

## EDITORIAL. SCIRES-IT, A “CLASS A” DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL

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### Abstract

SCIRES-IT - SCientific RESearch and Information Technology has been a Diamond Open Access Journal since its founding (2011). It does not require authors to pay any APCs (Article submission or Processing Charges) for submission or publication of articles. Since 2013 it has been included by ANVUR in the list of “Scientific” journals for the areas 08, 10, 11, 13 and 14, and in 2018 it was also ranked as a “Class A” journal in the area 08 - Architecture. SCIRES-IT has faced many operational challenges, relying mostly on volunteers, and playing a crucial role for scientific communities around the world.

### Keywords

SCIRES-IT, Editorial, ANVUR, “Class A” Journal, Diamond Open Access Journal, Eco-sustainable publications

SCIRES-IT - SCientific RESearch and Information Technology has been a *Diamond Open Access Journal* since its founding (2011).

It focuses on digital technologies applied to Cultural and Environmental Heritage and it is published/distributed/preserved with no fees to either reader or author.

It is an eco-sustainable open-access journal, which combines the main principles of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access and the aims of the International Convention on Biological Diversity. Every time a new issue is out, an environmental restoration action takes place in protected areas by planting local ecotypes of native species (Proietti & Valzano, 2011; Valzano, 2014).

SCIRES-IT is a peer-reviewed journal, available online on a semi-annual basis, and it is covered by various indexing and abstracting databases. It is also indexed in SCOPUS e in WoS Core Collection (ESCI) and is rated in SJR SCImago Journal Rankings (Boero & Lucarella, 2018).

SCIRES-IT is a “Class A” Journal. Since 2013 it has been included by ANVUR (the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes) in the list of “Scientific” journals for the areas 08, 10, 11, 13 and 14, and in 2018 it was also ranked as a “Class A” journal in the area 08 - Architecture.

SCIRES-IT has fully passed the national evaluation required by the “Regulations for the Classification of Journals in non-bibliometric

areas” for the inclusion in the list of “Scientific” and “Class A” journal (Valzano & Cigola, 2018).

It has achieved, in a few years, a very high scientific level, adhering to Best Practice and high publishing standards (Boero & Lucarella, 2018).

Journals on the “Class A” lists are checked by ANVUR every three years to verify that they continue to meet the requirements of the Regulations for the Classification of Journals in Non-Bibliometric Areas (ANVUR, 2019).

SCIRES-IT again this year passed all the requirements of the Regulations and was therefore reaffirmed in “Class A”.

These important achievements are the result of the work and commitment of the Editorial Team, Reviewers and Authors, to whom goes our sincere gratitude.

SCIRES-IT has been registered, since its founding, in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) and is classified as a *Diamond Open Access journal*.

In fact, SCIRES-IT does not require authors to pay any APCs (Article submission or Processing Charges) for submission or publication of articles.

Diamond Open Access is the most advanced form of open access to data and research results.

The Diamond Open Access model is an upgrade of Gold publishing (publication in Open Access journals that involves payment of APCs to cover management fees, which may be charged to the author or his/her Institution), as neither the

reader has to pay to read nor the author to publish.

With a view to free circulation of content, this is a trend that should be encouraged.

The role of Diamond Open Access initiatives is very important in the transition to a sustainable and fair system for open access publications from academia and science.

The University of Amsterdam (UvA) set up the Diamond Open Access Fund in 2021. The fund supports “diamond open access” initiatives: publication platforms and journals that do not charge for publication or reading (UvA, 2021).

In 2022, new national and international policies, such as the UNESCO recommendation on open science, and the *Action Plan for Diamond Open Access* promoted by the cOAlition S aim to support the development of non-commercial or community-driven forms of open access publishing (cOAlition S, 2022).

SCIRES-IT, active since 2011, has maintained its fundamental objectives and its policy, Diamond Open Access, thus achieving excellent results in both national and international scientific fields.

The Editorial Team has been working without any financial support, with remarkable generosity, sustained by great passion only (Valzano & Cigola

2018).

SCIRES-IT has faced many operational challenges, relying mostly on volunteers, and playing a crucial role for scientific communities around the world.

With the increase in APCs from some publishers, it has also faced many publication requests.

The success of SCIRE-IT can be attributed mainly to the commitment and passion of the founder and Editor-in-Chief, Virginia Valzano, who, in recent years, has also taken on the running costs, to Francesco Proietti and the other Co-editors-in-Chief, who have replaced him over the years, Cristiana Bartolomei, Michela Cigola, Marco Gaiani, and their wholehearted adherence to the principles of Open Science, which have made the journal a valuable opportunity, nationally and internationally.

We hope to see more journals embracing the Diamond Open Access model in 2023, but this requires funding and cannot rely only on volunteering and voluntary contributions.

Since knowledge is a common good, encouraging its widest dissemination is of crucial importance.

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