

AGREEMENT ON THE CENTRAL AND FULL COVERAGE OF OPEN ACCESS PUBLICATION FEES

EFFECTIVE DATE

This agreement is effective as of January 1st, 2019 until December 31st, 2019.

PARTIES

Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF), Haus der Forschung, Sensengasse 1, 1090 Wien, Austria ("the Institution") AND
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66, 4052 Basel, Switzerland

OBJECT OF AGREEMENT

Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF), member of the Kooperation E-Medien Österreich / Austrian Academic Library Consortium, has the aim to cover the publication fees for Articles published in MDPI journals out of central funds for eligible authors. The object of this Agreement is to set out the terms and conditions relating to the publication of these articles.

MDPI is a for profit open access publisher publishing over 200 journals in all disciplines at www.mdpi.com. All MDPI articles are published under a CC-BY license.

Head Office of Kooperation E-Medien Österreich / Austrian Academic Library Consortium, a department of Die Österreichische Bibliothekenverbund und Service GmbH (The Austrian Library Network and Service LTD) is acting as the main link between the Institution and MDPI and therefor assumes the following tasks: leading negotiations with MDPI, drawing up and having license agreements signed by the Institution and MDPI.

CONTACTS

Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF):
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Kooperation E-Medien Österreich /Head Office / Raimundgasse 1/3 / 1020 Vienna – Austria / E-Mail: emedien@obvsg.at

DEFINITIONS

- **Article Processing Charges or APCs:** the charge made by MDPI for publication of an article.
- **Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF):** An Austrian academic research performing and/or research funding institution.

- **Eligible Author:** An author of a research article, who fulfils the eligibility criteria of the Institution. Criteria for Eligible Authors:
 - Research Performing Institution: A corresponding author of a given article (being the author who submits an article to MDPI), and who is affiliated to the Institution, as evidenced by the email domain used for submitting the article / indicated by the author during submission process when choosing the IOAP.
 - Austrian Science Fund FWF: One of the authors of a given article as outlined in the [application guidelines for peer reviewed publications](#)
- **Eligible Article:** An article in respect of which the Institution is, with its agreement, invoiced for, and pays the APC centrally in accordance with this Agreement. By default, an article submitted by an Eligible Author is an Eligible Article.
- **Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP):** MDPI's IOAP is a program tailored to simplify the APC handling process, provide transparency on APC costs and ultimately lead to cost reduction for universities/participants.

CONTRACT PERIOD AND TERMINATION

This arrangement concerning any unpublished MDPI Open Access articles accepted for publication shall come into effect on **January 1st, 2019** and shall have an initial term ending on **December 31st, 2019**. Thereafter it shall be automatically renewed for further one-year periods ending on an anniversary of the end of the initial term, unless terminated by the Institution, or MDPI. Either party may terminate this arrangement for any articles, which have not been approved to be paid centrally, at any time by written notice. Either party may terminate this arrangement if the other party commits a material breach of this Agreement and fails to remedy that breach following written notice by the terminating party, specifying the breach and requiring that it be remedied.

DISCOUNTS

As part of this agreement, MDPI grants a 20% discount on the Article Processing Charges ("APC") in all MDPI journals (Appendix 1) to all articles published by eligible authors. It is calculated on the net amount after other discounts have been calculated and applied. However, only one IOAP discount can be applied per paper (for example, if there are two IOAP identified for one paper, only one of the two discounts will be applied). The Institution is not responsible or liable for any value-added taxes ("VAT") or other taxes in Switzerland.

The 20% discount on the Article Processing Charges ("APC") is on top of any other standard discounts offered by MDPI, such as editorial board member discounts, reviewer voucher codes, partial waivers for invited papers.

IDENTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED ARTICLES AND PAYMENT WORKFLOW

Both parties agree to work together to develop a workflow by mutual agreement to identify MDPI Open Access approved articles that have been submitted by eligible authors.

MDPI will grant the Institution access to its own account on MDPI's online submission system ("Susy"), where the institution will be able to see the manuscript version, metadata and pricing information on articles submitted by eligible authors as well as invoices. The Institution will be able to accept and refuse funding for an article during the review process (the time span from submission

to acceptance, but before invoicing: 30 days). If the Institution declines the APC for a given article, MDPI will invoice the corresponding author, with the 20% APC discount. The system also allows for an e-mail alert whenever a new paper is submitted to an MDPI journal. Detailed guidelines of how to use the online system will be provided by MDPI to the institution upon execution of this agreement.

