

## Guide for Authors

### Manuscript Preparation

Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with our style and format guidelines.

#### A) Attached documents

Please upload each of the following files separately:

##### 1. Identifying information

Please upload a separate MS Word document containing the following information:

- Title (limited to 18 words)
- Authors' names and their affiliations
- The corresponding author's e-mail address
- A running (short) title (limited to 50 characters including spaces)

##### 2. Manuscript body

Please include the following sections in a separate file called 'main file':

- **Abstract and keywords:** The maximum size of the abstract is 250 words, including spaces. After the abstract of your article, you should provide 4 to 6 keywords, written in alphabetical order and separated by semicolons. Please try to provide a text-only abstract and minimize the use of mathematical symbols and accented variables.
- **Introduction:** Provide an adequate background and a brief survey of the existing literature on the previous similar works, the hypotheses and the significance of your research. It is recommended that you limit the number of citations to the literature older than 10 years and cite recent works.
- **Materials and methods:** Include sufficient information about the specific equipment and materials used for conducting the study to allow the readers and independent academics to replicate and verify your results.
- **Results and discussion:** Present the results of the research in a logical fashion in this section. Discuss the importance of the obtained results and provide a comprehensive analysis.
- **Conclusions:** The main outcomes and conclusions of the research should be presented in this section.
- **Acknowledgements:** You can express your gratitude to individuals or organizations that assisted you, but were not directly involved, in the completion of the work.
- **Conflicts of interest:** Include a statement, extracted from the conflicts of interest disclosure form, disclosing possible conflicts of interest that may have potentially influenced the publication of your work.
- **References:** Cite the relevant works you have used to conduct the study in accordance with the Vancouver referencing style.

##### 3. Figures

Please include all figures in one separate MS Word document.

Figure numbers should be placed within the body text to determine the positions of the figures in the final document. Appropriate formats for figures are JPEG and TIFF with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. Please submit editable, un-flattened pictures whenever possible. Charts should be inserted using Microsoft Word and related raw data of graphs and charts should be provided in separate Excel files.

#### 4. Tables

Data in tables should not duplicate the data already presented in the body text. Tables should be numbered and should be accordingly mentioned in parenthesis (as in Table 1) in the text for at least once. Each table should include a concise and concrete caption, written above it.

#### 5. Supplementary data

Supplementary data should be provided in appropriate formats to be edited according to the journal's editing and typesetting requirements.

#### B) Page layout and setup

Manuscripts should be typed in a single MS Word file. Page setup should be A4 paper with one-inch (2.5 cm) margins on all four sides of the page. The body text should be double-spaced, typed in single column pages.

Body of the manuscript should be typed in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. The title of the paper should be centered at the top of the page, typed in bold 18 pt. Times New Roman font.

The number of pages of a manuscript (excluding spaces) should not exceed the usual page limit depending on the type of the manuscript (original research article, review article, short communication, letter to the editor). An even number of pages is highly preferred and strongly recommended by the editorial office.

#### C) References

References should be cited according to the Vancouver reference style (author-number system). Please use Endnote or similar reference managing software to insert the references. Using MS Word References tab to insert the references in the main document is highly preferred and recommended.

Examples for citation of journal articles:

1. Xie, W., Qiu, P. and Mao, C. J., Mater. Chem., 2011, 21 (14), 5190-5202.
2. Shi, Q., Vitchuli, N., Nowak, J., et al., Eur. Polym. J., 2011, 47 (7), 1402-1409.

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