Over 1800 researchers from diverse disciplines, academic stages, and countries gave their perspective on predatory academic journals and conferences.

Over 90% think predatory practices should be combated to preserve the integrity of, and public trust in, research. Over 80% perceive that predatory practices are a serious problem or on the rise in their country of work.

At least 25% of respondents have either published in a predatory journal, participated in a predatory conference, or don’t know if they have.

They were not aware at the time:
- “The conference looked very legitimate and non-predatory. There was support from the university and several well-known professors were in the invitations.”

They needed to advance their career:
- “You need to publish in a predatory journal to stay in the race.”

It was a faster, easier, or cheaper option:
- “I feel guilty but it is necessary to publish (in predatory journals) for my students to complete their study faster due to the limitation of time and scholarship.”

They were encouraged by their peers:
- “The lead author suggested we publish in a predatory journal after a few rejections and one co-author was an editor at the journal, which made it difficult to criticize.”

If left unchallenged, the majority of respondents believe predatory practices will have detrimental effects.

Fuel misinformation in public policy: 82%
Infiltrate and undermine the research enterprise: 69%
Widen the research gap between high income and low income countries: 58%

Over 80% of respondents felt the most revealing signs of predatory journals and conferences were:
- The invitation to submit a paper is in a subject matter outside my expertise.
- The conference/journal has an unusual combination of words in the name.
- The invitation is very flattering.
- The invitation is not very focused and the language is odd.

How to tell if a journal or conference is predatory?
Click on some of the resources freely available.

You can find out more about IAP’s study on predatory practices and its report later this year, or contact us at secretariat@iappartnership.org.