

Publication Policy: Research Publications

The Institute of Economics aims to undertake high quality research measured by international standards. The Publication Policy is considered to be central to achieving this goal and the Institute has formulated a list of explicit goals for research publications.¹

An evaluation of the quality of each individual research publication by an all-knowing and independent party would be optimal but impossible, hence, in practice, a 'second best' method must be used to assess research quality.

Journal Articles

Citation indexes illustrate an article's impact on the international research world, regardless of which journal it is published in. There is, however, uncertainty in the assessment of citations, a danger of systematic bias and often a significant time lag from the time of publication to the time of citation. Citation indexes are ex post assessments and not direct ex ante guides to the type of publication. It is, however, vital that articles are read and cited, not just written – otherwise they do not contribute to the development of economic knowledge or the advancement of international research.

The Institute of Economics will increase its focus on citations of the Institute's journal publications.

At the assessment of dissertations and at the time of appointment to a position, it is possible to evaluate individual academic contributions, but such assessments do not happen at fixed intervals, are costly in terms of resources, and with appointments bibliometric assessments are often used as part of the evaluation process. Enumeration of publications in journals (possibly impact-weighted) is not a perfect measure of research quality, but within economic research it has been shown that there is a clear correlation between research quality on the one hand, and publications in good, well renowned journals on the other hand. International research evaluations of economics also attribute a large weight to publications in the best international journals.

It is the Institute of Economics' goal to increase the proportion of journal articles that are published in the best general and best field journals within the Institute's research fields.

Three main groups of international refereed journals are identified.² The list of the journals within each group is revised by the Institute's Research Committee (currently by the Board of the Institute) if there is a need for change based on a changed international ranking of the journals or changes in the Institute's research profile etc. Changes are normally made on the basis of recommendations from a publication committee, which set the criteria.

¹ The goals mentioned here are specifically related to actual research publications, and hence, do not include textbooks or articles in newspapers, magazines etc.

² International journals means journals published in languages other than Danish, Swedish or Norwegian. Refereed means *anonymous* refereed articles.

Group A

Top 4 economics journals: *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

It is the Institute's goal to publish regularly in these journals.

Group B

General journals and specialised journals within economics immediately under the top 4.

This group currently includes 28 journals selected according to an international ranking. The procedure is described in the attachment, which also includes the list of the journals in this group.

It is the Institute's goal to publish an increasing proportion of its journal articles in groups A and B.

Group C

The remaining international refereed articles within economics.

Journal articles within statistics, demography and mathematics are included in the corresponding groups. There is no set list of these journals; however, articles are ranked ex post.

The Institute also encourages publication in high ranked international refereed journals within areas related to the Institute's fields of interest.

Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift publishes Danish language research and survey articles. The Institute of Economics supports a Danish language journal that publishes academic articles.

Survey articles

In addition to surveys in recognised journals, it is the Institute's policy to particularly encourage publication of surveys in internationally recognised handbooks.

Monographs

There are different types of monographs. It is the Institute's policy to particularly encourage the publication of monographs as books, (original works), with internationally recognised publishers.

Working Papers

There is often a considerable time lag from the writing of a paper in the form of a working paper until its eventual publication in a journal or a book.

It is the Institute's goal that all working papers by faculty members and researchers at the larger research Centres of the Institute, that are presented at internal or external seminars, workshops and conferences be published as working papers in the Institute's series or in one of the Centre's series. The Institute's working papers are published electronically. The Centres decide individually which form their working papers are published in.

Other Publications

In addition to the forms of publications listed above, there are various other types of publications, but there are no specific goals in relation to these.

Incentives and Publications

Publications in journals and books play a crucial role in academic quality-assessment and in appointments; therefore very substantial incentives to publish have been established.

To support the Institute's more specific publication goals, performance bonuses, in the form of one off payments are made in accordance with the agreed publication criteria.

Attachment: List of selected journals in groups A and B.

(Passed by the Board of the Institute on 13 December 2001)

Troels Østergaard Sørensen

Head of Institute

List of selected journals in groups A and B.

A.

American Economic Review
Econometrica
Journal of Political Economy
Quarterly Journal of Economics

B.

Economic Journal
Economics Letters
Economic Theory
Econometric Theory
European Economic Review
Games and Economic Behaviour
International Economic Review
Journal of Applied Econometrics
Journal of Business and Economic Statistics
Journal of Development Economics
Journal of Economic Literature
Journal of Econometrics
Journal of Economic Perspectives
Journal of Economic Theory
Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control
Journal of Economic History
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management
Journal of Financial Economics
Journal of Human Resources
Journal of International Economics
Journal of Labour Economics
Journal of Monetary Economics
Journal of Public Economics
Rand Journal of Economics
Review of Economic Studies
Review of Economics and Statistics
Scandinavian Journal of Economics
World Bank Economic Review