

Board Report 2022

Amsterdam, June 2023



About SciPost

SciPost is a complete scientific publication portal managed by the [SciPost Foundation](#). It is purely online-based, and offers freely, openly, globally and perpetually accessible science. Being managed by professional scientists, and making use of editor-solicited and contributed reviews, its journals aim at the highest achievable standards of refereeing. SciPost Commentaries allow Contributors to seamlessly comment on all existing literature.

SciPost Board

- Prof. Jean-Sébastien Caux - Chairman SciPost Foundation
- Dr. Joost van Mameren - Secretary SciPost
- Dr. Jasper van Wezel - Treasurer SciPost

SciPost Team

The SciPost Team in 2022 consisted of:

- Jean-Sébastien Caux - Lead Developer
- Paula Perez - Editorial Admin
- Sergio Enrique Tapias Arze - Editorial Admin and Sponsors Admin
- Jan Willem Wijnen - Strategy Officer

Publication Summary

In 2022 SciPost published a total of 728 papers across 9 journals. The rolling out of the new journal SciPost Physics Codebases had a very good start in 2022 as a new-generation journal for computer codes and algorithms of relevance to research in Physics. In addition, SciPost became the host of a new journal in collaboration with the UvA Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies: MigPol, a specialist Journal in the field of Social Sciences that publishes scholarly contributions on the politics involved in representing, controlling, and managing migration.

Publication numbers with respect to SciPost journals are shown in detail in the table below. Overall, SciPost Physics is growing at a predictable rate, whereas SciPost Physics Codebases had a positive start totalling 18 papers, and in the case of MigPol journal in Social Science hosted at SciPost, there was a total of 5 published papers. SciPost Proceedings increased from 45 to 286 papers in a single year.

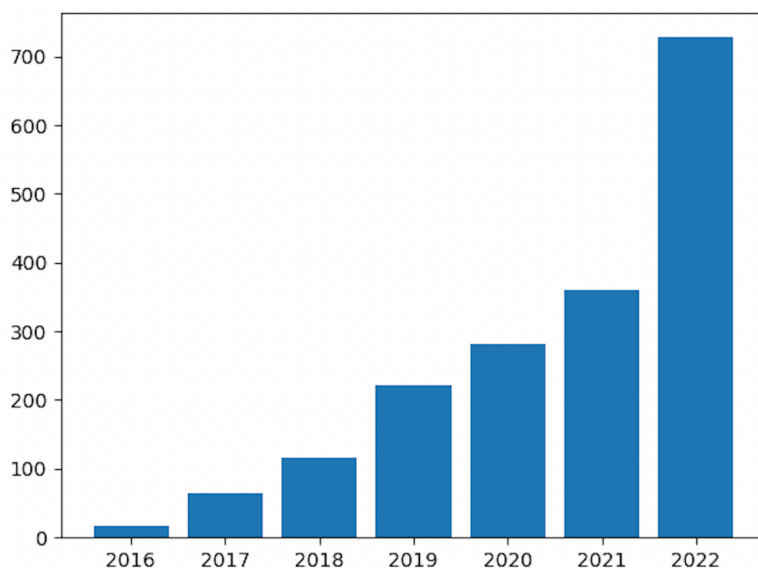
In November 2022, paper output was impacted due to staff changes. The production team was satisfyingly productive and properly scaled up, however, there were significant changes due to reduction of personnel in the EdAdmin team. This coupled with the ongoing insecurity of financial resources made it difficult to quickly act on hiring.

Table 1. Annual publication per journal (2016-2022).

Journals	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
SP Physics	16	65	111	160	187	265	331
SP Physics Core				2	27	33	53
SP Physics Lecture Notes			6	5	9	14	31
SP Physics Proceedings				55	57	45	286
SP Physics Codebases							18
SP Astronomy					1	0	2
SP Astronomy Core						1	0
SP Chemistry						3	2
MigPol							5
Total	16	65	117	222	281	361	728

An evolution of the SciPost total publication rate throughout the years can be found below:

Fig. 1 SciPost total publication Nr of publications per year (2016-2022)



Manuscript Submissions

SciPost totalled 1.135 papers submissions for the year 2022. Submission streams targeting specific SciPost journals are described in the table below. This table does not include resubmissions. The flagship journal, SciPost Physics, takes the lead with 699 submissions.

Table 2. Annual submission stream per journal (2016-2022).

