



Prácticas depredadoras en el ámbito académico

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Contenido del taller

- Cuáles son las prácticas depredadoras y porqué surgen?
- Qué son las revistas y editoriales depredadoras?
- Cuáles son el alcance y las características de estas prácticas
- Cómo evaluar una revista?
- Porqué son dañinas las revistas y editoriales depredadores
- El impacto de las revistas depredadoras
- Soluciones para estas prácticas
- Ejemplos sobre el tema

Prácticas depredadoras

- Revistas
 - Editoriales
 - Conferencias
 - Índices de revistas
 - Métricas
 - Porqué surgen estas prácticas?
 - Cuál es su impacto?
 - en la investigación
 - en las políticas públicas
 - económico
-

Chapter 2 A Spectrum of Predatory Practices

Summary

Predatory journals and conferences are on the rise, diversifying and becoming more sophisticated, with the distinction between fraudulent, fake, poorly resourced, low quality, legitimate but unethical publishing and conferencing practices growing less apparent. This makes it more difficult for scholars to avoid inadvertently or unknowingly using them, and for these practices to be tracked or monitored over time with any confidence.

Most existing definitions do not account for this complexity and are perceived to be biased towards the Northern hemisphere and English language. The binary, polarised approach of predatory and non-predatory, “watch” and “safe” lists is inadequate.

Predatory journals and conferences are described here as belonging to a spectrum or typology of journal and conference practices; a broad set of dynamic predatory behaviours that range from genuinely fraudulent and deceitful practices - as described by the international consensus definition (Grudniewicz et al, 2019) - to questionable and unethical ones, with varying degrees of unacceptable to well-intentioned low-quality practices in the middle. At their core, and in agreement with the international consensus definition, these practices serve to prioritise self-interest at the expense of scholarship. They can be committed by new and established, fraudulent and reputable, traditional and Open Access publishers, anywhere in the world. Typical markers are provided for each part of the spectrum to help users navigate their way around this complexity.

With the middle area of this spectrum or continuum of practices getting larger and more confusing, it is anticipated that this approach can stimulate a new, more nuanced conversation.

Combating Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences.(2022).

<https://www.interacademies.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/1.%20Full%20report%20-%20English%20FINAL.pdf>

¿Por qué surgen estas prácticas?

- “*Publish or Perish*” – “Predatory publishers and predatory conference organisers are broadly understood as those motivated by profit rather than scholarship, who exploit the pressure on researchers to publish papers and participate in international conferences, respectively.”
- Desconocimiento
- Dificultad de distinguir entre una revista de baja calidad y una depredadora
- Falta de ética, etc.

“So-called predatory practices in the academic sphere account for a range of services that exploit researchers, scholarly communication and knowledge-sharing for one primary reason: profit (economic or other kinds of self-interest).”

Combating Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences. (2022, p.27)

An alternative approach is to use the UNESCO figure of 1,368 researchers/million population in 2018 and a global population today estimated at 7.9 billion (worldpopulationreview.com), where the number of researchers impacted by predatory journals (at 11%) would equate to 1.19 million. Taking the 14% of respondents for both predatory journals and conferences, this figure increases to over 1.5 million researchers. **Impacting at least one million researchers around the world, these predatory academic publishing and conferencing practices deserve more attention and action than they currently receive.**

The rationale for using predatory outlets was also explored ([Figure 3.7](#)).

Figure 3.7: Reasons for using predatory services, knowingly or unknowingly

At least 24% of respondents have either published in a predatory journal, participated in a predatory conference, or don't know if they have.



El impacto de las prácticas depredadoras

- **En la investigación**
 - contaminan a diferentes grados la literatura científica
 - socavan la confianza en los resultados de la investigación
 - opacan el prestigio de las revistas legítimas de acceso abierto
 - proveen rutas fáciles para la ciencia no confiable

- **En las políticas públicas**

- La publicación en revistas depredadoras, fabricación de datos, el plagio académico erosionan la confianza pública en las profesiones médicas y científicas, devalúan la ciencia legítima y anulan el apoyo público a la política basada en la evidencia.
- Abren la puerta para actores inescrupulosos de la industria de publicación que intentan reducir la presencia en el mercado a los competidores

- **Económico**

- costo económico difícil de estimar

Fuente: The InterAcademy Partnership. (2022). *Combating Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences (Full Report in English)*.

- **El costo social e individual** (para los investigadores, revisores y los editores)
-

Definiciones

- Existe una amplia variedad de términos y definiciones tanto en inglés como en español que identifican estas manifestaciones engañosas o fraudulentas.

