

# The Journal Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development as a Polish Platform for International Interdisciplinary Scientific Discourse

## Czasopismo Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development jako polska platforma dla międzynarodowego interdyscyplinarnego dyskursu naukowego

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### Abstract

This paper presents current status of a Polish scientific *journal Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development*, with unique position in the field of sustainable development research. Its mission is to promote interdisciplinary approaches to ecological, economic, technological as well as social and philosophical challenges in the pursuit of sustainable growth. Since its inception, the journal has consistently pursued ambitious scientific goals, capturing the attention of researchers and practitioners worldwide. What is important, the journal is not publishing local case studies, concentrated on international perspective.

The publisher is Lublin University of Technology, from the year 2008 the journal has under patronage of the European Academy of Science and Art.

The first number was published in 2006. Since that time we published over 750 papers in 38 numbers of the journal.

Since there are no fees, it is also a chance to publish scientific papers in an international journal for scientists from poorer countries.

The publication language is English.

The journal has good and stable international scientific parameters, Impact Factor = 1.0 and CitiScore = 2.7, which allows us to be in the 3rd quartile of scientific journals.

The level of rejection is very high, 83% in 2024.

The journal is following COPE ethical standards.

With rising number of submissions (almost 300 in 2024) the future of the journal looks promising.

**Key words:** Problemy Ekorozwoju journal, interdisciplinary approach, sustainable development

### Streszczenie

W artykule przedstawiono aktualny stan polskiego czasopisma naukowego *Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problemy Zrównoważonego Rozwoju*, zajmującego unikalną pozycję w dziedzinie badań nad zrównoważonym rozwojem. Jego misją jest promowanie interdyscyplinarnego podejścia do wyzwań ekologicznych, ekonomicznych, technologicznych, a także społecznych i filozoficznych w dążeniu do zrównoważonego rozwoju. Od początku swojego istnienia czasopismo konsekwentnie realizuje ambitne cele naukowe, przyciągając uwagę badaczy i praktyków na całym świecie. Co ważne, czasopismo nie publikuje lokalnych case studies, koncentrując się na perspektywie międzynarodowej.

Wydawcą od samego początku była Politechnika Lubelska, od roku 2008 pod patronatem Europejskiej Akademii Nauki i Sztuki.

Pierwszy numer ukazał się w 2006 roku. Od tego czasu opublikowaliśmy ponad 750 artykułów w 38 numerach czasopisma.

Ponieważ nie pobieramy opłat, jest to również szansa na publikację prac naukowych w międzynarodowym czasopiśmie dla naukowców z biedniejszych krajów.

Językiem publikacji jest język angielski.

Czasopismo ma dobre i stabilne międzynarodowe parametry naukowe, Impact Factor = 1,0 i CitiScore = 2,7, co pozwala nam znaleźć się w 3. kwartylu czasopism naukowych.

Poziom odrzucenia jest bardzo wysoki, w 2024 r. wyniósł 83%.

Czasopismo przestrzega standardów etycznych COPE.

Wraz ze wzrostem liczby zgłoszeń (ponad 250 w 2024 r.) przyszłość czasopisma wygląda obiecująco.

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**Słowa kluczowe:** Czasopismo Problemy Ekorozwoju, podejście wielodyscyplinarne, rozwój zrównoważony

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## 1. Introduction

*Problemy Ekorozwoju/Problems of Sustainable Development* is a Polish interdisciplinary scientific journal, connected with different sciences – from ecology, through economy and technology to social and philosophical issues. Every submitted paper should refer to the basic paradigms of sustainable development (especially UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals). We also prefer international comparisons rather than local studies, since problems are usually international or even global (<https://ph.pollub.pl/index.php/preko>, 2024).

From the very beginning the journal has pursued ambitious scientific goals, capturing the attention of researchers and practitioners worldwide.

What sets the journal apart is its multidisciplinary nature and its capacity to integrate diverse research perspectives. Authors represent both natural and social sciences, enabling the creation of holistic analyses of sustainability issues. The journal stands out for its holistic approach to exploring relationships between various spheres of sustainability.

In this paper we present basic information about current position of the journal to help the authors with decision about possible submission to our journal.

## 2. Publisher

The publisher of the journal is Lublin University of Technology, Poland. From the year 2008 we got also special patronage from European Academy of Science and Arts in Salzburg, Austria.

## 3. Mission

As an editor-in-chief I was writing in another article promoting the journal:

*We believe that the sustainable development concept is crucial for the future of our civilization. It was formulated at a time when humankind had the technical means to engage in pretty much any transformation of the world it wanted. But we tend to become lost in the objectives of those transformations. The prospect that world's resources will be severely depleted or exhausted is real. Moreover, the state of the natural environment globally is worsening steadily. The disparities between rich and poor countries continue to grow. While global production of food has remained great enough to provide for everyone, millions continue to go hungry. There is also an intensification of social conflicts whose causes must often be sought in poverty. At the same time, increasing automation is encouraging unemployment and leading to a feeling among entire groups in society that they are living on the margins of contemporary civilisation and experiencing exclusion from it (Pawłowski, 2023).*

New challenges were created by COVID-19 global pandemic and later by attack of Russia on the Ukraine and following war in the Middle East.

