who was passionate about the long-term preservation of rare chemical samples. From the very beginning, he has been determined to help scholars publish their findings as quickly as possible and make their research results available to as wide a readership as possible. It all started in the very early days of the digital age, when Dr. Lin launched the chemistry journal titled *Molecules*—one of the first online scientific journals in the chemistry field.

At around the same time, 25 years ago, Dr. Lin set up a center for the collection and exchange of rare chemical samples. The name “MDPI” originated from this particular project: “Molecular Diversity Preservation International”.

Fellow chemists met during the “First International Electronic Conference on Synthetic Organic Chemistry” (ECSOC-1) in September 1997.

1998

1999

1997

The Editorial Board for a second journal, the *International Journal of Molecular Sciences (IJMS)*, took shape. The following year, our third journal *Entropy* was launched.

IJMS started publication with Prof. Jerzy Leszczynski as the founding Editor-in-Chief, as well as the inclusion of two Nobel Laureates on the Editorial Board (Dr. Jerome Karle, Naval Research Laboratory and Prof. Yuan-Tseh Lee, Academia Sinica).

2000

2002

2001

Our first Editorial Office outside of Switzerland was set up at Ocean University in the seaside city of Qingdao, in Shandong Province, China. The office had to be closed again in 2003 due to the spread of the SARS virus from November 2002.

There, MDPI's first in-person conference was held, entitled the “International Symposium on Frontiers in Molecular Science” in July 2002 (ISFMS2002).

Sensors was founded in 2001, and is now a staple in the area of physical, chemical and biochemical sensors.

2003

Marine Drugs began publication, a journal publishing research on biologically active compounds from the ocean.

2004

The *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (IJERPH)* was launched by its Founding Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Paul B. Tchounwou, who continues to lead the journal. *IJERPH* now has 34 sections, covering all aspects related to environmental quality and public health.

2005

Proceeds from MDPI's publication business began covering the company's publication costs for the first time, after more than a decade.

2006

2007

2008

MDPI published the first two papers that were based on experimental software which had been developed and tested in the previous year to convert manuscripts to XML (Extensible Markup Language). The XML conversion system was further improved to produce standardized HTML and PDF versions from 2011, and this code continues to be used today.

MDPI employed 1110 Production Editors (as of end 2021) to ensure timely and high-quality publication of XML, HTML, and PDF versions of our papers.

2009

Our portfolio of journals quickly expanded from twelve to two dozen. Among the key journals established that year were *Nutrients*, *Remote Sensing*, *Cancers*, *Viruses*, and *Polymers*.

2010

Upon reaching the ten-year mark for the journal, in 2019, the Founding Editor-in-Chief of *Polymers*, Prof. Alexander Böker, remarked that "the core concept, namely that open access publishing can stand for high-quality publications, is working well. On a daily basis, ever since the journal's foundation, the Editorial team and the Editorial Board dedicate themselves to ensuring a high-quality rigorous peer review process".

MDPI reached a milestone of 20,000 papers published by 20 February 2012.

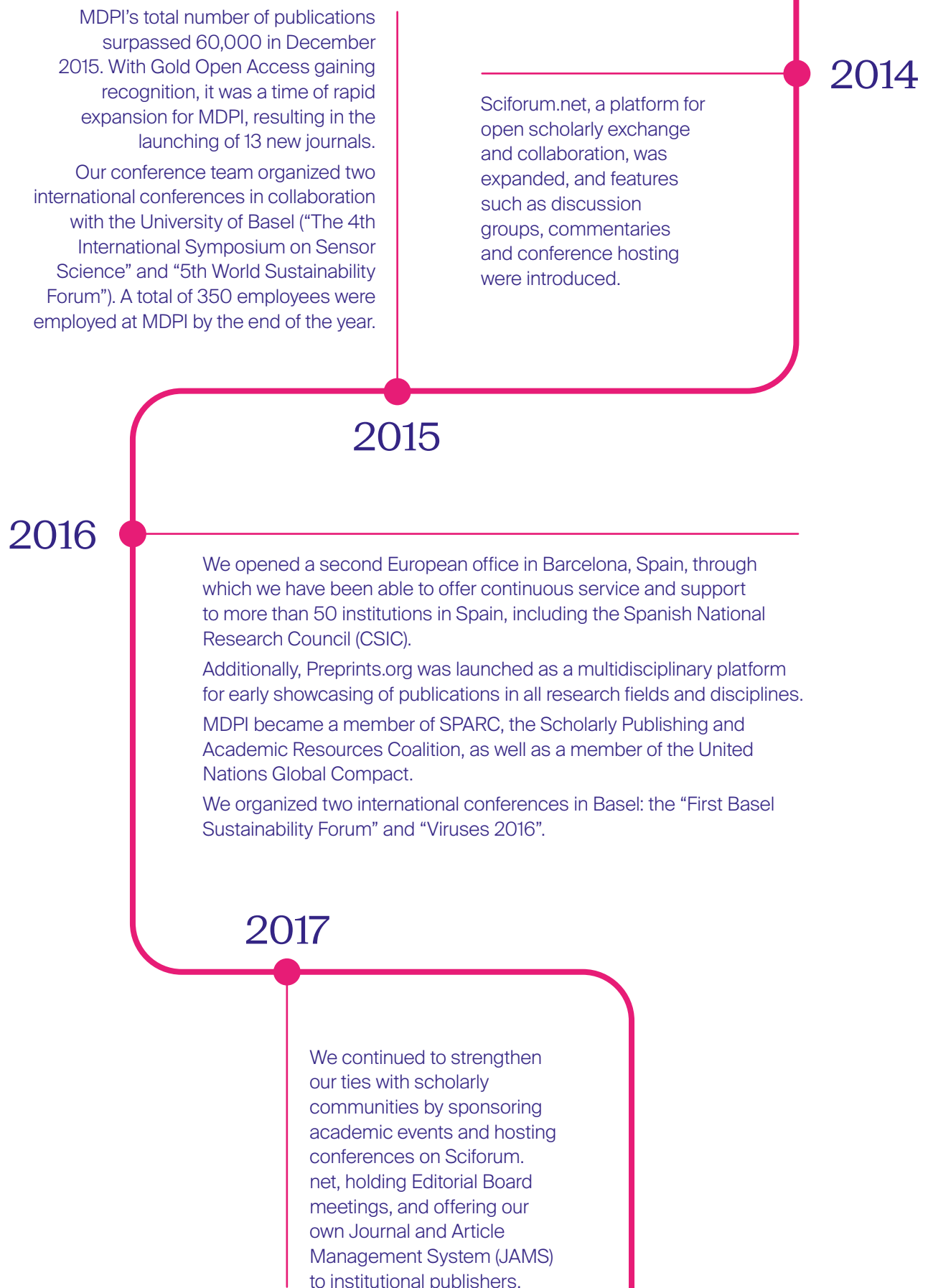
2011

2012

SuSy, MDPI's article submission and handling system, was built in-house and has become the cornerstone of our company's submission and peer review processes.

2013

In 2013, MDPI launched its own content aggregator platform called Scilit. The database uses sourcing and merging of publication metadata from various databases and platforms, such as DOAJ, CrossRef and PubMed, to provide a comprehensive and convenient tool to search through scientific literature. New articles are cataloged within hours, providing an up-to-date and complete resource for scholars.



2018

MDPI ranked first among publishers listed in DOAJ, in terms of the number of articles published in a year.

The number of peer-reviewed publications increased by 80% compared to 2017, and by 175% compared to 2016.

By the end of the year, the Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP), our membership program, included more than 500 academic institutions from around the world. A total of 63 scholarly societies were affiliated with one or more of our journals.

2019

The MDPI website underwent a redesign, with the objective of providing an enhanced user experience on article pages. This redesign was driven by user feedback, through which we continue to look for new ways to improve the look and usability of our website.

Between 2017 and 2019, a total of 42 journals were accepted for inclusion in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) or Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) of Web of Science—a major recognition of MDPI journals' contribution to scientific research and the result of outstanding collaboration between academic editors and in-house journal managers.

2020

We published more than 160,000 peer-reviewed articles in 2020, an increase of 51% compared to the previous year.