Términos utilizados

En inglés

- Predatory
- Bogus
- Spurious
- Counterfeit
- Misleading
- Pseudo -journals
- Dubious
- Trash (dark), etc.

En español

- Engañosas
- Falsas
- Espurias
- Depredadoras
- Dudosas

Definiciones y términos

- ✓ “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.”

Beall, J. (2012). Predatory publishers are corrupting open access. *Nature*, 489(7415), 179.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/489179a>

- ✓ 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, misrepresenting members of the journal’s editorial board, and other violations of copyright or scholarly ethics. (Elmore, S.A. and E. H. Weston, 2020)
- ✓ Las **revistas depredadoras** o ***pseudo-journals*** publican artículos de investigación sin aplicar los estándares de calidad que se espera de las genuinas revistas académicas, muy notablemente sin llevar a cabo procesos de evaluación externa. Dado que, a cambio de publicar, exigen un **pago** a los autores, a veces se confunden errónea e injustamente con las revistas de tipo **open access**. Y esto es un problema añadido de enorme magnitud. (Codina, L., 2021)

1.1 What are predatory journals and conferences?

“Predatory journal” and “predatory conference” are typically defined as in Box 1.1.

Box 1.1: What are so-called predatory journals and conferences?

Predatory journals solicit articles from researchers through practices that exploit the pressure on researchers to publish. Features of predatory journals include rapid pay-to-publish models without rigorous peer-review, fake editorial boards falsely listing respected scientists, fraudulent impact factors, journal titles that are deceptively similar to those of legitimate journals, paid review articles that promote fake science, and aggressive spam invitations to submit articles, including outside of a researcher’s expertise. Furthermore, it is common practice for predatory journals to exploit the “author-pays” model of open access for financial gain.

Predatory conferences are a growing part of the academic landscape. They may be organised by these same publishers, or by specialised for-profit conference groups. They exploit the pressure on researchers to present their work, especially to international audiences. These conferences are characterised by a similar lack of peer-review of submitted abstracts and papers, may charge high fees with respect to the services provided, and often invite researchers to speak on topics outside their area of expertise; in the case of fake conferences, they do not take place at all.

It is worth caveating at the outset that the term “predatory” is problematic for at least three reasons:

- “Predatory journals” are not a universally agreed or recognised term; nor do they necessarily translate well. In Latin America, for example, there is talk of “spurious journals”; in Russia, “trash” or “garbage” journals; in India, predatory is used interchangeably with “dubious journals”; then there are “deceptive”, “dark”, “illegitimate” and “pseudo” journals, and – before anyone assumed the papers would be subsequently read- “write-only” journals. There is less literature on “predatory conferences” or meetings and to a large extent they have adopted the language from the journals’ context.
- The term implies there must be prey i.e. that all authors or participants who use them do so unwittingly, unknowingly, which is not always the case: the relationship can be less predator-prey and more “a new and ugly symbiosis” (Kolata, 2017).

“Predatory journals and publishers are entities that prioritise self-interest at the expense of scholarship and are characterised by false or misleading information, deviation from best editorial and publication practices, a lack of transparency, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate solicitation practices.”

Grudniewicz, A. et al.(2019). Predatory journals: no definition, no defence. *Nature*, 576, 210.

<https://media.nature.com/original/magazine-assets/d41586-019-03759-y/d41586-019-03759-y.pdf>



Otras formas de prácticas no éticas

- Hijacked journals
- Revistas clonadas

Hijacked journals

- **Modalidad de editorial depredadora especialmente perversa**

Existen editoriales **depredadoras** que utilizan para sus revistas (casi) el mismo nombre de revistas legítimas (cambian apenas una letra del título) y exigen el pago de cifras que pueden llegar a los 11.000 dólares tras una falsa revisión. En caso de retirar el artículo (ante tal cifra, ¿quién va querer pagar?) exigen el pago del 80% de esa cantidad en concepto de gastos, exigencia que mantienen a través de múltiples correos que incluyen envío de facturas. Es de una importancia vital consultar las **listas blancas** antes de enviar una propuesta de artículo a una revista. Complementariamente, las listas negras también pueden ayudar. (Codina, L., 2021)

