

U • S
• X ▪
F • C

*college of design and social
context +
rmit library*

Strategic Publishing & *Open Access*

DSC HDR Symposia - Strategic Publishing and Open Access

4 June 2025

Presenters: Jen Hurley and Mark Parsons
Library Research Services



Acknowledgement of Country

RMIT University acknowledges the people of the Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung language groups of the eastern Kulin Nation on whose unceded lands we conduct the business of the University.

RMIT University respectfully acknowledges their Ancestors and Elders, past and present.

RMIT also acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and their Ancestors of the lands and waters across Australia where we conduct our business.

Artwork 'Sentient' by Hollie Johnson

Hollie is a Gunaikurnai and Monero Ngarigo woman from Gippsland who graduated from RMIT with a BA in Photography in 2016.



Session Overview

- What is Strategic Publishing?
- Identify potential publishing options
- Evaluate quality – journals, publishers and conferences
- Investigate pathways to open access
- Researcher Profiles & socialise your research
- Assess your strategy





What is Strategic Publishing?

- An intentional, informed approach to publishing
- Focuses on visibility, quality, and impact
- Not just about where to publish — but why, when, and how



Why Strategic Publishing Matters for HDRs

- Builds academic credibility and track record
- Helps meet thesis requirements
- Supports career goals (academic and beyond)
- Increases research impact and citations
- Avoids predatory or low-quality journals



Publishing Options

- Academic journals (peer-reviewed)
- Conference papers/proceedings
- Book chapters or monographs
- Policy briefs and reports
- Creative or practice-based outputs
- Preprints and repositories
- Industry and professional publications





Identify options for publishing

Identify sources that are strong in coverage of your topic area. Methods for identifying **relevant** publications include:

- speaking with your co-authors, supervisors and colleagues
- looking at the publications you are reading and referencing
- searching academic databases for publications on your research topic
- manuscript matching tools



Databases to locate relevant journals

Source title

- ☐ BMJ Open
- ☐ Sustainability Switzerland
- ☐ International Journal Of Environmental Research And Public Health
- ☐ Plos One
- ☐ International Journal Of Sociology And Social Policy

[Show all](#)

20,958 documents found

[Analyze results](#)

☐ All [Export](#) [Download](#) [Citation overview](#) [More](#)

[Show all abstracts](#) Sort by [Cited by \(highest\)](#) [Grid](#) [List](#)

	Document title	Authors	Source	Year	Citations
753					
374					
269	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Prevalence of depression symptoms in US adults before and during the COVID-19 pandemic	Ettman, C.K. , Abdalla, S.M. , Cohen, G.H. , ... Vivier, P.M. , Galea, S.	JAMA Network Open , 3(9), e202019686	2020	1,651
230	Show abstract Find it Related documents				
160	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Association of Public Health Interventions with the Epidemiology of the COVID-19 Outbreak in Wuhan, China	Pan, A. , Liu, L. , Wang, C. , ... Wei, S. , Wu, T.	JAMA - Journal of the American Medical Association , 323(19), pp. 1915–1923	2020	1,203
	Show abstract Find it Related documents				
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 The COVID-19 pandemic: Impacts on cities and major lessons for urban planning, design, and management	Sharifi, A. , Khavarian-Garmsir, A.R.	Science of the Total Environment , 749, 142391	2020	787
	Show abstract Find it Related documents				

Screenshot of Scopus search results for "design of social policies" limited to journals and last 5 years sorted by highest cited. See which sources publish the most in this field under Source title.
© Elsevier. Used under licence.



Manuscript matching tools

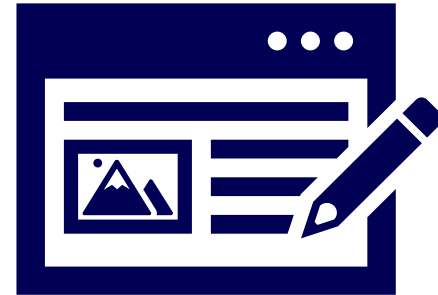
[Elsevier Journal Finder](#)

[Endnote Manuscript Matcher](#)

[Springer Journal Suggester](#)

[Taylor & Francis Journal Suggester](#)

[Wiley Journal Finder](#)





Further criteria to short list

- Manuscript matches journal scope and eligibility
- Turn-around times suit your needs
- Authors rights retention and publisher policies suitable

Next section on further criteria for short listing:

- Journal quality
- Pathways to Open access





Evaluating Journal Quality

Some key factors to consider:

Quantitative Factors

- Impact factor
- Quartile rankings
- Acceptance rate

Qualitative Factors

- Peer review process
- Editorial board

Other considerations

- Reputation
- Publication ethics



Publishing evaluation tools

[Altmetric Explorer](#)

[Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#)

[Scimago Journal and Country rank \(SJR\)](#)

[UlrichsWeb: global serials directory](#)