This was a year when the publication of preprints and unrestricted sharing of new research findings proved to be crucial. For the first time, the number of open access articles surpassed publications restricted by copyright!

The cancellation of in-person academic events led to an incredible amount of activity online. In addition to 4 in-person conferences that were still able to take place, MDPI ran 31 online conferences, 3 virtual conferences that were originally planned to be held in person, and a total of 53 standalone webinars.

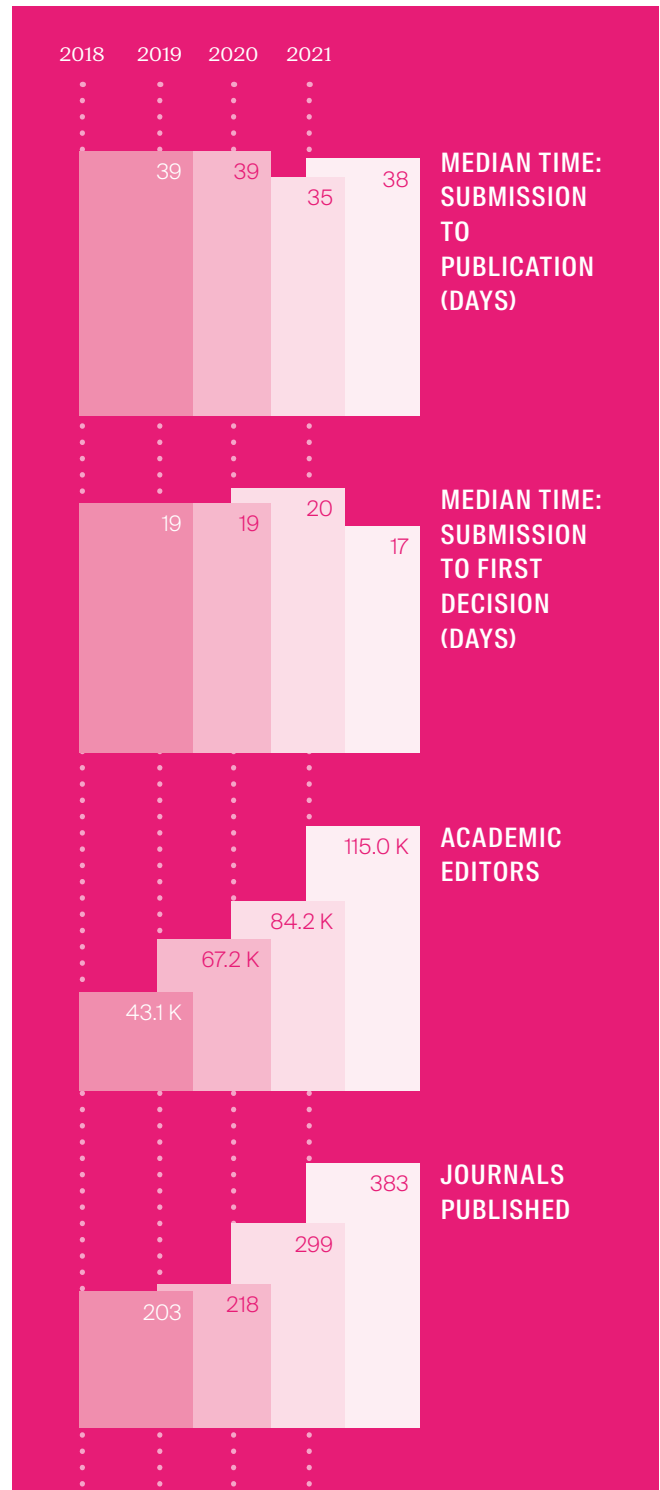
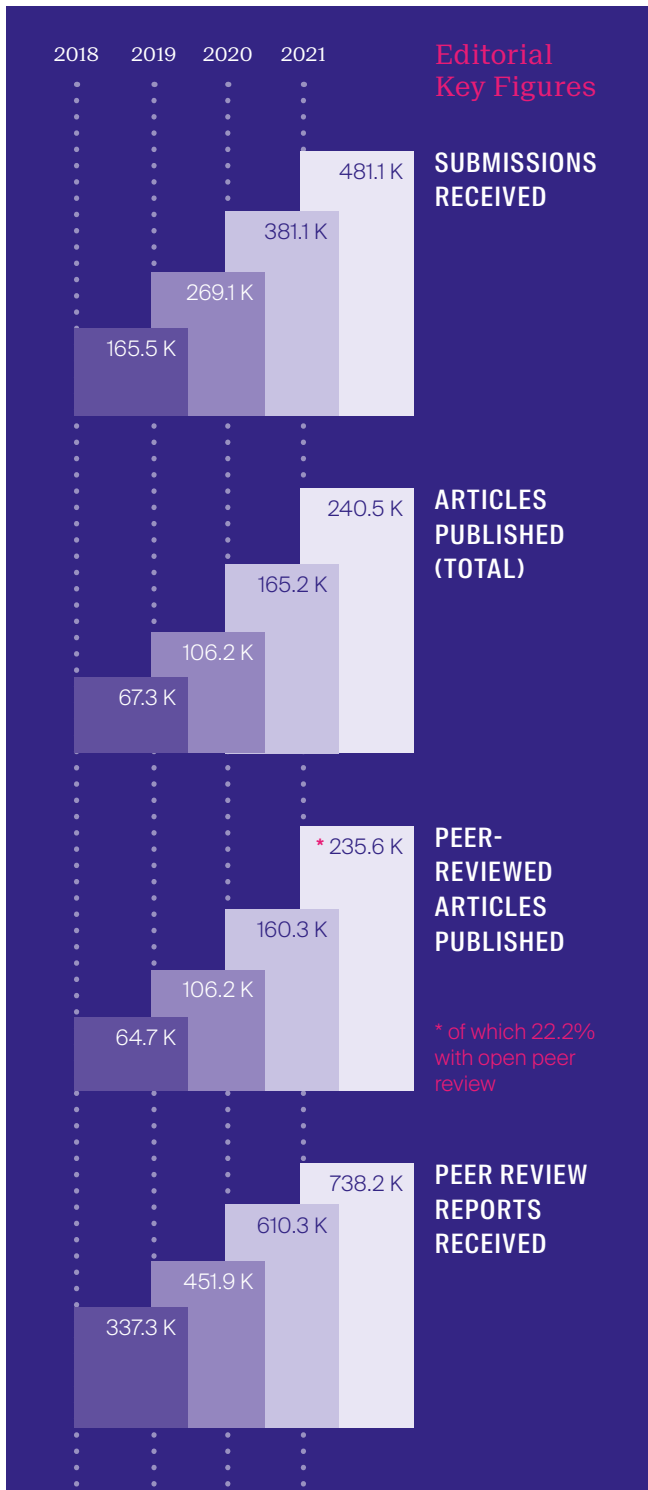
We continue towards our goal of having a truly global presence. MDPI currently has offices located in 11 countries worldwide, spanning three continents. Our global workforce totals more than 5700 employees, with more recent offices being established in Manchester (United Kingdom), Toronto (Canada), Krakow (Poland), Cluj-Napoca and Bucharest (Romania), Tokyo (Japan), Bangkok (Thailand), Singapore, and Tianjin and Nanjing (China).

The number of publications increased by 47% compared to 2020. Article views continue to increase year after year, from 226 million in 2020 to almost 350 million in 2021.

