

Effective: July, 2026

Version 1.0

IJUDA - Author Guidelines

The International Journal of Underwater Domain Awareness (IJUDA) is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary scholarly platform dedicated to advancing knowledge, innovation, and integrated solutions specifically within the domain of underwater domain awareness (UDA).

The journal recognises that UDA is inherently multidisciplinary, requiring contributions from diverse fields to address the complex challenges of understanding, monitoring, and managing underwater environments. The journal welcomes contributions from a broad range of disciplines—including oceanography, engineering, computer science, environmental science, maritime studies, and policy—provided that the research is clearly and directly connected to underwater domain awareness.

Manuscripts must explicitly address underwater domain awareness. Submissions that do not demonstrate a clear and substantial connection to UDA—regardless of their academic quality—will be rejected at the initial screening stage.

The International Journal of Underwater Domain Awareness (IJUDA) is committed to publishing highquality, original, and impactful research that demonstrates:

- Clear relevance to the underwater domain awareness
- Interdisciplinary integration where appropriate
- Methodological rigour and scientific validity
- Innovation and practical or policy significance

All submissions must adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity and ethical publishing practices. Manuscripts must be original, free from plagiarism, and not under consideration elsewhere. Each submission undergoes a rigorous peer-review process to ensure scholarly quality, credibility, and relevance to the journal's scope.

In addition to original research articles, the journal welcomes review papers, case studies, and technical contributions that provide meaningful insights into UDA-related challenges and advancements.

By maintaining a strong and focused scope, the UDA Journal aims to serve as a specialised and authoritative platform for advancing research and collaboration in underwater domain awareness.

**Approved by,
Editorial Governance Board,
IJUDA**

THEMES COVERED

The International Journal of Underwater Domain Awareness welcomes submissions on a broad range of topics that advance Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA). Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Underwater Radiated Noise (URN), underwater acoustics, and marine acoustic ecology
- Underwater sensing, surveillance, and autonomous systems
- Artificial Intelligence, data analytics, and digital technologies for UDA
- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), maritime spatial intelligence, and the Blue Economy
- Ocean governance, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks, UDA policy, and international cooperation
- Sustainable maritime infrastructure, ports, and offshore technologies
- Coastal management, resilience, and livelihood enhancement
- Sediment management and coastal geomorphology
- Marine environmental monitoring, conservation, and ecosystem restoration
- Disaster risk reduction, early warning systems, and climate resilience
- Capacity building, skilling, education, and community engagement for maritime sectors
- Defence, maritime security, and strategic aspects of Underwater Domain Awareness
- Any other emerging topics that fall within the scope and objectives of Underwater Domain Awareness.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Word Limit: Articles should be between **3,000 and 5,000 words**, excluding references, tables, and figures.
- The International Journal of Underwater Domain Awareness accepts submissions under the following three categories:
 - **Technology Interventions** – Research and innovations related to underwater sensing, acoustics, artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, data analytics, and other enabling technologies for UDA.
 - **Policy Interventions** – Studies addressing governance, maritime policy, regulatory frameworks, international cooperation, and strategic aspects of Underwater Domain Awareness.
 - **Capacity and Capability Building** – Contributions focusing on education, training, skill development, institutional frameworks, knowledge sharing, and initiatives that strengthen UDA capabilities across stakeholders.

GENERAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Originality

- Manuscripts must be original and unpublished.
- Submissions must not be under consideration elsewhere.

Language

- All manuscripts must be written in clear, concise English.
- Authors are responsible for language accuracy.

Submission Format

- Submit manuscripts in Word (.doc/.docx) format.
- Use a standard font (Times New Roman, size 12).
- Line spacing: 1.5
- Font Colour - Black
- Margins: 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all sides.