<https://www.lluiscodina.com/revistas-depredadoras/#blancas>

- **Ejemplos:** Beall's List of Predatory Journals and Publishers

<https://beallslist.net/hijacked-journals/>

1. <https://actabioethica.uchile.cl/index.php/AB/index>

2. <http://ww17.actabioethica.org/>

Comparar
ambas
revistas

1. PRÁCTICAS COMERCIALES ESPURIAS

La información de la revista sobre tarifas de publicación y derechos de autoría, y en general la información sobre sus prácticas comerciales, debe ser transparente. Estas son las “Políticas de acceso y reuso” (característica 20 del Catálogo Latindex). Si hay costo por publicar, este debería presentarse en forma de tasa de publicación que se paga solo cuando se acepta un artículo para publicación, y el monto de la cuota debería estar claramente indicado en el sitio web. En este sentido, algunas prácticas en revistas fraudulentas o depredadoras son:

- 1.1. Ocultan información sobre los cargos por procesamiento de artículos (los denominados *Article Processing Charges - APC*) y no advierten el cobro de la tasa hasta después de que la persona autora haya completado la presentación y el manuscrito haya sido aceptado.
- 1.2. Exigen una tasa de presentación (o tasa de gestión), que se debe pagar sea o no aceptado el manuscrito, en lugar de una cuota de publicación (APC). En todo caso, esa cuota debe tener un precio visible en la revista.
- 1.3. Crean un sitio web fraudulento similar al de una revista académica legítima (conocida como clonada), con el fin de ofrecer a las personas académicas la oportunidad de publicar rápidamente sus investigaciones mediante el pago de una tarifa.
- 1.4. La revista resucita o renueva el sitio web de una revista que ha dejado de publicarse y utiliza el título de la revista y el ISSN para publicar nuevos artículos.
- 1.5 La revista secuestradora publica los nuevos artículos detrás de un muro de pago en el sitio web resucitado. La persona editora tramita la asignación de DOIs de la revista legítima (que eran de libre acceso) para redirigir todas las consultas a ese muro de pago.

Editoriales depredadores

- Predatory publisher, Deceptive publisher

“There is no one standard definition of what constitutes a predatory publisher but generally they are those publishers who charge a fee for the publication of material without providing the publication services an author would expect such as peer review and editing. Missing out on these important steps can undermine the final product and perpetuates bad research in general and exploits the Open Access publishing model. Predatory publishers typically contact potential authors directly via email to offer their services and encourage publication with many starting to branch out into offering academic conferences. To the researcher eager to make an impact with their work these can seem like very tempting offers but they often come with little academic reward.”

<https://osc.cam.ac.uk/about-scholarly-communication/author-tools/considerations-when-choosing-journal/predatory-publishers>

Métricas engañosas

- Misleading metrics, fake metrics

<https://beallslist.net/misleading-metrics/>

¿Cómo distinguir las métricas engañosas?

Criteria for Determining Misleading Metrics

1. The website for the metric is nontransparent and provides little information about itself such as location, management team and its experience, other company information, and the like.
2. The company charges journals for inclusion in the list.
3. The values (scores) for most or all of the journals on the list increase each year.
4. The company uses Google Scholar as its database for calculating metrics (Google Scholar does not screen for quality and indexes predatory journals).
5. The metric uses the term “**impact factor**” in its name.
6. The methodology for calculating the value is contrived, unscientific, or unoriginal.
7. The company exists solely for the purpose of earning money from questionable journals that use the gold open-access model. The company charges the journals and assigns them a value, and then the journals use the number to help increase article submissions and therefore revenue. Alternatively, the company exists as a front for an existing publisher and assigns values to that publisher’s journals.

Beall’s List of Potential Predatory Journals and Publishers: Misleading Metrics.

<https://beallist.net/misleading-metrics/>

El espectro de conductas depredadoras para revistas

- **Revistas fraudulentas**

- { - Hijacked journals
- Revistas engañosas

- **Revistas de calidad baja inaceptable**

- **Revistas de baja calidad**

- { - Revistas bien intencionadas y prometedoras de baja calidad
- Revistas de calidad cuestionable

<https://www.mdpi.com/>

(The InterAcademiY Partnership, 2022)

