

VIDEO SUMMARY

Predatory Venues: How to Identify and Avoid Them

Resource person: Think. Check. Submit. coalition | Cross-sector scholarly publishing initiative | Curated from Think. Check. Submit.

Predatory Venues: How to Identify and Avoid Them | Publishing: Journals, Conferences and Beyond | research

A questionable journal or conference often imitates the surface features of a credible venue. Before submitting, confirm the title, publisher, contact details, scope, editorial board, peer-review process, fees, copyright terms, archiving, and indexing through sources outside the venue's own website.

Start with people and process. Check whether editors are real scholars who acknowledge the role, whether the venue explains review and correction, and whether recent content fits the stated field. Verify identifiers and indexing directly in the named database. For open-access journals, the Directory of Open Access Journals and recognised publishing organisations can add useful evidence.

Assess the full pattern. Sloppy messages, implausibly fast review, hidden charges, false metrics, copied websites, and pressure to pay or submit quickly all deserve investigation. Save the call, emails, policies, and receipts. Ask a librarian, supervisor, or experienced colleague when the evidence remains unclear. A deliberate check protects the paper, its authors, and the scholarly record.