

Special Issue

User Experience in Extended Reality

Message from the Guest Editors

Technological advances, taking place during the last decade, triggered the design and development of a variety of novel interactive systems that seamlessly integrate both real and virtual elements in a unified environment, along with natural and multi-modal user interfaces enabled by a variety of technologies and wearables. The complexity of the categorization of such environments and their continuous evolvement led to the emergence of the term extended reality (XR), where the X stands for any already developed, or future technology, enabling such environments to exist. Currently, XR includes augmented reality (AR), mixed reality (MR), and virtual reality (VR), i.e., the most predominant categories of systems and experiences combining real and virtual elements. Nevertheless, newly introduced technologies and interaction techniques continuously emerge in the field of XR, greatly affecting the experience of the users when immersed in XR environments, raising a need for further studies regarding usability and user experience.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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