The Institution will provide a single point of contact for verification and invoicing purposes to MDPI; a second contact email address can be added on request. It is important that MDPI receives a response (either a confirmation or a refusal) to the verification request email for each article within 30 days or upon acceptance. Notification emails are sent to the institution by MDPI upon submission and upon acceptance of the paper. In the absence of a response in that time, it will be assumed that the article is not an Eligible Article and MDPI will invoice the Corresponding Author without the 20% APC-discount.

The parties will work together to develop a streamlined identification process which may include authentication by institutional e-mail address. MDPI will clearly indicate the availability of an institutional funding agreement to eligible authors both within their submitting process and on their website.

The Institution will cover the discounted Article Processing Charges (APC) of papers published by eligible authors through Central Payment. For the avoidance of doubt: The Institution will only cover the APCs for those articles that have been accepted by the primary contact person of the Institution within MDPI's online submission system ("Susy"). The Institution will be able to set the eligibility criteria, choose which papers they would like to cover the APC for, and receive the corresponding invoices centrally. The Institution may also deposit a certain amount of funds for this feature in their pre-payment deposit account with MDPI through the online submission system. In case of pre-payment set up, the discounted APC amount of each accepted article will be deducted by MDPI from the Institution's pre-payment deposit account upon acceptance for publication.

There are no costs from MDPI other than the Article Processing Charges (APCs) for eligible articles. Articles rejected for publication by MDPI do not incur any fees or costs to the Institution. Articles rejected for central funding by the Institution will not incur any fees or costs to the Institution. There is no minimum annual charge.

The article based, quarterly, shall be sent to the Institution and include the following details:

- All Authors names and emails
- Date of acceptance
- Article title
- DOI
- Amount due
- Discounts

LIST OF MDPI OA PRICES AND DISCOUNTS

Current MDPI article publication fees and all types of possible discounts applicable are stated in Appendix 1. MDPI sends an updated version to KEMO as soon as any changes occur. A list of APC for all MDPI journals is available at the following website: <http://www.mdpi.com/about/apc>.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT AND CONDITIONS FOR AUTHORS

Authors publishing with MDPI retain copyright and MDPI licenses these articles under the Creative Commons Attribution license CC-BY, currently version 4.0 and automatically updated as and when updated by the Creative Commons organization.

This license allows (subject to attribution to the authors):

Sharing — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format

Adaptation — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE FUNDERS

Funder information is published with the article; MDPI collaborates with FundRef on uniform representation of funder information.

The following standard Open Access Acknowledgement will be added to all articles whose APCs are paid for centrally under this Agreement: Open Access Funding by [Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF)].

ANNUAL ACCOUNT PERFORMANCE REPORTS

In addition to regular Account statements, MDPI shall provide annual reports of the total number of Articles published in conformity with this Agreement, covering the whole country and broken down per each participating institution. This list shall be provided both in machine readable form (XLS), in a structured format as comma separated value file format (csv) and in human readable format (PDF) and shall include the following details:

- Name of the publisher
- Bibliographic metadata (Journal title, journal abbreviation, journal ISSN, volume, issue, pages, article title, authors' names)
- DOI
- Link to the published Article
- Affiliated author, incl. ORCID
- Affiliated author's institution
- Date of submission
- Publication date
- Amount due
- Discount
- Invoice date
- Invoice number
- Funding Information (Grant ID)
- Paying institution

The annual reports shall include the time span of the last calendar year and shall be delivered in the first quarter of the following year.

AUTOMATIC DEPOSITING IN REPOSITORIES

MDPI automatically submits its content to various third-party repositories. To some repositories all peer-reviewed content is submitted; for example, the full text of all articles is submitted to CLOCKSS for long term archiving and preservation. Abstracts and metadata of all MDPI journals are deposited in the DOAJ. The repositories in which this content is deposited are dynamic, and no repository gives any guarantee that it will maintain its relationship with any publisher, but MDPI strives to ensure that all its journals, including new journals, are referenced in all major repositories, and in particular the DOAJ.

If any journal is removed from, or not included in, the DOAJ, any Participating Institution may, for itself, remove that journal from the scope of this arrangement.

