

International Journal of the Commons

The **International Journal of the Commons (IJC)** is a new journal set-up by the **International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC)**. As an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed open-access journal, the **IJC** is dedicated to furthering our understanding of institutions for use and management of resources that are (or could be) enjoyed collectively.

Many will refer to such resources and their systems of usage as '*commons*'. The environment may be the natural world used by humans or it may be the social realities created by humans, such as the Internet as a commons. The journal aims at forming a forum for researchers working on resources that can be or are used and managed collectively.

Using resources collectively is often believed to be problematic. In practice however, there are many cases to be found of situations where common pool resources are used in a sustainable way. In this journal we want to offer room to both sides of the debate, and we hope our interdisciplinary approach will contribute to creating a more balanced view of how common pool institutions actually work.

Research on the commons is relevant to both teaching and policy discussions of resource governance and ought to be easily available to students, practitioners, and professionals around the world, particularly in developing countries.

The **IJC** publishes peer-reviewed articles and book reviews. The editors will take both separate articles and proposals for special thematic issues into consideration. Please register via this website to submit your proposal and to receive updates about the publication of new articles.

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The editors of the **IJC** welcome contributions from all scientific disciplines, from practitioners and policy makers. Submissions will be judged upon their quality, methodology, approach and suitability for the journal.

IASC provides a platform for researchers and practitioners in developing and industrialized countries to come together, across disciplinary lines, and share knowledge of how common used and enjoyed resource are managed. Most of the research reported at our conferences concerns natural resources. Currently, this research is scattered among 10-15 journals, all of which are costly to get. However, a majority of our members come from academic institutions in developing countries. Such institutions often have fewer resources devoted to journal subscriptions and fewer resources available to pay for printing of journal papers. Papers published on commons issues need to be in the public domain, freely available to all, and in addition, scholars should not be charged any author fee to cover costs of publishing. Therefore **IASC** wants to publish a journal presenting the best of the research on commons in an open access environment.