

# The Rules of Manuscripts Preparation and Publication in the “Geosystems Transition Zones” Scientific Journal

E-mail: [gtrz-journal@mail.ru](mailto:gtrz-journal@mail.ru)

## The List of scientific specialities

and corresponded scientific branches, by which the “Geosystems of Transition Zones” Journal is included in the List of peer-reviewed scientific publications, where main research results of dissertations for degrees of Candidate and Doctor of science should be published

Code	Name of group of the scientific specialities, name of the scientific speciality	Name of scientific branches, by which the academic degree is awarded
<b>25.00.00</b>	<b>Earth Sciences</b>	
25.00.01	General and regional geology	Geological and mineralogical sciences
25.00.03	Geotectonics and geodynamics	Geological and mineralogical sciences
25.00.04	Petrology and volcanology	Geological and mineralogical sciences
25.00.10	Geophysics, geophysical methods of mineral exploration	Geological and mineralogical sciences; Physical and mathematical sciences
25.00.25	Geomorphology and paleogeography	Geographic sciences
25.00.28	Oceanology	Geographic sciences; Geological and mineralogical sciences; Physical and mathematical sciences
25.00.35	Geoinformatics	Geological and mineralogical sciences; Physical and mathematical sciences
25.00.36	Geoecology	Geological and mineralogical sciences Geographical sciences
<b>01.02.00</b>	<b>Mechanics</b>	
01.02.04	Mechanics of deformable solids	Physical and mathematical sciences; Engineering sciences

**Publication schedule:** № 1 – March; № 2 – June; № 3 – September; № 4 – December.

The Journal publishes the original and survey articles, short communications, letters with discussion on the articles, scientific publications reviews, as well as the announcements of conferences, seminars, expeditions and published research literature.

The DOI (Digital Object Identifier) – CrossRef identifier is assigned to scientific articles and communications.

Manuscripts are accepted in electronic form throughout a year by the e-mail: [gtrz-journal@mail.ru](mailto:gtrz-journal@mail.ru). Editorial Office does not receive registered and insured letters, as well as small parcels.

The Journal uses *double-blind review* (for more details about reviewing procedure see on the Journal site. Well-known specialists in the given field, having the publications on the article subject and required citation level act as peer-reviewers.

The choice of a peer-reviewer is the prerogative of the Editorial Board, but authors can specify 4-6 potential peer-reviewers of their work in the cover letter (at least from 2 different regions or different countries; experts in this field; lack of cooperation, including co-authorship over the past 3 years; non-members of the Journal Editorial Board). Authors also have a right to specify the names of those specialists, who, in their opinion, should not be sent a manuscript for review in connection with possible conflict of interest. This information is strictly confidential and taken into account by the Editorial Board when arranging the review process, besides the cases when the editor has more compelling reasons than the author.

If the article does not correspond to the subject of the Journal, not contain the subject of scientific research, not comply with ethical requirements, duplicates published materials, is not logically structured and stated in an indigestible language, etc., the editorial board can reasonably deny the author in publication on the grounds of initial screening, before reviewing.

The Editorial Board makes a decision on publication on the grounds of at least two reviews within 3–4 months from the day of materials receiving. The reviews are retained in editorial office within 5 years.

An article with reviews copies and editing remarks is sent author. Manuscript return for reworking does not mean its acceptance for publication. All further work with an article proceeds in the drafting file, where author reworks a text and sends it with reply letter. Reply letter should be written [in the file with a review or an editing report](#). In this letter it is necessary to:

- reply to each peer-reviewers remark;
- exactly specify, what changes were made in the article;
- write a persuasive, polite objection if, in the author opinion, the peer-reviewer is wrong

The Editorial Board on the grounds of peer-reviews and author’s response determines a manuscript’s further fate.

The article accepted for publication is read by the editor again, then the editor coordinates with the author the content related corrections. The file ready for layout should be carefully read, because only minor corrections are allowed in the layout.

