

## Preface

### **Special Issue recognizing the contributions of Prof. Imre J. Rudas, accompanying Acta Polytechnica Hungarica from inception to its current maturity milestone event**

It is hard to assess and show appreciation for such an immense work that Prof. Imre J. Rudas has invested into Acta Polytechnica Hungarica over the years. Over 17 years of tireless work, over 110 volumes published. It is hard to count the number of PhDs, dissertations and defenses that were enabled and supported by the highly esteemed scientific articles in Acta Polytechnica Hungarica.

Over the past decades, Prof. Rudas has shown to be an irreplaceable, rock solid and enthusiastic member of the international scientific community, building institutions, ecosystems, programs, organizing events and managing on the top of all a world-class scientific journal. Acta Polytechnica Hungarica has been beneficial for the young professionals and the established researchers alike, documenting and disseminating their key scientific and technological findings.

Acta Polytechnica Hungarica remains committed to its foundations, and the new EiC and co-EiC are dedicated to further improve the reputation and quality of the Journal. More recently, a series of events triggered global changes on the scientific journals' landscape, leading to the endorsement of the Plan S initiative by the European Commission, channeling all publicly-funded research results to Open Access mediums. Thus we have witnessed an unprecedented rise in the number of pay-to-publish journals, initiating a race for quality and recognition. Acta Polytechnica Hungarica needs to preserve its national and regional leadership position in Applied Engineering Sciences, and continue to support its community.

As the incoming leadership, we are fully dedicated to the above goals, while aiming to preserve the rich heritage of the journal. Building on Prof. Rudas' invaluable network, his lasting influence to the field and the ongoing support of IEEE Hungary Section. Understanding the challenges, we will initiate the facelift and slight restructuring of Acta Polytechnica Hungarica to best represent the key strategic research domains of our times, and also to embrace the cloud-based editorial support services currently available. We plan to pull tighter the relation among the IEEE endorsed conference series managed by IEEE Hungary Section, as well as creating lasting cooperations with other scientific communities.

This Special Issue is therefore dedicated to the hard work of Prof. Imre J. Rudas as an Editor-in-Chief, featuring articles from across his research interest domains from robotics to soft computing and education science.

We pledge to be faithful to his principles of quality and scientific eminence and continue to serve our community.

*Budapest, April 6, 2021*



**Prof. Levente A. Kovács**



**Dr. Tamás Haidegger**

Editor-in-Chiefs