

THE JOURNAL

CREDIBILITY CHECKER



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THE JOURNAL CREDIBILITY CHECKER IS A WEB-BASED TOOL DEVELOPED BY THE UFS LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES TO ASSIST RESEARCHERS IN EVALUATING THE CREDIBILITY AND ACCREDITATION STATUS OF ACADEMIC JOURNALS.

1. It consolidates authoritative sources such as DHET-accredited journal lists, for example Scopus, Web of Science, DOA, etc., and SANLiC agreements into a single intelligent platform for journal evaluation.
2. The tool enables researchers to verify journal accreditation, indexing coverage, open access options, and related publishing support using trusted data sources.
3. It supports researchers and faculties in making evidence-based publishing decisions aligned with DHET requirements, while improving research visibility and reducing the risk of predatory publishing.
4. The platform is continuously being enhanced to provide comprehensive, real-time journal data results for the UFS research community.

WHAT IS SANLiC TRANSFORMATIVE AGREEMENTS?

1. The South African National Library and Information Consortium (SANLiC) negotiates agreements with major academic publishers on behalf of South African universities.
2. A transformative agreement means that the university already pays for access to journals and, in some cases, may also cover open access publishing fees (APCs) for its researchers.
3. In practical terms, this means that a researcher may be able to publish an article with open access without paying personally, provided that the journal, publisher, and institutional eligibility requirements are covered by the agreement.

SYSTEM USE: (JOURNAL CREDIBILITY CHECKER)

1. Within the Journal Credibility Checker, SANLiC data enables researchers to identify whether a journal forms part of a Read and Publish agreement and whether open access publishing support is available. At the UFS, this may include support through the Open Access Publishing Fund (OAPF), where funds are available or publisher waivers is applicable.

OFFICIAL LINK OF THE PLATFORM: <https://journalcc.ufs.ac.za/>

