

Ocean Exchange and Circulation

Guest Editors:

Dr. Miroslav Gačić

Senior Scientist, National
Institute of Oceanography and
Applied Geophysics - OGS, Borgo
Grotta Gigante 42/c, 34010
Sgonico (Trieste), Italy

Dr. Manuel Bensi

National Institute of
Oceanography and Experimental
Geophysics, Borgo Grotta
Gigante 42-C, I-34010 Trieste,
Italy

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (29 April 2019)

Message from the Guest Editors

Ocean circulation generated by the wind and/or by density gradients contributes to water property exchange between different parts of the ocean or between semi-enclosed seas and adjacent oceanic areas. In addition to the mean circulation, basin-scale, and sub-basin flows, mesoscale eddies and internal processes contribute to re-distribution of ocean properties and energy. Thermohaline oceanic circulation is driven by the winter convection and dense-water formation processes that are thus directly influenced by winter climatic conditions. Long-term and climatic changes in circulation and in the vertical mixing processes directly influence the variability of the biogeochemical properties of the ocean. A special role in trapping and/or transporting the biogeochemical properties of sea water is played by travelling eddies; however, this is yet to be quantified. This issue is open to all papers addressing the processes, which are associated with ocean circulation and mixing in both oceanic areas and semi-enclosed seas. It will also deal with the implications of circulation on biogeochemical properties and marine pollution.





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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Jean-Luc PROBST

Laboratory of Functional Ecology
and Environment, Centre
National de la Recherche
Scientifique (CNRS), University of
Toulouse, Campus ENSAT,
Auzeville Tolosane, France

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Journal Rank: JCR - Q2 (*Water Resources*) / CiteScore - Q1 (*Water Science and Technology*)

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Water Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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