The paper is included in the issue plan. The content of the Journal issue is approved by the person responsible for the issue and/or the Editor-in-Chief, who reserves a right to decline the article owing to serious reasons (conflict of interest, insufficient level of the research novelty, etc). If the article is accepted for publication, the author will be informed, in what issue it will be published.

Authors are responsible for the articles content and for the fact of their publication, about that they sign the Authors' Statement.

The Editorial Office has a right to retract already published article, if it is discovered, that in its publication process any other rights or generally accepted norms of scientific ethics have been violated. About this fact the Editorial Office informs author, specialists, who gave a recommendation or review, organization, where the work has been carried out, as well the scientific citation database, in which the Journal is indexed.

Articles publication is free for authors. By authors demand the Editorial Office sends the pdf-file with published article, after the Journal publication. Printed copies of the issue can be purchased in the Editorial Office or by entering a subscription through the "Rospechat" Agency (subscription index is 80882). The Journal subscribers, made timely demand on the Editorial Office by e-mail, will receive free pdf-file with electronic version of the Journal within a week after its signing to print.

## Main File Structure

**Subject section** from the specialities list given above.

**UDC index (Universal Decimal Classification)** by the tables of the Universal Decimal Classification available in the libraries or on the <http://teacode.com/online/udc/> internet source.

**Title.** 10–12 words. It must be brief and capacious. Avoid common words, scientific slang and abbreviations if it is possible. Ideally, all the words in a title can be the keywords when scientific searching.

**Authors' initials and last names** (mark the contact author with an asterisk and specify the e-mail address for correspondence).

**Full names of the organizations** (as they mentioned in the Charter) to which the authors are affiliated and their location (city, country).

**Abstract.** Contains of 200–300 words. It gives a clear idea about the article aim, its scientific novelty and obtained results without reading the whole article. Therefore, the problem, aim reasoning, materials and methods, research results and their interpretation, conclusions must be neatly specified here.

The abstract is often the only information source about the article content and the research results presented in it.

Avoid passive verb forms ("*The study tested*", not "*It was tested in this study*". "*We proved*" sounds better, than "*It was proved*"). As though the classic impersonal expressions "*It has been demonstrated, it has been described*" sideline personal responsibility.

**Keywords** (no more than 10, the phrases of two words are acceptable) optimally reflect the research subject, methods, object and peculiarity of the work. Used for indexing and searching. Keywords are meant to ease finding the article in database.

**Information about financial support** of the work (with grants numbers in parentheses) and **Acknowledgments**.

**Text of the article** with inserted illustrations and tables in the Microsoft Word of various version without macros using. The file is duplicated in pdf.

**The references.**

**Information about all the authors** (in the end of the article): last name, name, middle name, academic degree, position, laboratory, chair or department with full name and abbreviation of the institution (as they appear the Charter), each author's ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID), as well as (if any) ResearcherID (ID WoS) and ScopusID, postal address, e-mail.

The followings are attached **as separate files**:

- 1) Author's Statement (the form can be downloaded on the Journal site);
- 2) scan-copy of Expert Report (in the form accepted in author's organization) about possibility of publication in open press;
- 3) graphic materials.

In the file with the article the followings are duplicated in **English**:

- title,
- authors names and last names,
- names of organizations (as they appear in the Charter),
- abstract and keywords,
- figures captions,
- tables headers,
- full information about all the authors.

The elements are transliterated (if it is necessary) according to the BGN/PCGN system (<https://transliteration.pro/bgn-pcgn>).

**For better perception and citation of the article it is advisable to adhere accurate structure, taking the recommendations of the Association of Science Editors and Publishers (ASEP) into account.**

### Introduction

Cover the following questions:

- Contemporary views of the problem.
- What has been done earlier (literature review; specify original and important works, including the latest survey articles). Avoid the references to obsolete results. Mark the unresolved questions within the general problem.
- Describe your hypothesis and aims (problem definition with novelty emphasis, clear formulate the article aim).
- What you performed.
- What results you have obtained, what the article adds to already received knowledges. You may state it in the Conclusion.

