

UNVEILING THE PRACTICES OF RESEARCH PUBLICATION AMONG INDONESIAN ACADEMICS

Syaukani^{1*}, Siti Ismahani¹, Rafiza Abdul Razak², Amirul Mukminin³

¹ Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara, Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

¹ University of Malaya, Malaysia

² Universitas Jambi, Jambi, Indonesia

Corresponding author email: syaukani@uinsu.ac.id

Article Info

Received: Feb 14, 2025

Revised: Mar 23, 2025

Accepted: Apr 08, 2025

OnlineVersion: Apr 10, 2025

Abstract

Research on poor-quality journals seems to be an inexhaustible study. The present study aims to understand the experiences of 3 Indonesian academics who published their scientific articles in disreputable journals. This phenomenology study was conducted within the framework of a qualitative approach. Data were collected by in-depth interviews academics. The study identified three key themes: Lack of Necessary Skills, Overestimation of Western Hegemony, and Acceptance of Fate. The findings indicated that some factors caused the academics to take shortcuts to get their articles published. The pressure to acquire the promotion to become a professor was the main factor influencing Indonesian academics to publish in these fast-turnaround journals. The findings highlight the need for academic institutions and policymakers to critically address the systemic pressures that drive scholars toward low-quality publishing outlets. Strengthening mentorship, providing training in academic writing, and reforming promotion policies to reward quality over quantity are essential to safeguard academic integrity. Furthermore, the study underscores the global implications of these issues, urging international academic bodies to collaborate in setting higher standards for research dissemination and evaluation practices.

Keywords: Academic Promotion, Disreputable Journal, Scientific Article



© 2025 by the author(s)

This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

INTRODUCTION

In today's academic landscape, the expectation to publish in esteemed journals is a significant challenge encountered by scholars globally. Universities striving for high international rankings require academics to publish their articles in reputable international journals (Gautam, 2020). Reputable journals are a crucial requirement for academics worldwide to fulfill their promotion criteria (Shrestha, 2021; Demir, 2018; Hedding, 2019). Submitting original research, review articles, or thought pieces to a peer-reviewed journal is a valuable way for academics to demonstrate their expertise and make meaningful contributions to their field (Beall, 2012a). Providing concrete examples of scholarship can greatly enhance a promotion case, showcasing the depth of knowledge and expertise (Kurniawan

et.al., 2018; Cobey et.al., 2018). Faculty members have the opportunity to carefully select topics for their journal articles that align with their research and teaching interests. Ensuring that their publication record directly supports their specific expertise is crucial (Narine, 2021). Nevertheless, as a result of the immense pressure faced by scholars, a considerable number of them resort to expedient measures by submitting their research papers to international journals, despite the exorbitant fees they demand (Raitskaya 2020; Linacre et.al., 2019).

Publications that illegally identify themselves as reputable scholarly journals yet misrepresent their publishing procedures are known as disreputable journals (Nnodim et.al., 2023). They frequently have dishonest editorial boards, improper peer review, and hidden charge information. By charging costs for publication without offering the required editorial and publishing services, these journals take advantage of writers (Grudniewicz et.al., 2019; Elmore et.al., 2020). This suggest that disreputable journals want to make a profit by charging publication fees and taking advantage of the researchers who publish in them (Beall, 2015; Berger et.al., 2015; Björk et.al., 2020; Cobey et.al., 2018). These journals can confuse potential authors and readers by taking advantage of the rush to publish and the need for accessibility (Moher et.al., 2017).

Many academics around the world have become victim of many disreputable international journals, this is because the pressure of publication and promotion makes them have to publish their writings immediately (Callaghan et.al., 2020). Thousands of academics claim to have submitted their manuscripts to poor-quality journals but there is no follow-up at all despite having spent a considerable amount of money (Cobey et.al., 2018). On the other hand, in addition to many academics who are victimized by disreputable journals, some lecturers contribute as editors in the low-quality international journals. They claim that by managing non top-tier journals, they gain a considerable profit (Severin et.al., 2019).

