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# European Journal of Cell Biology

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## Editorial

### European Journal of Cell Biology – Editorial



It is with great pleasure that we welcome you, fellow researcher, to a new era of the *European Journal of Cell Biology* (EJCB). First, a shout-out to former Editor-in-Chief Stefan Linder and Co-Editor-in-Chief Sabine Werner, for their unwavering dedication to the journal, and a heartfelt thank you for their guidance and help during this transition. Stefan brought us onboard to usher a new phase of the journal that better reflects these exciting times we are doing our research in.

EJCB has had a long and distinguished run since 1979 at the leading edge of research in cell biology. It currently holds an Impact Factor of 3.025 and is indexed in every major index site. As stated in our brief *Aims and Scope* section on the journal's webpage, we look to cover cell biology from many angles, classic and novel, with emphasis on excellence.

At this time, in which new journals shower all of us with submission requests, we consider it crucially important to highlight several reasons that make EJCB an attractive candidate to publish your cell biology research. First and foremost, it is a well-established journal with a long-standing tradition in the field, which results in an immediate impact for your research, as stated by the impact factor and other metrics of the journal over the past years, which are trending up. EJCB belongs to the Elsevier publishing group, which is synonymous with quality, and backed by more than 140 years of editorial experience. In early 2021, the journal adhered to the Gold Open Access initiative, supporting immediate access to your published research for everyone in the community. This means tremendous progress for the journal as well as our future authors, as it will provide immediate visibility to your work and the research published by the journal.

Perhaps most importantly, the journal is run by scientists like you. As such, we are innately (and sometimes painfully) aware of the problems surrounding cell biology research and its publication. We do understand firsthand the frustration of long delays brought upon by repeated and sometimes never-ending rounds of peer-review, and what it means to receive poorly documented or even worse, wrongful and unfair comments on your work. We continuously have to clear the same hurdles, and are thus committed to facilitate the process for you. To do this, we will be implementing a series of new measures designed to streamline the publication process. These will include shorter peer-review turnaround times and an editorial commitment to fairness and a rational approach to post-revision extensions and modifications of your work, without compromising its rigor and quality. We will also increase format flexibility in the journal, including full articles, short reports, and reviews. Last, but not least, EJCB launches a new and exciting format: Discussions, aimed at breaking new grounds in the field or addressing important controversies that are emerging as part of experimental work.

We do want EJCB to provide a forum for spirited discussion on hot topics in the field! For more information on article type formats, please refer to the [Guide for Authors](#).

With an evolving Editorial Board, EJCB is committed to excellence in cell biology, but also to provide a pleasant publishing experience. And what a time to do research in this field! Technical advances are revealing the inner workings of the cell with unprecedented precision and clarity. Biochemistry and even structural biology can now be done within living cells instead of just in a test tube. Advances in light microscopy are illuminating the structure and function of molecules and organelles as never before. The -omics era now allows the integration of multiple approaches that enable understanding complexities inherent to biological processes in a fashion completely impregnable before. As part of this, EJCB will be widening its scope to host special collections and individual articles in diverse fields that have become intertwined with cell biology, including, but not limited to biophysics, biochemistry, immunology and microbiology (host-pathogen interactions) as well as *in silico* or bioinformatics and modeling approaches. As all these processes are combined, an overarching goal of the field is to provide real-time maps of cellular function at multiscale levels, allowing to comprehend nano-second protein-protein interactions that coalesce into long-lasting phenomena, e.g. cell differentiation, memory generation or the development of the immune response.

We believe that, now more than ever, it is important to remember that the cell is the basic unit of life. Pathogen-borne diseases manifest themselves at a cellular level, and the two major causes of mortality, cardiovascular diseases and cancer, are related to pathological alterations that can be tracked down to subcellular levels. Cell biology will thus remain one of the main engines of biology research, and EJCB wants to contribute to keep the fire burning, highlighting cell biology research at its best. Please join us in this venture with your submissions, and let us bring your research to the leading edge of the field.

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