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Publishing scientific journals has been an important and an honourable feature of academies of sciences throughout history. The first scientific journal *Philosophical Transactions* was established as early as 1665, a few years after the foundation of the Royal Society (the UK national academy of sciences). This journal was later transformed into the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* (A and B Series), and today the academy publishes several other scientific journals.

In keeping with this tradition, the Estonian Academy of Sciences also publishes scientific journals. Although the academy's publishing house was founded only in 1994, the first volume of the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences* was printed already in 1952.

Today, this multidisciplinary international journal publishes peer-reviewed research articles, review articles and short communications in the scientific fields covered by the Estonian Academy of Sciences. All publications have open access, and the publication of works supported by Estonian funding is free of charge. Articles are published electronically immediately after technical editing, which significantly shortens the production time. Even faster publication is possible through the 'fast track' process. However, this service is paid for by all authors.

All published papers are indexed in the main international databases (Web of Science, Scopus, DOAJ, EBSCO, ProQuest and others), ensuring the global dissemination of published results. Today, the backfiles of publications are available from the first volume of the journal (<https://kirj.ee/archive>). The electronic submission of manuscripts is available from 2021.

All these developments of the publication process are in line with the Estonian Academy Publishers' efforts to transform the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences* into a high quality modern and competitive scientific journal.

Jaak Järv
Editor-in-Chief