Indonesia is the second country where authors publish their articles in poor-quality journals (Macháček et.al., 2021). The reason they publish their journal to these journals is because poor-quality journals are publications that charge authors fees to publish articles but do not provide proper peer review or editorial services (Xia, 2015). Factors that may contribute to Indonesia's low-quality publishing problems include pressure to publish for promotion, lack of awareness of international practices, and the ease of online publishing. Thus, Indonesian universities and policymakers are working to raise awareness and curb disreputable publishing. Initiatives include blacklists of poor-quality journals, guidelines on journal selection, and emphasizing quality over quantity of publications (Arthur et.al., 2021).

Research that focuses on Research Publication practices in poor-quality journals has been widely spread recently and has become an important concern in academia as these journals tend to engage in unethical publishing practices, such as charging high publication fees without providing a proper review process (Gonzalo et.al., 2021). This can be detrimental to researchers and the image of science as a whole. In addition, falling prey to poor peer-review journals can result in compromised author reputation, research credibility, loss of copyright, and high publication costs without the benefit of a proper review or promotion process (Elmore et.al., 2020).

Authors, particularly those with limited expertise, may have difficulty determining the quality of journals. In cultures and nations without a strong research infrastructure, the appeal of successful publishing in an open-access journal may overshadow the necessity to examine a journal's authenticity (Beall, 2013). A study conducted by Raitskaya found that authors who publish in lack of rigor and peer review journals have limited publishing experience and are often located in developing countries. Indonesia is the second-most-published country that publishes disreputable journals (Severin, et.al., 2019). Lack of mentorship and research experience are contributing factors to why some academics publish in lack of rigor and peer review journals (Narine, et.al., 221; Oermann, et.al., 2020). Mentorship provides guidance on identifying poor-quality publications, understanding scholarly publishing, and developing quality manuscripts.

Research on non-top-tier journal publishing tends to focus on the level of lecturers' awareness of disreputable journals (Kharumnuid, et.al., 2022), motivation to publish in non-top-tier journals, and how to prevent publication in poor-quality journals. Little exploration has been done on this particular landscape, which is about the experiences of academics who have known lack of rigor and peer review journals but still publish their research articles in these journals. This study investigates the experiences of those who have published in disreputable journals and the factors that cause them to continue to publish in these journals.

Disreputable journals pose a serious threat to scholarly publishing, and research institutions should encourage authors to publish in valuable journals indexed in reputable databases to avoid being victimized. Although the results show that the level of awareness of low-quality international journals is high, in practice, there are still many lecturers who publish in poor-quality journals. Susan and Eleanor stated in their study in 2020 that the number of poor-quality journals increased, and it was confirmed that every year the number of illegal journals would increase. This shows that the level of awareness and knowledge is not the main reason why lecturers publish papers in disreputable journals. This study seeks to investigate the underlying factors contributing to the phenomenon where academic lecturers, despite their awareness of the characteristics associated with disreputable journals, continue to publish their research in disreputable journals. The primary objective of this research is to elucidate the motivations and rationales that lead lecturers to knowingly submit their work to journals of questionable repute. By examining these dynamics, the study aims to offer valuable insights into the perspectives and experiences of academic professionals who have been impacted by journals with substandard quality.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach using a phenomenon study research design. Gill (2020) stated phenomenology is a qualitative methodology allows researchers to apply the abilities of subjectivity and interpersonal skills in the exploratory research process. A phenomenological study tries to discover how participants experience and interpret their endeavors (Groenewald, 2004; Bliss, 2016). This study seeks to understand how academicians who published their articles in disreputable journal perceive and interpret their endeavor (emic) to publish in disreputable journal. So this research is aiming to elucidate the lived experiences of academicians without imposing their external frameworks or interpretations.

The participants in this study are academicians from diverse academic programs, each with over 20 years of experience in the field. They were selected because their extensive tenure and firsthand exposure to the phenomenon under investigation make them well-suited to offer comprehensive and nuanced accounts of their experiences. They had repeatedly submitted articles to journals with poor quality reviewers, so they may provide in-depth and insightful descriptions pertinent to the study's objectives.

