

Special Issue

Prebiotic Chemistry: The Molecular Origins of Life

Message from the Guest Editor

The aim of this Special Issue is to compile a set of articles that reviews recent progress in the molecular origins of life. In particular, we wish to solicit articles on prebiotic chemistry that explore the non-biological synthesis of the building blocks of life, focusing on the chemical processes that could have led to the formation of the first living organisms on Earth. We encourage articles on how simple inorganic molecules, present on early Earth, might have spontaneously combined and organized into complex organic molecules, like amino acids, nucleic acids, and lipids, and the chemical pathways from these simple precursors to the self-replicating systems that would eventually evolve into the first cells. Articles can describe experiments, computational models, and simulations of early Earth, its formation, and evolution. Prebiotic chemistry on other bodies in our solar systems is also relevant to this Issue. Finally, with the discovery of exoplanets and the potential to study of their atmospheres, articles on potential biosignatures to detect life beyond our solar system and the prospect of life evolving on other planets are also welcomed.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Nigel Mason

School of Physical Sciences, Ingram Building, University of Kent, Giles Ln, Canterbury CT2 7NZ, UK

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 February 2026



Life

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.0
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/244025

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

mdpi.com/journal/

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





Life

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.0
Indexed in PubMed



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



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Life (ISSN 2075-1729) is an international, peer-reviewed open access journal that publishes scientific studies related to fundamental themes in life sciences. Some papers are published individually, while others are submitted for inclusion in special issues with guest editors. You are invited to contribute a research article, essay, or a review to be considered for publication.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluís Ribas de Pouplana

Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), The Barcelona
Institute of Science and Technology, 08028 Barcelona, 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), PubMed, PMC, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Biology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Paleontology)