Editorial

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Editorial to Volume 2 of Open Psychology

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A few weeks ago, we published the last article planned in Volume 1 of Open Psychology. It is an excellent time to look at what we have achieved so far. It was over two years of hard work of authors, reviewers, editors, and members of the Editorial Advisory Board that made it possible and for what I would like to express my gratitude at the very beginning. Without you and your dedication, it would not be possible to launch a new journal with such high standards and high quality of the very first volume published.

Volume 1 of Open Psychology is truly international and diverse. We published 22 articles (20 research articles, one review article, and one editorial), from which 10 were part of “Strategy Contributions to Cognitive Aging”, edited by Beatrice G. Kuhlmann (University of Mannheim, Germany). Our authors were affiliated in 11 countries from three continents. Therefore, we achieved our goal of creating a journal attractive for people from different countries and different areas of psychology.

A strict and effective peer-review process is crucial for every journal, especially a newly established open-access one. We rejected 25% of the articles submitted to Volume 1. Articles were only accepted after rigorous revisions according to the reviewers’ suggestions. We thank all those authors for their trust, and we hope that detailed comments and suggestions both from reviewers and editors were useful in making their research even better.

One of our priorities is transparency. Therefore, we ask all our authors to provide information on financial support, potential conflicts of interests, and ethic statements regarding conducted research. For every research article, we encourage authors to share the data presented in the article as supplementary materials or stored in one of the repositories. We believe that this is the only way to ensure the quality of the presented work.

Moreover, we are introducing registered reports, new article type with modified workflow, and two steps of peer review. Methods and proposed analyses are pre-registered and peer-reviewed before the research is conducted. Thus, registered reports offer an excellent opportunity for researchers to eliminate potential errors and questionable steps from the research when it is still possible. You can find more information about registered reports both in instructions for authors and a dedicated guide, both available at our website. We are also open to any questions regarding processing such articles from both authors and reviewers, as we understand it might be a new experience for you. We will be happy to assist wherever it is needed and explain every step.

In this first year, all articles were published free of charge. Beginning with the year 2020, we will ask for an article processing charge (APC) of 1000 EUR, in order to support the development of the journal in the long run. For authors submitting their articles until the end of June 2020, we will offer a discount of 50%, the APC will be 500 EUR. Authors submitting their articles until the end of December 2020 will receive a discount of 25% and pay 750 EUR per article. We offer a favorable waiver policy, not to exclude valuable contributions from researchers and teams with limited or no funding. For special discounts for entire Topical/Special Issues please contact the Editorial Office. We would also like to highlight the possibility that institutions (e.g., universities) can establish cooperation with Open Psychology so that APCs of published articles from authors of this institution are directly covered by the administration of this institution, e.g. via

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open access funds. If you are interested in initiating such a cooperation with your institution, please get in touch with the Editorial Office.

Of course, there are things that we could have done better or faster. We are analyzing every situation where we haven't met the highest standards, and we are implementing changes to our procedures to make mistakes as rare as possible. Also, we are continually working on making the review and publication process even more attractive for our authors.

Volume 1 is the first step on the path to success of Open Psychology. We believe that by maintaining high standards and underlining the great value of transparency in research, we are going in the right direction.