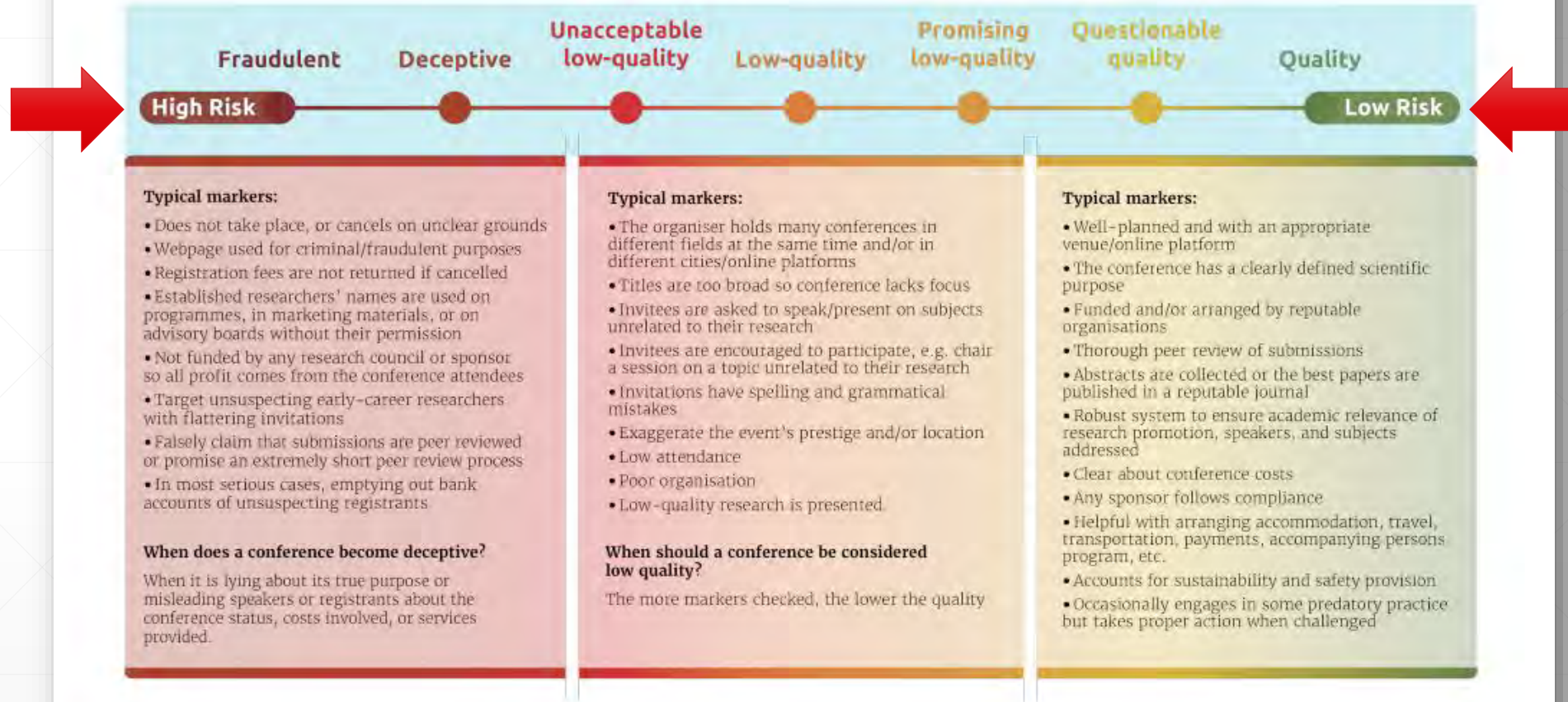
¿Incluyen las bases de datos revistas depredadoras?

- Scopus

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00239-0>

<https://www.elsevier.com/connect/the-guardians-of-scopus>

Figure 2.2: A spectrum of predatory behaviours for conferences



The InterAcademy Partnership. (2022). *Combatting Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences* (Full Report in English), p.35.

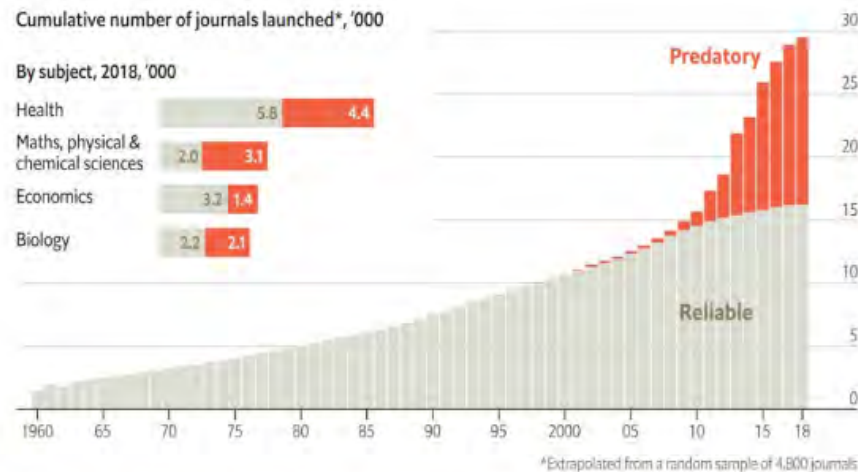
<https://www.interacademies.org/publication/predatory-practices-report-English>

