

# Special Issue

## Drones in the Wild

### Message from the Guest Editors

Environments such as dense forests, mountainous or maritime regions, arctic regions, areas exposed to extreme atmospheric conditions, etc., require a high degree of robustness, safety and versatility. UAVs may need to react reliably to rapidly changing circumstances, navigate with minimal sensing, withstand strong perturbations, maneuver in severely restricted spaces, or operate safely in the vicinity of critical human-built infrastructure or delicate flora and fauna. This Special Issue focuses on the development, evaluation and testing of UAVs capable of operating in challenging, realistic outdoor environments, with a particular emphasis on natural environments. Key research focuses will include the following:

- Operations in cluttered spaces;
- Rapid navigation in unknown spaces;
- Novel, unconventional designs allowing new applications;
- Hybrid and multi-modal drones;
- Energy-efficient design, mission planning and control;
- Swarming and collaborative tasks;
- Highly autonomous mission execution;
- Planning and navigation in complex dynamic environments;
- Vision-based control, minimal sensing;
- Navigation in dim or unlit environments.

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### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 January 2025)



## Drones

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## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Drones* is an international open access journal focusing on advancing research in drone science, policy, technology, and applications. Today, drones have become indispensable for policymakers, regulatory authorities, mapping agencies, start-ups, and established firms. Their expanding societal and economic relevance is reflected in the rapid development of new sensors, upgraded platforms, specialized software, and novel applications. The journal provides a central forum for scholars in drone research and applications to exchange findings and innovations. With growing demand for high-quality research, our Editorial Board comprises international leaders and experts across relevant scientific areas. We offer rigorous peer review and rapid publication of papers from across all areas of drone science. We welcome you to submit your next paper to *Drones* and to contribute to the continued advancement of and innovations in the field of drones.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Diego González-Aguilera

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