

# INCONECSS

*We connect information.*

## #INCONECSS

# ConfIDent

## Conference Integrity Check

ConfIDent only excludes most drastic cases

Fraudulent

Deceptive

Unacceptable low-quality

Low-quality

Promising low-quality

Questionable quality

Quality

High Risk

Low Risk

### Typical markers:

- Does not take place, or cancels on unclear grounds
- Webpage used for criminal/fraudulent purposes
- Registration fees are not returned if cancelled
- Established researchers' names are used on programmes, in marketing materials, or on advisory boards without their permission
- Not funded by any research council or sponsor so all profit comes from the conference attendees
- Target unsuspecting early-career researchers with flattering invitations
- Falsely claim that submissions are peer reviewed or promise an extremely short peer review process
- In most serious cases, emptying out bank accounts of unsuspecting registrants

### When does a conference become deceptive?

When it is lying about its true purpose or misleading speakers or registrants about the conference status, costs involved, or services provided.

### Typical markers:

- The organiser holds many conferences in different fields at the same time and/or in different cities/online platforms
- Titles are too broad so conference lacks focus
- Invitees are asked to speak/present on subjects unrelated to their research
- Invitees are encouraged to participate, e.g. chair a session on a topic unrelated to their research
- Invitations have spelling and grammatical mistakes
- Exaggerate the event's prestige and/or location
- Low attendance
- Poor organisation
- Low-quality research is presented.

### When should a conference be considered low quality?

The more markers checked, the lower the quality

### Typical markers:

- Well-planned and with an appropriate venue/online platform
- The conference has a clearly defined scientific purpose
- Funded and/or arranged by reputable organisations
- Thorough peer review of submissions
- Abstracts are collected or the best papers are published in a reputable journal
- Robust system to ensure academic relevance of research promotion, speakers, and subjects addressed
- Clear about conference costs
- Any sponsor follows compliance
- Helpful with arranging accommodation, travel, transportation, payments, accompanying persons program, etc.
- Accounts for sustainability and safety provision
- Occasionally engages in some predatory practice but takes proper action when challenged

Partnership, Interacademy (2022): Combating predatory academic journals and conferences. Report. [Washington, DC]: The Interacademy Partnership.