Depending on the journal, where relevant, content is also submitted to (or is indexed by) other repositories, such as PubMed Central, EuropePubMed Central, Google Scholar (all journals, crawled by Google), CAS, OpenAIRE, Web of Science, Scopus, Embase, Ei Compendex, Semantic Scholar, PsychINFO, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, etc.

All content is submitted to CrossRef and published with a DOI, which creates a durable link to the content.

The publication's full text, the metadata, the supplementary data (whenever published), the citations and the status of the publication as Open Access must be made available in a machine-readable form via open standards.¹ Moreover, publishers must notify authors in a transparent way of any changes in the description of the structure of the data.

DEPOSITING BY AUTHORS IN REPOSITORIES

Authors and institutions may archive, under the CC-BY license, any version of the publication and without any delay in any other repository or website.

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

MDPI can also, on request and subject to agreement as to the scope and the process, provide metadata to any national consortium or other national body, and/or to individual universities, including Participating Institutions, for inclusion in institutional repositories. The simplest available option is for MDPI to regularly put the data in NLM or JATS format, via XML format onto an FTP server. If other or special formats are required, this can be investigated.

¹ Via [Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting](#) (OAI-PMH) and/or the standards recommended by NISO – National Information Standards Organization (2015): [Access License and Indicators](#), NISO RP-22-2015.

LIABILITY

Neither party excludes or limits liability to the other party for death or personal injury caused by its own negligence or any other liability the exclusion or limitation of which is expressly prohibited by law.

TRANSPARENCY

The details of this agreement, the agreed discounts and the actual paid APCs can be made public by MDPI, as well as by the participating institution.

MDPI has, as participating publisher of The Initiative for Open Citations, or "I4oC", chosen to deposit, and make citation data publicly available. More information can be found here: <https://i4oc.org>

GOVERNING LAW

- This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted pursuant to Austrian law.
- The parties will in good faith attempt to negotiate to resolve any issues or disputes arising, and if necessary to escalate matters internally.
- To the extent that any issues or disputes cannot be avoided or resolved as described in a above, such disputes shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of Vienna, Austria.

SEVERABILITY

In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of this Agreement, but, to the extent permitted by law, this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

WAIVERS

No modification, amendment or waiver of any provisions shall be valid unless in writing. Any waiver in one or more instances by either of the parties of any breach by the other of any terms or provisions contained in this Agreement shall not be considered a waiver of any succeeding or preceding breach.

The parties agree to the terms of this Agreement.

for Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF)

for MDPI

MDPI-AG
St. Alban-Anlage 66
CH - 4052 Basel
Switzerland

04.01.2019 KLEMENT TOCKNER

08.01.2019 Alistair Freehand

Appendix 1

MDPI Article types and APCs

(Note: there is no charge for Editorials, Addendums/Corrections or Retractions. Charges apply for Research Articles, Article Reviews, Case Reports, Letters, Communications, and Technical Notes.)

For accepted articles that are eligible for central payment and that were accepted by the institution within MDPI's online submission system ("SuSy"), MDPI will invoice the Institution in **Swiss Francs (CHF)** only, unless requested otherwise by the Institution. APC prices in CHF for 2018 and 2019 for our Science Citation Index Expanded journals (SCIE: <http://www.mdpi.com/about/journals/sci>) can be found in Table 1 below. For information on our APC prices see: <http://www.mdpi.com/about/apc> and for any APC changes in 2019 see: <http://www.mdpi.com/about/apc-2019>. The Institution is not responsible or liable for any value-added taxes ("VAT") or other taxes in Switzerland. Certain standard discounts may apply, such as for members of MDPI's editorial boards, reviewer voucher codes, and partial waivers for invited papers.

Table 1.