Clarivate - [Journal Citation Reports](#) & [InCites](#)

Elsevier - [Compare Sources](#) & [SciVal](#)

[Books, book chapters, conferences and reports](#)





Considerations

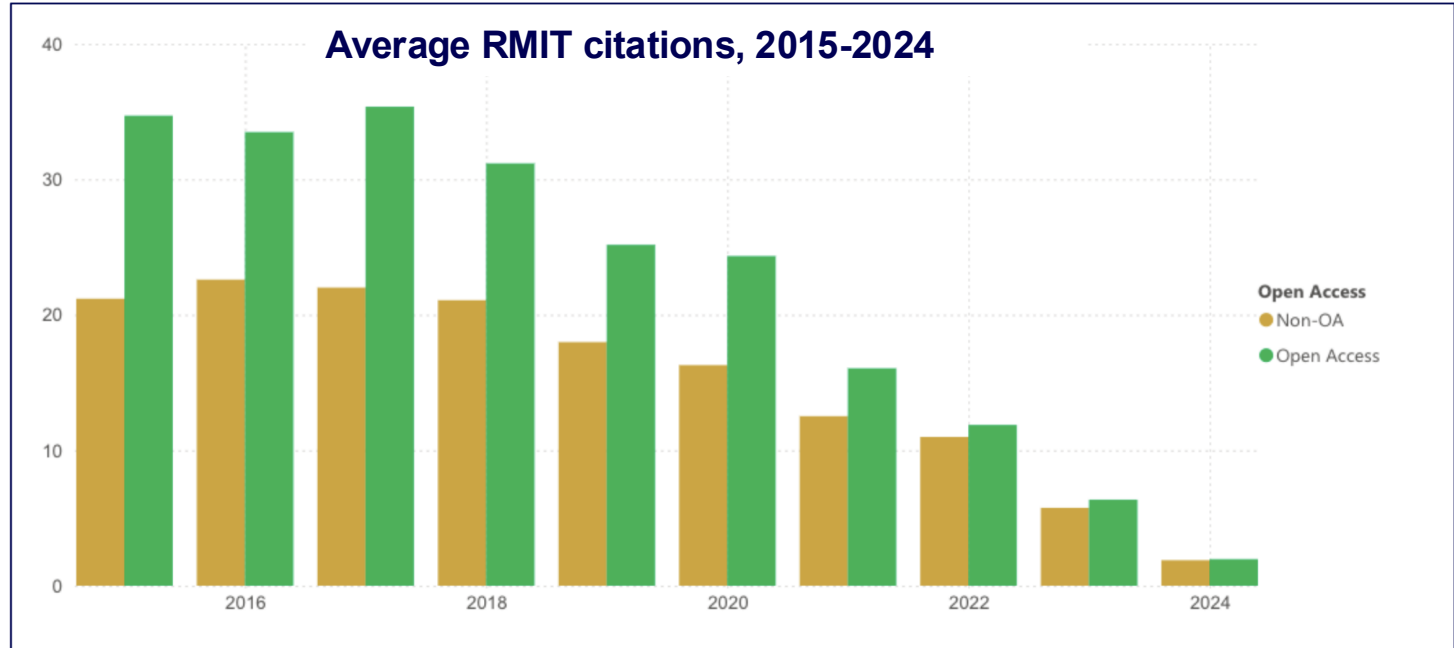
Open Access vs. Subscription

Decision based on:

- Funder mandates
- Audience reach
- Publication fees
- Institutional priorities
- Prestige and reputation



Benefits of Open Access

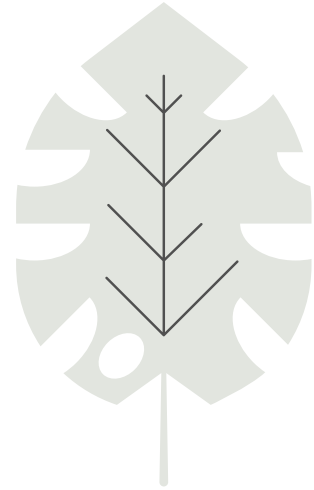


"RMIT publications 2015-2024 per average scholar citations" by [Lens.org](#) is licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#)



Pathways to Open Access

- Preprints
- Research Repository
- Read and Publish agreements





Preprints

- Initial version of a research paper before peer review
- Benefits include direct management of distribution for exposure and potential feedback
- Publicly accessible on public servers or repositories
- Preprint servers are typically organized by discipline. Some notable ones for DSC include [Open Access Repository](#) and [University of Cambridge](#)
- Use [Open Policy finder](#) to view open access compliance for specific Journals



[Home](#)

[Search](#)

[Fulltext Search](#)

[Browse](#)

[Recent Items](#) 

[Publish](#)



Welcome to ART-Dok

ART-Dok is the full-text server of the Specialised Information Service for Art, Photography and Design, [arthistoricum.net](#) and is provided by [Heidelberg University Library](#). The publication platform offers scholars worldwide the opportunity to make their publications from the field of Art History accessible online, free of charge and in electronic form according to the principles of Open Access. The documents will be stored and their long-term availability guaranteed by using persistent identifiers ([URN](#), [DOI](#)) and metadata ([OAI-PMH](#)). They are accessible through various international library catalogues and search engines.