Number of Submission streams per Journal	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
SP Phys	33	103	162	240	334	576	699
SP Phys Core				3	22	59	73
SP Phys Lect Notes			4	10	17	35	27
SP Phys Proc				74	20	402	312
SP Phys Codeb							8
SP Astro					3	3	2
SP Astro Core						1	1
SP Chem						2	5
MigPol							8
Total	33	103	166	327	396	1078	1135

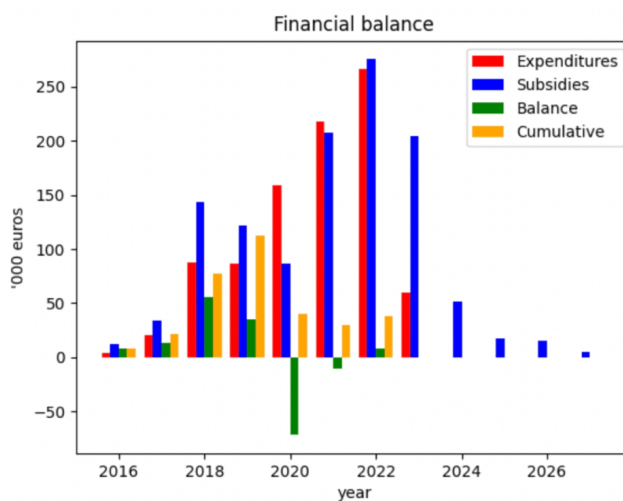
Sponsors Summary

Throughout the course of the year 2022 there were new organizations joining the network of SciPost Sponsors. Please check: <https://scipost.org/sponsors/>. These organizations include primarily universities and library consortia such as the University of California Digital Library system from USA, and the Sachsen Consortium of libraries from Germany. Additional support came from the UK through the Jisc system with the Open Access Community Framework, OAF, that involves several renowned UK universities. Further and renewed support came from universities throughout the US and Europe. The very first SciPost Sponsors special webinar took place in April and counted among its attendees various representatives from universities, academic libraries, and funding agencies across the SciPost Sponsors Board.

Finances Overview

On the financial side, you will find all relevant details on our situation starting from our [finances page](#). In particular, you will now see a graphical representation of the expenditures versus sponsorships.

Fig. 3. Financial balance Sponsors versus expenditure



The total income and expenditure in the years 2022 and 2021 (taken from the Financial Report 2022) can be found below:

Table 3. Profit and Loss 2022

		2022		2021
Gross Margin		272,858		160,36
Salaries and wages	205,868		194,044	
Depreciation	8			
Other operating expenses	36,018		30,776	
Operating expenses		241,894		224,82
Operational results		30,964		-64,46
Financial expenses		434		647
Results before income tax		30,530		-65,107
Result after tax		30,530		-65,107

APEX

Our business model defines an *APEX* (average publication expenditure) by spreading our yearly expenditures on to the publishing output. You can find detailed breakdowns on our [APEX page](#).

As an example, we ascribe €444 expenditures per paper for SciPost Physics (Lecture Notes are rated 50% higher at €665, while Proceedings are rated at half, €222). This is quite a substantial reduction (about 25%) from our results of the previous year. The medium-term goal remains of scaled-up operations stabilizing somewhere in the region of €500.

Annual Virtual General Meeting (VGM) 2022

The VGM was held online via an open forum in between January 1st and February 6th 2022. A total of 23 Fellows from the Editorial Colleges participated. After reviewing the 2021 operations (editorial, business and technical status), the discussions focused on topics such as:

- Availability of code
- Open refereeing policies
- Author suggestions for referees
- Number of refereeing invitations, etc.

As usual, the VGM motions were introduced and voted on by the Fellows. These motions have the objective to help with collecting feedback on how to improve the editorial and refereeing procedures that are internal to SciPost. The minutes for the VGM 2022 are archived and available online.

Outlook

Throughout the years, SciPost has demonstrated evidence of its consolidated role in the international open science movement. Its flagship journal, SciPost Physics, is now a leading journal in the field of general physics, adopted by renowned scientists for publishing their groundbreaking work. As an example, SciPost recently hit a new milestone celebrating 'Publication 2000' with a paper authored by Jacopo Niedda, Giacomo Gradenigo, Luca Leuzzi and Giorgio Parisi.

The portfolio of SciPost journals is expanding and we expect this expansion to continue in the coming years, SciPost Physics Codebases represents a successful case here. In addition to that, SciPost's ambition to render its infrastructure available throughout diverse scientific communities continues to be a priority. The idea being that they can run their own diamond open access journals within the SciPost ecosystem. A constructive example of joint efforts in this line of collaboration is MigPol, a specialized Journal focusing on Migration Studies.

In parallel to its operational performance and the support shown by the scientific community, the contribution for SciPost from institutions has increased considerably over the years, resulting in new and potential future sponsorships. Relevantly as well, the support for diamond open access initiatives (like SciPost) continues to be discussed at national and library consortium level and we are hopeful for more umbrella agreements from such organizations. Similarly, SciPost sponsors continue to showcase their unwavering loyal support throughout the years which is undoubtedly a very positive sign.

Notwithstanding the publication rate success and the current level of contribution provided by our Sponsors, critical and long term sustainable financial support remains to this day the main challenge for SciPost.

Additional Information

For additional detailed information regarding SciPost operations, please visit:

<https://scipost.org/blog/post/2023-04-19/operations-in-2022>