

ICA Publications and Publication Policy

This paper describes the current and future publication policy of the ICA. It first motivates, why a new publication policy is introduced – which primarily relates to conference publications. Then it describes the current publications and introduces the new publication strategy subsequently, together with general guidelines.

1. Introduction of new publication policy

In 2017 EC introduces a new publication policy, which especially focuses on the **conference proceedings**. In order to give them an adequate visibility and reputation, a conference publication series will be established, which will be administrated and hosted by a professional publisher. There will be three publication options, depending on the review and the extent of the papers: *ICA Advances* and *ICA Proceedings* and *ICA Abstracts*. The benefits will be manifold:

- *Visibility*: one single point of contact for the publications of ICA events
- *Reliability*: the publications will be available at the time of the conference
- *Open Access*: the publications are published online and under the Creative Commons licence
- *Reputation*: the publisher will suggest the *ICA Advances* and *Proceedings* for inclusion in several data bases and indices (e.g. Scopus Web of Science)
- *Standardization*: one standardized format of the publications

This new policy will not interfere with publications in ICA related journals; in contrast, it will provide an excellent basis for developing high-level journal publications.

2. Current ICA publications (till June 2017)

The current official ICA publications are

2.1 International Journal of Cartography (IJC)

Published by Taylor & Francis for ICA, Print ISSN: 2372-9333, Online ISSN: 2372-9341; Editors: William Cartwright and Anne Ruas; tandfonline.com

2.2 Conference Proceedings

Proceedings of [International Cartographic Conferences](#) (ICC) are published by the local organizing committees for ICA and are available online since ICC 1993.

2.3 Affiliate Journals

- The Cartographic Journal
- Cartographica
- Cartography and Geographic Information Science (CaGIS)

2.4 Springer ICA series

The [Springer ICA series](#) is a subseries of the Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography. Proceedings of special ICA events and workshops have been published. In the recent past, also full peer reviewed papers at the conferences have been published in this series.

3. New ICA conference and events publications: General Guidelines

Starting in 2017, the ICA records the outcomes of their Conferences like ICC, RCC as well as all other ICA events in three official publication outlets, which will be hosted by a commercial publisher, Copernicus GmbH:

1. Advances in Cartography and GIScience of the International Cartographic Association (short: Advances of the ICA) (single-blind peer review based on a full paper) – termed *Advances* in the following;
2. Proceedings of the International Cartographic Association (short: Proceedings of the ICA) (single-blind peer review based on submitted abstracts, developed to full paper) – termed *Proceedings* in the following;
3. Abstracts of the International Cartographic Association (short: Abstracts of the ICA) (single-blind peer review based on submitted abstracts; publication of abstract only) – termed *Abstracts* in the following.

For the ICC and for the RCC, *Advances* and *Proceedings* are published; for other ICA events, either *Advances* or *Proceedings* are published. Exceptions from this general rule require prior approval by EC. All event formats have the option to also publish the *Abstracts*.

The publications represent the state-of-the-art of the work carried out by researchers and practitioners in Cartography and GIScience. All Conference Directors, Commission and Working Groups chairs, and Convenors of Workshops and other ICA events who produce publications should regard themselves as representatives of ICA and are responsible for the scientific and technical quality of the published proceedings. The publication of the proceedings shall be according to the contractual arrangements made with Copernicus GmbH.

Thus, these publications are generated from all ICA events. All contributions are published online and under the Creative Commons licence. Specifications for preparation are given in the **ICA Guidelines for Authors**; a template is provided both for Word and Latex; organisers of ICA events are responsible that all papers follow these guidelines. All *Advances*, *Proceedings* and *Abstracts* must be coordinated in advance with the EC and must have:

- Title of the Event, e.g. 28th ICA Conference 2017
- Volume number: The Volume numbers will be sequential for each series.
- The papers must be prepared using the ICA template and made available in PDF format.
- Metadata (list of papers, incl. authors, affiliation)

Adherence to these specifications is mandatory for ICA event publications to be included in the *Advances*, *Proceedings* and *Abstracts*.

Publications not adhering to these specifications shall stand in their own right as "Related ICA publications" but shall not be part of the official *Advances*, *Proceedings* or *Abstracts*.