Table 1. Demographic of Participants

Participant	Sex	Tenure	Academic Background	Number of Publications	Number of Publications in International Journal
1.N.K	Male	30 years	S3	5	2
2.M.M	Male	28 years	S3	4	1
3H.S	Female	32 years	S3	4	2

Data Analysis. A thematic analysis approach was used for analysis, so that data collection, transcription, and coding into themes all occurred at the same time (Strauss et.al., 1998). Scrutiny respondents' privacy was maintained through the use of pseudonyms. The researchers read and re-read the interview transcripts from all three participants to allowed us to become thoroughly familiar with the content, identifying general ideas, sentiments, and recurring patterns. After that, the researcher interpreted the data using themes to find out the answer to the research question.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Three major themes can be identified from the data analysis results from the in-depth interviews with the three academics who took part in this study

Theme 1: Lack of Needed Skills

A critical barrier for many Indonesian academics, particularly those who have been lecturers for an extended period, is the lack of essential skills needed for international scholarly publication. Despite their experience in teaching, many struggle with confidence and scholarly writing, particularly in English. This deficiency hinders their ability to publish in reputable international journals like those indexed by Scopus, highlighting the gap between their professional roles and the competencies required

for global academic recognition. The sense of their lack of ability to publish internationally emerged in informant 1's reflection:

Although I have been a lecturer for quite some time, I still find it hard to get my writing published. It requires more than just the ability to write in English, and I had no time to take part in the writing skills training in English, which makes publication something beyond my capacity. (Participant 1, Interview)

This reflection highlights the realization that being a senior lecturer does not automatically translate into success in research publication. The ability to write academic articles in English is crucial for achieving publication in Scopus-indexed journals, which adds to the challenges academics face. In response to these difficulties, Participant 1 admitted to seeking assistance to get their articles published. Unfortunately, after publication, they discovered that the journal was of poor quality and eventually discontinued.

This experience resonates with Participant 3, who admitted,

"I have no experience in publishing in international journals that give strict requirements, so I only submit my articles to so-called journals that publish articles online with less rigorous requirements in reviewing articles" (Participant 3, Interview).

Participant 3's statement underscores the lack of experience in writing for reputable international journals, a common issue in developing countries where awareness of rigorous research standards is limited. This often leads to academics relying on others for help in publishing.

The problem goes beyond the mere writing of articles; it also involves the challenges of understanding the structure and formatting requirements of scientific work. Participant 2 shared that they had minimal ability to write in English and viewed disreputable journals, which do not prioritize the quality of writing, as a potential solution.

I come from a non-English-speaking country, and I also don't have a deep interest in English. So by publishing in a low-quality journal, I felt that this could be a solution to my problem because it helped me process my article without a long peer review process. (Participant 2, Interview)

For Participant 2, the challenge of getting published in reputable legal journals led to the temptation of publishing in low-quality journals. Due to the lengthy and complex review processes of reputable journals, academics under intense pressure, especially those using personal funds for publication, are drawn to disreputable journals with shorter review times and lower standards.

The lack of necessary scholarly writing skills, especially in English, not only limits these academics' ability to publish in reputable international journals but also leads many to seek alternatives in disreputable publications. This perpetuates a cycle of inadequate research exposure and recognition, further marginalizing academics from developing countries in global academic discourse. Addressing these skill deficits is essential for breaking this cycle and promoting more equitable participation in international scholarly publishing.