### **Material (object) and methods of the research**

- Describe, how you studied the stated problem.
- Do not describe the procedures and methods, that have been published previously.
- Specify the applied equipment and describe used materials.

### **Results of the research or Experiment** (research, simulation, etc)

- Systematized author's analytical and statistical material (here "systematized" is a determinative word).
- Tables, diagrams and text should not duplicate each other.
- Figures and tables are history of the research. They ought to be understandable even without text, tables should not be overloaded, everything needs to be signed and in its own place. Do not forget to give figures captions and tables headers in English in addition to Russian.

### **Results discussion** is the most important section.

- It is advisable to compare the results with previous work in this area by both the author and other researchers. The most evident way of citation increasing is not only to present your own data, but also to compare it with global or regional analogs. The model and conclusions should be universal from the standpoint of perception by scientists of not only your speciality. If the model is good and conclusions are drawn and grounded correctly, they should be clear to everyone.
- Do not ignore the works which results contradict yours, enter into constructive discussion and convince a reader in your rightness.
- To forestall possible comments from the peer-reviewers, discuss the limits of your results – what was failed and why.

If necessary, introduce subject subheadings, combine some sections (Introduction and Methods, Results and Discussion, Discussion and Conclusions etc).

**Resume and Conclusion** are not the same, but they are usually combined under the Conclusion heading.

*Resume* briefly states the main results, preferably with the phrases differing from stated in the main part of the article.

**Important:** the resume should accurately correlate with formulation of the aim and problems of the work, with the results and content of the abstract.

### *Conclusion*

- gives answers to the questions, what new the article adds to the already published results and what progress the article provides in this field of knowledges.
- offers the generalizations and recommendations resulting from the work, underlines their practical importance, defines the concept of further research in this field and, desirable, the forecast of considered questions development.

### **References**

The works of last 5–10 years are required. Do not forget about works of foreign colleagues. In the survey articles along with the contemporary, latest sources specify those, in which the studied subject has been mentioned or worked out for the first time. Minimize the references to the school books, handbooks, encyclopedias etc, which cannot be a serious ground for scientific research. Citation of own works should not exceed 20% of the total number in the list.

### **Data**

In this section the author may give an additional information, such as experimental data, data of ancillary research methods and so forth, that support the article resume. Inherently, it is an appendix to the article. Such information can also be placed as additional material to the article in the electronic version of the Journal.

An extensive database in couple with the methods of data processing, that has its own scientific value, may be published as separate work with a reference to the actual scientific article, in which the results of these data analysis are discussed.

If results of the experiment are not comprehended yet at the generalization level, that is worthy of an article, but they seem to be important for the scientific problem resolving, write them in a form of a **short communication** (the problem definition, experimental material, resume, short references list).

### **To what peer-reviewers usually pay their attention?**

- First of all, the (annotation) abstract,
- The figures. Peer-reviewers with great experience revealed a correlation: if figures are problem, the article will draw some question as well.

Then the peer-reviewers will check:

- How accurately does the title reflect an article content;
- Whether the resume neatly correlates with the statement of an aim and work objectives, with presentation of the results and content of the abstract;
- Whether the resume reasoned enough by the material presented;
- Quality of references list: representative references list demonstrates professional horizons and research qualitative level.

### **Basic requirements to the article design**

Sheet size	A4
Margins	1.5 cm on all sides
Fonts	Times New Roman – for text, Symbol – for Greek letters
Font size	12–13
Decimal separator	point, not a comma
Line Spacing	1,15–1,5
Text alignment	left
Automatic hyphenation	none

All text elements (including the references lists), except the cases conforming the generally accepted spelling rules, are typed in lowercase (not in uppercase).

Dates in the text in the «day.month.year» form are types in the following way: 02.05.1991.