*Even these selected challenges are enough to show how complicated and difficult is the situation of today's world. Is it possible that the all-too-visible crisis looming over us can be counteracted? It was precisely why the sustainable development concept was formulated – not merely as yet another programme to protect the natural environment, since the scope and perspectives for necessary action are much more wider. While the voice of the naturalist remains an important one, points of view from the philosophical, social, economic and technical sciences are also to be taken account of.*

*Such a wide approach is a chance for many scientists to present their research (also from the field of humanities, where there are fewer possibilities for international publication than in technical sciences or in economics) to other scholars. Since there are no fees, it is also a chance to publish scientific papers in an international journal for scientists from poorer countries (Pawłowski, 2023).*

The journal also plays an important role in sustainability education, providing educational resources and inspiration for researchers and practitioners.

The journal is published twice a year, allowing for meticulous preparation of each issue and ensuring the high quality of the published content.

The journal is following COPE ethical standards.

#### 4. Impact on Research and Practice

*Problemy Ekorozwoju / Problems of Sustainable Development* journal significantly influences interdisciplinary scientific discourse at international levels. Examples of Topics and Research Areas:

- ✓ Sustainable development general problematics:
  - The theory and practice of implementing sustainable development at different levels, from global to regional.
  - Evaluation of the effectiveness of public policies supporting sustainable development.
  - Introduction of 17 global Sustainable development goals.
  - Analyses and models of sustainable resource management.
- ✓ Artificial Intelligence:
  - Challenges connected with introduction Artificial Intelligence in everyday life, economy and science.
  - New opportunities and problems caused by new technologies using Artificial Intelligence.
- ✓ Ecology and environmental protection:
  - Research on biodiversity conservation and the protection of natural ecosystems.
  - Issues of environmental pollution and its impact on public health.
  - Ecological technologies supporting achieving carbon neutrality.
- ✓ Sustainable development economics:
  - Economic growth within the context of ecological constraints.
  - Environmental economics and ecosystem service valuation.
  - Green investments and funding for pro-ecological projects.
- ✓ Education for sustainable development:
  - Educational strategies to foster ecological awareness.
  - Innovative methods of teaching sustainability.
  - The role of formal and informal education in shaping pro-ecological attitudes.
- ✓ Philosophy and Ethics of sustainable development:
  - Moral aspects of responsibility for the natural environment and society.
  - Intergenerational justice – responsibility for future generations.
  - Ethical dilemmas in implementing new technologies and resource exploitation.
- ✓ Environmental engineering and innovations for sustainable development:
  - Development and application of technologies supporting energy transformation and achieving carbon neutrality.
  - Innovations in renewable energy, energy storage, and energy efficiency.
  - Technologies aiding adaptation to climate change.
- ✓ Social Aspects of sustainable development:
  - The role of civil society in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals.
  - Issues of social exclusion in the context of ecological transformation.
  - The importance of social dialogue and participation in decision-making processes.
- ✓ Climate policy and adaptation to climate change
  - Strategies and tools for adaptation in the face of changing climatic conditions.
  - The impact of climate change on various sectors, such as agriculture, transport, and construction.
  - International climate agreements and their implementation at the national level.
- ✓ Global issues:
  - Globalization and implementation of sustainable development.
  - Poverty and inequality: Reach North versus poor South.

We are also open to new subjects, however always submitted papers must be written from the perspective of sustainable development problematics.

#### 5. Commitment to Open Science

The journal plays a vital role in promoting Open Access. In 2022 the journal introduced Open Journal System (OJS). All articles are receiving DOI numbers and are freely available on the journal's website. The journal publishes in open access formula under the Creative Commons Attribution license – CC BY 4.0 Int.

This openness represents a crucial step toward democratizing knowledge and amplifying its impact on real-world challenges.

## 6. Submissions, rejection level and origin of the authors

Since 2006 we published over 750 papers in 38 numbers of the journal (19 issues).

The number of submissions is steadily growing.

**The rejection rate in 2024 was 83%** – see Table 1. Such high rejection rate is due to rigorous review process and publishing only papers which are indeed in scope of the journal.

Table 1. Submissions number and rejection level for papers (source: Problemy Ekorozwoju OJS system, 2024)

Factor	Number	Percentage
Submissions received	252	100
Submissions accepted	45	17
Submissions rejected	204	83
Days to first editorial decision	10	-
Days to reject	30	-
Days to accept	64	-

Most of our authors are from Europe and Asia.

In case of Europe, it covers both Western and Eastern Europe, inside and outside of the European Union. We have however very low level of submissions from Poland.

In recent time we noticed growing number of submissions from Ukraine.

In case of Asia most submissions are from China and India – two countries with the World's highest population, but also from Turkey, Iran or Saudi Arabia.

We have also submissions from America, like Colombia.

## 7. Metrics and Quality Indicators

*Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development* is indexed in several international databases, including Scopus, Web of Science, Index Copernicus, Sherpa Romeo, Social Science Research Network, and BazTech. This ensures that it is easily accessible to researchers worldwide, significantly enhancing its visibility and citation rate.