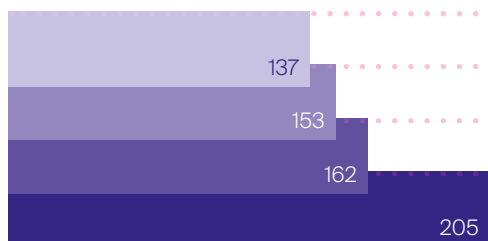
2021

Key Figures

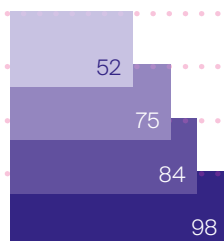
2018–2021



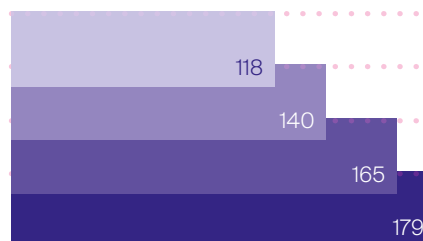
**JOURNALS IN:
WEB OF SCIENCE**



SCIE / SSCI *



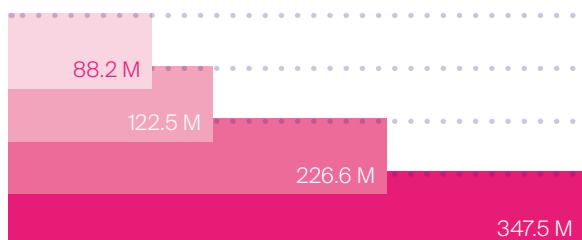
SCOPUS



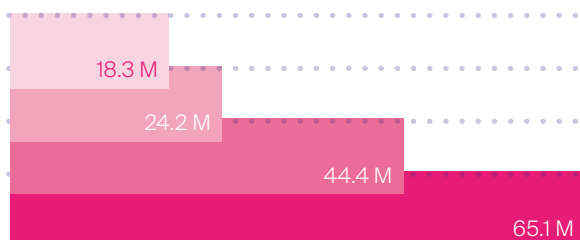
* Science Citation Index Expanded and Social Sciences Citation Index, respectively, in Web of Science

Some discrepancy in data points may arise due to journal acquisitions over the years.

ONLINE: PAGE VIEWS ON MDPI.COM

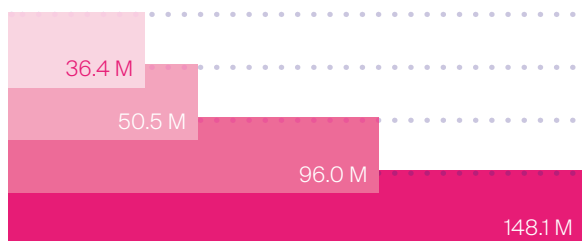


ONLINE: UNIQUE USERS OF MDPI.COM *



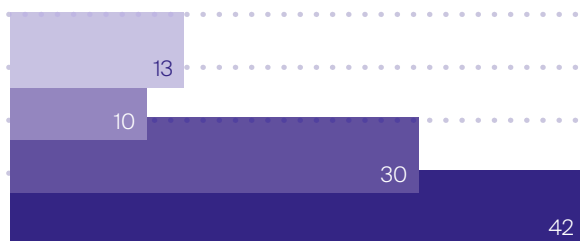
* Number of individuals who visited MDPI.com

ONLINE: SESSIONS ON MDPI.COM *



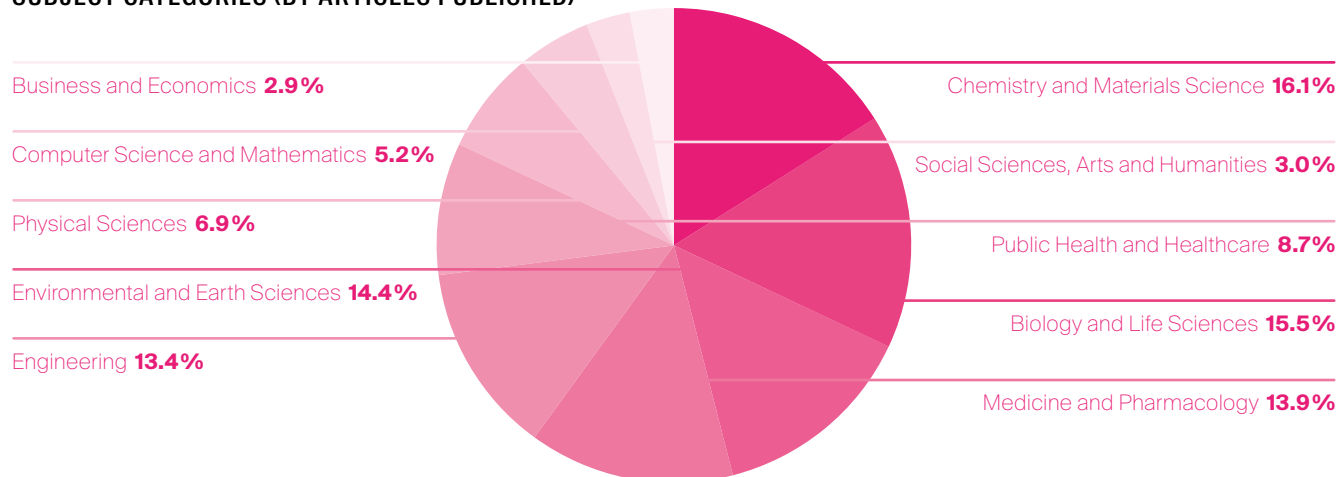
* A session is a group of user interactions that take place within a given time frame

E-CONFERENCES HELD *



* Including online conferences as well as virtual conferences mimicking in-person events

SUBJECT CATEGORIES (BY ARTICLES PUBLISHED)



Journal Development and Indexing

The post-publication distribution of our authors’ research is one of MDPI’s top priorities, in order to ensure high visibility throughout the academic community. A first stop for many scholars searching to find quality research is within indexing databases, which serve as accessible routes that allow not only the discovery of relevant publications, but also of new scientific journals.

For this reason, MDPI strives to continuously expand coverage of our publications within leading multidisciplinary databases, such as Web of Science, Scopus, EBSCO and ProQuest. We also focus on ensuring coverage of our journals within as many scope-specific databases as possible, such as the databases of the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) (PubMed Central (PMC), PubMed, and MEDLINE), Inspec, Chemical Abstracts (CAS), Food Science and Technology Abstracts (FSTA), and many more. Coverage of our journals within field-specific databases ensures dissemination of our authors’ impactful data to the most relevant scientific communities.

Moreover, we also partner with various universities and government organizations, to ensure that our journals are listed within country-specific journal ranking lists, and deposited to relevant institutional repositories, that are often required by funders or institutions for authors to publish with a journal.

As of 2021, MDPI’s journals are actively covered in more than 63 indexing and abstracting databases (52 scope-specific and 11 multidisciplinary), and ranked within 10 international platforms. Over this past year, coverage of our journals within almost every main database increased from the previous year (ranging from a 6% to a 74% increase). This was achieved through continued efforts to enhance our partnerships with leading databases. In 2021, MDPI formed seven new data feed partnerships with databases, including partnerships with ProQuest, CAS, WIPO and others.

Furthermore, 65 journals were accepted for coverage in 2021 within the leading databases of Web of Science, Scopus and PMC. We also saw a significant increase in coverage within the leading high-impact databases of Web of Science – Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) and Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI). 85 MDPI journals received an Impact Factor, of which 96% had increased their Impact Factor from the previous year. Thirteen more journals were accepted into SCIE or SSCI in 2021, and therefore almost 100 MDPI journals will receive an Impact Factor for the upcoming year.

indexing@mdpi.com

JOURNAL	2020 IMPACT FACTOR (JCR)	QUARTILE RANK
<i>Actuators</i>	1.994	Q3: Instruments and Instrumentation Q3: Engineering, Mechanical
<i>Aerospace</i>	1.659	Q2: Engineering, Aerospace
<i>Agriculture</i>	2.925	Q1: Agronomy
<i>Agronomy</i>	3.417	Q1: Agronomy Q1: Plant Sciences

