Special Issue

Advances in Civil Applications of Unmanned Aircraft Systems: 2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editors

Drones have emerged over the past decade as a fundamental tool in various civil applications including, among other uses, the inspection of complex structures such as viaducts or wind turbines, professional image and video operations, the monitoring of agricultural fields and forest masses, controlling pollution in bodies of water, serving as logistical tools in remote locations, enabling topographical operations, and contributing to search and rescue missions. There are a multitude of aircraft designs, including fixed-wing or rotary-wing, various types of payloads, propulsion systems, etc. Additionally, there are many instances where unmanned aircraft collaborate with other aircraft, swarms, or other unmanned vehicles, whether land- or sea-based. The regulatory aspects and their evolution over the past years have also proven to be crucial in this context, accompanying the development of the sector. The goal of this Special Issue is to collect papers (original research articles and review papers) to give insights about varios applications across a broad spectrum of unmanned aicraft in the civil sector.

Guest Editors

Dr. Higinio González Jorge Dr. Fernando Veiga López

Enrique Aldao Pensado
Gabriel Fontenla-Carrera

Deadline for manuscript submissions

8 November 2025



Drones

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.4 CiteScore 5.6



mdpi.com/si/200436

Drones
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
drones@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ drones





Drones

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.4 CiteScore 5.6





About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Drones is the only international open-access journal about the science, policy and technology of drones and its applications. Nowadays, the proliferation of drones is a reality for local policy makers, regulatory bodies, mapping authorities, startups and consolidated companies. There are many uses and benefits of drones: from the emergence of new sensors and the evolution of new platforms; to the development of specific software and the emergence of new applications. Drones publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications and short notes, without restriction on the length of papers. Drones seeks to provide a central forum for scholars engaged in drones' research and applications.

There is a need for high quality papers in this area and the *Drones* Editorial Board are widely recognized international leaders. *Drones* journal guarantees a serious peer review and a rapid publication across the whole discipline of drones.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Diego González-Aguilera

Cartographic and Land Engineering Department, Higher Polytechnic School of Avila, University of Salamanca, Hornos Caleros, 50 05003 Avila, Spain

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High visibility

: indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Inspec, Ei Compendex and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Remote Sensing) / CiteScore - Q1 (Aerospace Engineering)