JCOM — Journal of Science Communication — welcomes contributions for publication at any time. We invite submissions on topics related to science communication, including original research, theoretical reflections, case studies of best practice and evaluations. The journal is aimed at researchers, educators, trainers and professional and occasional practitioners in science communication. Contributors should bear in mind the breadth of this target audience in writing papers intended for publication in Jcom.

We take a broad view of science communication, encompassing, for example, popular science publishing, media science in information and entertainment forms, public demonstrations and discussions of science, mediations between scientific and other social institutions, science museums and centres, science journalism and science information services.

Jcom has a global remit and we invite submissions from all parts of the world, and concerning all parts of the world. We also seek to encourage new scholarship and new perspectives; we welcome submissions from prospective contributors who are at early stages in their careers and seeking to build up a portfolio of published work.

We invite submissions in three principal forms:

**Articles** of 5000-7500 words which present new research; we welcome contributions applying quantitative or qualitative research methods, or combinations of these;

**Essays** of 3000-4500 words which explore current issues, e.g. of policy or theory, in science communication; we aim to stimulate discussion in the science communication communities and such essays may be targeted to that purpose but contributors should be prepared to accept possibly critical responses;

**Reviews** of c.1000 words on books, conferences, festivals or other major science communication-related publications and events.
Jcom also publishes occasional **Commentaries**, comprising several perspectives on a shared topic. We welcome proposals for topics and possible contributors but these Commentaries will be commissioned directly by the journal’s editors.

All submissions should indicate clearly the contact details for the author with whom correspondence is to be conducted.

Acknowledgement of receipt of proposed contributions to the journal will be sent by email. All submissions received will be reviewed by the editors, and, if considered potentially suitable for publication, also by at least two referees. The decision of the editors and referees will be communicated to the named contact author.

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**Technical guidelines**

Submissions should be sent to Jcom only via the link at the ‘To Submit’ page [http://jcom.sissa.it/to-submit/](http://jcom.sissa.it/to-submit/).

Proposals for commentaries should instead be sent to jcom-eo@jcom.sissa.it.

Files should be submitted in open-source formats, Microsoft Word, Open Office and Rich Text Format. If the submission comprises many files, zipped folders are preferred.

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**Language**

The first language of the journal is English. Papers may be submitted in other languages, but the editors reserve the right to ask for an English translation if editors or referees in the particular language are not available. If the paper can be processed in the original language and it is accepted, the journal will provide the English translation and will publish the paper in both versions. When submitting in a language different from English, title and abstract should in any case also be written in English.

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**Length**

**Article:** 5000-7500 words, abstract (50-100 words) included.

**Essays:** 3000-4500 words, abstract (50-100 words) included.

**Reviews:** c.1000 words, abstract (50-100 words) included.

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**Font**

Text files should be presented in Times New Roman, 12pt, without page headers or footers, and with minimum variation of typeface, e.g. bold, italic, etc.

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**Paper structure**

**Title of the paper:** centered at the top of the first page.

**Name of the author(s):** align left, under the title.
Abstract: the abstract should provide the context or background for the study and should state the purpose, basic methodology and procedures, main results and principal conclusions. It should emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations. Abstracts should be 50-100 words.

Keywords: identify 1-3 keywords (from the list in the submission web page) that capture the main topics of the paper.

Text: if the submission is in the form of an article (see pag. 1) it should preferably be divided into sections with the following headings: Context, Objective, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.

Notes: only numbered text notes will be accepted; a source must be referred to in the text by an apex; notes will be placed at the bottom of the page where they are cited; i.e. “The decision was at first left with the scientific community.² Everyone agreed …”

References: will be placed at the end of the text in a separate section. They must include complete information: author(s), article or book title, name of journal or book, date/year, page numbers for articles or a section of a book, complete names for institutions and organizations rather than abbreviations or acronyms. If the source is a book or conference proceedings, place of publication and publisher are required. If more than three authors, give the first three authors followed by “et al.”. DOI number or another stable link can be provided (http://jcom.sissa.it/to-submit/jcom-author-template-doc.doc).


Author’s biography: it should include the author affiliation and contact information (email address). It should be no longer than 80 words.

Figures and tables: all figures and tables need to be referred to at the appropriate points in the text. Capitalize all references to tables and figures (i.e., “…as shown in Figure 1”, or “See Table 2”). Use only standard abbreviations and units. A caption must accompany each illustration. For typographical reasons, figures and tables should be placed at the bottom (or top) of the page where they are first cited.