El estado de estas prácticas

1.2 The growth and prevalence of predatory journals

Recent decades have witnessed a rapid growth in published research output, published in over 42,000 journals (as of 2018: approximately 33,100 English language; 9,400 non-English) and accounting collectively for over 3 million articles a year (STM 2018). Much of this can be explained by the increase in numbers of researchers worldwide (UNESCO, 2021), and the “publish or perish” academic culture that incentivises researchers to publish as many papers as they can (Mandke, 2019). These trends have also seen the **rise of predatory journals**, as illustrated in Figure 1.1, **that are purely profit-driven, featuring little if any peer-review and offering rapid turnaround in publication.**

Figure 1.1: Growth in number of predatory journals



Taken from <https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/2020/05/30/how-to-spot-dodgy-academic-journals>

The InterAcademy Partnership. (2022). *Combatting Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences* (Full Report in English), p.14.

<https://www.interacademies.org/publication/predatory-practices-report-English>

Estado actual de estas prácticas

The InterAcademy Partnership. (2022). *Combating Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences* (Full Report in English), p.17.

<https://www.interacademies.org/publication/predatory-practices-report-English>

journals with local, regional or niche value in some countries to be caught in the crossfire, suffering as collateral damage because they don't quite make the grade.

1.3 The growth and prevalence of predatory conferences

With the rise of predatory behaviour in the publishing industry, some predatory publishers have expanded their business models to make additional profits from predatory and fake conferences ([Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library](#)), as have some manufacturing companies looking to market their products, especially in the medical sector ([Sharma & Verma, 2020](#)). The [World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology \(WASET\)](#) is a case in point. Listed as a predatory publisher by [predatory-publishing.com](#), WASET lists over 300 locations of planned conferences from April 2021 to December 2022 on its website, all in large cities or tourist spots, and each listing many conferences ([Xia, 2021](#)). In 2018, it was reported that WASET organised nearly 50,000 conferences, with an estimated revenue of nearly US\$4.5m ([Eckert et al, 2018](#)).

Predatory conference providers are for-profit companies that tend to hold multiple, low quality “academic” meetings to make money rather than support scholarship; provide no effective peer-review or scrutiny for speaking at their events; employ deceitful practices such as concealing their for-profit status, their HQ location or their true ownership; and making false claims about peer-review. Predatory conference organisers can often be easier to track than predatory conferences *per se* because conferencing practices are evolving rapidly, conference names change constantly and online and in-person events are too numerous to address ([McCrostie, pers.comm](#)). Typically, predatory conferences are designed around broad, nebulous concepts that can attract as many researchers from as many disciplines as possible. Their lure is understandable if there is a perceived pressure to attend conferences: for example, Taiwan’s postgraduate education system is run on a points-based system with generous government subsidies, so the more conferences attended, the greater the chance of promotion and payment ([McCrostie, 2016](#)). Choices made by researchers often reflect systemic incentives.

The literature on predatory conferences is relatively sparse compared to predatory journals, and much of it is anecdotal and found in opinion pieces and reviews ([Pecorari, 2021](#)). Nevertheless, predatory conference organisers do appear to be growing in size. In 2017, it was estimated that predatory and fake conferences outnumber real ones ([Grove et al, 2017](#)) due to the demand to present internationally, although the evidence for this declaration is unclear. Predatory, fake and questionable conferences are now taking place in nearly every major city in the world every month, and in some cities every week ([McCrostie, 2018](#); [McCrostie, 2018](#)). With increasing competition, even smaller cities have become targets: they compete for national and city funds such as Meetings-Incentives-Conferences-Exhibitions (MICE) subsidies, designed to attract conferences and their delegations to their cities: a type of conferences industry “tourism”, where municipal and regional pro-business practices may inadvertently support predatory conferences ([McCrostie, 2020, pers.comm](#)).

Predatory conferences also appear to be growing in sophistication: once convening events in small hotel conference rooms, they now hold much larger events in, for example, university conference centres in the UK, USA, and Canada. They bill Nobel prize winners and other high-profile figures on their programmes and in their publicity materials to make their events more enticing and compete with legitimate conference providers and academic membership associations: identity theft is common ([Pai & Franco, 2016](#)).