Theme 02: Overestimate Western Hegemony

The perception of Western academic superiority often leads scholars from developing countries to feel discouraged from pursuing publication in reputable journals. This perceived hegemony, combined with structural barriers, drives many to publish in lower-quality outlets that offer fewer obstacles. As a result, the gap between developing and developed countries in scholarly output widens, as academics from the Global South feel excluded from the elite circles of international publishing. This theme explores how overestimating Western dominance in academia perpetuates the choice to publish in disreputable journals. As stated by participant 2:

I realized that the potential of academics in developing countries is far behind that of academics in developed countries, which are economically and technologically advanced. So they have many factors that support their publishing in Scopus index journals. (Participant 2, Interview)

Participant 2 contends that individuals from developing countries face significant challenges in publishing in reputable and legitimate journals. He attributes this difficulty to the belief that journal publishers often exhibit selectivity or bias, including potential racism, against authors from developing nations. This perceived discrimination is exploited by disreputable journals, which lure authors with enticing offers. This sentiment was also echoed in the interview with Participant 3, who stated:

I feel it is hard for writers from developing countries to publish in legal international journals because they are usually selective and tend to only choose people from the same country. Although I am sure that my article is good, I am not sure that it will be published. To avoid rejection, I chose to publish in a predatory journal. (Participant 3, Interview)

On the other hand, the other reason for publishing in disreputable journals is that publication in journals with agencies in similar countries to the author's makes it easier for authors to speed up the publication of the journals. Considering the large number of publications from the same country, this is what motivates academics to publish in poor-quality journals.

I usually look for journal affiliations from my neighboring countries because I think that by publishing in this journal, the possibility of my journal being published is very large. So with this fast and easy process, I hope that journal publication will be easier. (Participant 2, Interview)

Participant 2 said that academics from developing countries usually have less self-confidence when faced with academics from developed countries. This is because there are quite a lot of things that support academics from developed countries, and they always have good innovations that enable them to be widely published in journals of legitimate international reputation. Meanwhile, academics from developing countries usually conduct research using their own money if the research is not in the name of a particular agency or sponsor. This is what motivates academics to publish in disreputable journals that offer features that legal journals do not have.

The belief in Western hegemony in academic publishing exacerbates the challenges faced by scholars from developing countries, reinforcing their reliance on lower-quality journals. This dynamic of exclusion, driven by skill gaps and perceived discrimination, perpetuates a cycle in which academics from the Global South are further distanced from legitimate academic discourse. Breaking this cycle requires addressing both the structural inequalities and the psychological barriers that keep developing country scholars from participating fully in global academic platform.

Theme 03: One Does the Best, God Decides the Rest

In the context of publishing academic work, many Muslim scholars from Indonesia attribute the outcome of their efforts to divine will, reflecting a belief that one can only do their best, and the rest is determined by fate. This belief, rooted in Islamic teachings, shapes their approach to the challenges of academic publishing. For many, especially when faced with rejection or publication in disreputable journals, success or failure is seen as an expression of God's plan. This theme explores how faith intertwines with the academic pressures to publish, particularly when the results do not meet expectations.

I have to try hard, and if the results of my work are successful, I should say Alhamdulillah (thank God). But even if it fails, I try to say Alhamdulillah, because there is always wisdom behind the failure," she explained. (Participant 1, Interview)

Participant 1 said that the fate experienced is a destiny from an Islamic perspective. As a pious Muslim, of course one should believe that this is destiny from the Almighty God, and this was what happened with the first participants. The same thing also turned out for participant 2, as he conveyed that:

I conduct research and send my article to a journal to be published. I waited quite a long time to get informed that my article was rejected. It did not matter for me; that is my fate. (Participant 2, Interview)

Participant 2 said that he had waited a long time for his journal to be published, but fate said something else, that his journal was rejected, therefore the participant decided to publish it in a disreputable journal.

On the contrary, participant 1 uttered that there are academics who send their articles to the same journal as I did, but their articles are accepted and assessed by the assessment team, and they get promotion afterward. On the other hand, some who published in that journal were rejected. As informant 1 affirmed:

My colleague, who published in the same journal as mine, has gotten a promotion, but not for me. So it depends on one's fate. I said so because, at the time of my article published, the journal was considered a disqualified journal. (Participant 1, Interview)

When we asked him, why did he publish in that journal?

He stated that “many journals take months to publish, but this journal only took a month to publish. That’s why I published there, because it offers quick publication”.

An interesting thing to note is that many academics have never had their articles published at all, despite having made substantial payments. He has published in a disqualified journals three times, but none of them have been successful.

