

## Special Issue

# Innovative Applications of Drones in Last-Mile Delivery and Emergency Medical Response

### Message from the Guest Editors

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are revolutionising critical sectors by offering unprecedented speed, flexibility and accessibility. For last-mile delivery, they are a transformative solution for bypassing traffic congestion in cities and improving logistical efficiency. In emergency medical response, they are already having a life-saving impact as they can quickly deliver vital supplies to remote or disaster-affected areas. However, the full realisation of these benefits is fundamentally dependent on the underlying communications infrastructure. The aim of this special issue is to promote and disseminate cutting-edge research that explores the synergistic integration of innovative drone applications. We aim to bring together new developments, methodologies, best practises and compelling case studies that address the complex communication challenges and opportunities that arise when deploying drones in these dynamic and demanding environments. By focusing on this critical intersection, we aim to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and enhance understanding of how wireless innovation can unlock the full potential of drones in logistics and healthcare.

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Halil Yetgin

Dr. Jiankang Zhang

Dr. Ateeq Ur Rehman

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

20 January 2026



## Drones

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.8  
CiteScore 7.4



[mdpi.com/si/248055](https://mdpi.com/si/248055)

*Drones*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[drones@mdpi.com](mailto:drones@mdpi.com)

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





# Drones

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.8  
CiteScore 7.4



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



## 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

Cartographic and Land Engineering Department, Higher Polytechnic School of Avila, University of Salamanca, Hornos Caleros, 50 05003 Avila, Spain

---

### 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 - Q1 (Remote Sensing) / CiteScore - Q1 (Aerospace Engineering)