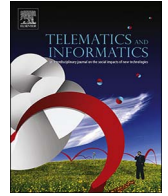




Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Telematics and Informatics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/tele](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/tele)

## Editorial

## The impact of rankings. At the start of Volume 35

At this time of fake news and alternative facts, we are pleased to report on real news and evidence-based data: *Telematics and Informatics*, our interdisciplinary journal on the social impacts of new (digital) technologies is alive and kicking!

We doubled the number of issues from 4 to 8, published 211 articles in 2017, compared to 99 in 2016, which resulted in 2656 printed pages in 2017 (1178 pages in 2016) and three timely special issues: on *Social Media in China* in June, on *Digital Technologies in the Mediterranean Region* in August, and on *IT Education and Training* in September.

Based on the CiteScore Percentile Rank of 99% (see below), *Telematics and Informatics* ranks 4th among 488 Law journals, 5th among 263 Communication Journals in the Social Sciences, 21th of 231 Journals on Computer Networks and Communications in Computer Science, and 66th of 645 Journals in Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

### 1. Speed, impact and reach

We know that authors pay attention to at least three criteria when selecting a journal to submit their article to: *speed, impact and reach*.

In this increasingly competitive academic business, where the number of SSCI articles published in a given year determines success during annual performance assessments and promotion to a higher level of academic prestige (and salary scale), authors pay attention to the average number of weeks it takes for an article to be reviewed and consequently published.

Our *review speed*, the average number of weeks it takes for an article to go through the review process, has decreased considerably. [Table 1](#) presents an overview (1) from manuscript submission to the initial decision on the article, and (2) from manuscript submission to the final decision.

Though publisher Elsevier still produces hardcopies of each issue, digital and online printing has become the main platform. Therefore, the *Online Article Publication Time*, the average number of weeks an article takes to reach key points in the online publication process, has shortened substantially. [Table 2](#) presents an overview of the weeks it takes (1) from manuscript acceptance to the first appearance of the article online (with DOI), and (2) from manuscript acceptance to the final appearance online of the fully paginated article.

We are a truly international journal with a *global authorship and readership*. Our authors are based all over the world. They collaborate frequently with peers at different institutions and in different countries. [Table 3](#) indicates the number of primary corresponding authors at the country level in the last five years.

Probably the most important reason why authors choose a particular journal to submit to is the so-called quality or impact of the journal.

Over the years several different metrics have emerged to assess the ‘*impact*’ of articles and journals. At *Telematics and Informatics* we use the following:

- CiteScore: 3.56 (2016).
- Source Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP): 1.843.
- SCImago Journal Rank (SJR): 1.194.
- Impact Factor: 3.398 (2016).
- 5 Year Impact Factor: 2.819 (2016).

*CiteScore* is a simple way of measuring the citation impact of sources, such as journals. Calculating CiteScore is based on the average citations received per document; the number of citations received by a journal in one year to documents published in the

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tele.2017.12.008>

**Table 1**  
From submission to first decision and final decision.

	Submission to first decision	Submission to final decision
2016	5.4 weeks	7.7 weeks
2015	9.7	13.3
2014	7.7	11.1
2013	10.3	14.5
2012	9.1	14.7

**Table 2**  
Weeks it takes from manuscript acceptance to first online and then final appearance.

	First	Final
2016	0.6	3.4
2015	1.2	6.6
2014	2.2	15.3
2013	3.1	33.5
2012	2.5	25.1

**Table 3**  
Number of primary authors per country in the last five years.

	Top countries	Authors
1	South Korea	51
2	United States	47
3	Taiwan	37
4	China	20
5	Belgium	16
6	Malaysia	15
7	Finland	14
8	United Kingdom	12
9	Spain	11
10	Hong Kong	10
11	Australia	8
12	Netherlands	8
13	Japan	8
14	South Africa	7
15	Germany	6
16	Italy	5
17	Czech Republic	5
18	Singapore	5
19	Denmark	4
20	Pakistan	4

three previous years, divided by the number of documents indexed in Scopus published in those same three years (see [Table 4](#)). Typically Citescore says something about the impact of the journal.

*Source Normalized Impact per Paper* (SNIP) provides a novel bibliometric perspective, correcting for subject-specific characteristics of the field someone is publishing in. This means that, unlike the Impact Factor, SNIP numbers can be compared for any two journals, regardless of the field they are in. SNIP helps authors to identify which journals are performing best within their subject field, helping them decide in which journal to publish (see [Table 5](#)).

*SCImago Journal Rank* (SJR) is based on citation data of the more than 20,000 peer-reviewed journals indexed by Scopus from

**Table 4**  
CiteScore of Telematics and Informatics from 2012 to 2016.

	CiteScore	CiteScore percentile	Citations	Documents
2016	3.56	99	673	189
2015	2.64	97	404	153
2014	1.93	95	207	107
2013	1.49	89	164	110
2012	1.88	94	195	104

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