Interview with participant 1 revealed that he spent a lot of money to submit his article to get published. He stated:

Publication in an international journal is fate. I have submitted my articles three times and deposited some money to get them published, but unfortunately, the journal is considered a disreputable journal. (Participant 1, Interview)

He then continued to express his disappointment by stating,

I had tried several times to submit my article to journals but was unsuccessful, so now I only depend on God's wish; if the article is published, then I will thank God, and if it is not, I just surrender to fate. (Participant 1, Interview)

The above statement is commonly uttered by a Muslim when an undesirable condition occurs.

On the other hand, there are some academics who have managed to publish their papers in disreputable journals twice. One of them is a close friend of participant 1. According to him, he was recommended by a friend for publication in a specific journal, and fortunately, at the time his articles were reviewed by the assessment team, the status of the journal was not considered a disqualified journal.

Thanks to God, I have published in a so-called disreputable journal for the second time. I was advised by my colleague to publish in that journal because the article is published in a short time and there is no need to be corrected. (Participant 1, Interview)

Participant 1 said that he had published his article to a disqualified journal twice, because the peer review of this journal does not take a long time and the article is published soon, so this made him submitting his journal to this low-quality journal. This experience was not carried out by participant 3:

Actually, last year, I submitted three articles, and they were all published. But unfortunately, when I checked again this year, there was only one journal that could be accessed; the other two journals were no longer available. (Participant 3, Interview)

The experiences shared by participants reveal a strong connection between religious faith and their attitudes toward academic success and failure. While striving to meet publication goals, they often view the outcomes as determined by fate, reflecting the idea that effort is important but ultimately, success is in God's hands. This belief provides comfort amidst the uncertainties of academic publishing, particularly when faced with the challenges of navigating reputable versus disreputable journals. This reliance on fate can sometimes lead to repeated efforts with low-quality journals, reinforcing a cycle where success is elusive and attributed to divine will.

Scientific publication among academics is certainly a burden for them. Reputable journals that are difficult to penetrate by academics leave them with nothing else but to publish their writings in disreputable journals (Kumari et.al., 2021). Legitimate, internationally reputable journals tend to have a very difficult level compared to poor-quality journals. Disreputable journals offer quick publication without a lengthy review process (Björk et.al., 2020). The willingness to publish in poor-quality journals is a concerning issue in academic publishing. Disreputable journals are distinguished by their engagement in deceptive practices, inadequate or absent peer review processes, and a predominant focus on financial gain rather than maintaining scholarly standards of integrity (Tella, 2020; Manley, 2019). Publishing in such journals compromises the credibility of academic research and facilitates the dissemination of low-quality or potentially fraudulent information (Tiwari, 2020).

Following the implementation of the requirement for lecturers to publish articles in international or Scopus-indexed journals as a prerequisite for career advancement to the rank of professor, many lecturers have become vulnerable to submitting their scientific work to disreputable journals (Musick, 2015; Shrestha et.al., 2018b). Surprisingly, they continue to submit papers to journals that are known disqualified. They believe that publication in respected international publications is extremely tough (Nicoll et.al., 2015). They even found it difficult if they wanted to publish in their own country. This is due to minimal funding from the university and minimal skill in conducting research (Cobey et.al., 2019). Disreputable journals are an alternative for academics who need them as a condition for promotion, so this makes them continue to publish their writings regularly in poor-quality

journals. A number of lucrative offers and academics' lack of knowledge of research are the main reasons why poor-quality journals are growing (Shrestha et.al., 2018b).

A number of reasons why academics might have their material published in disreputable journals are as follows: First, of course, is that they are not familiar with scientific writing (Macháček et.al., 2021). The skills that are essential for producing manuscripts that meet the rigorous standards of peer-reviewed journals (Ferris et.al., 2017). Their institutions and libraries have made no services available to their academic staff to identify credible journals in which to publish (Tahsildar, 2021). For other academics, it is likely that they have been unable to have their work accepted in conventional journals and have turned to low-quality publications in frustration and the desire to have their work available to be read at least somewhere. Nevertheless, one cannot help but consider the possibility that certain scholars deliberately submit articles to these journals with the intention of constructing a bibliography and bolstering their curriculum vitae (Grudniewicz et.al., 2019).

The lack of research skills among academics can significantly impact their research productivity. Faculty members who lack research skills may struggle to effectively conduct research, leading to lower productivity levels. This can result in difficulties in areas such as literature review, data collection and analysis, and manuscript writing, which can hinder their ability to produce high-quality research outputs (Tahsildar, 2021). The reason why there is a lack of research skills among academicians is that the heavy teaching workload that many academicians face can make it difficult for them to dedicate sufficient time to research, leading to a lack of research skills. A lack of training in research skills and methodologies can also contribute to the lack of research skills among academicians.

Another contributing factor is the desire to resist perceived Western hegemony, particularly among Muslim authors. These authors often report experiencing bias and inequity in the formal academic publishing process. As a result, some may choose to publish in disreputable journals to avoid discriminatory practices, including potential racism, and ensure their work is published without undue barriers. Authors from developing countries often exhibit a lack of confidence in their research, as they perceive the quality of scholarly writing in Western countries to be superior to that produced in developing nations. This disparity in perceived writing standards can contribute to feelings of a very difficult level compared to poor-quality journals. Disreputable journals offer quick publication without a lengthy review process (Björk et.al., 2020). The willingness to publish in poor-quality journals is a concerning issue in academic publishing. Disreputable journals are distinguished by their engagement in deceptive practices, inadequate or absent peer review processes, and a predominant focus on financial gain rather than maintaining scholarly standards of integrity (Tella, 2020; Manley, 2019). Publishing in such journals compromises the credibility of academic research and facilitates the dissemination of low-quality or potentially fraudulent information (Tiwari, 2020).

In practice, while some publications in disreputable journals are successfully processed, a significant number fail due to fraudulent practices within the publication process (Gautam, 2020). Many authors fall victim to these schemes, where payments are made but the articles are never published. In some cases, journal websites become inaccessible after payment, or despite claims of publication, the articles remain unpublished upon further inspection. These deceptive tactics are frequently employed to mislead authors into believing that the journal is credible.

CONCLUSION

The present study has revealed the involvement of three Indonesian academics in publishing their work in predatory journals, driven by intense pressure to meet publication requirements for academic promotion and the challenges of publishing in reputable, Scopus-indexed journals. This trend is largely attributed to three key factors: a lack of expertise in scholarly writing for international journals, a perception of bias and the likelihood of rejection from high-quality journals, and the influence of religious beliefs regarding fate in academic outcomes. Publishing in predatory journals has severe consequences for both individual academics and the broader academic community. On a personal level, it can damage an academic's credibility and hinder career progression, as work published in disreputable outlets is often dismissed by peers and institutions. Additionally, the absence of rigorous peer review in these journals means that research may lack scientific validity, limiting its contribution to the field. This also harms the reputation of the institutions these academics represent, diluting the quality of academic output and diminishing their standing in global academia. On a larger scale, predatory publishing contributes to the erosion of research integrity and the proliferation of unreliable knowledge, undermining the credibility of entire fields of study.

To address these issues, academic institutions and policymakers must take concrete actions. First, institutions should implement training programs focused on improving scholarly writing and providing clear guidelines on how to avoid predatory journals. These programs should help researchers develop the skills needed to publish in reputable outlets and raise awareness of the long-term consequences of publishing in disreputable journals. Institutions could also provide mentorship programs and increase access to workshops on international publishing standards. Policymakers and institutions can further support academics by offering financial assistance for publication in high-quality open-access journals, which often charge substantial fees. They could also establish international collaborations that help integrate academics from developing countries into global research networks, thereby reducing the isolation that often drives them to predatory journals. Finally, establishing national and international frameworks to identify and blacklist predatory publishers would help safeguard academic standards and protect researchers from exploitative practices.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all colleagues who have helped, so that this research can be carried out and completed.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Author 1-2 creates articles and creates instruments and is responsible for research, author 3-4 Analyzes research data that has been collected, and assists in research data analysis, instrument validation and input research data.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The author(s) declare no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

