

Antisemitism in Science

Dear Readers of the IJVM,

The Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine is a peer reviewed research and clinical journal, devoted to reporting original investigations and observations in the field of veterinary medicine with an emphasis on the region covering the Middle East and the Mediterranean Basin.

Israeli veterinarians have been regular contributors to veterinary journals from around the world especially the USA, Europe and the United Kingdom, among others. Although over the past years, accusations have been made by some Israeli Veterinary Researchers regarding the possibility of the rejections of submitted scientific articles from Israel based on bland antisemitism. Until now, these accusations have lacked substantiation, however taking into account the recent widespread outbreaks of antisemitism on many campus universities and among them prominent American University campuses, this accusation seems have some possible foundation. If so, this poses a serious threat not only to Israeli scientists, but also to Jewish academicians throughout the world.

It is well recognized that the contribution of Jewish scientists has been overwhelming, considering they make up around 0.2 percent of the world's population. Of the 965 individual recipients of the Nobel Prize between 1901 and 2023, at least 214 have been Jews or people with at least one Jewish parent. Jews who have been awarded in Nobel Prizes in Physiology or Medicine number 59, that is 26 percent of the total. These figures are not intended to render preference to Israeli or Jewish scientists, but they certainly indicate that Jewish Scientists should not be disadvantaged.

I write this editorial in the light of the challenging days, we are experiencing here in Israel, and in particular regarding the recurrence of fanatical extreme antisemitism throughout the world, partly driven by the conflict in the Middle East. These outbreaks, severely limits the Jewish people's ability to live in safety and with dignity. In an increasingly polarized society, there is an urgent need to spread the message of tolerance and ensure respect for the fundamentals of all peoples, so that also Jews can live their lives with dignity, free from hate and fear.

For authors using our journals for their publications, under the circumstances we live today I believe that we are now required to strengthen the Israel of Veterinary Medicine Journal by publishing high-quality research articles. In doing so, the increased prestige of our journals will allow us Jews and Israelis to spread scientific findings in an independent and self-sufficient manner.

This will permit us to continue to express and freely contribute to the field of Veterinary Science and Medicine. On the other hand, if we will be impeded from publishing research findings from Israel, the state of our progress will be limited which may possibly lead to a deterioration in our ability to exercise our knowledge and abilities in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

I encourage our readers to send their research articles and investigations to the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine. The journal is already a well-recognized veterinary scientific journal with a wide spread distribution. Your contribution will further enhance our journal and allow us to publish articles and research without concern regarding possible elements of hate and discrimination. On our part we undertake to judge all submitted article to the IJVM by their importance, quality and content alone, as we have done in the past, without any discrimination of religion, nationality or race of the authors.

Wishing all our readers a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Trevor (Tuvia) Waner

Editor-in-Chief, Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine