

# How to avoid Predatory publishers?

## ■ Avoid at all costs

**Do not respond hastily** to recurring e-mail requests to publish articles, theses or attend conferences.

**Avoid journals whose websites lack expertise** and intellectual rigour and which do not respect the codes of academic communication. The tone, the mistakes, the ergonomics of the site and the presence of advertising should alert you.

**Beware of gifts too good to be true:** articles accepted without modification, very short publication deadlines ...

**Avoid « encyclopaedic » publishers** who offer to publish or coordinate texts on a wide range of topics.

## ■ Points to be aware of

**New journal or young publishers in Open Access:** these may be young, as yet unknown but promising journals. It is necessary to verify good editorial practice by contacting the editor directly.

**Track and add up all publication costs:** (non-refundable submission fees, illustration fees, withdrawal fees, etc.) : they must be clearly announced in order to inform your decision.

**Free of charge does not necessarily mean reliable :** if you are asked to coordinate a thematic issue, become a reviewer, be part of the board... your fame could be used to trap other researchers.

## ■ Good practices

**Rely on relevance and scientific quality of the journal :** recommendations from your colleagues, knowledge of the board and your own reading are legitimate supports to guide your choices.

**Ensure notoriety and visibility of the journal** guaranteed by referencing it in the bibliographic databases of your domain (Web of Science, Pubmed, Scopus...)

**For your publication to be in Open Access,** there is no need to pay a publication fee (APC): simply deposit the manuscript author accepted (MAA) version of your publication in your institution archive.

**Promote Open Access best practices :** by demanding on peer-reviewing and ethical control: check the presence of journals on DOAJ (<https://doaj.org/>)

In case of doubt,  
Ask your questions to the Doc' : [doc@mines-albi.fr](mailto:doc@mines-albi.fr)

*All information on Open Access in MIN-IST-A3*