As for now, ART-Dok provides free full-text access to **9,333** publications.



open-access.net

– News 

[Shaping the future of Diamond Open Access](#)
16.05.2025

[Guidelines for efficient open access workflows](#)
15.05.2025

[Better visibility of Diamond Open Access journals](#)
06.05.2025



🔔 Join Jisc open policy finder Advisory Board [See more about this update](#)

Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association

Publisher [Taylor and Francis Group](#) [Routledge](#) | ISSN 0742-1656 | eISSN 2159-9394

← [Back to search results](#)

🚩 [Report an error](#)

Journal Policy

Open Access Compliance

Transitional Agreement Look-up

Journal Details

Record Information

Version:



Show all



Published



Accepted



Submitted



RMIT Research Repository

- RMIT's collection of peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed research outputs
- Recently moved to the Figshare platform which means research publications and data outputs are now published on a single platform
- Connects to Elements (for staff only), which allows authors to manage and report their publications and maintain their own profiles

[Research Repository](#)





Read and Publish agreements

Close to deciding on a Journal title with article processing fees (APC)?

RMIT has signed up to 21 Read and Publish agreements for 2025

Activity

Do you have a journal title in mind? We can check to see if it is in the agreements

Check RMIT's Read and Publish Agreements to see if a journal APCs can be waived or reduced.

[Read and Publish agreements](#)



Predatory publishing

Predatory publishers exploit the open access model by charging authors to publish without providing proper editorial or peer review processes.

Resources

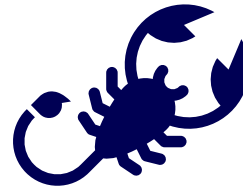
- [Strategic publishing guide - Predatory publishing](#)

Journals and Books

- [Think. Check. Submit.](#)

Conferences

- [Think.Check.Attend.](#)





Researcher Profiles

Is a publicly accessible profile of your professional academic works and achievements

Why profiles matter

- Increase discoverability of your work
- Ensure correct attribution (avoids name confusion)
- Improves your chance of being cited and improves your citation metrics

Key platforms to maintain

- **ORCID** – unique researcher ID; integrate with journal & grant systems
- **Google Scholar** - public-facing citation profile
- **Scopus/Web of Science** - track citations and metrics
- **Overton / Altmetric** – monitor policy and societal mentions



Socialise and Promote

Leverage academic networks

- Present at conferences and seminars;
Collaborate within and beyond your institution

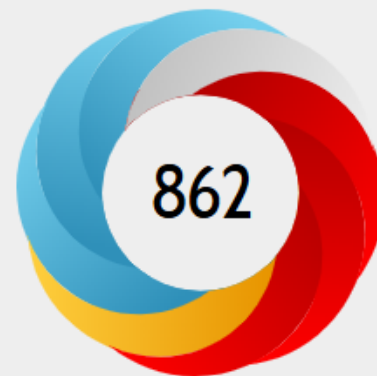
Use social media strategically

- Share DOIs and visuals on X/Twitter, LinkedIn & Mastodon
- Tag co-authors, institutions, and include relevant hashtags

Maximise discoverability

- Upload accepted manuscripts to your institutional repository
- Use ORCID and link to all profiles (Scopus, Google Scholar, Publons)

Altmetric Details Page

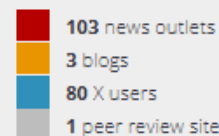


? About this Attention Score

In the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric

MORE...

Mentioned by



Screenshot of Altmetric attention score for an RMIT publication.
Source: © Altmetric Limited. Used under licence.



Things to Keep in Mind

- Be intentional: Plan your publishing with purpose - know your audience and goals
- Use the tools available to guide your decisions
- Quality matters more than quantity
- Publishing is part of your research identity

Assessing your publishing strategy



Did you meet
your publishing
goals?



Reached your
intended
audience



Promotion - was
it successful



Measure impact
– academic and
wider





Library guides and Support

Strategic Publishing

This guide provides information on applying strategic measures when considering publishing, promoting and tracking your research.

Researcher profiles and ORCID

Maximise the visibility of your research outputs by discovering how to establish a researcher profile.

Open Research

This guide provides information on several ways you can embed open practices into your research.

Open Access Publishing

This guide introduces open access, its benefits, the different models, APCs, policies and resources, and Open Access at RMIT University.



Request assistance from the Library Research team via [our form](#)



Thanks! Questions?



URBAN FUTURES SYMPOSIUM

Semester Two



20
22
OCTOBER

SOCIAL
CHANGE
SYMPOSIUM