

## Special Issue

# Issues in the Comparison between Artificially and Naturally Degraded Polymer Materials

### Message from the Guest Editors

Like all materials, polymers and products made from them are subjected to degradation from the moment they are synthesised, throughout their useful life, and ultimately during their entire lifetime. This includes the time they spend polluting the environment as waste. This Special Issue hopes to encourage researchers to report instances where artificial degradation does not perform as expected or does not reproduce natural degradation faithfully, to explore the factors that play a role in this and ultimately achieve a body of data that can signal the way to fine-tune artificial degradation protocols to better mimic natural ageing. Articles are welcome that document “failed” artificial degradation, examples of modified artificial degradation protocols leading to better mimicking of natural ageing, and the comparison of artificial and natural aged plastics or polymers. Both reports of indoor and outdoor (weathering) ageing are welcome.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Elena Gómez-Sánchez

Material Science Department, Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum, Herner Straße 45, 44787 Bochum, Germany

Prof. Dr. Minna Hakkarainen

Department of Fibre and Polymer Technology, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Teknikringen 58, 11428 Stockholm, Sweden

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 November 2023)



## Polymers

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9  
CiteScore 9.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/115654](https://mdpi.com/si/115654)

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

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





# Polymers

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.9  
CiteScore 9.7  
Indexed in PubMed



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



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.9.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

Fraunhofer-Institut für Angewandte Polymerforschung, Lehrstuhl für  
Polymermaterialien und Polymertechnologie, Universität Potsdam,  
Geiselbergstraße 69, 14476 Potsdam-Golm, Germany

---

### 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), Ei Compendex, PubMed, PMC, FSTA, CAPlus / SciFinder, Inspec, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Polymer Science) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Chemistry)