

Special Issue

Detection, Identification and Tracking of UAVs and Drones

Message from the Guest Editors

The detection of drones, at both short and long ranges, is of significant interest, as is the remote recognition and identification of the model, type, and capabilities of such drones. The tracking of drones in the presence of other aerial distractions and interference is further emphasised. This Special Issue seeks to attract pioneering research that advances the topics of detection, identification, and tracking of drones and UAVs through novel algorithms, techniques, tools, systems, and applications. We expect that artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) will play major roles in future generations of advances in these topics. We welcome work exploring new sensing modalities such as vision, radar, and lidar as well as sensor fusion techniques that may accelerate the localization of drones of tracking performance. We therefore invite submissions that can provide transformative new ideas on topics including, but not limited to, dramatic improvements of the accuracy, speed, robustness, security, privacy, affordability, and scalability of drone and UAV detection, identification, and tracking.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (14 November 2025)



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Drones is an international open access journal focusing on advancing research in drone science, policy, technology, and applications. Today, drones have become indispensable for policymakers, regulatory authorities, mapping agencies, start-ups, and established firms. Their expanding societal and economic relevance is reflected in the rapid development of new sensors, upgraded platforms, specialized software, and novel applications. The journal provides a central forum for scholars in drone research and applications to exchange findings and innovations. With growing demand for high-quality research, our Editorial Board comprises international leaders and experts across relevant scientific areas. We offer rigorous peer review and rapid publication of papers from across all areas of drone science. We welcome you to submit your next paper to *Drones* and to contribute to the continued advancement of and innovations in the field of drones.

Editor-in-Chief

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