JOURNAL	2020 IMPACT FACTOR (JCR)	QUARTILE RANK
<i>Animals</i>	2.752	Q1: Veterinary Sciences Q1: Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science
<i>Antibiotics</i>	4.639	Q2: Infectious Diseases Q2: Pharmacology & Pharmacy
<i>Antioxidants</i>	6.313	Q1: Chemistry, Medicinal Q1: Food Science & Technology Q1: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
<i>Applied Sciences</i>	2.679	Q2: Engineering, Multidisciplinary Q2: Physics, Applied Q3: Chemistry, Multidisciplinary Q3: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary
<i>Atmosphere</i>	2.686	Q3: Meteorology & Atmospheric Sciences Q3: Environmental Sciences
<i>Biology</i>	5.079	Q1: Biology
<i>Biomedicines</i>	6.081	Q1: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Q1: Medicine, Research & Experimental Q1: Pharmacology & Pharmacy
<i>Biomolecules</i>	4.879	Q2: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
<i>Biosensors</i>	5.519	Q1: Chemistry, Analytical Q1: Instruments & Instrumentation Q2: Nanoscience & Nanotechnology
<i>Brain Sciences</i>	3.394	Q3: Neurosciences
<i>Buildings</i>	2.648	Q2: Construction & Building Technology Q2: Engineering, Civil
<i>Cancers</i>	6.639	Q1: Oncology
<i>Catalysts</i>	4.146	Q2: Chemistry, Physical
<i>Cells</i>	6.600	Q2: Cell Biology
<i>Chemosensors</i>	3.398	Q2: Instruments & Instrumentation Q2: Chemistry, Analytical Q3: Electrochemistry
<i>Children</i>	2.863	Q2: Pediatrics
<i>Coatings</i>	2.881	Q2: Physics, Applied Q2: Materials Science, Coatings & Films Q3: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary
<i>Crystals</i>	2.589	Q2: Crystallography Q3: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary
<i>Current Issues in Molecular Biology</i>	2.081	Q4: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
<i>Current Oncology</i>	3.677	Q3: Oncology

JOURNAL	2020 IMPACT FACTOR (JCR)	QUARTILE RANK
<i>Diagnostics</i>	3.706	Q2: Medicine, General & Internal
<i>Diversity</i>	2.465	Q2: Biodiversity Conservation Q3: Ecology
<i>Electronics</i>	2.397	Q3: Engineering, Electrical & Electronic Q3: Computer Science, Information Systems Q3: Physics, Applied
<i>Energies</i>	3.004	Q3: Energy & Fuels
<i>Entropy</i>	2.524	Q2: Physics, Multidisciplinary
<i>Fermentation</i>	3.975	Q2: Biotechnology & Applied Microbiology
<i>Fishes</i>	2.385	Q2: Fisheries Q2: Marine & Freshwater Biology
<i>Foods</i>	4.350	Q2: Food Science & Technology
<i>Forests</i>	2.634	Q1: Forestry
<i>Fractal and Fractional</i>	3.313	Q1: Mathematics, Interdisciplinary Applications
<i>Gels</i>	4.702	Q1: Polymer Science
<i>Genes</i>	4.096	Q2: Genetics & Heredity
<i>Healthcare</i>	2.645	Q2: Health Policy & Services (SSCI) Q3: Health Care Sciences & Services (SCIE)
<i>Horticulturae</i>	2.331	Q1: Horticulture
<i>Insects</i>	2.769	Q1: Entomology
<i>International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health</i>	3.390	Q1: Public, Environmental & Occupational Health (SSCI) Q2: Public, Environmental & Occupational Health (SCIE) Q2: Environmental Sciences (SCIE)
<i>International Journal of Molecular Sciences</i>	5.924	Q1: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Q2: Chemistry, Multidisciplinary
<i>ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information</i>	2.899	Q2: Geography, Physical Q2: Computer Science, Information Systems Q3: Remote Sensing
<i>Journal of Cardiovascular Development and Disease</i>	3.948	Q2: Cardiac & Cardiovascular Systems
<i>Journal of Clinical Medicine</i>	4.242	Q1: Medicine, General & Internal
<i>Journal of Fungi</i>	5.816	Q1: Mycology Q1: Microbiology
<i>Journal of Marine Science and Engineering</i>	2.458	Q2: Engineering, Marine Q2: Engineering, Ocean Q2: Oceanography
<i>Journal of Personalized Medicine</i>	4.945	Q1: Health Care Sciences & Services Q1: Medicine, General & Internal

JOURNAL	2020 IMPACT FACTOR (JCR)	QUARTILE RANK
<i>Journal of Theoretical and Applied Electronic Commerce Research</i>	3.049	Q3: Business
<i>Land</i>	3.398	Q2: Environmental Studies
<i>Life</i>	3.817	Q2: Biology
<i>Machines</i>	2.428	Q2: Engineering, Mechanical Q3: Engineering, Electrical & Electronic
<i>Magnetochemistry</i>	2.193	Q3: Chemistry, Inorganic & Nuclear Q3: Chemistry, Physical Q3: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary
<i>Marine Drugs</i>	5.118	Q1: Chemistry, Medicinal Q1: Pharmacology & Pharmacy
<i>Materials</i>	3.623	Q1: Metallurgy & Metallurgical Engineering Q2: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary Q2: Chemistry, Physical Q2: Physics, Applied Q2: Physics, Condensed Matter
<i>Mathematics</i>	2.258	Q1: Mathematics
<i>Medicina</i>	2.430	Q2: Medicine, General & Internal
<i>Membranes</i>	4.106	Q1: Polymer Science Q2: Engineering, Chemical Q2: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary Q2: Chemistry, Physical
<i>Metabolites</i>	4.932	Q2: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
<i>Metals</i>	2.351	Q2: Metallurgy & Metallurgical Engineering Q3: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary
<i>Micromachines</i>	2.891	Q2: Instruments & Instrumentation Q2: Physics, Applied Q3: Chemistry, Analytical Q3: Nanoscience & Nanotechnology
<i>Microorganisms</i>	4.128	Q2: Microbiology
<i>Minerals</i>	2.644	Q2: Mineralogy Q2: Mining & Mineral Processing Q2: Geochemistry & Geophysics
<i>Molecules</i>	4.412	Q2: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Q2: Chemistry, Multidisciplinary
<i>Nanomaterials</i>	5.076	Q1: Physics, Applied Q2: Chemistry, Multidisciplinary Q2: Materials Science, Multidisciplinary Q2: Nanoscience & Nanotechnology
<i>Nutrients</i>	5.719	Q1: Nutrition & Dietetics

JOURNAL	2020 IMPACT FACTOR (JCR)	QUARTILE RANK
<i>Pathogens</i>	3.492	Q2: Microbiology
<i>Pharmaceutics</i>	5.863	Q1: Pharmacology & Pharmacy Q1: Chemistry, Medicinal
<i>Pharmaceutics</i>	6.321	Q1: Pharmacology & Pharmacy
<i>Photonics</i>	2.676	Q2: Optics
<i>Plants</i>	3.935	Q1: Plant Sciences
<i>Polymers</i>	4.329	Q1: Polymer Science
<i>Processes</i>	2.847	Q3: Engineering, Chemical
<i>Remote Sensing</i>	4.848	Q1: Geosciences, Multidisciplinary Q2: Remote Sensing Q2: Imaging Science & Photographic Technology Q2: Environmental Sciences
<i>Sensors</i>	3.576	Q1: Instruments & Instrumentation Q2: Chemistry, Analytical Q2: Engineering, Electrical & Electronic
<i>Separations</i>	2.777	Q3: Chemistry, Analytical
<i>Sustainability</i>	3.251	Q2: Environmental Sciences (SCIE) Q2: Environmental Studies (SSCI) Q3: Green & Sustainable Science & Technology
<i>Symmetry</i>	2.713	Q2: Multidisciplinary Sciences
<i>Tomography</i>	3.358	Q2: Radiology, Nuclear Medicine & Medical Imaging
<i>Toxics</i>	4.146	Q2: Toxicology Q2: Environmental Sciences
<i>Toxins</i>	4.546	Q1: Toxicology Q1: Food Science & Technology
<i>Universe</i>	2.278	Q3: Astronomy & Astrophysics Q3: Physics, Particles & Fields
<i>Vaccines</i>	4.422	Q2: Immunology Q2: Medicine, Research & Experimental
<i>Veterinary Sciences</i>	2.304	Q1: Veterinary Sciences
<i>Viruses</i>	5.048	Q2: Virology
<i>Water</i>	3.103	Q2: Water Resources Q2: Environmental Sciences

Financial Data

To show further transparency, MDPI published a detailed breakdown of how APCs are used. In calculating these values, we have followed recommendations from the Fair Open Access Alliance, an organization that promotes

sustainable and transparent scholarly open access publishing. This also makes MDPI fully compliant with the requirements of Plan S, a key funder initiative to promote open access.

