

## MEETING OF PUBLISHERS OF ESTONIAN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS<sup>1</sup>

The Estonian Academy Publishers celebrated the 70th anniversary of starting the publishing of scientific journals of the Academy, with the conference “Open Access Challenges”. The conference was held at the Estonian Academy of Sciences on Toompea Hill in Tallinn on 26 May 2022 and the chief editors of Estonian scientific journals and other people related to publishing had been invited to participate.

Also the Head of Research Infrastructure of the Ministry of Education and Research participated at the conference and made a presentation.

The conference had been organised by the Estonian Academy Publishers in cooperation with the Estonian Academy of Sciences.

The Secretary General of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the Council for the Estonian Academy Publishers, Academician Jaak Järv opened the conference, gave the welcome speech and chaired the conference.

The work proceeded in three sessions:

Session I: Open Access (OA) yesterday, today, tomorrow (three presentations were made, incl. Mrs Pippa Smart<sup>2</sup> over the internet; President of the Academy, Academician Tarmo Soomere, and Director of the Academy Publishers Piret Lukkanen)

Session II: Open Access problems and solutions (four presentations were made)

Session III: How to make Estonian scientific journals more visible? (the discussion was led by Academician Jüri Engelbrecht)

The conclusion of the conference and the closing speeches: President of the Academy, Academician Tarmo Soomere and Academician Jaak Järv.

Our international, periodical, open access, peer reviewed scientific journal in three languages which has an international editorial team<sup>3</sup> was represented by the Chief Editor

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<sup>1</sup> The brief article/overview in Estonian has been prepared based on the programme of the conference: [<https://www.akadeemia.ee/sundmused/konverents-avatud-juurdepaasu-valjakutsed/>] and on what was heard at the meeting and read from information materials. Overview prepared by: Matti Raudjärv (MR; 28.05 – 01.06.2022). The brief information in English and German (about 2 pages) is based on the Estonian overview (7 pages).

<sup>2</sup> Freelance consultant for research institutions and editors of scientific journals (*PSP Consulting*), Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Learned Publishing*.

An editorial and publishing consultant with many years' experience of providing training to editors and publishing staff. In addition to running courses around the world, she is also Editor-in-Chief of *Learned Publishing*, and Past-President of the European Association of Science Editors (WASE). She provides advice and consultation to a range of learned associations and editorial groups.

<sup>3</sup> The journal *Estonian Discussions on Economic Policy / Estnische Gespräche über Wirtschaftspolitik / Eesti majanduspoliitilised vätlused* has been indexed in more than ten international databases, such as *Scopus*, *DOAJ*, *EBSCO*, *ECONIS*, *SSRN*, etc.; also the US Library of Congress has been among the subscribers for many years. The Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) has classified the journal to Category 1.1. and it is published in cooperation with economists of the

Matti Raudjärv and editor-consultant Ruth Tammeorg (Chair of the Tartu University Faculty Association; librarian /VI level of qualification/).

The conference provided a good overview of the situation of Estonian research journals, their problems and further opportunities for their improvement, achievement of even better quality and development.

It is good to note here that members of the international editorial team of our journal, for instance, **from Georgia, Germany and other countries, have made suggestions for development purposes that authors of the journal could also refer more in their papers to the papers published in our journal, cite them.**<sup>4</sup>

As the chief editor (MR) and author of this overview I would emphasize again: achievements of our journal are all thanks to the joint excellent efforts of our small organising committee and editorial team (incl. the English and German interpreters and translators and secretaries) who have supported each other as good friends, generally without compensation, also those who have passed away or simply left us, gone elsewhere.

MR: *We were glad to hear after the overviews and presentations/discussions that our journal is among the best Estonian scientific journals. We were confirmed again that we have been indexed and categorised both on an international scale and in Estonia almost as highly as the research journals of the Estonian Academy of Sciences.*

With best wishes both to authors, readers and colleagues,  
Matti Raudjärv (Chief Editor of the journal)

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largest and best known Estonian, Georgian, German, Russian and other universities and institutions of higher education. The journal was first published in 1984 (as a collection of theses/papers), then in 1994–2006 (as a collection of research papers) and since 2007 as a periodical scientific journal. The publisher is Mattimar OÜ, an Estonian company engaged in publishing, economic research, consultations and training, and the co-publisher since 2001 is the German research publishing house Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag which had the 60th anniversary from starting its activities this year. Since 1984 also international scientific conferences have been held on the basis of the papers in the journal (20 times at Värskas and since 2013 at Jäneda). This year the tenth conference would have been held at Jäneda (already the 30th in total). Although the conferences had been prepared, they had to be cancelled in three years (2020 – 2022) due to the pandemic and the aggression going on in Ukraine as it was not possible for many people, our colleagues to travel to Estonia (or leave their country). Therefore several our earlier and also new authors did not submit (or finalise) their paper for our journal, promising to contribute surely in the future and also to participate actively at the conference. We also hope that both the pandemic and the war in Ukraine will subside and have a happy end.

<sup>4</sup> We can add that students of Estonian universities and other institutions of higher education who use papers published in our journals when writing their written papers, also cite our authors and their papers. As our journal has been distributed in Germany by our co-publisher and also to universities of many other countries, the students of these countries are known to use the papers of our authors in their papers. But it is certainly not enough to have it used only by students.