

FINAL EDITORIAL FROM THE MPI FOUNDING CO-EDITORS IN CHIEF

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Dear Colleagues,

It was 10 years ago when we made this photo at the beginning of our activities of developing and editing the new IOMP Journal *Medical Physics International* (MPI). For this period of time this open access e-Journal has grown dramatically as the only Journal in medical physics focused on educational materials and methods, development of the medical physics profession and organizations and related topics. We started from zero, by registering the MPI unique identifier ISSN 2306-4609, planning the e-Journal web site, which was developed by the Technical Editor Magdalena Stoeva, securing the domain name (mpijournal.org), soliciting suitable publications; building content and engaging the medical physics community from all IOMP member societies ... creating the image of the MPI Journal.

During these 10 years MPI grew to be one of the most read publications in our profession, attracting the attention of thousands of readers – both medical physicists/engineers and also educators from other professions. Our topics on e-learning were especially popular due to the newness and rapid growth of these e-materials and software. Over 340 papers on educational/professional subjects were published. MPI also published abstracts of PhD theses, MSc Projects, IOMP, IAEA and other specific materials, etc. During this period of time this volume of the MPI was over 2000 pages.

Additionally, MPI published Annexes with the abstracts of several International Conferences on Medical Physics. The volume of these materials alone was about 2100 pages.

In 2018 MPI began separate Editions on the history of medical physics and medical applications., initially as

Special Issues, and now as the *Medical Physics International History Edition*. So far eight History issues were published with volume over 900 pages.

The MPI History Editions will continue, separate from the regular issues of the established MPI journal, with Geoffrey Ibbott joining us as an Editor (focusing on the field of Radiation Oncology).

In summary, for 10 years MPI published 28 e-issues with over 5,000 pages, read by over 6,000 colleagues each month.

This final Editorial from us as Founding Co-Editors-in-Chief is not simply an overview and statistics of the Journal (we published these in the previous issue), rather it is a brief description of the vector of development, which we consider most important for the global growth of the profession, especially in Low-and-Middle Income (LMI) countries.

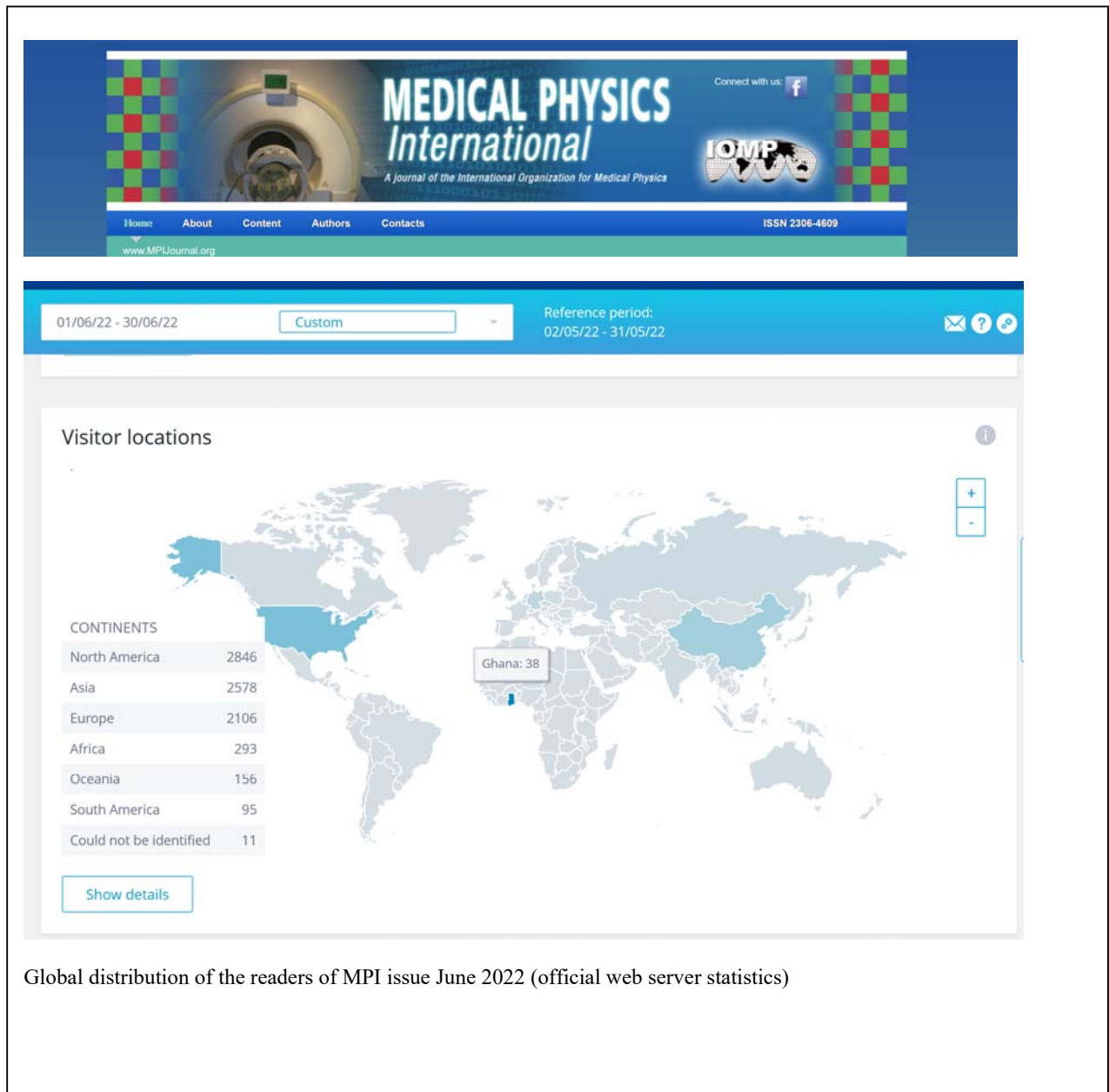
We live in a time when many Journals have become business orientated. The original aim of a Journal – the spread of experience and knowledge between scientists all over the world – has gradually merged with the necessity to collect citations for academic and other promotions. This decreased the number of educational materials and textbooks as these produced fewer citations. This naturally led to significantly reduced volume of educational and professional publications. Our goal is to create a forum where authors can describe such activities. In the past 4 years alone, we published information from 65 countries describing the development of the profession in all continents. This information will be valuable resource for planning activities aiming at the global growth of medical physics. The educational and practical papers additionally support the development of new educational courses, modules and programmes, especially in LMI countries.

All of these activities would have been impossible without your active involvement in the MPI publications, for what we are very grateful. We have seen that together we can increase the interest in educational and professional topics.

We would like to especially thank all authors of papers in the MPI during these 10 years. And also, thank all colleagues on the MPI Editorial Board, special appreciation to the Technical Editor Magdalena Stoeva, the MPI History Edition Co-Editor Geoffrey Ibbott, the MPI Editorial

assistant Vassilka Tabakova, and the Contributing Co-Editors to the MPI topical issues from all IOMP Regional Organisations (AFOMP, SEAFOMP, MEFOMP, FAMPO, ALFIM, EFOMP).

Now, as we conclude our second successful term as Founding Co-Editors-in-Chief, we would like to wish all the best to the new MPI Co-Editors-in-Chief and to assure them of our support in the further work toward the aims of MPI.



Global distribution of the readers of MPI issue June 2022 (official web server statistics)