SERVICE FUNCTIONS	% OF TOTAL		AMOUNT (SWISS FRANCS, CHF)	
	CHF 2000	CHF 1000	CHF 2000	CHF 1000
1. Publishing Operations and Projects	17%	34%	336	336
2. Journal Publication	40%	79%	790	790
3. Editorial Fees	1%	2%	22	22
4. Marketing and Communication	4%	4%	80	40
5. General	6%	12%	118	118
6. Discounts and Waivers	19%	19%	370	185
7. Surplus	13%	-50%	284	-491
Total publication fee per article (CHF)			2000	1000

- For 379 journals, Article Processing Charges (APCs) in 2021 ranged from CHF 500 to 2400 (CHF, Swiss francs).
- The average APC based on list price was approximately CHF 1935. An invoice is issued for peer-reviewed articles and only after acceptance for publication.
- The average (net) cost to authors across all journals and including papers published at no cost was CHF 1258 per paper.
- The average waiver rate across all MDPI journals was 35%, in relation to an average APC of CHF 1935.
- We provided discounts of 10% or more to authors affiliated with our institutional partners, reviewer vouchers, and granted discounts for e-conferences held at [sciforum.net](https://www.sciforum.net).

PUBLISHING OPERATIONS AND PROJECTS

MDPI develops and maintains its own electronic submission and peer review platform. We also run several platforms to offer different types of services for scholars.



- Preprints (preprints.org): a multidisciplinary preprint platform where authors can publish their articles free of charge



- Scilit (scilit.net): a comprehensive and free database for scientists using a new method to collate data and index scientific material



- SciForum (sciforum.net): an event-planning platform that supports open science by offering the opportunity to host and participate in academic conferences



- SciProfiles (sciprofiles.com): a scholarly networking platform to support scientific communication and exchanges

JOURNAL PUBLICATION

- Triaging: Filtering of papers upon submission by internal staff and Editorial Board members
- Organization of Peer Review: MDPI provides a high degree of assistance to Academic Editors so that they can only focus on editorial decisions. We employ in-house editors to invite reviewers, collect review reports, communicate with authors and reviewers, correspond with authors about revisions, etc.).
- Production: Including copy-editing, typesetting, copy-editing XML PDF conversion, and language editing. MDPI provides English editing by native English speakers for all accepted papers, included in the APC.
- Proofreading: Corresponding with authors to approve the final text and requesting any missing information.
- Other Editorial Assistance: Handling any questions and requests for support before submission, during the editorial and peer review processes, or postpublication.
- Journal Management and Development: The in-house Managing Editors track the key performance indicators of each journal, monitor competing journals and the trends in the field. We also provide reports and hold discussions with the Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board.
- Indexing and Archiving: MDPI has a team dedicated to indexing relations, who handle post-publication dissemination within all relevant databases. This includes close communication with representatives from various databases to manage numerous indexing topics, such as applications, depositing feeds, data retrieval, content errors, and more. Our team also ensures that we are up-to-date on any changes within the evaluation criteria or application procedure for indexing databases.

- Long Term Preservation: MDPI supports the long-term preservation of all its articles in CLOCKSS. (clockss.org/join-clockss).

EDITORIAL FEES

MDPI pays travel grants or stipends to Academic Editors and a share of revenue to the societies whose journals it publishes.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

MDPI allocates part of its income to the promotion of journals and articles through the sponsorships of conferences, scholarly society events, and other promotional activities, as well as a series of awards to support researchers.

GENERAL

- Management and administration includes costs related to salaries of non-editorial staff and other business costs. They include all the fees paid by MDPI for membership in publishing organizations: STM Association, OASPA, SSP, as well as services such as [Publons.com](https://publons.com). Most membership fees are based on the level of income or size of the publisher.
- MDPI supports the activities of the MDPI Sustainability Foundation, including coordinating the World Sustainability Forum and World Sustainability Awards.
- MDPI is a debt-free company and is not repaying loans or investments.
- Taxes.

DISCOUNTS AND WAIVERS

MDPI waives the fees for approximately 30% of its content every year. We are committed to supporting the transition of all research to full open access, so offer APC waivers or discounts to some authors. In addition, we waive and offer discounts from 15% (of the total APC in a journal), in our most established journals, up to 100% in our new journals or humanities journals. Although we display an APC on the website, in many social sciences and humanities journals, we waive between 70% and 100% of papers; we display an APC in order to demonstrate to authors that there is a cost for publication. Even some of our well-established indexed journals waive 35% of publishing costs per year.

Members of societies (mdpi.com/societies) affiliated to an MDPI journal benefit from a discount as well as authors affiliated to institutions participating in our Institutional Open Access Program (mdpi.com/ioap).

For journals in fields with low levels of funding, where authors typically do not have funds available, APCs are typically waived and cross-subsidized from fields for which more APC funding is available. For authors from low- and middle-income countries, waivers or discounts may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Applications submitted before article submission are assessed by the Managing Editor based on the quality of the research article and the authors' ability to pay.

People and Culture

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

MDPI's workforce has grown exponentially in the past few years, allowing us to expand and strengthen our position as a leading open access publisher.

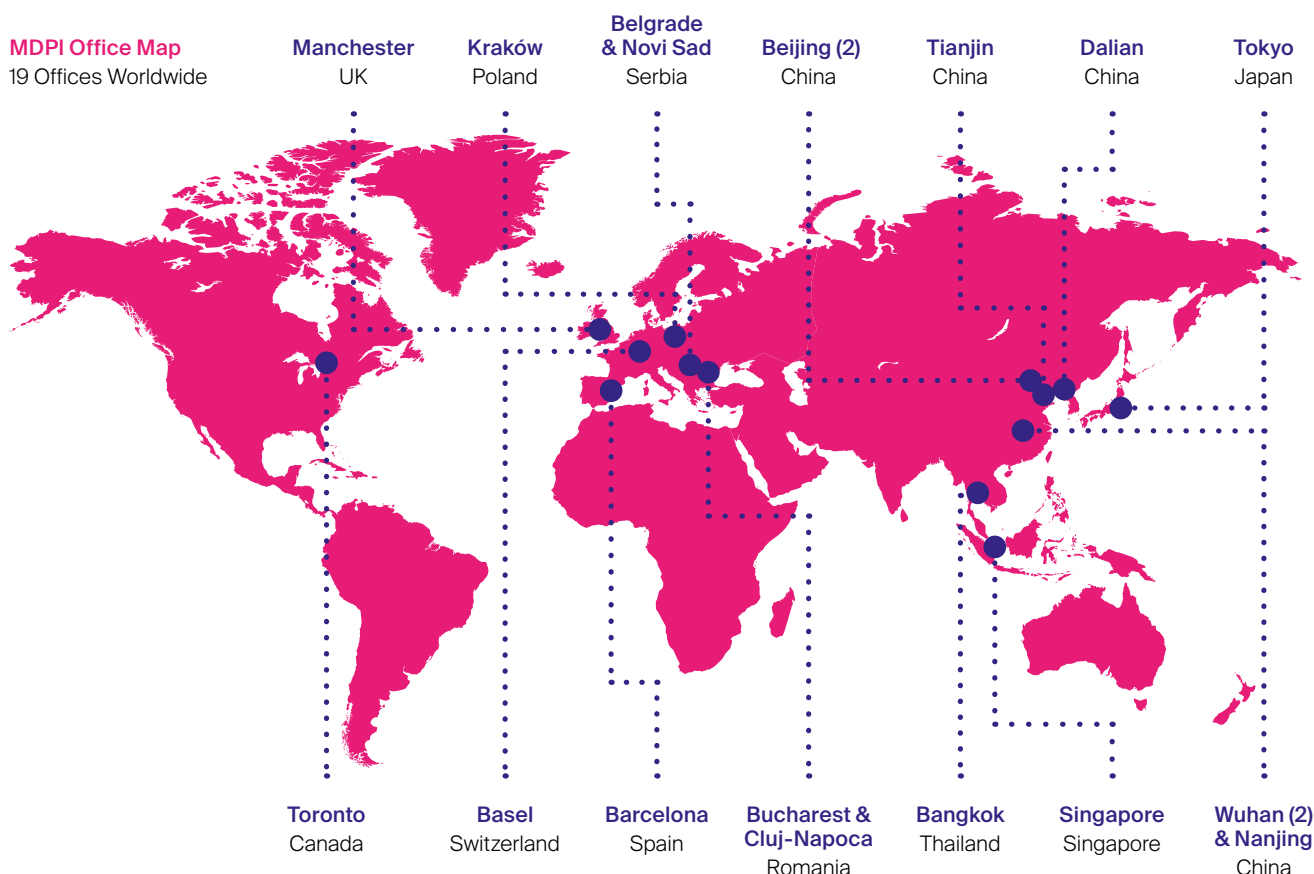
In 2021, the number of employees increased by almost 50%, reaching more than 5700 by year end. This means that almost one in three current employees joined the company within the past twelve months.

