

Editorial — A new era for aeronautics and aerospace open access journal

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Introduction

It is with great enthusiasm and deep sense of responsibility that I write this editorial as the new Editor-in-Chief of *Aeronautics and Aerospace Open Access Journal*. We stand at a remarkable moment in human history — a moment in which aerospace science is no longer confined to Earth's skies but is rapidly expanding toward space and the closest celestial bodies that inspire both our curiosity and our ambition. The Moon, Mars, and selected asteroids are no longer distant concepts reserved for speculation; they are becoming real destinations for exploration, research, and sustainable presence.

The aerospace field today represents one of the most dynamic intersections of science, engineering, technology, and human vision. Advances in propulsion, materials, autonomous systems, and mission design are reshaping what is possible. What once belonged to the realm of imagination is now entering the phase of concrete planning and execution. As humanity extends its operational territory beyond Earth, the scientific community carries a profound responsibility: to generate knowledge that is rigorous, forward-looking, and capable of guiding this expansion safely and sustainably.

In this context, the role of scientific publication becomes more important than ever. Our journal is not simply a repository of research results; it is a platform where innovation meets visibility, where bold ideas find a voice, and where the global aerospace community can exchange knowledge openly. Open access ensures that valuable discoveries, concepts, and technological insights are available to researchers, engineers, students, and decision-makers worldwide. By removing barriers to knowledge, we accelerate progress and foster collaboration across borders and disciplines.

We especially recognize the invaluable contribution of our authors. Behind every article lies dedication, creativity, and often years of work. Many of the breakthroughs that will define the future of aerospace will originate from innovative — and sometimes visionary — ideas that challenge conventional thinking. We actively encourage such contributions. Whether they involve new mission architectures, advanced propulsion concepts, AI-driven aerospace systems, or visionary frameworks for space habitation and resource utilization, we believe bold thinking is essential to advancement. Our mission is to provide a trusted, high-quality platform where these ideas can be shared, evaluated, and recognized.

At the same time, we are entering the era of Artificial Intelligence. AI offers formidable tools that can enhance research processes, optimize design, accelerate data analysis, and improve the dissemination of knowledge. Used wisely, these technologies can strengthen the scientific method and expand our capabilities as researchers and editors. Yet this evolution also brings challenges — ethical considerations, questions of transparency, and the need to maintain critical human judgment. As a journal, we embrace these new instruments with optimism and responsibility, committed to preserving scientific integrity while exploring new possibilities.

Looking ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to excellence. Maintaining high standards remains our priority, and we invite the community to contribute innovative articles, pioneering concepts, and interdisciplinary research that will continue to define our leadership among scientific online journals. Together, we can build a space where rigorous science and visionary ideas coexist — a place where the next generation of aerospace achievements begins on the page and grows into reality.

I invite researchers, innovators, and explorers from around the world to join us in this exciting journey. The skies are no longer the limit; they are only the beginning.

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Conflicts of interest

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