Journal	APC 2018 in CHF	APC 2018 in EUR	APC 2019 in CHF	APC 2019 in EUR
Agronomy	1000	854.60	Same	Same
Animals	1000	854.60	Same	Same
Applied Sciences	1400	1196.44	1500	1324.80
Atmosphere	1400	1196.44	Same	Same
Biomolecules	650	555.49	1000	883.20
Cancers	1000	854.60	1800	1589.76
Catalysts	1300	1110.98	1600	1413.12
Cells	1000	854.60	1800	1589.76
Coatings	1200	1025.52	1600	1413.12
Crystals	1200	1025.52	1400	1236.48
Electronics	850	726.41	1400	1236.48
Energies	1600	1367.36	1800	1589.76
Entropy	1500	1281.90	1600	1413.12
Forests	1400	1196.44	1800	1589.76
Genes	1600	1367.36	1800	1589.76
Insects	1000	854.60	Same	Same
International Journal of Environmental Research & Public Health (IJERPH)	1600	1367.36	1800	1589.76
International Journal of Molecular Sciences	1800	1538.28	Same	Same
ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information	1000	854.60	Same	Same
Journal of Clinical Medicine	1000	854.60	1800	1589.76
Marine Drugs	1800	1538.28	2000	1766.40
Materials	1600	1367.36	1800	1589.76
Medicina	Free		Same	Same
Metals	1200	1025.52	1500	1324.8
Micromachines	1200	1025.52	1400	1236.48

Microorganisms	550	470.03	Same	Same
Minerals	1200	1025.52	1400	1236.48
Molecules	1800	1538.28	Same	Same
Nanomaterials	1500	1281.90	1600	1413.12
Nutrients	1800	1538.28	2000	1766.40
Pharmaceutics	1000	854.60	Same	Same
Polymers	1500	1281.90	Same	Same
Processes	850	726.41	1100	971.52
Remote Sensing	1800	1538.28	Same	Same
Sensors	1800	1538.28	Same	Same
Sustainability	1400	1196.44	1700	1501.44
Symmetry	1200	1025.52	1400	1236.48
Toxins	1500	1281.90	1800	1589.76
Viruses	1600	1367.36	1800	1589.76
Water	1500	1281.90	1600	1413.12

Appendix 2 – Verification Workflow

Institutional Open Access Program Discount

Check if you qualify for a discount via our Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP):

Select IOAP

Select IOAP

Finland

Aalto University (10%)

University of Helsinki (25%)

Poland

AGH University of Science and Technology (10%)

Poznan University of Technology (10%)

Silesian University of Technology (25%)

Wroclaw University of Science and Technology (10%)

Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences (10%)

Institutional Open Access Program Discount Upload to Preprints

Please note the eligibility criteria for the University of Cambridge's central open access funds.

Gold funds are available for:

- Papers acknowledging funding from Arthritis Research UK, Breast Cancer Campaign, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research and the Wellcome Trust, where the corresponding author is at the University of Cambridge
- Papers acknowledging RCUK funding (AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC or STFC), where the corresponding author is at the University of Cambridge

All Cambridge authors will receive the IOAP discount. But please note that there are no central funds available for authors who are not eligible under the above-mentioned criteria. Non-funded authors will be requested to pay for Article Processing Charges from their own budgets.

For further information, please visit: www.openaccess.cam.ac.uk
or email info@openaccess.cam.ac.uk

- ☐ I am eligible for central funding under the above mentioned eligibility criteria
- ☐ I am not eligible for central funding under the above mentioned eligibility criteria

Submit & Finish

1. During submission process, the eligible author indicates that (s)he is eligible for a 20% discount on the Article Processing Charges ("APC") via selecting the MDPI Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP). MDPI recognises the institutional email domain and preselects the specific IOAP automatically. In case an eligible author uses their personal email address, (s)he can still choose the IOAP from the IOAP drop-down list.
2. In case the eligible article was funded by the FWF, MDPI will send the article first to the FWF dashboard for verification (regardless of which institution is identified by MDPI as affiliated with the corresponding author), if the author has added the specific funding information to the relevant Funding information field upon submission.
3. In case the FWF rejects funding the forwarded article, the article will be forwarded to the relevant institutional dashboard.

4. If multiple funders (including FWF) are mentioned, the article will be handled via the FWF account.
5. If multiple funders are identified (excluding FWF) and the institution therefore has to refuse central funding, the 20% discount on the Article Processing Charges ("APC") will still be applied, if at least one of the authors is affiliated with one of the participating institutions.
6. In case there was no funder identified, the eligible article will be handled via the dashboard of the respective institution. After approval by the Institution, and upon acceptance of the article for publication, articles will be added to monthly aggregated invoices or, if applicable, deducted from the Institution's prepayment account, or:
7. If the Institution declines, MDPI will inform the corresponding author, and the corresponding author can decide to select a different Payer or arrange for payment of the 20% discounted invoice him/herself.
8. For accepted articles, publication happens without undue delay following the production process.