We prioritized onboarding and training as a key focus for our global workforce. Simultaneously, we invested further into developing our management teams, offering leadership training and empowering them to make crucial and effective decisions as leaders within the company.

With operations spread across 11 countries, we embrace the strength of inclusive, cultural diversity. At MDPI, approximately 80% of the workforce identifies as female and many of the leadership roles are filled by women, including our CEO, Delia Mihaila.

In 2021, we hired numerous PhD and master's graduates. We are proud to create opportunities for young academics who are passionate about science and publishing.

The ideal MDPI employee aligns with the company's enablers and values, allowing them to make an impact on our authors' journey from start to finish. They have an author-centric, creative, and entrepreneurial mindset, are passionate about science, and have a genuine curiosity when it comes to open access in scientific research. If this speaks to you, we encourage you to visit careers.mdpi.com for future opportunities with MDPI.



To support our growth, we have focused on grounding ourselves in a distinct company culture and identity. We provide cross-cultural workshops and digital training, which are available to all employees. Our culture is characterized by four common values. We call these our “enablers”.

AMBITION



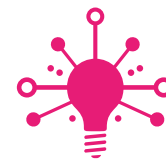
We set ambitious goals, aiming to drive the change towards a fully open access publishing environment.



INTEGRITY

We foster a work environment in which employees are dedicated to serving the scientific community in a reliable and transparent way.

INNOVATION



We embrace new ways of thinking and partner with scholars and institutions to pioneer change in academic publishing.

PEOPLE



The strength of our company is in our people and in the contribution every single individual makes to our shared success. We care about and invest in people’s professional development to provide the best service to our customers.

Societies and Partnerships

As a pioneer in open access publishing with 25 years of experience, MDPI is interested in helping societies who would like to venture into the world of open access. We currently support more than 150 learned societies and organizations, with levels of cooperation ranging from affiliations between societies and journals to publishing journals on behalf of societies. Find out more at mdpi.com/societies.

In 2021, MDPI continued efforts to intensify collaborations with learned societies and associations of specialists, which led to 32 new affiliation agreements (see list below) and 1 publishing agreement with the Swiss Federation of Clinical Neuro-Societies (SFCNS) for the publication of *Clinical and Translational Neuroscience*. The total number of partnership agreements is now 15. See the full list of collaborations at mdpi.com/societies_partnership.

LIST OF AFFILIATION AGREEMENTS IN 2021:

1. International Society for Infectious Diseases in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ISIDOG) signed an affiliation with *Diagnostics*.
2. Polish Limnological Society (PLS) signed an affiliation with *Water*.
3. Russian Society of Regenerative Medicine (RPO) signed an affiliation with *Cells*, *Bioengineering* and *Biomolecules*.
4. International Society for Porous Media (InterPore) signed an affiliation agreement with *Batteries* and *Energies*.
5. International Society of Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) signed an affiliation agreement with *IJERPH*.
6. Canadian Association of Medical Oncologists (CAMO) signed affiliation agreement with *Current Oncology*.
7. Nuclear Medicine Discovery (Nu.Me.D.) signed affiliation agreement with *Journal of Clinical Medicine (JCM)*.
8. Ocular Wellness & Nutrition Society (OWNS) signed affiliation agreement with *Healthcare* and *Nutrients*.
9. Union of Slovak Mathematicians and Physicists (JSMF) signed affiliation agreement with *Axioms*.

10. European Federation of Geologists (EFG) signed affiliation agreement with *Geosciences*.
11. Greek Scientific Society of MikroBioKosmos (MBK) – Hellenic Initiative signed affiliation agreement with *Microorganisms*.
12. Spanish Association for Cancer Research (ASEICA) with *Cancers* and *Life*.
13. American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP) with *Climate*.
14. Spanish Nutrition Foundation (FEN) with *Foods* and *Nutrients*.
15. Canadian Association of General Practitioners in Oncology (CAGPO) with *Current Oncology*.
16. Italian Society of Pediatric Psychology (S.I.P.Ped) with *Pediatric Reports*.
17. The Hellenic Branch of the Federation of Telecommunications Engineers of the European Community (FITCE) with *Telecom*.
18. International Bone Research Association (IBRA) with *JCM*.
19. UK Newborn Screening Laboratory Network (UKNSLN) with *IJNS*.
20. CYTED with *Energies*.
21. Landscape Institute (LI) with *Land*.
22. Japan Association for Clinical Engineers (JACE) with *JCM*.
23. The Biomedical Research Centre (CIBM) with *IJMS*, *Cancers* and *Nutrients*.
24. European Independent Foundation in Angiology/ Vascular Medicine (VAS) with *JCM*.
25. British Neuro-Oncology Society (BNOS) with *Cancers*, *Brain Sciences*, *Diagnostics* and *IJMS*.
26. Urban Land Institute (ULI) with *Land*, *Urban Science* and *Sustainability*.
27. Japanese Society of Physical Hydrology (JSPH) with *Water* and *Hydrology*.
28. Cell Therapy Transplant Canada (CTTC) with *Current Oncology*.
29. Italian Society of Andrology (SIA) with *Uro*.
30. World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) signed an affiliation with *Animals*, *Conservation* and *Journal of Zoological and Botanical Gardens (JZBG)*.
31. Spanish Phytopathological Society (SEF) with *Journal of Fungi (JoF)*.
32. Brazilian Society of Aquaculture and Aquatic Biology (Aquabio) with *Fishes*.

Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP)



It's been really encouraging to further our collaborations and partnerships with institutions from around the world throughout 2021. Many national consortia have extended their participation in the IOAP for the third year running, and we are delighted to see key European consortia such as Jisc Libraries (UK), Bibsam (Sweden), Sikt (Norway), KEMOE (Austria), Helmholtz (Germany), CSAL (Switzerland) and BnL (Luxembourg).

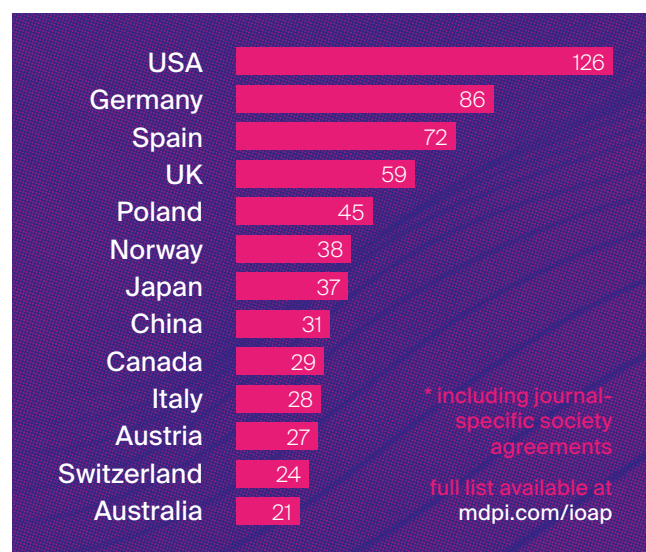
2021 IN NUMBERS

One in two papers are published by authors affiliated with members of the IOAP and following on from the introduction of the prepayment model in 2018, we have seen a consistent uptake and further interest in the model from various institutions. This model continues to simplify the administration of APCs and APC fees, and allows libraries to closely monitor APC spend and retain flexibility. At the end of 2021, 850 academic institutions and societies were partnered with MDPI through the IOAP model, **signifying a 20% increase in participation numbers compared to the previous year**. We look forward to seeing how the IOAP continues to grow and develop throughout 2022.

