

## Springer & Environmental Monitoring and Assessment 2016 Certificate of Excellence in Reviewing Prof. Ioana IONEL, PhD

In academic publishing, the goal of the review is to assess the quality of articles submitted for publication.

Peer review has been a formal part of scientific communication since the first scientific journals appeared more than 300 years ago. The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society is thought to be the first journal to formalize the peer review process [<https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-is-peer-review>].

Professional peer review focuses on the performance of professionals, with a view to improving quality, upholding standards, or providing certification. In academia, peer review is common in decisions related to faculty advancement and tenure [[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peer\\_review](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peer_review)].

By receiving this award I really felt honored, especially because my registration as reviewer attests directly the fact that the Romanians can assist and support maturity and continuity of an excellent and valuable per review journal. Going back, I cannot remember when I started to dedicate time for reviewing. First it was interest, then a pleasure, and finally I found out that it is a necessity for a teacher that must face the continuous struggle to turn every lecture, in the era of progress and internet, into an attractive one, accounting also for the recent developments in the field. The second necessity grows from the need of improving not only my knowledge, but also the technique and methods of writing, explaining and judging.

I feel very content when my advice is accepted partially or totally, or even not, but it is taken into account and debated! The chance is offered frequently as per reviewer, in a group of experts. Initially you get training, mostly on line, subject to different situations and steps to follow. The review process is single, double or direct peer review, most recently the more transparent peer review was introduced.

Generally, after all reviewers express their recommendations (according to special asked questions and as well opinions, focusing on real aspects) and decisions, the corresponding author are posting a revised version, and the second or even third stage of review occurs, by the same or different specialists, depending on options expressed individually. It is really a success when a statistic is realized from time to time by the editor and you realize that you had also a contribution to the scientific paper, in its accepted form.



Ethics, impartiality, accuracy, power of decision and validation, recognition of work, reasonable and constructive criticism, power of evaluating, concentration are basics for a friendly and successful blind review.

The received certificate denotes that the Politehnica University of Timisoara contributes, through its staff, both to the development of science and supports progress and quality in science.