The relative lack of coverage in existing literature could be interpreted as a more accepting or dismissive attitude towards predatory conferences, viewing participating in these as “one-off” lapses that cause 24 substantive harm, and no permanent or traceable mark on a researcher’s record. In other words, they are perceived to be less harmful than predatory journals and akin, perhaps, to having picked a bad holiday

Ejemplos

- World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology (WASET)

<https://waset.org/conferences>

<https://waset.org/page/support>

- Lista de conferencias 2022 WASET

<https://waset.org/locations/2022>

- Editoriales

<https://www.mdpi.com/>


Atención

- Open Access no es igual a Predatory practice


<https://www.doaj.org/apply/transparency/>

<https://blog.doaj.org/2019/08/05/myth-busting-doaj-indexes-predatory-journals/>

Características de las revistas y conferencias depredadoras



10 TIPS ON IDENTIFYING PREDATORY JOURNALS AND CONFERENCES

AVOID 

- 1 Borderline journals with low h-indices even if they are listed in good databases such as SCOPUS. This will reduce the odds of the journal getting blacklisted later
- 2 Invitations from conferences with overly generic names (e.g., Global Conference on Science, Engineering, and Biotechnology.)
- 3 Extremely large conferences that combine different fields (e.g., arts, science, and history)
- 4 Responding to invitations from emails with free email accounts (e.g., conf2019@gmail.com)
- 5 Attending a conference with relatively unknown speakers, unclear agenda, and unclear peer review or anti-plagiarism policies
- 6 Conferences promising a quick turnaround time for papers, offering large number of rewards, or sounding like tourist events

CHECK ✓



- 7 Background and work history of the journal and that of the editor-in-chief
- 8 Geographical variety and profiles (qualifications, reviewing experience, etc.) of the reviewers/editors
- 9 Whether the organizers of the conferences are professional societies/well-established organizations
- 10 Visit [enago.com/academy/?s=predatory](https://www.enago.com/academy/?s=predatory) for detailed insights

Enago Academy. (2020). Identifying Predatory Journals Using Evidence-based Characteristics.

<https://www.enago.com/academy/identifying-predatory-journals-using-evidence-based-characteristics/>

Características de las revistas y conferencias depredadoras...

Pay Attention to These Telltale Signs

While this is not an exhaustive list, Shamseer et al. identified 13 evidence-based characteristics that could help determine whether a journal or publisher is predatory. To assess the legitimacy of a journal, look for the following clues:

- Non-biomedical interests
- Unprofessional website with many errors
- Unclear or touched-up images
- Website home page that speaks directly to authors
- Uses Index Copernicus Value as index factor
- No description of [publishing process](#)
- Asks for manuscripts to be submitted by email
- Promises quick turnaround and publication
- No retraction policy
- No information on how [content will be preserved](#)
- Low APC
- Lack of copyright clarity
- Publisher/journal email is generic (e.g., Gmail)

In the meantime, according to Shamseer et al., more research must be conducted to determine, for example, what research is being published in these journals, whether the data is legitimate, and the publisher's identity.

Enago Academy. (2020). Identifying Predatory Journals Using Evidence-based Characteristics.

<https://www.enago.com/academy/identifying-predatory-journals-using-evidence-based-characteristics/>

good faith. Some caution is therefore advised when considering a journal: defects in a publisher's processes may lead to it being labelled as predatory but the journal may simply lack resources – there may not be an intention to deceive.

Things to watch out for

A predatory journal/publisher may display one or more of these characteristics:

- A journal title which can be easily confused with another journal or that might mislead potential authors and readers about the journal's origin, scope or association with other journals
- Very wide scope
- Displays of unofficial impact factors
- False claims of being indexed in major services like PubMed or DOAJ
- No publisher address or contact information
- Unclear ownership of the journal
- Spams researchers with many emails inviting submissions, often unrelated to expertise
- Advertises very fast times from submission to publication
- Publishes out-of-scope articles
- Publishes nonsense articles
- Poor or non-existent editing of articles (many spelling mistakes or very poor grammar)
- Hides information on charges
- No editorial board is listed, or the editorial board comprises dead or retired scholars or scholars who are not specialised in the topic
- Lack of information on the policies of the journal, such as peer review, licensing and copyright

Características de las revistas y conferencias depredadoras...

Tress Academic. (2019). Predatory journals: How to identify them?
<https://tressacademic.com/identify-predatory-journals/>



Predatory Journal Test

Take our test to identify whether a journal belongs to the so-called predatory journals and applies inappropriate, deceptive and unethical publishing practices.

See our blog post #17 "[Predatory journals: How to identify them](#)" for how to answer the 25 questions below. Respond to them with your target journal in mind.

#	Journal name:	1 YES agree	2 ???	3 NO disagree
1	The journal charges a submission or handling fee that you have to pay regardless of whether your paper gets accepted or not?			
2	The journal promises a very fast publication process.			
3	The journal does not indicate a regular publication schedule (number of issues/volumes per year).			
4	The journal has a very low number of published papers and issues so far and seems to be new.			
5	The aims and scope of the journal are not defined or are rather vague.			
6	The journal publishes papers that are far outside the scope of the journal.			
7	The journal requests manuscripts to be submitted via email.			
8	The journal has a very high acceptance rate of papers.			
9	The paper titles and abstracts contain errors.			
10	The journal claims to be international, but has no or very few papers from well-known or international authors.			
11	The journal has a very small editorial board or the editorial board is still to be announced.			

#	Journal name:	1 YES agree	2 ???	3 NO disagree
13	The Editor-in-Chief of this journal is also the Editor-in-Chief of other journals with widely different subjects.			
14	The journal has a poor and unprofessional looking website with incorrect language.			
15	The journal sent open calls/unsolicited emails to many authors to invite them to submit papers to them.			
16	Communication from the journal includes poor language, spelling mistakes or grammar errors.			
17	The editorial policies of the journal lack transparency.			
18	The journal claims to have an impact factor despite the fact it is a new journal.			
19	The journal requires authors to transfer copyright, despite claiming it is open access.			
20	The publisher of the journal is not a member of a recognised professional body that commits to best practices in publishing.			
21	The journal is not indexed in any of the established journal databases.			
22	The journal's contact email address appears non-professional and non-journal affiliated.			
23	The journal is listed on Beall's list of predatory journals or another journal blacklist.			
24	If open access: The journal is not listed on the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).			
25	The journal is not read or known by your colleagues. They do not publish nor read this journal.			

How many times have you ticked (1) YES/AGREE:

How many times have you ticked (2) ???/UNCLEAR:

How many times have you ticked (3) NO/DISAGREE:



Características de las revistas y conferencias depredadoras...

RESULTS:

If you have ticked only a few boxes (1) YES/AGREE, the journal in mind does not seem to apply predatory practices. New but legitimate journals can also fail to meet some of the criteria mentioned above without any bad intentions.

If you have most of the time ticked the box (2) ???/UNCLEAR, it is difficult to judge what the status of this journal is. If you cannot find out what the respective policy of the journal on the 25 criteria is, we recommend to do the whole exercise with one or two other alternate journals. Probably, you will get a clearer picture with them and then you feel much better to submit to any of these.

If you have only a few times ticked the box (3) NO/DISAGREE (3), we would definitely recommend you NOT TO SUBMIT to this journal. It seems it is a predatory journal, and even if it isn't, the information, the editorial policies and practices seem to be at least very poor quality and you would not gain anything from a paper in such a journal.

Good luck with your next submission!

Guías y otros documentos para detectar las revistas depredadoras

- Identificación y tratamiento de revistas espurias en Latindex. Guía para Editores

https://latindex.org/lat/documentos/Revistas_espurias-Guia_para_editores_definitiva.pdf

<https://www.latindex.org/latindex/noticia/314>

Características de las revistas depredadoras...

- Consultar Cabell's International Directory – Predatory Reports
- Consultar las políticas de DOAJ sobre “Transparency & best practice”
<https://doaj.org/apply/transparency/>
 - revistas sello DOAJ
- Existen múltiples recursos de acceso abierto en la red – artículos, libguides, códigos de ética de la publicación, manuales de buenas prácticas de publicación de revistas científicas, entre otros materiales
- Ejemplos:
 - tablas Susan A. Elmore and Eleanor H. Weston –
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7237319/>
 - rubrica Rale, S. Kennedy, M. & Blas, N. - https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian_pubs/40/

Table 1.

Common Characteristics of Predatory Journals

- Claims to be a peer reviewed open access publication but does not provide adequate peer review or the level of peer review promised (some predatory journals repeatedly use a template as their peer review report).⁶
- Advertises a Journal Impact Factor or other citation metric on the website that is incorrect or cannot be verified.^{7,8}
- May advertise an unrealistic timeline for publication.^{8,9}
- Publishes all articles for which authors pay an APC even if the article is low quality, unrelated to the topic of the journal, or nonsensical.⁶
- Publishes articles that have many grammar mistakes (little or no copyediting).⁷
- Editorial board includes people who do not exist, do not have credentials relevant to the topic of the journal, have affiliations that cannot be verified, or are real people who are not aware that they are listed as members.^{7,10,11}
- Mimics name or website of other well-known, legitimate journals.⁶
- Aggressively targets potential authors through emails.^{7,12,13}
- May state that offices are in one country but contact details are in another.⁶
- Solicitation emails contain grammatical errors of phishing scams.¹³
- Lack of transparency about acceptance process or APCs, so that authors do not know how much they will be charged until their article is accepted.⁶
- Requires authors sign away their copyright to the article at the time of submission, making it impossible for the author to submit the article to another publisher.¹⁴
- Publishes articles submitted before the authors have signed the publishing agreement, then refuses to take the article down if the author withdraws the submission.¹⁵
- Removes articles or entire journals from the web without warning or informing authors.¹⁶

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Journal Evaluation Rubric

Criterion	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
Step 1. Journal evaluation			
Web search for the journal	The journal is within the top 5 entries on the first page of search results and there are no scam alert postings.	The journal is on the first page of search results but not within the top 5 entries and there are no scam alert postings.	The journal is not on the first page of search results or there is at least one scam alert post about the journal.
Journal name	The journal name cannot be confused with another journal.	The journal being evaluated has a name similar to another journal but is able to be distinguished between the two.	The journal being evaluated is unable to be distinguished from another with a similar name.
Editorial board	The editorial board is listed with their full names and institutional affiliation.	The editorial board is listed with their full names only (no affiliation).	There is no editorial board listed.
Review process	The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has a review policy listed.	The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has no review policy listed.	The journal does not state whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has no review policy listed.
Conflicts of interest	The journal thoroughly and clearly states a conflicts of interest policy, including how it will handle potential conflicts of interest of editors, authors, and reviewers.	The journal states a conflicts of interest policy, but the description of how conflicts will be handled is unclear.	The journal does not state a conflicts of interest policy.
Journal website	The journal website is competently designed and functional. (examples: no broken links, easy navigation, no missing information)	The journal website is adequately designed with passable functionality. (examples: adequate navigation, few broken links, some missing information)	The journal is poorly designed and is not functional. (examples: broken links, poor navigation, missing information)
Revenue sources	The journal clearly states its business model. This includes any revenue sources, like author fees, subscriptions, advertising, reprints, institutional support, and organizational support.	The journal's business model lacks clarity when stating its revenue sources, like author fees, subscriptions, advertising, reprints, institutional support, and organizational support.	The journal does not state its business model.
Journal archive	The journal website contains an archive of its past issues with links to full text articles.	The journal website contains an archive but it may be incomplete or does not contain links to full text articles.	The journal does not have an archive of its past issues.
Publishing schedule	The journal clearly states how often its issues will be published each year and this agrees with the archive.	The journal does not state how often its issues will be published but it can be determined from the archive.	The journal does not state how often its issues will be published each year and it cannot be determined from the archive.
Author fees	The journal clearly states the amount of money an author will pay to have each article published.	The journal states that an author fee is required but does not note how much it is.	The journal does not state whether or not there are any author fees.
Copyright information	The journal clearly describes its copyright and licensing information on the journal's Web site, and licensing terms are indicated on the published articles (HTML/PDF).		Copyright and licensing information is not found on the journal's Web site and on any published articles.
Journal index	The journal is indexed in more than one subject database. (examples: ERIC, Google Scholar, Web of Science, PsycINFO)	The journal is indexed in one subject database. (example: ERIC)	The journal is not indexed in a subject database.
Access to journal articles	The journal provides full text access to all published articles.	The journal provides full text access to some published articles.	The journal does not provide full text access to any published articles.
Number of articles published	The journal has published more than 10 articles.	The journal has published between 6 and 10 articles.	The journal has published 5 or fewer articles.
Step 2. Publisher evaluation			
Web search for the publisher	The publisher is within the top 5 entries on the first page of search results and there are no scam alert postings.	The publisher is on the first page of search results but not within the top 5 entries and there are no scam alert postings.	The publisher is not on the first page of search results or there is at least one scam alert posting.
Publisher information	Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is clearly identified.	Information about the ownership/management of the journal or contact information about the publisher is clearly identified.	Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is not available.

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) has guided some of this content, from their Best Practices site: <http://doaj.org/bestpractice>

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