KEY AGREEMENTS

Starting with academic consortia, renewals of existing agreements were finalized and completed for the Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries (CSAL) and KEMÖ, the Austrian Academic Library Consortium. With Switzerland and Austria being among the top producers of high-quality research in Europe, the renewal of existing partnerships in these countries was of the utmost priority to ensure we retain our market share and position. Along with the completed renewal of the Consortium Luxembourg (BnL) agreement, such renewals of consortium agreements are of critical importance for MDPI.

ACTIVE IOAP PARTNERSHIPS BY COUNTRIES *













Shifting the focus to Scandinavia, we have signed an agreement with the Bibsam consortium in Sweden. This agreement, extending to 21 HEIs in Sweden, commenced in January 2022, enabling affiliated authors of these institutions to publish with MDPI. An agreement with Bibsam, a strong proponent of open access internationally, represents a significant development for MDPI in Sweden as we have, until now, only engaged in partnerships and agreements with institutions on an individual basis. With the newly signed Bibsam agreement, the existing number of active consortia agreements has now reached seven, and throughout 2022 we will be engaging in further consortium and national level discussions.

Moving away from consortia, we have renewed existing agreements with several key institutions around the world. Individual agreements between MDPI and institutions remain a focal point, particularly in those geographical regions where we can support the development and uptake of open science, open research, and open access publishing.

New Journals launched in 2021

At MDPI, we are open to suggestions from scientific communities, including learned societies, for establishing new titles in areas where there is a need for the fast, reliable and open dissemination of research. The new titles presented in the following were set up on the basis of our market research. They are intended to serve scientists in areas which are not fully covered by our existing titles or deserve a dedicated journal. We encourage researchers to get involved with these new and dynamic journals.

	Adolescents Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Laura L. Hayman
	Allergies Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Pierre Rougé
	Applied Microbiology Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ian Connerton
	AppliedChem Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Jason Love
	AppliedMath Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Takayuki Hibi
	Aquaculture Journal Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Aires Oliva-Teles
	Architecture Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Avi Friedman
	BioChem Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Yehia Mechref
	Biologics Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Raffaele Capasso
	Biomass Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Lasse Rosendahl
	Biomechanics Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Justin Keogh

	BioMed Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Graier
	BioMedInformatics Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Jörn Löttsch
	Biophysica Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Victor Muñoz
	Businesses Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Lester Johnson
	Coasts Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Thomas Schlacher
	Compounds Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Juan Mejuto
	Conservation Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Antoni Margalida
	Construction Materials Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Martin Cyr
	COVID Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Novelli
	Crops Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Kenneth J. Moore
	Dermato Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Chalid Assaf
	Digital Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Yannis Manolopoulos
	Disabilities Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Reinie Cordier
	DNA Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Darren Griffin
	Dynamics Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Christos Volos

**Encyclopedia**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Raffaele Barretta

**Forensic Sciences**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Bruce McCord

**Foundations**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Martin Bohner

**Future Pharmacology**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Fabrizio Schifano

**Future Transportation**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ouri E. Wolfson

**Gases**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ben J. Anthony

**Geographies**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Luca Salvati

**Geomatics**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Naser El-Sheimy

**Geotechnics**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. George Mylonakis

**Histories**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. em. Dr. Jon Mathieu

**Humans**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Haskel J. Greenfield

**Hygiene**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Günter Kampf

**Immuno**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Toshihiko Torigoe

**Intl Journal of Translational Medicine**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Pier Paolo Claudio

**Journal of Ageing and Longevity**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Graham P. Pawelec

**Journal of Cybersecurity and Privacy**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Danda B. Rawat

**Journal of Respiration**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Cesar A. Moran

**Kidney and Dialysis**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Vladimir Tesar

**Knowledge**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Jose María Merigo

**Liquids**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Enrico Bodo

**Literature**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Jerome F. Bump

**Livers**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Hartmut W. Jaeschke

**Macromol**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ana María Díez-Pascual

**Magnetism**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Gerardo F. Goya

**Merits**

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Wendy M. Purcell

**Metrology**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Han Haitjema

**Micro**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Eilichi Tamiya

**Mining**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Mostafa Benzaazoua

**Nanoenergy Advances**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ya Yang

**Nanomanufacturing**

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Andres Castellanos-Gomez

**Network**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Alexey Vinel

**Nutraceuticals**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Luisa Tesoriere

**Obesities**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Nobuyuki Takahashi

**Onco**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Fred Saad

**Oral**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Giuseppina Campisi

**Osteology**

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Umile Giuseppe Longo



Oxygen

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. John Hancock



Parasitologia

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Geoff Hide



Photochem

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Dirk M. Guldi



Phycology

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Peer Schenk



Physchem

Editors-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. J. Sá and Dr. S. Manzhos



Physiologia

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Phillip J. Atherton



Pollutants

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Ali Elkamel



Radiation

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Gabriele Multhoff



Rheumato

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Bruce M. Rothschild



Ruminants

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Brian J. Leury



Solar

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Jürgen Heinz Werner



Standards

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Peter Glavič



Stresses

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Luigi Sanita' di Toppi



Taxonomy

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Mathias Harzhauser



Textiles

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Philippe Boisse



Thermo

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Johan Jacquemin



Trauma Care

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Zsolt J. Balogh



Uro

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Tommaso Cai



Wind

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Zhe Chen



Women

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Mary V. Seeman



Youth

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Todd Michael Franke



Zoonotic Diseases

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Stephen K. Wikel



More information at mdpi.com/about/journals

MDPI Books

Publishing



Open access (OA) has become a highly dynamic field in the book market in recent years. However, there are still many challenges to overcome in the transition to fully OA books, such as persistent funding barriers.

In 2021, MDPI continued its efforts to stand up to these challenges and continued to fulfill the important mission that we, as publishers, have: to create various channels to facilitate the global spread of knowledge.

In response to the latest developments, in 2021 we introduced virtual book launches to promote our publications.

MDPI Books' first online book launch was the edited volume *Self-Representation in an Expanded Field: From Self-Portraiture to Selfie, Contemporary Art in the Social Media Age of the book series State of the Arts–Reflecting Contemporary Cultural Expression*.

Link to online recording: bit.ly/3s7Cy8b

In our 'Originals' program, we publish edited books, monographs, textbooks and project reports. 'Original' publications can stand alone or as part of a book series. As a series, books are particularly well-suited for recording continuous scholarly endeavors regarding a particular question.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Sustainable Development Goals volume editors and authors for their continued collaboration, without which our very first book series would not have been possible. In the course of 2021, we published 6 of 17 series volumes.

Link to the series: mdpi.com/books/series/1152

As a result of the continued trust our scientists have placed in our expertise and services in 2021, the annual results were positive. We published four monographs, three non-serial edited volumes and one poster book. We have published four monographs, three edited volumes and one poster book.

“Open-access publishing is crucial because it makes interfacing with important scholarly texts more accessible to wider audiences. [...] Overall the experience of working with the team at MDPI has been highly collegial. They have been professional, patient, and flexible, which allowed me to propose and successfully host a roundtable and panel discussion for the book's launch over zoom, bringing together an international panel and international audience!”

