

Code of Ethics of the Universitas Journal

Preamble

Universitas. Rivista Online interdisciplinare adopts a peer review procedure based on the *double-blind* system to ensure impartial scientific evaluation. This system guarantees that reviewers do not know the identity of the authors and vice versa.

This Code of Ethics adheres to the guidelines of the **Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)**, promoting an ethical and transparent approach to academic publishing. All parties involved in the editorial process (Head Office, Editorial Board, Reviewers and Authors) are required to comply with the provisions herein.

The journal adopts an open access publishing model and is committed to ensuring scientific quality, transparency in academic debate and the integrity of research.

1. Duties of Authors

Originality and Plagiarism

Authors must submit original and unpublished works. The use of others' work must be properly cited with full bibliographic references. Plagiarism and self-plagiarism are serious ethical violations and may result in referrals to authorities and sanctions.

Multiple Submissions

Simultaneous submission of the same manuscript to more than one journal or duplicate publication of substantially similar content in different journals is not allowed.

Authorship and Contributors

Only those who have significantly contributed to the research can be listed as authors. Other contributors must be explicitly acknowledged in the acknowledgments section.

Corresponding Author

The corresponding author must ensure correct attribution of all co-authors and obtain their approval of the final version of the article.

Funding and Conflicts of Interest

All sources of financial support must be disclosed. Authors must declare any conflicts of interest (financial or otherwise) that could influence the results or interpretation of the research.

Copyright and Permissions

Authors must ensure that the content does not infringe third-party rights. Any required permissions or releases must be obtained in advance.

Errors and Retractions

If an author identifies a significant error in their published article, they must promptly notify the Management to initiate appropriate corrections or retractions.

2. Duties of Reviewers (Peer Reviewers)

Qualification and Responsibility

Reviewers are selected among scholars with proven expertise in the relevant field. They must promptly notify the Editorial Board if unable to carry out the review in a timely manner or if lacking the required expertise.

Confidentiality

Manuscripts under review are confidential documents. They must not be shared or discussed without the explicit authorization of the Scientific Committee.

Objectivity

The review must be conducted objectively, avoiding personal judgments. Comments should be clear, reasoned and constructive.

Sources and References

Reviewers are expected to point out significant bibliographic omissions or substantial similarities with other published works.

Conflicts of Interest

Reviewers must refrain from evaluating manuscripts in case of conflicts of interest stemming from collaborations, competition or personal relationships with the authors.

3. Duties of the Editorial Board Coordinator

- **Impartiality:** The evaluation of submissions is based solely on scientific merit.
 - **Confidentiality:** All manuscript-related information is handled confidentially.
 - **Integrity:** Unpublished material in the manuscripts may not be used for personal purposes without the author's consent.
 - **Guaranteeing the peer review process:** The Coordinator ensures that reviews are conducted correctly, anonymously, consistently and traceably.
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4. Duties of the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee oversees the entire editorial process, ensuring adherence to scientific and ethical standards. In case of doubts about the ethical validity of the research or the submitted content, it may request clarifications and supporting documentation.

It is responsible for implementing appropriate measures in case of Code violations, including suspension, retraction, or the publication of corrections.

5. Transparency and Scientific Debate

The journal promotes transparency in scientific debate by accepting responses or comments on previously published articles, in the form of notes or letters to the Editor. These contributions will be evaluated with equal scientific rigor.

6. Adherence to the ANVUR Code of Ethics

All members of the Scientific Committee and the Editorial Board commit to complying with the provisions of the **ANVUR Code of Ethics**, including rules on the declaration of conflicts of interest, participation in evaluation bodies and transparency of academic affiliations.