MANUSCRIPT STRUCTURE

Title Page Include:

- Full title of the manuscript
- Author names and affiliations
- Corresponding author details (email, phone)
- ORCID ID (if available)

Abstract

- 150–250 words
- Clearly state:
 - Objective
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Conclusion

Keywords

- 4–6 keywords
- Avoid repeating words from the title

Main Text

For Research Articles:

1. Introduction
2. Literature Review (optional but recommended)
3. Methodology
4. Results
5. Discussion
6. Conclusion

Tables and Figures

- Number sequentially (Table 1, Figure 1, etc.)
- Provide captions and sources (if applicable)
- Ensure high-resolution images

References

- Follow the IEEE citation style
- Ensure: All references cited in text are listed and No missing or incomplete references

SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Follow the process as given on the [submit page](#) 

IMPORTANT REASONS FOR REJECTION

Manuscripts may be rejected if:

- Out of journal scope
- Poor quality or lack of novelty
- Plagiarism detected
- Non-compliance with guidelines
- Ethical violations
- Inadequate revisions

Contact Information

editor.journal@udafoundation.in

Final Checklist for Authors

Before submission, ensure:

- Manuscript follows journal format
- Abstract and keywords included
- References properly formatted
- Plagiarism checked
- Ethical statements included
- Figures and tables properly labelled

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IJUDA - Data Availability and Research Data Sharing Policy

The **International Journal for Underwater Domain Awareness (IJUDA)** is committed to fostering transparency, reproducibility, and the responsible management of research data. The journal recognises that access to research data enhances the credibility and verification of scientific findings while acknowledging that certain data generated within the fields of underwater domain awareness, maritime security, defence, and critical infrastructure may be subject to ethical, legal, commercial, or national security restrictions.

To support these principles, all manuscripts submitted to IJUDA must include a **Data Availability Statement** describing the availability of the data underlying the reported research.

1. Data Availability

Authors are encouraged to deposit the data supporting their research findings in an appropriate public, institutional, or subject-specific repository whenever possible. Alternatively, data may be provided as supplementary material accompanying the published article. The Data Availability Statement must clearly indicate where the data are stored and provide sufficient information to enable readers to access them.

2. Restrictions on Data Sharing

IJUDA recognises that unrestricted public access to research data may not always be possible. Where datasets cannot be shared due to confidentiality obligations, privacy considerations, intellectual property rights, contractual agreements, commercial sensitivity, national security requirements, or applicable legal and regulatory restrictions, authors must provide a clear and transparent justification in the Data Availability Statement. Where feasible, authors should indicate whether the data may be made available upon reasonable request and specify any conditions governing access.

3. Description of Available Data

The Data Availability Statement should include a concise description of the available research data, including, where applicable:

- the nature and scope of the dataset;
- the repository or archive in which the data are deposited;
- persistent identifiers such as Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) or accession numbers; and
- the procedures or conditions required to obtain access.

Examples of research data may include observational datasets, hydrographic or oceanographic measurements, sonar and acoustic recordings, simulation outputs, computational models, software code, imagery, experimental data, or other materials necessary to validate the published findings.

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4. Metadata and Data Citation

Datasets deposited in repositories must be accompanied by sufficient metadata to facilitate interpretation, verification, and reuse by other researchers. Metadata should accurately describe the dataset's content, methodology, variables, formats, and any limitations. All publicly archived datasets must be formally cited in the manuscript's reference list in accordance with the journal's citation style. Data citations should include, where applicable, the author(s), dataset title, repository name, publication year, version, and persistent identifier (e.g., DOI).

5. Ethical, Legal, and Security Compliance

Authors are responsible for ensuring that the sharing of research data complies with all applicable ethical standards, institutional policies, funding agency requirements, and national and international laws. Any data containing personal or confidential information must be appropriately anonymised or de-identified prior to sharing. For studies involving defence, maritime surveillance, underwater security, strategic infrastructure, or environmentally sensitive locations, authors must ensure that the dissemination of research data does not compromise national security, operational safety, protected ecosystems, or any legal obligations governing the release of such information.

6. Editorial Oversight

The Editorial Office reserves the right to request clarification or supporting documentation regarding the Data Availability Statement during the editorial or peer-review process. Where the statement is incomplete or insufficiently justified, authors may be required to revise it before the manuscript proceeds to publication. Failure to provide an appropriate Data Availability Statement, or to adequately justify restrictions on data sharing, may result in delays in editorial processing or other actions deemed appropriate by the Editors.

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