

# A proposal for communicating journal integrity and authenticity

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PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE PROJECT

you probably already  
know PKP/OJS

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# our misión *is not* to build software

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*we have more tan 20 years ...*

with the goal of improving the *quality* and *quantity* of:  
**knowledge that is made public**

and improving the *quantity* and *quality*

**of the participation in the creation of that knoweldge**

# beyond OJS: three pillars of work

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## Open Source Software

- OJS - journals, OMP - monographs, OPS - preprints

## Research, Education, and Advocacy

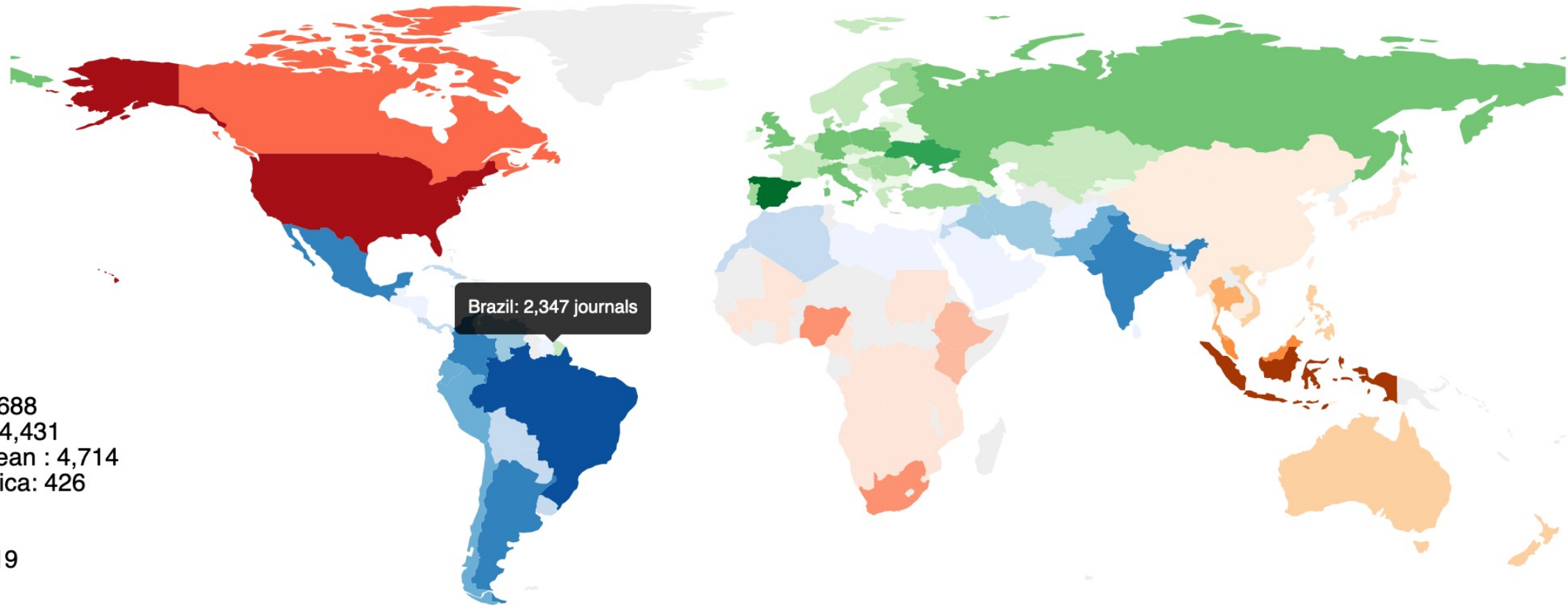
- research about OA, metrics, economic models, intellectual property, academic careers
- online courses
- taking into account a global context

## PKP Publishing Services

- Hosting (\$)
- PKP preservación
- Paperbuzz Metrics

# OJS journals around the world

2021



\*Others: 72  
East Asia & Pacific: 12,688  
Europe & Central Asia: 4,431  
Latin America & Caribbean : 4,714  
Middle East & North Africa: 426  
North America: 1,187  
South Asia: 1,156  
Sub-Saharan Africa : 419  
**Total: 25,093**

# questions we get asked

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- Are all those “REAL” journals?
- Do we need this many journals?
- Are those journals of high quality?
- Are you contributing to “predatory” journals with your software?

