

# ETHICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY CHARTER OF THE JOURNAL

## 1. Rules Applicable to the Journal

### 1.1. Scientific Quality of the Journal

The editorial board and the editorial committee seek to constantly improve the scientific quality of the journal. They work towards the regular renewal of their reviewers and committees (every 5 years). The journal lists the affiliations of its members on the journal's website.

### 1.2. Relationship with Authors

Articles are selected on the basis of their intellectual or scientific content, regardless of the race, sex, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, nationality, academic affiliation, or political philosophy of the authors. The editorial board takes into account legal requirements regarding defamation, copyright infringement, or plagiarism in its decisions.

The procedure for submitting an article to the journal is specified by the journal and updated regularly.

### 1.3. Relations with Reviewers

The tasks of the reviewers are specified by the journal and updated regularly. The editorial board guarantees the anonymity of the reviewers.

### 1.4. Procedure in Case of Behaviour Contrary to Scientific Integrity

The editorial board seeks to identify and prevent behaviour contrary to scientific integrity, such as infringements of intellectual property rights, plagiarism, fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements, and defamatory statements.

The editorial board shall take into account legal requirements and violations of scientific integrity in its decisions.

The comity commits in investigating in the case of complaints against the Journal; in accordance with the procedure described below. The author is responsible for the alleged infringement. The editorial board is always willing to publish corrections, apologies, and explanations, if necessary. The editorial board commits to respond to complaints made by readers against the Journal.

Reporting a complaint about a practice contrary to scientific integrity may be made at any time by anyone to the editorial board of the Journal. The person lodging the complaint must provide the elements justifying his/her complaint. All complaints will be taken seriously by the editorial board and treated to conclusion. All complaints will be dealt with regardless of the date of publication of the article concerned. The documents relating to the handling of the complaint will be kept by the editorial board. In the case of a complaint to the Journal, the following measures may be taken:

- Transmission will be sent to the author, detailing the offence and serving as a warning.
- Transmission will be sent to the author's employer.
- Publication of an editorial informing the readership.
- Removal of the article from the journal, as well as from the indexing databases, and information to the readership.
- Embargo any new articles by that author for a specified period.

- Referral to an external organization or body with authority to deal with the complaint.

## 2. Rules for Reviewers

### 2.1. Mission of the Reviewers

Reviewers are selected for their intellectual and scientific expertise. They are responsible for evaluating manuscripts on the basis of their content, regardless of race, sex, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, nationality, academic affiliation, or political philosophy. The opinions given by the reviewers must be objective. They will be provided with an evaluation grid for the Journal to support their work.

If known, reviewers are required to report any articles that are similar to the article submitted to the Journal, as well as any significant publications related to the article that have not yet been cited.

### 2.2. Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality

Members of the editorial board and reviewers must recuse themselves if they have a conflict of interest with one of the authors or with the content of the manuscript being reviewed. In addition, any reviewer who knows that he or she is not qualified to review a manuscript, or who knows that he or she cannot do so in the time available, must notify the editorial board and recuse himself or herself.

Manuscripts received for review are treated as confidential. No information about a manuscript submitted to the Journal is disclosed to anyone other than the author(s), potential reviewers, and the editorial staff. Reviewers agree not to retain or copy a manuscript received for review.

Data presented in submitted articles must not be used in the research work of any member of the editorial board or reviewer without the express written consent of the author(s) prior to publication.

## 3. Rules Applicable to Authors

### 3.1. Originality

Except in exceptional cases, mentioned and accepted by the Journal, authors undertake not to submit an article that has been previously published in another journal or a new article based exclusively on work already published elsewhere. Similarly, authors undertake not to submit their article to several journals at the same time.

### 3.2. Authorship

If the article is signed by more than one person, the submitter must declare in the accompanying email that he or she has obtained the agreement of all co-authors to act on their behalf. The list of authors should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the design, execution, or interpretation of the study presented in the text submitted to the Journal or to the writing of the text.

All authors should be listed, with their affiliations, in alphabetical order or according to their degree of involvement in the study or the writing of the text. Authors should specify this in a footnote.

The author who is in contact with the Journal must ensure that only appropriate co-authors are included in the list of authors, and that all co-authors, having seen and approved the final version of their text, agreed to submit this article for publication.

### **3.3. Conflicts of Interest**

Authors must declare any potential conflicts of interest, professional or financial. All sources of non-public funding for the research presented in the submission must be explicitly stated.

### **3.4. Erratum**

Any author who discovers, after publication, a significant error or inaccuracy in his or her own work informs the editorial board of the journal without delay and cooperates with the board in issuing an erratum, or even in withdrawing the article.

### **3.5. Research Data Policies**

If your text refers to data that you have produced but that it is not desirable or possible to integrate into the article (for example, a dynamic visualization or a dataset), we invite you to discuss this with us in order to find a suitable solution that guarantees its durability.

The authors also undertake to respect the anonymity of the persons referred to, or to obtain their explicit agreement.