Ace Lehner, Book Editor

In 2021, we increased page views to our website mdpi.com/books 33.4%, now totaling 1.7 million views from the following top five countries:

United States	65,000+ users
India	50,000+ users
Germany	26,000+ users
United Kingdom	25,000+ users
China	20,000+ users

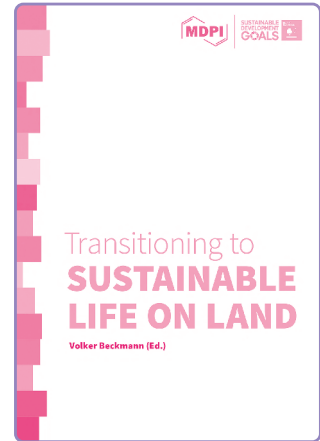
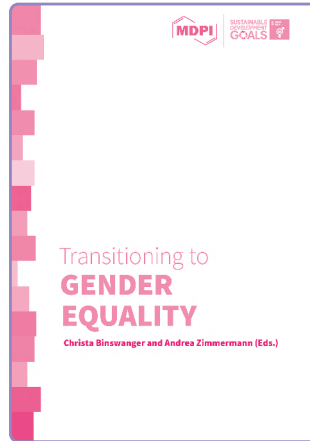
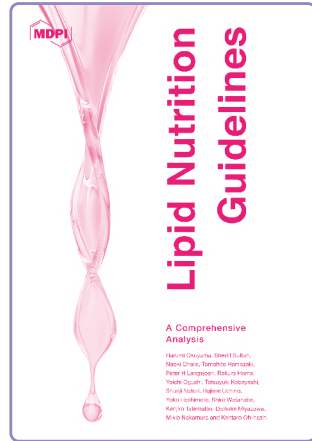
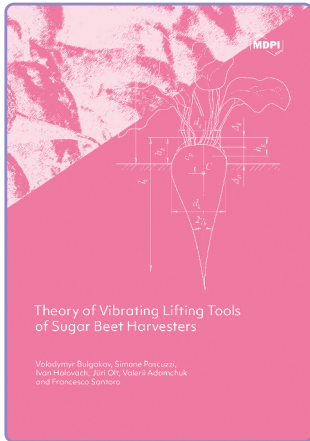
FEATURED BOOKS 2021

Theory of Vibrating Lifting Tools of Sugar Beet Harvesters

Volodymyr Bulgakov, Simone Pascuzzi, Ivan Holovach, Jüri Olt, Valerii Adamchuk and Francesco Santoro

Lipid Nutrition Guidelines

Harumi Okuyama, Sheriff Sultan, Naoki Ohara, Tomohito Hamazaki, Peter H. Langsjoen, Rokuro Hama, Yoichi Ogushi, Tetsuyuki Kobayashi, Shunji Natori, Hajime Uchino, Yoko Hashimoto, Shiro Watanabe, Kenjiro Tatematsu, Daisuke Miyazawa, Mikio Nakamura and Kentaro Oh-hashii



Transitioning to Gender Equality

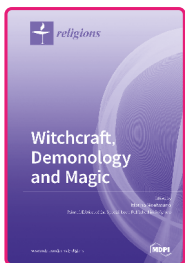
Christa Binswanger and Andrea Zimmermann (Eds.)

Transitioning to Sustainable Life on Land

Volker Beckmann (Ed.)

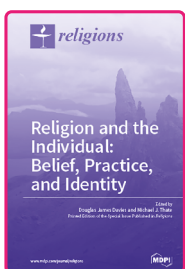
Besides further expanding our Originals portfolio, we published 1363 reprints in 2021. Reprints are collections of MDPI journal articles reproduced in book format.

Our top three most downloaded reprints in 2021:



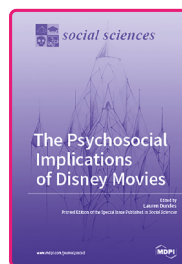
38,000+ downloads:
Witchcraft, Demonology and Magic,
edited by Marina Montesano

Printed Edition of the Special Issue
Published in *Religions*



27,000+ downloads:
Religion and the Individual: Belief, Practice, and Identity,
edited by Douglas J. Davies and Michael J. Thate

Printed Edition of the Special Issue
Published in *Religions*



11,000+ downloads:
The Psychosocial Implications of Disney Movies,
edited by Lauren Dundes

Printed Edition of the Special Issue
Published in *Social Sciences*

Looking ahead, we will have to ensure that we continue to respond to the funding barriers in OA book publishing and adapt to them. To that end, we will simplify our support channels and further increase transparency, so that we can better meet customers' needs and improve public perceptions.

We will continue to offer flexible publication services and keep access to our publications and services as simple as possible.

Our success is dependent on the ongoing engagement of our authors, editors, reviewers, and advisors, but also funding agencies. We are grateful to the individuals and organisations that choose to support open access and we look forward to continuing to work together in the coming years.

Scientific Events and Conferences



Sciforum.net is a platform for scientists that offers the possibility to participate in, and organize, conferences. This platform not only hosts events organized by MDPI, but it also provides the tools for other organiz-

ers to hold their own events, either by themselves or by delegating some aspects to MDPI's Sciforum team. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, MDPI has adapted and improved its Sciforum tool and services to provide improved virtual events, and better solutions to our increasing number of external clients.

Until 2020, the majority of events hosted on Sciforum were held in person. In 2021, the platform saw a significant boost in the number of online events, reaching a total of 48 electronic conferences and 111 webinars. There were also four in-person events that used Sciforum as their platform. Twelve of these events were organized by external parties, including the World Health Organization, the VTEC Community and the Canadian Peptide Protein Community, all choosing Sciforum as the platform to host and manage their events. The platform reached 458,100 users in 2021 and received a total of 2.6 million visits.



Among the online conferences, 74 live sessions were organized as part of our e-conferences. However, the virtual format was the most popular. The 9th World Sustainability Forum and the 3rd Basel Sustainable Publishing Forum made their successful return in this format for the second time running. A few first editions of conferences were also held—the 1st Corrosion and Materials Degradation Web Conference and the Noncoding RNA World: From Mechanism to Therapy. We were also honored to host the first virtual annual meeting of the Swiss Society

of Toxicology and assist with the organization of the 29th Workshop of the Institute of Genetics and Biophysics.

9TH WORLD SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

The 9th Edition of the World Sustainability Forum (WSF) was successfully held on 13-15 September. Over 400 attendees joined the event for 9 main sessions, 7 satellite sessions, along with a ceremony for the World Sustainability Award and Emerging Sustainability leader Award awarded to the following four researchers who have dedicated their careers to the safeguarding of all of our futures: Prof. John Elkington, Dr. Lela Mélon, Prof. Jianguo “Jack” Liu and Prof. Anet Režek Jambrak.

3RD BASEL SUSTAINABLE PUBLISHING FORUM

The 3rd Basel Sustainable Publishing Forum (online event) took place 25 October 2021, providing valuable insights from key stakeholders in the transition to Open Science, and highlighted the importance of working collaboratively. Many of the key points emphasized the need for a culture of collaboration and inclusion among the entire research community. We are proud to have hosted such a global event, with registrations from 52 different countries and look forward to continuing the discussion at BSPF 2022.

The Sciforum team is busy planning and organizing events for 2022, having already scheduled seven in-person conferences, 34 electronic conferences, and 22 webinars. Looking ahead, we are considering delving into hybrid events, as this will allow greater flexibility for our participants who do not have the option to attend in person. At the same time, the Sciforum team will continue improving platform services to provide better organizational solutions, both for internal usage and our external clients. Further information: sciforum.net

sciforum.net/pages/contact

MDPI Initiatives and Other Services



AUTHOR SERVICES mdpi.com/authors/english

MDPI Author Services is an increasingly popular English editing option for academic authors.

In addition to our Layout and Plagiarism Check services, MDPI Author Services has previously offered two English editing options: Regular edit and Specialist edit. These two services have been developed and strengthened by the addition of a new service, Rapid edit, which was introduced in September 2021. This exciting new addition offers the same high-quality editing as the Regular edit but much quicker, completed within 1 business day. This has already proven to be a popular choice with those authors who want their work edited and published without delay, with the highest level of quality and efficiency.

We pride ourselves on providing excellent service. During and following the English editing process, authors can get in touch with our dedicated Author Services helpdesk for assistance at authorservices@mdpi.com, which is run from our UK office. We understand that authors may need support after they receive their edited work from us, and we are happy to help.

In 2022, we will build on the solid foundations laid in 2021 to maximize the use of Author Services by MDPI's journals and submitting authors, and we will extend our reach to serve academic authors more broadly.



JAMS jams.pub

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