# who gets to decide?

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IN ANSWER TO ALL OF THOSE QUESTIONS

is the answer to limit  
the number of  
publications?

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CAN WE STOP “BAD” JOURNALS?



# we propose a **positive** approach

using transparency standards aided by tools and technical systems

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UNDER THE BELIEF THAT LISTS OF “GOOD” AND “BAD” JOURNALS  
CAN DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD

# a positive approach can enable growth

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“GOOD” ACTORS WITH LOW-QUALITY JOURNALS ARE WELCOME

“BAD” ACTORS WITH HIGH-QUALITY JOURNALS ARE NOT

# 5 points of scholarly integrity

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- OVERSIGHT: Scholarly oversight of secure editorial processes and systems.
- REVIEW: Expert peer review of research and supporting data.
- OPENNESS: Open content and transparent processes for global participation.
- AVAILABILITY: Indexing and preservation of preprints and publications.
- STATUS: Including preprint, version, correction, withdrawal, and retraction.

# 5 points: oversight

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The legitimacy of the journal very much depends on the integrity of those operating it.

It should be easy to know who is operating the journal, including the journal editors, editorial board members, journal staff, and authors.

Identities should be clearly visible and easy to find on journal website, and linked to ORCID identifiers. ORCID pages should include the journal affiliation on the employment section.

# 5 points: review

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A valid review process is probably the most important distinguishing characteristic of a “good” vs a “bad” journal. There are many different models of review, all can be equally valid, but whatever model is chosen should be transparent to the reader.

Readers should be able to know more than the intended process, they should be able to know details about what process actually took place.

Different levels of details can be shared: reviewer lists can be shared regularly and linked with ORCID, review times or other statistics can be shown for each article, review reports can be made open (anonymous or not).

Additional information to bolster integrity, such as data deposits, can also be included for readers to verify legitimacy of articles.

# 5 points: openness

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Openness and transparency are key ways of building trust, including for how journals are financially or otherwise supported.

Statements clearly outlining the chosen business model, evidenced by letters of support should be included. When APCs are charged for articles, these should be evident.

Transparency can also supported by the adoption of CREDiT taxonomy, allowing readers to see how authors contributed to the journal. These could be complemented with statistics on geographic participation in the journal.

# 5 points: availability

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Readership and circulation are another strong marker of an article's usefulness to the community.

Sharing of download, citation, and social media metrics can provide evidence of how and where content is circulating.

Inclusion in well-known databases, such as the DOAJ, can provide a third-party's verification of compliance with established publishing standards.

Efforts to ensure availability of content long term, such as the adoption of a preservation strategy (like the PKP PN) also mark a journal's intention to be a good actor in the community

# 5 points: Status

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While scholarly content does not change often, links to previous versions or to changes in status can signal continuity of scholarly record.

Links to previous or future version of work should be clearly visible, including to preprints on other servers and to corrections or updates done since publication.

Retraction decisions should be shown along with the process by which these are reached.



