

Report on the *Journal of Telecommunications and the Digital Economy*

2023–2024

The Journal

The *Journal of Telecommunications and the Digital Economy* is the professional journal of TelSoc. It began when TelSoc was founded in 2013 as the *Australian Journal of Telecommunications and the Digital Economy* but dropped “Australian” from its name in 2019. It is the successor to the *Telecommunication Journal of Australia*, which had a publishing history stretching back to June 1935.

The *Journal* publishes four issues each calendar year, in March, June, September and December. All journal content is available on the TelSoc website and is accessible without charge to TelSoc members. The *Journal* is managed on another website (<https://jtde.telsoc.org>) where it can be accessed, through subscription, by institutions and individuals who are not members of TelSoc.

The Journal’s Ranking

The *Journal* is indexed by Google Scholar and Scopus. It is now ranked “Q2” (meaning it is in the second quartile of influence in a subject area) by Scopus, but only “Q3” by Scimago, based on Scopus data to March 2024. The ranking is important for Australian academic authors.

Rankings are based primarily on citations. The *Journal* currently has a citation index (ratio of citations to papers, based on 2020–2023 data) of 1.6 (lower than last year) and an *H* index of 14 (meaning that there are 14 papers with 14 or more citations – higher than last year). The volume of papers and the readership have increased, but an increase in citations has not yet followed.

Article areas in 2023–2024

Section	Issue				Total
	11(3)	11(4)	12(1)	12(2)	
Editorial or Foreword	1	1	2	1	5
Public Policy		1		1	2
Special Interest Paper		1	1		2
Special Issue Paper			23		23
Digital Economy & Society	3	3		5	11
Telecommunications	7	6	3	1	17
Biography or History	1	1	2	3	7
Review or Technical Note			1		1
Discussion		1			1
Total items	12	14	32	11	69

Subsequently, volume 12, number 3 (with 12 items) has been published in September.

Publication in 2023–2024

For the financial year 2023–2024, the table shows the division of articles by section of the journal. Volume 12, no. 1 contained a large special-issue section on “Emerging Technologies and Innovation for Digital Economy and Transformation”. This was the largest ever special issue. A successor special issue planned for March 2025 promises to be of similar size.

Other highlights included a paper by Cynthia Gebert, the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO), and the 2023 Charles Todd Oration by Rob Nicholls, both in volume 11, no. 4. The same issue included an interview with Teresa Corbin in her Telstra role.

The *Journal* continues to attract authors. In 2023–2024, there were 211 submissions. There are usually about 30–50 active submissions at any time. About 40% of submissions are finally accepted for publication.

Commercial Matters

The most time-consuming individual task in publishing the *Journal* is copyediting the papers accepted for publication. Copyedit is necessary to bring the papers to a uniform standard and format. The TelSoc Board has provided a budget of \$12,000 for 2024 to support this activity. This will permit 25–30 papers to be commercially copyedited. Volunteers to assist with copyediting are always welcome.

The *Journal* now has an open-access option in which authors whose papers have been accepted for publication can pay to have their papers made freely available to readers from the date of publication. (Papers normally have restricted access for the first year.) The open-access fee is \$440. All content remains free to TelSoc members on the TelSoc website.

Personnel

I will be stepping down as Managing Editor at the end of 2024. After seeking volunteers as a replacement, the TelSoc Board has appointed Dr Michael de Percy, a long-time Section Editor for the *Journal*, as the new Managing Editor from 2025.

The *Journal* has an Editorial Advisory Board in which there have been some changes during the past year. John Burke, who initiated and supported what became TelSoc’s Broadband Futures Group, died soon after resigning from the Board: his obituary was published in vol. 11, no. 4. John Costa retired from the Board: an appreciation of his 35 years of service to the *Journal* and its predecessors was published in vol. 12, no. 2. Dr Rob Nicholls and Professor Jock Given have joined the Board in 2024.

The *Journal* also has a Board of Editors, whose members encourage submissions, help to arrange reviews, and commission specific papers. Editors are drawn from around the world, with a bias towards Australia and its region.

The full list of editorial personnel who freely give of their time to support the *Journal* is as follows. The *Journal* could not be published without their ongoing support.

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Dr Leith H. Campbell, RMIT University

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* denotes a member of the Editorial Advisory Board. The President of TelSoc is, *ex officio*, a member of the Editorial Advisory Board (if not otherwise a member).

Comments and feedback to any of the editorial team are always welcome.

Leith H. Campbell

Managing Editor

October 2024