

Special Issue

Human Factors and Performance in Aviation Safety

Message from the Guest Editors

Civil aviation is generally divided into three categories: (i) airlines (air carriers), (ii) on-demand services (e.g., air taxi, air tours, air medical), and (iii) general aviation (mainly light aircraft used for personal missions), each governed by specific operational regulations. While air carrier operations are highly safe, the same cannot be said for on-demand and general aviation, which experience fatal accident rates 80–200 times higher. However, most aviation accidents are not due to equipment failure but rather human performance issues. Studies consistently show that aviation mishaps are largely the result of human error across various roles—pilots, air traffic controllers, maintenance staff, and management. For instance, poor pilot decision-making (e.g., flying into bad weather), situational pressures, cognitive disengagement, complacency, and overreliance on automation have been key contributing factors to many accidents. This Special Issue focuses on human factors in aviation, inviting research on all aspects of human performance that impact safe aviation practices.

Guest Editors

Dr. Douglas D. Boyd

College of Aeronautics, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Worldwide, 1 Aerospace Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, USA

Dr. Elizabeth L. Blickensderfer

Human Factors and Behavioral Neurobiology, Embry-Riddle
Aeronautical University Worldwide, 1 Aerospace Blvd, Daytona Beach,
FL 32114, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 October 2026



Aerospace

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.2
CiteScore 4.0



mdpi.com/si/261410

Aerospace
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
aerospace@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
aerospace](https://mdpi.com/journal/aerospace)





Aerospace

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.2
CiteScore 4.0



[mdpi.com/journal/
aerospace](https://mdpi.com/journal/aerospace)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

You are welcome to contribute a research article or a comprehensive review for consideration and publication in *Aerospace* (ISSN 2226-4310), an on-line, open access journal.

Aerospace adheres to rigorous peer-review as well as editorial processes and publishes high quality manuscripts that address both the fundamentals and applications of aeronautics and astronautics. Our goal is to enable rapid dissemination of high impact works to the scientific community.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Konstantinos Kontis
School of Engineering, University of Glasgow, James Watt Building
South, University Avenue, Glasgow G12 8QQ, Scotland, UK

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Inspec, Ei Compendex, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Engineering, Aerospace) / CiteScore - Q2
(Aerospace Engineering)