- Arthur, P. L., Hearn, L., Montgomery, L., Craig, H., Arbuckle, A., & Siemens, R. (2021). Open scholarship in Australia: A review of needs, barriers, and opportunities. *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*, 36(4), 795-812
- Beall, J. (2015). International journals and the breakdown of research cultures. *Information Development* 31(5): 473-476.
- Beall, J. (2016). Dangerous international publishers threaten medical research. *Journal of Korean Medical Science* 31(10): 1511-1513.
- Beall, J. (2012a). *Criteria for determining international open-access publishers*, 2nd edition. Scholarly Open Access. Retrieved January 3, 2014, from <http://scholarlyoa.com/2012/11/30/criteria-for-determining-international-open-access-publishers-2nd-edition>
- Beall, J. (2013). Avoiding the Peril of Publishing Qualitative Scholarship in International journals. *Journal of Ethnographic & Qualitative Research*, 8(1).
- Berger, M., & Cirasella, J. (2015). Beyond Beall's list: Better understanding international publishers. *College & Research Libraries News*, 76(3), 132-135
- Björk, B. C., Kanto-Karvonen, S., & Harviainen, J. T. (2020). How frequently are articles in international open access journals cited. *Publications*, 8(2), 17.
- Bliss, L. (2016). [Phenomenological Research: Inquiry to Understand the Meaning of People's Experiences](#). *International Journal of Adult Vocational Education and Technology*.
- Callaghan, C. W., & Nicholson, D. R. (2020). International publishing and international journals: A critical review and proposed research agenda for higher education. *Journal of Further and Higher Education*, 44(10), 1433-1449.
- Cobey, K. D., Grudniewicz, A., Lalu, M. M., Rice, D. B., Raffoul, H., & Moher, D. (2019). Knowledge and motivations of researchers publishing in presumed international journals: a survey. *BMJ open*, 9(3), e026516.
- Cobey, K. D., Lalu, M. M., Skidmore, B., Ahmadzai, N., Grudniewicz, A., & Moher, D. (2018). What is an international journal? A scoping review. *F1000Research*, 7.
- Demir, S. B. (2018). International journals: Who publishes in them and why? *Journal of informetrics*, 12(4), 1296-1311.
- Elmore, S. A., & Weston, E. H. (2020). International journals: what they are and how to avoid them. *Toxicologic pathology*, 48(4), 607-610.

