

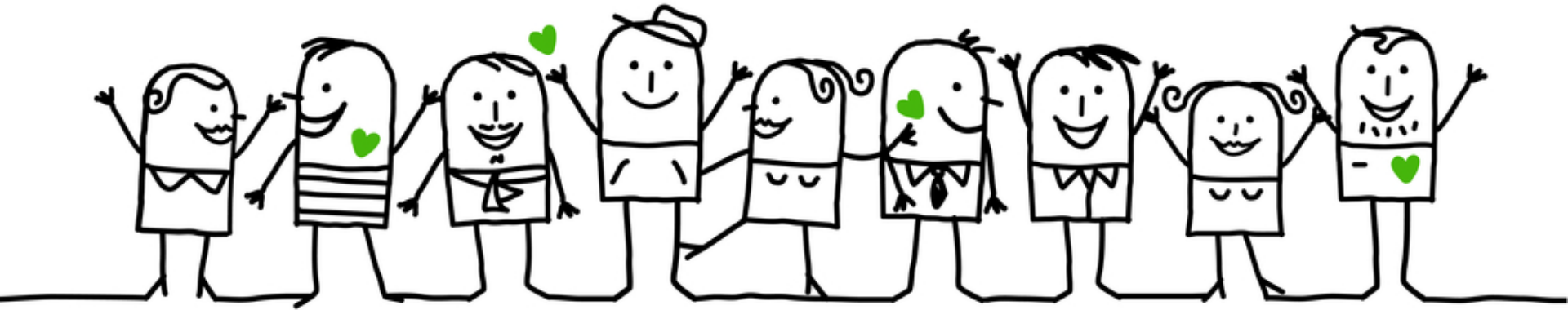
Protecting authors from predators



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You're the good guys, right?



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# But how do researchers know that?





**THINK**



**CHECK**



**SUBMIT**

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## What?

- *Think. Check. Submit.*
- Help researchers identify trusted journals
- A simple checklist to assess credentials
- Help ensure a body of quality scholarly literature

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## Why?

- More research is being published worldwide
- New journals launched each week
- Can be a challenge to find up-to-date guidance
- Stories of malpractice & deception on the rise



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## Implications for authors

- Journal has lower or no profile among peers
  - > Few or no citations
- Paper not indexed or archived
  - > Difficult or impossible for peers to find
- Poor publishing experience
  - > Work not adequately reviewed or edited
- Damaged reputation



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**THINK**

- ! Are you submitting to a trusted journal?**
- ! Is it the best one for your work?**

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# CHECK

- ✓ Do you or your colleagues know the journal?
- ✓ Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?
- ✓ Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?
- ✓ Are articles indexed in the services you use?
- ✓ Is it clear what fees will be charged?
- ✓ Do you recognize the editorial board?
- ✓ Is the publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?



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**SUBMIT**

**> Only if you can answer 'yes' to all or most of these questions**

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**SUBMIT**

> Only if you can answer 'yes' to all or most of these questions

How  
would  
**YOUR**  
journal  
measure  
up?!



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# CHECK

- ✓ Can authors easily identify you as the publisher, and contact you?
  - Does the language of your website make it easy for non-native speakers to find information about you?
  - Do you offer a range of contact options to suit different capabilities?

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# CHECK

✓ Are you clear about the type of peer review you use?

- Do you explain this comprehensively for first-time authors or people of different languages?
- Can you provide testimonials that will assure authors that your claims are accurate?

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# CHECK

- ✓ Are articles indexed in services authors might recognize?
  - Do you list this clearly on your publication along with links to those sites?

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# CHECK

✓ Is it clear what fees will be charged?

- Can this information be accessed before submission?
- Are you clear about what fees are for, and when they will be charged?
- If you offer waivers, are you open about the criteria for these?

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# CHECK

- ✓ Are your editors recognizably on board?
  - Do they mention their involvement on their own web pages?

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# CHECK

✓ Are you a member of a recognized industry initiative?

- Do you make this clear on your website and link to the organizations in question?
- Do you explain the role / relevance of those organizations?

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## Who?

- ✓ ALPSP
- ✓ BioMed Central
- ✓ DOAJ
- ✓ INASP
- ✓ ISSN
- ✓ LIBER
- ✓ OASPA
- ✓ SPARC
- ✓ Springer Nature
- ✓ STM
- ✓ Ubiquity Press
- ✓ UKSG

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## Progress?

- Launched 8 months ago
- Almost 1,000 email subscribers
- Almost 400 Twitter subscribers
- > 23,000 website views
- 20% of website users go through all three pages (Think > Check > Submit)
- > 2,000 video views

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# HELP IS NEEDED!

- **The campaign needs to reach the most at-risk audiences – can you help?**
  - ✓ **Link** to [thinkchecksubmit.org](http://thinkchecksubmit.org) from your website
  - ✓ **Blog** about the campaign
  - ✓ **Include** in your guidance to authors
  - ✓ **Mention** in your workshops, talks etc
  - ✓ **Add** to your eTOCs

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## Get involved

- **Visit** [thinkchecksubmit.org](http://thinkchecksubmit.org), sign up for news
- **Submit** your FAQs via [#thinkchecksubmit](https://twitter.com/hashtag/thinkchecksubmit)



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