

Peer Community In (PCI, <https://peercommunityin.org/>) is a non-commercial, researcher-led, publicly funded publishing system. Alongside, and together with society journals (many of which are 'PCI-friendly', including those of Nordic Society Oikos), it serves as an alternative to commercial publishers.

It has gained the trust and support of many established societies and research institutions including Max Planck institute, French and British universities, as well as high-ranking universities in North America, Australia and around the world.

PCI includes:

- 19 thematic platforms for the evaluation and public recommendation of preprints: <https://peercommunityin.org/current-pcis/>
- *Peer Community Journal* (<https://peercommunityjournal.org/>), a free, open-access journal (Diamond Open Access), currently level 1 in the Norwegian 'kanalregisteret'.

### **Here are a few key highlights:**

In brief: The thematic PCIs evaluate preprints submitted by their authors. If positively evaluated, PCI publishes a recommendation text for the article and makes the entire editorial process public. Authors are then free to publish their article for free and in open access in the **Peer Community Journal** or submit it to other journals, including "PCI-friendly" journals (i.e., which have committed to considering PCI evaluations and recommendations to accelerate their editorial processes).

Here are some 2024 highlights of PCI and Peer Community Journal (a **graphic summary** can be found here: <https://peercommunityin.org/2025/01/08/pci-2024-activity-figures/>).

- **The number of annual submissions to PCI increased again in 2024**, with 518 submissions across all PCIs (compared with 495 submissions in 2023, 302 in 2022 and 180 in 2021). Additionally, 240 preprints were recommended in 2024 (compared with 188 in 2023, 109 in 2022 and 81 in 2021).

- **In 2024, 117 articles** (122 in 2023, 83 in 2022 and 71 in 2021) **were published in Peer Community Journal** (<https://peercommunityjournal.org/>), bringing to 393 the number of articles published in this diamond open-access journal since its launch in November 2021.

- **In 2024, Peer Community Journal was accepted for indexation in Scopus and the Emerging Source Citation Index of the Web of Science (WoS)**. It also has a dedicated page in OpenAlex. Peer Community Journal is now indexed in Scopus, WoS, OpenAlex, Google Scholar, Dimensions, DOAJ, Base, EZB, Free Journal Network, Dimensions, Mir@bel, Semantic Scholar, Free Journal Network, Unpaywall and The Lens.

- **Web access to PCI and PCJ websites averaged 96,000 and 13,600 per month in 2024**, i.e. 100% and 60% more than in 2023 (47,000 and 8,600 per month, respectively).

- **By the end of 2024, 1,148 scientists from 61 countries had signed the PCI manifesto:** <https://peercommunityin.org/pci-manifesto/>.

- **The number of recommenders (i.e. associate editors) across all PCIs has increased from 2,000 to 2,400 in 2024.**

- **Over 200 institutions/universities now support PCI and Peer Community Journal. See the full list here:** <https://peercommunityin.org/pci-network/>.

The 25 new supporters in 2024 include:

- Delft University of Technology (The Netherlands)
- Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS) (Belgium)
- Framework for Open and Reproducible Research Training (FORRT)
- Institut Mines-Telecom Atlantique (France)
- Institut de Radioprotection et de Sureté Nucléaire (France)
- Johns Hopkins University (USA)
- LMU Open Science Center (Germany)
- Münster Center for Open Science (Germany)
- Nantes Université (France)
- National Library of Sweden (Sweden)
- Queen Mary University of London (UK)
- The German Reproducibility Network (Germany)
- Tilburg University (The Netherlands)
- Universidade do Minho - Unidade de Serviços de Documentação e Bibliotecas (Portugal)
- Université de Bretagne Occidentale (France)
- Université Paris Cité (France)
- Université Reims Champagne Ardennes (France)
- Université de Toulon (France)
- University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
- University of Leeds (UK)
- University of Melbourne (Australia)
- University of Texas at Austin (USA)
- University of Zagreb (Croatia)
- University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences (Croatia)
- Utrecht University (The Netherlands)
- ZPID - Leibniz Institute for Psychology (Germany)

Financial support ensures the operation and development of PCI and Peer Community Journal (hosting and development of the sites, subscriptions to services such as Crossref, iThenticate, OVH, etc.) and that the journal remains free for authors and readers.

- **Two new PCIs were created in 2024:**

- **PCI Nutrition** - <https://nutrition.peercommunityin.org/> - launched in late 2024. It covers various disciplines related to human nutrition, including molecular and cellular studies, public health nutrition, and the behavioural aspects of eating.

- **PCI Psychology** is expected to launch in the coming weeks. This PCI will review and recommend preprints in psychological science. All article types, including empirical reports (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods), replication studies, theoretical papers, reviews and meta-analyses, perspectives, commentaries, data or software papers, and exploratory reports, will be considered.

**This brings the number of PCIs to 19:** <https://peercommunityin.org/current-pcis/>. The PCI family keeps growing, and many disciplines remain to be covered. In late 2024, we therefore launched a **call for the creation of new thematic PCIs** <https://peercommunityin.org/create-new-pcis/>. Do not hesitate to reach out if you are interested!

- **PCI is now interoperable with bioRxiv (for PCI Ecology), HAL, and DIGITAL-CSIC.** Authors who deposit a preprint in HAL, DIGITAL-CSIC can make a pre-submission to the PCI of their choice directly from HAL. They can also make pre-submission from bioRxiv to PCI Ecology. If the preprint is recommended, HAL, DIGITAL-CSIC and bioRxiv indicate that PCI has peer-reviewed and recommended it by providing the link to the recommendation. This functionality is described in more detail in these posts:

- <https://peercommunityin.org/2024/01/15/submission-from-hal/>
- <https://peercommunityin.org/2024/09/18/direct-submission-from-digital-csic-to-pci-via-coar-notify/>
- <https://peercommunityin.org/2024/06/24/direct-preprint-submission-to-pci-from-biorxiv/>

The interoperability between HAL and DIGITAL-CSIC has been implemented with the support of the French National Fund for Open Science (FNSO) and as part of the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) Notify project. In 2025, we plan to develop the same type of interoperability with further open archives, such as Apollo (the archive of the University of Cambridge).

- **We promoted publication multilingualism at PCI:** The translation of titles, abstracts, and keywords of articles recommended by PCI is now displayed in 8 languages, chosen according to the number of speakers and countries: Arabic, Chinese, French, Hindi, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish (by alphabetic order). This list may be updated in the future.

- **The resources and expenses of PCI for 2024 are detailed** in this post: <https://peercommunityin.org/2025/01/08/2024-pcis-finances-and-article-costs/>. The financial accounts of the PCI association for 2023 have been certified by an auditor (see the report in French: <https://osf.io/yxceq>).

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