A point is not put after: UDC, the article title, authors' names, headings and subheadings, tables headers, units (c – second, g – gram, min – minute, hr – hour (but mo. – month, yr. – year), M – million, B – billion etc, in the subscript indexes ( $T_{\text{melt}}$  – melting temperature).

Space separates the initials from the last name (A.A. Ivanov), unit from digits: 100 kPa, 77 K, 50 %, 10 ‰, except degrees: 90° (but 20 °C), order numbers from designations: fig. 1, table 2, latitude and longitude symbol in geographical coordinates: 56.5° N; 85.0° E.

Not hyphen, but dash is put between two numbers (by simultaneous pressing of CTRL and dash key on the keyboard right panel) without spaces from both sides, for example: 1984–1991 yr., 6–8 m.

**Mathematical expressions** written in separate line and containing the symbols, absent in the Times New Roman, should be completely typed in the editor compatible with Microsoft Office.

**Formulas and symbols**, that can be inserted in the text without special editor using, are typed in Latin letters and/or through the Insert – Symbol option.

**Tables** should be entitled and have no any empty cells. Blanks must be explained in the notice. When creating tables use the Word functions (Table – Insert table).

**Illustrative materials** are inserted in the article text (select the inserted picture, then select the Layout Options, and choose In Line with Text option; do not anchor the pictures to a text and not place them together with captions in the form of tables!), and also presented as the separate files in the version, in which they were created.

Formats: photo, drawings – jpg (300–600 dpi); graphs, diagrams, schemes etc – tiff, xls (Excel), cdr (CorelDraw) of 12.0(2004) or X4(2008) versions.

Size of the drawings and their inscriptions fonts should be chosen with regard to their reduction in accordance with the size of page (17 × 24 cm) and column (8 × 24 cm).

The axes inscriptions begin from an uppercase letter: Depth, m. In the figure captions there is first the common title of the figure, then interpretation of the parts and legend. Latin letters for the figure parts put in parentheses: (a), (b) etc.

Each graphical file size is no more than 10 Mb. Color drawings are accepted if it is impossible to convert them into black-and-white version without information content loss.

The references to all the figures must be in the text.

**Quantities and units** must conform to the standard notations in accordance with the International System of Units (SI).

**References** is placed after the main text of the article, it composed in alphabetical order.

Within the works of one author first placed the papers of his own, then of this author and one co-author, and finally of this author with two or more co-authors – in each group the papers must be in chronological ascending order.

The work's title when describing the mono edition and the source name in analytical description are set off in italics. References list is numbered (see the example below).

The bibliography style near to Chicago Style (with the elements of APA – American Psychological Association) is adopted in the Journal.

Obligatory elements are the following: *authors (editors)*, *year of publication*, *full title of the book or article*, *place of publication*, *publishing house*, *full source name*, *volume*, *number*, *quantity characteristic* (for a book – total number of pages, for an article or a chapter – the pages, where it is placed, for example: 5–10), DOI *identifier* (if any). If the source is available on the internet, the reference to Uniform Resource Locator (URL) and the date of access should be given.

If the article is published in original and translation, its description needs to be presented in both versions. Also, it is highly advisable to give the data in English (if any) from the original article translated and published in Russian (authors' initials in Latin letters, the article and source names in English).

The references to all the sources in the list should be placed in the text.

*In the text the references* are placed in brackets with author last name (or the first author when there are three or more co-authors), two co-authors last names and year of publication, for example: [Petrov, 2011; Olami et al., 1992; Levin, Nosov, 2009]. In the identical references to different works of the same year and in their description in the list the letters are put: [Sim et al., 2016 a, b].