- Ferris, L., E. & Winker, M., A. (2017). Special issue on international journals Review. *Biochemia Medica*, 27(2), 279-284. <https://doi.org/10.11613/BM.2017.030>
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s12916-017-0785-9>
- Gautam, B. (2020). Where NOT to publish: International journals. Retrieved from <https://linkphysio.com/where-not-to-publish-international-journals/>
- Gill, Michael, J. (2020). Phenomenology as qualitative methodology. *Qualitative Analysis: Eight approaches* (pp.73-94). Publisher: Sage
- Gonzalo Marco-Cuenca, José Antonio Salvador-Oliván, and Rosario Arquero-Avilés, "Fraud in Scientific Publications in the European Union. an Analysis through Their Retractions," *Scientometrics* 126, no. 6 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-021-03977-0> (accessed 23 August 2023).
- Groenewald, T. (2004). A phenomenological research design illustrated. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*.
- Grudniewicz, A., Moher, D., Cobey, K. D., Bryson, G. L., Cukier, S., Allen, K., ... & Lalu, M. M. (2019). International journals: no definition, no defence.
- Hedding, D. W. (2019). Payouts push professors towards international journals, *Nature*, 565 (7737) 267-268.
- Kharumnuid, S. A., & Singh Deo, P. (2022). Researchers' perceptions and awareness of international publishing: A survey. *Accountability in Research*, 1-18.
- Kumari, M., Subaveerapandiyan, A. (2021). Awareness of International journals in Library and Information Science Faculties in India. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*, available: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=12635&context=libphilprac>
- Kurniawan, Eri & Nurlaily, Veny A. (2018). International Practices of Certain Publishers in Indonesia. *Edu Ling Journal*, 2(1), 15-27.
- Linacre, S., Bisaccio, M., & Earle, L. (2019). Publishing in an Environment of Predation: The Many Things You Really Wanted to Know, but Did Not Know How to Ask. *Journal of Business-to-Business Marketing*, 26(2), 217–228. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1051712X.2019.1603423>
- Macháček, V., & Srholec, M. (2021). RETRACTED ARTICLE: International publishing in Scopus: evidence on cross-country differences. *Scientometrics*, 126(3), 1897-1921.
- Manley, S. (2019). International journals on trial: allegations, responses, and lessons for scholarly publishing from FTC v, OMICS, *Journal of Scholarly Publishing*, 50(3), 183-200.
- Moher, D., Shamseer, L., Cobey, K.D, et. al. (2017). Stop this waste of people, animals and money. *Nature* 549:23–25. <https://doi.org/10.1038/549023a>
- Musick, C. (2015). 8 questions and answers about international journals: Protecting your research, reputation, and funding from theft and fraud. Retrieved from <https://thinkscience.co.jp/en/articles/international-journals>
- Narine, L. & Zack, M. (2021). Awareness of International Journals Among Academic Researchers and Challenges Faced. *Journal of Academic Ethics*, 19(2), 187-200
- Nicoll, L. H and Chinn, P. L. (2015). Caught in the trap: the allure of deceptive publishers, *Nurse Author & Editor*, (4) 4.
- Nnodim, J., Nwaokoro, J.C. (2023). Predatory Journals in Scientific Research: A Great Challenge. *Journal of Case Reports in Medical Science*. DOI:[10.56557/jocrims/2023/v9i18135](https://doi.org/10.56557/jocrims/2023/v9i18135)
- Oermann, M. H., Nicoll, L. H., Ashton, K. S., Edie, A. H., Amarasekara, S., Chinn, P. L., & Ledbetter, L. S. (2020). Analysis of citation patterns and impact of international sources in the nursing literature. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 52(3), 311-319.
- Raitskaya, L., Tikhonova, E. (2020). Pressure to Publish Internationally: Scholarly Writing Coming to the Fore. *Journal of language and Education* 6(1):4-7. DOI:[10.17323/jle.2020.10631](https://doi.org/10.17323/jle.2020.10631)
- Severin, A., & Low, N. (2019). Readers beware! International journals are infiltrating citation databases. *International Journal of Public Health*, 64, 1123-1124.
- Shrestha, J. (2020). Authors beware! Publishing in international journals is harmful. *Journal of Agriculture and Natural Resources*, 3(2), 1-8. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/janr.v3i2.32293>
- Shrestha, J. (2021). International journals as threats to the academic publishing: a review. *Journal of Agriculture and Natural Resources*, 4(2), 1-10. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/janr.v4i2.33640>
- Shrestha, J., Subedi, S., Shokati, B., & Chaudhary, A. (2018b). International journals: A Threat to Scholarly Publishing. *Journal of Education and Research*, 8(1), 89-101. <https://doi.org/10.3126/jer.v8i1.25482>

- Strauss, A., & Corbin, J. (1998). *Basics of qualitative research: Grounded theory procedures and techniques* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage
- Tahsildar, Rahmatullah, Hasani. (2021). Faculty-perceived research skills and research productivity: A case study at a public University in Afghanistan. *Indian journal of science and technology*, 14(3):229-238. doi: 10.17485/IJST/V14I3.2065.
- Tella, A. (2020). Nigerian Academics Patronizing International journals: Implications for Scholarly Communication, *Journal of Scholarly Publishing*, 51 (3) 182-196.
- Tiwari, S. (2020). International journals: The Need for Academic Honesty in Public Conversations. Retrieved from <https://thewire.in/the-sciences/international-journalsthe-need-for-academic-honesty-in-public-conversations>
- Xia, J. (2015). *International journals and their article publishing*