# implemented through technological and social means

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CREATE AN EXPECTATION OF INFORMATION BEING AVAILABLE  
USE TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE MEANS OF AUTHENTICATING

# publication facts

a mock-up implementation of what could appear next to an article online

This peer-reviewed research article's verified compliance with scholarly publication standards are [available here.](#)

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## Publication Facts *i*

### Journal of Asian Health

Discipline average

Discipline: Biomedical		<i>i</i>
Editor ORCID iD: 85%	65%	<i>i</i>
Open access: Yes	40%	<i>i</i>

### "Cultural Factors Influencing the..."

Status: Published 12/23/2020		<i>i</i>
Type: Research article	75%	<i>i</i>
Version: 2	32%	<i>i</i>
Standing: Correction Notice	4%	<i>i</i>
Downloads/views: 345	878	<i>i</i>

### Peer Review *i*

Reviewers: 2	2.4	<i>i</i>
Period: 3.4 months	4.2	<i>i</i>
Rounds: 1	2	<i>i</i>
Open review: Yes	23%	<i>i</i>

### Data Deposit *i*

Size: 12 GB	30%	<i>i</i>
Tools: Yes	12%	<i>i</i>

### Sponsorship *i*

Grant: NSF & NIH	68%	<i>i</i>
Conflicts of interest: 1 declared	10%	<i>i</i>

## Editor ORCID iD

### The Research Publishing Standard:

Scholarly editorial oversight of the journal is a research standard. The journal's editors, who oversee the publishing process, as well as its editorial board members, who advise those editors, should be accomplished researchers in the journal's discipline.

### How to Interpret:

Readers are able to use the ORCID iDs listed for editors by the journal to view their academic profile and verify this expertise. Having a high percentage of the editorial team, if not everyone, listing their ORCID iD adds to readers' ability to assess, in combination with the other standards listed here, the level of trust to place in the journal's publications.

### The Trust Factor:

ORCID is widely respected as a non-profit organization that carefully gathers relevant and accurate academic information on scholars around the world. Both the journal and ORCID use a two-way authentication system to prevent tampering with this important information on the scholarly editorial oversight provided to this journal's publishing process.

# two-way authentication through a third-party

third-parties like ORCID and Crossref can be used to provide two-way linkages between what appears in the journal and its relationship to the scholarly record

## PLOS ONE

Journal Publishing Platform

### Two-Way Third-Party Authentication

On being appointed Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Emily Chenette would take the following steps to add her ORCID iD to her journal listing:

1. Dr. Chenette would log into the journal and click on the ORCID link in her profile.
2. This takes her to the ORCID site where she is asked to log in.
3. Logging into her ORCID account results in a two-way exchange of secure information:
  - The journal provides ORCID with Dr. Chenette's employment as Editor-in-Chief.
  - ORCID provides the journal with her iD to add to her listing on the PLOS One website, as shown below.



**Emily Chenette**

*Editor-in-Chief*

 [orcid.org/0000-0003-0393-395X](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0393-395X)

[echenette@plos.org](mailto:echenette@plos.org)

4. *PLOS One* readers can click on Dr. Chenette's ORCID link in the journal to see her profile in ORCID, attesting to the scholarly expertise that she brings to her editorial oversight of the publishing process. This is a point of trust.

**ORCID**

**Emily Chenette**

**ORCID ID**

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0393-395X>

**Employment (6)**

Public Library of Science: Cambridge, GB  
2018-11 to present | Editor in Chief (PLOS ONE)  
Employment  
Source: PLOS ONE ★ Preferred source

**Education and qualifications (2)**

University of North Carolina: Chapel Hill, NC, US  
2000 to 2004 | PhD (Genetics and Molecular Biology)  
Education  
Source: Emily Chenette ★ Preferred source

**Works (50 of 60)**

Items per page: 50 1 - 50 of 60

Recent buzz in malaria research  
The FEBS Journal  
2017-08 | Journal-article  
DOI: 10.1111/febs.14160  
Part of ISSN: 1742-464X  
Source: Emily Chenette via Crossref Metadata Search ★ Preferred source

### Crossref Metadata Search

ORCID collects academic career data from trusted parties and preferred sources, e.g., publications listed in Crossref Metadata Search.

# thank you

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WITH SPECIAL GRATITUDE TO JOHN WILLINSKY WHO OUTLINED THIS INITIATIVE AND TO DRS. LAUREN MAGGIO AND LAURA MOOREHEAD WHO HAVE HELPED DEVELOP IT FURTHER