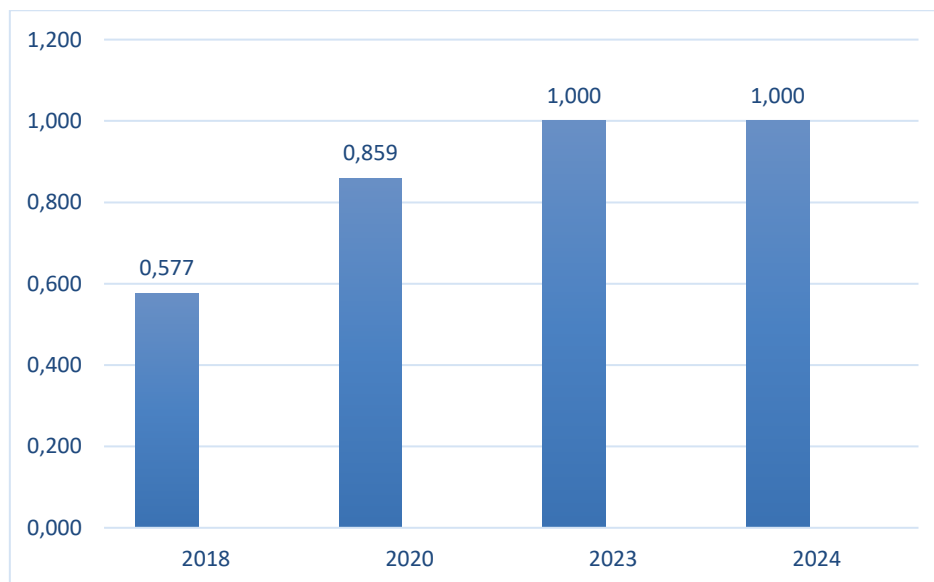


Figure 1. Impact Factor of the journal *Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development* between 2018 and 2024 (source: Web of Science Master Journal List, 2024).

Note: for the year 2024, the December 2024 Update was used.

Key metrics for the journal include:

- ✓ **Impact Factor (IF)** = 1 (Web of Science, 2024). It is steadily increasing in last few years – see figure 1.
- ✓ **CitiScore 2024 Tracker** = 2.7 (Scopus, 2024). It is also steadily increasing in last few years – see figure 2.

- ✓ **Index Copernicus Value (ICV):** The latest available metric is reaching 148.68 points (Index Copernicus, 2023).
- ✓ **Scimago Journal and Country Rank: 0.3, H-index 24** (SJR, 2024).
- ✓ **Quartile of scientific journals: 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

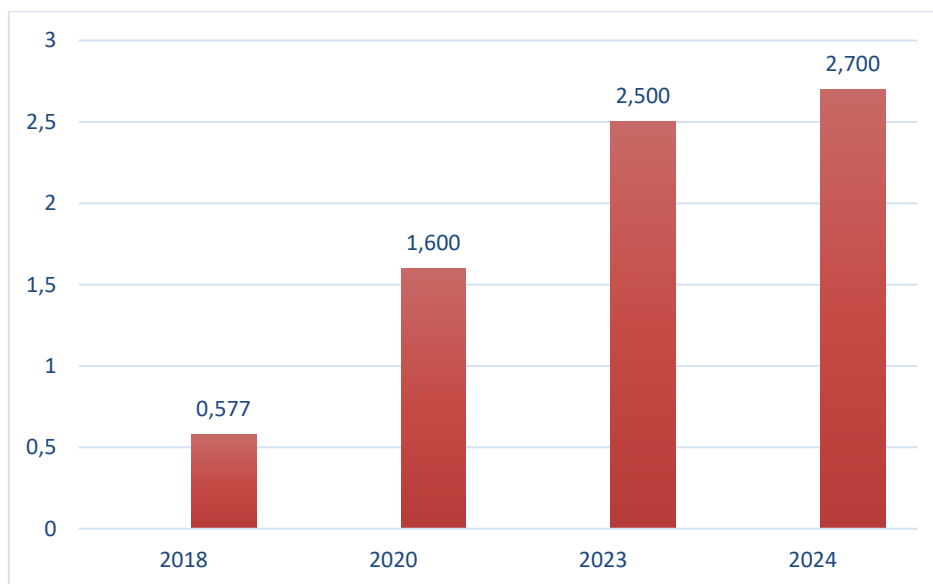


Figure 2. Citiscore of the journal *Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development* between 2018 and 2024 (source: Scopus, 2024).

Note: for the year 2024 December 2024 Tracker was used.

These metrics not only reflect the journal's reputation but also its contribution to interdisciplinary research on sustainable development.

## 8. Conclusion

*Problemy Ekorozwoju/ Problems of Sustainable Development* is more than just a collection of high-quality scientific articles. It is a platform promoting interdisciplinary approaches to global challenges. With its openness, thematic diversity, and commitment to the ethical dimensions of research, it serves as a vital reference point for researchers, students, and practitioners worldwide. The papers are responding to growing global interest in ecological, social and economic issues, as well as increasing role played by technology and environmental engineering, places the journal at the center of academic debates about the future of our planet.

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