ICA must be prominently mentioned in any promotional material that refers to publications containing papers of ICA events and ICA co-sponsored events. Co-organized events may decide whether they adhere to the ICA publication standards or to the standards of the co-organizer.

Organisers will be required to provide Copernicus with camera-ready manuscripts in pdf format, together with the respective metadata, four to six weeks prior to the scheduled meeting, depending on the size of

the event. For each published paper a moderate APC (article processing charge) has to be paid (as of January 1st it is €17,50). This sum should be included in the event fees.

Copernicus will then publish the papers online and open access (under CC-BY license – copyright stays with authors) in the required style on the ICA webpages ahead of the meeting. Copernicus will also be responsible for long-term storage and availability of the papers. Copernicus will take care of promoting the indexing the proceedings in the well known outlets (Scopus, ISI).

3.1 Role of International Journal of Cartography (IJC)

In order to promote the International Journal of Cartography (IJC), there is a special option for the International Cartographic Conferences (ICCs): the IJC can select 8-12 papers from the full paper peer-review track for a special issue published at the event.

In addition to the regulations above, all event organizers do always have the option to approach the IJC for a special issue.

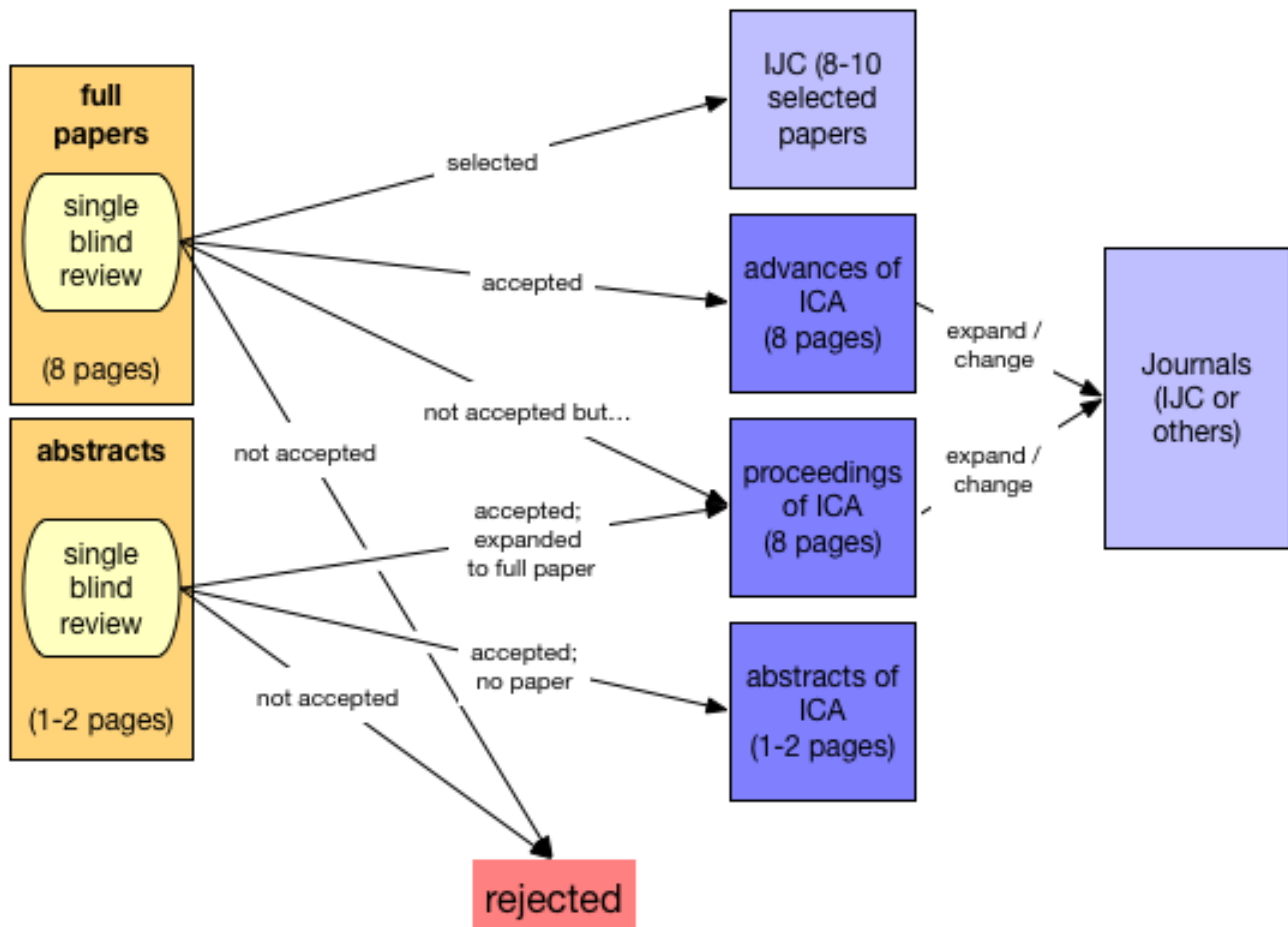
3.2 Main changes in a nutshell:

- one visible location (at Copernicus) and structure for publication of all ICA events
- no longer the need for event organizers to organize their own publications because all go into one of our series
- no longer Springer books from our bi-annual International Cartographic Conferences (ICCs)
- Springer ICA books will be available for special events (old agreements will be honoured)
- Conference papers may be extended and handed in for a journal publication after the event

3.3 First proceedings volumes

The first papers published in the new series are the papers from the ICC in Washington, which will appear in the “Proceedings of the International Cartographic Association” as Volume 1.

4. General ICA Publication options – Summary



5. Submission and Review Procedure

To ensure the highest quality of papers is published in the *Advances* and *Proceedings*, the review to be followed by the ICA event organisers is as follows.

A **programme committee** for the event is established by the event organiser and the names are publicly announced. Members of the programme committee should be scientific leaders in the field with ample expertise regarding the topics of the meeting. The event organiser usually acts as chair of the programme committee and serves as editor of the respective *Advances* and *Proceedings* volume.

ICA Conferences and Workshops welcome two types of contributions: full papers and abstracts. Submissions have to be handed in the required ICA format (see **ICA Guidelines for Authors**). Full papers have a length of 8 pages, abstracts have a length of 1-2 pages. Full paper submissions for *Advances* are usually required approx. 6 weeks before the submissions of the abstracts (for *Proceedings* and *Abstracts*). Review is carried out in a single-blind fashion.

Following submission, abstracts (for *Proceedings*) and full papers (for *Advances*), respectively, are assessed by a minimum of **two programme committee members** against a set of pre-defined criteria. These criteria include *scientific originality, potential interest in the community, proper documentation of prior work, clarity of presentation, technical correctness* and *correct use of language*. This list may be prolonged by

items specific to a certain event such as *relevance for professional users, quality of art work, or relevance in an interdisciplinary setting*, if the event includes such goals.

For all submissions, it is to be ensured that conflicts of interest during the review process are avoided. Any person involved in paper reviewing can declare a conflict of interest if they recognise a paper as the work of a direct colleague, collaborator, or if for other reasons they have doubts about their objectivity. People in an active supervisor-student relation and colleagues working in the same research team as any of the authors of a paper are always considered as having a conflict of interest. In case of a conflict, a new reviewer is assigned by the programme committee chair.

In cases where the programme committee chair has a conflict of interest, the corresponding papers are not reviewed under the responsibility of the programme committee chair, but are completely handled by an auxiliary programme coordinator. The auxiliary coordinator shall be an experienced researcher (e.g. a senior member of the programme committee), nominated prior to the beginning of the review process. Decisions of the auxiliary coordinator are final.

The views of the programme committee are assembled by the committee chair. In case of disagreement, additional reviews are solicited, until a final decision is reached. Results (acceptance or rejection) are compiled and decided for each paper. The review results are then communicated to the authors, who prepare the final paper. Upon acceptance, the full papers for the *Advances* have to be revised according to the reviewers' comments; the abstracts for the *Proceedings* have to be extended to full papers of 8 pages length, also taking the reviewers' comments into account. For ICA events with both *Advances* and *Proceedings*, good quality papers rejected for publication in the *Advances* may be considered for inclusion in the *Proceedings*.

Except for those papers, in which the programme committee chair has a conflict of interest, the final responsibility for the results rests with the programme committee chair. The scientific programme of the event is established based on the results of the review process.

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