



REDEFINING ACADEMIC PUBLISHING IN UKRAINE: NATIONAL JOURNAL RANKINGS FOR A EUROPEAN FUTURE

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The Ukrainian Context: Why Reform Now?

The Scale:

A national list of nearly 1,700 academic journals.

The Gap:

Of these, only a small fraction (~150) are indexed in Scopus or Web of Science.

Primary Purpose:

Official recognition for PhD dissertations, academic titles, and research funding.

The problem is significant concerns regarding editorial transparency, peer review integrity, and overall scientific quality.

There is a need for a rigorous, transparent, and internationally harmonised framework.

Fostering a National Diamond OA Ecosystem in Ukraine

The Challenge: Journals need support for EU integration and sustainability without high APCs.

The Initiative: A new government funding program (Resolution No. 1032) to support the national, non-commercial publishing sector.

Core Principle #1: Diamond OA v. Commercial Publishers

- Targets high-quality institutional journals (Q1/Q2).
- Condition: Free publication for Ukrainian authors.
- Empowers a community-owned, "no-fee-for-authors" model.

Core Principle #2: Strategic Funding for Quality

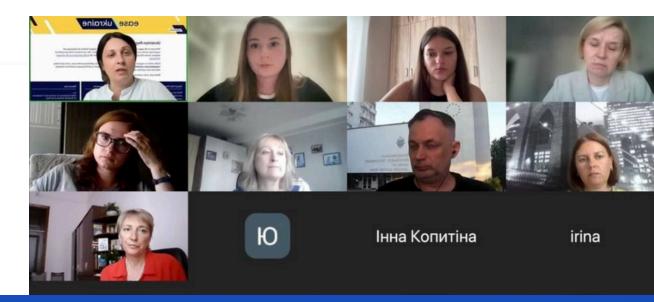
• Funds are earmarked for capacity building and international best practices (e.g., **professional editing**, translation, plagiarism software, training and **editors salaries!**).

The Goal: Build a robust, independent, and high-quality scholarly publishing infrastructure aligned with European Open Science values.



Державна підтримка наукових фахових видань України:

світовий досвід та пропозиції





ЗАТВЕРДЖЕНО постановою Кабінету Міністрів України від 26 серпня 2025 р. № 1032

ПОРЯДОК

проведення конкурсного відбору для надання фінансової підтримки науковим фаховим виданням України, які індексуються міжнародними наукометричними базами даних



The Response: A New Regulatory Framework

The Goal: A multi-faceted evaluation system inspired by European models and global initiatives (DORA, CoARA).

Updated Three Tiered Structure:

Category "A": Journals indexed in Web of Science Core Collection and/or Scopus.

Category "B": A curated, limited list of national journals meeting rigorous new criteria.

Category "C" with outsiders

Key Innovations:

A three-year update cycle for continuous monitoring.

Strict requirements for editorial boards and peer review.

Formal mechanisms to combat unethical publishing - predatory practices.

МОН змінює підходи до формування Переліку наукових фахових видань України

Defining and Combating Unethical Publishing

Formal Definitions Introduced:

Predatory Practices: Systematic actions for profit that neglect ethical standards and peer review.

Paper Mills: Dishonest organisations selling authorship, citations, or entire articles.

The new regulation provides a formal list of such practices and clear mechanisms for exclusion.

The Challenge: Definitions must evolve with the landscape. The long-term solution is education and empowerment.

Raising the Bar: New Standards for Editors & Boards

Editorial Board Composition (Category "B"):

Minimum of 9 qualified scholars.

No more than 1/3 from the founder's institution.

At least 1/3 from foreign institutions.

Individual Scholarly Requirements:

At least 3 publications in WoS/Scopus in the last 5 years or recognized equivalents (e.g., **3 verified peer reviews**, grant leadership, monograph).

Professionalisation: A national standard for the "Scientific Editor" qualification is under development.

The Commission: Engine of Quality and Ethics

The Commission on Publication Ethics and Journal Evaluation.

Mission: To form the national list and champion publication ethics based on COPE guidelines.

Composition: Independent, leading experts nominated transparently.

Key Responsibilities:

Evaluation: Conducts expert assessment of journals for Category "B".

Standard-Setting: Defines scoring criteria and journal quotas per cluster.

Monitoring & Ethics: Oversees the list and develops national ethical guidelines.



A Holistic Approach: Beyond Compliance to Development

The Goal: A constructive, non-punitive approach focused on fostering growth and continuous improvement.

A Foundation for Support: The Ministry has already begun financially supporting leading Ukrainian journals.

Proposed Strategy:

Pilot programs for non-commercial, university-based Open Access journals.

Focus on capacity-building: training on OJS, metadata, and Open Science principles.

Philosophy: Education and support are more valuable than purely formal criteria.

Conclusion: A European Future for Ukrainian Science

A systemic shift from quantity to quality, integrity, and transparency.

The reform should align Ukraine with European and global standards (CoARA, DORA, United2Act).

Moving beyond the "publish or perish" paradigm toward a focus on the quality and societal value of research.

A fundamental step towards ensuring the integrity and international competitiveness of Ukrainian science.

Please join the Coalition of support of Ukrainian Science!



International coalition launched to support Ukraine's research and innovation ecosystem

An International Coalition for Science, Research, and Innovation in Ukraine was officially launched in Rome today during the 2025 Ukraine Recovery Conference . The joint initiative by the Italian Ministry of University and Research, the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science, UNESCO and the European Commission, marks a significant step in placing science, research and innovation at the heart of Ukraine's sustainable, inclusive and long-term recovery.

The launch was announced by the Italian Minister of University and Research, Anna Maria Bernini; the Ukrainian First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, Yevhen Kudriavets; the European Commissioner for Startups, Research, and Innovation, Ekaterina Zaharieva; and UNESCO's Assistant Director-General, Lidia Arthur Brito.



