

Special Issue

Security-by-Design in UAVs: Enabling Intelligent Monitoring

Message from the Guest Editors

The goal of this Special Issue is to collect papers (original research articles and review papers) to give insights into how to bridge the gap between the Security-by-Design and practical UAV operations. This Special Issue will welcome manuscripts that link the following themes:

- Intelligent Obstacle Avoidance and Safe Navigation
- Battery Management and Communication Link Maintenance
- Data Security and Privacy Protection
- Precise Positioning and Relative Localization within Swarms
- Target Detection, Recognition and Tracking
- Autonomous Path Planning
- Safety-Guaranteed Cooperative Control
- Multi-UAV Formation and Swarm Security
- Applications in Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Inspection
- Intelligent Perception and Cognitive Decision-Making for Complex Environments
- Emergent Intelligence and Adaptive Formations in UAV Swarms
- Cross-Domain Collaboration and Heterogeneous System Integration
- System Resilience and Safety Assurance for UAV
- Trustworthy Human-UAV Interaction and Levels of Autonomy

We look forward to receiving your original research articles and reviews.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Lei Shi

Prof. Dr. Yi Zhou

Prof. Dr. Xuhui Bu

Prof. Dr. Lingling Lv

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 July 2026



Drones

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Impact Factor 4.8
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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Drones is the only international open-access journal about the science, policy and technology of drones and its applications. Nowadays, the proliferation of drones is a reality for local policy makers, regulatory bodies, mapping authorities, startups and consolidated companies. There are many uses and benefits of drones: from the emergence of new sensors and the evolution of new platforms; to the development of specific software and the emergence of new applications. *Drones* publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications and short notes, without restriction on the length of papers. *Drones* seeks to provide a central forum for scholars engaged in drones' research and applications.

There is a need for high quality papers in this area and the *Drones* Editorial Board are widely recognized international leaders. *Drones* journal guarantees a serious peer review and a rapid publication across the whole discipline of drones.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Diego González-Aguilera

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