## Checklist for identifying predatory publishers

### What to look for

- **Contact information**
- **Scope of the journal**
- **Editorial board**
- **Author fee policy**
- **Quality of articles**
- **Peer review process**
- **Indexing information**
- **Retraction policy**
- **Pitch for authors**
- **E-mail invitation**

### What to check

- Does the journal's website provide complete contact information? Does it include a verifiable address?
- Is the journal's scope multidisciplinary? Does it combine multiple, unrelated, wide-ranging fields?
- Does it include recognized, affiliated experts? (TIP: Contact a few & inquire about their experience with the journal)
- Does the journal charge authors publication fees? (TIP: Find out about such charges before submission)
- Does the journal publish good quality research? (TIP: Check with your Dept. Head or Supervisor to gauge quality)
- Is the peer review process described on the journal's website? (TIP: Most credible journals are likely to display it)
- Is the journal indexed or a member of a prominent publisher association? Does it display an ICV*
- Does the journal have a clear policy for recalling articles? (TIP: Check journal policies or its instructions to authors)
- Does the journal guarantee publication or quick peer review? (TIP: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn’t.)
- Do the journal, its editors and staff all have institutional or journal-affiliated email addresses?

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*Index Copernicus Value (ICV) is a questionable journal metric, and is generally used exclusively by predatory journals. You will not find an ICV on the website of a legitimate journal.

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For more resources related to academic publishing, visit [www.editage.com/insights](http://www.editage.com/insights)