### **Examples of bibliographical description in the list of references**

#### *A monography*

1. Krammer K., Lange-Bertalot H. **1986**. *Bacillariophyceae*. 1. Teil: *Naviculaceae*. Jena: Gustav Fischer Verlag, 876 p. (Ettl H., Gerloff J., Heynig H., Mollenhauer D. (eds) *Süßwasserflora von Mitteleuropa*; 2).
2. Max M.D. (ed.) **2000**. *Natural gas hydrate*. Dordrecht, Netherlands, Kluwer Acad. Publ., 410 p. (Oceanic and Permafrost Environments; 5). <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-011-4387-5>
3. *IPCC: Climate Change 2013 – The Physical Science Basis – Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. **2013**. Cambridge, Cambridge Univ. Press, 1535 p. URL: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/> (accessed 13.11.2019).
4. Rebutsky Yu.L. **2007**. *Tectonic stresses and strength of mountain ranges*. Moscow: Akademkniga, 406 p. (In Russ)

#### *An article (a report) in a periodical*

5. Pletchov P.Y., Gerya T.V. **1998**. Effect of H<sub>2</sub>O on plagioclase-melt equilibrium. *Experiment in Geosciences*, 7(2): 7–9. URL: [http://library.iem.ac.ru/exper/v7\\_2/khitar.html#pletchov](http://library.iem.ac.ru/exper/v7_2/khitar.html#pletchov) (accessed 14.11.2019).
6. Elliott S., Maltrud M., Reagan M., Moridis G., Cameron-Smith P. **2011**. Marine methane cycle simulations for the period of early global warming. *J. of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*, 116(G1): G01010, 13 p. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2010jg001300>
7. Blunden J., Arndt D.S. (eds) **2017**. State of the Climate in 2016. *Bull. of the American Meteorological Society*, 98(8): S1–S277. <https://doi.org/10.1175/2017BAMSStateoftheClimate.1>

8. Archer D., Buffett B., Brovkin V. **2009**. Ocean methane hydrates as a slow tipping point in the global carbon cycle. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.*, 106(49): 20596–20601. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0800885105>

*An article with metadata in English given in a source*

9. Rybin A.V., Chibisova M.V., Smirnov S.Z., Martynov Yu.A., Degterev A.V. Petrochemical features of volcanic complexes of Medvezh'ya caldera (Iturup Island, Kuril Islands). *Geosistemy perekhodnykh zon = Geosystems of Transition Zones*, 2(4): 377–385. <https://doi.org/10.30730/2541-8912.2018.2.4.377-385> (In Russ, abstract in Eng)

*An article in papers collection and conference materials, a chapter of monography*

10. Sim L.A., Bogomolov L.M., Bryantseva G.V. **2016**. On the possible border between the Amur and Okhotsk microplates on the Sakhalin. In: *Tectonophysics and Actual Issues of Earth Sciences: Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Tectonophycal conference, October 3–7, 2016, Moscow. Moscow: IPE RAS, V. 1: 256–263.*
11. Grebennikova T.A. **2011**. Diatom flora of lakes, ponds and streams of Kuril Islands. In: *Diatoms: Ecology and Life Cycle*. New York, Nova Publ., 93–124.
12. Hinrichs K.U., Boetius A. **2002**. The anaerobic oxidation of methane: new insights in microbial ecology and biogeochemistry. In: *Wefer G., Billett D., Hebbeln D. et al. (eds) Ocean Margin Systems*. Berlin, Heidelberg, Springer, 457–477.

*Patent*

13. Isakevich V.V., Isakevich D.V., Grunskaya L.V., Firstov P.P. **2014**. *Signaling device for changes in the main components: pat. RU 141416. № 2013147112; appl. 22.10.2013; publ. 10.06.2014, Bul. № 16.*

*Internet source*

14. Kondratyev V.B. **2011**. *The global pharmaceutical industry*. URL: <http://perspektivy.info/rus/ekob/2011-07-18.html> (accessed 23.06.2013). (In Russ)
15. *NGDC: Tsunami Data and Information*. URL: [https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu\\_db.shtml](https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu_db.shtml) (accessed 29.09.2019).