

ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT FOR *PERSPECTIVES OF LAW AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION JOURNAL*

The *Perspectives of Law and Public Administration Journal* is committed to upholding high standards of publication ethics and follows the [COPE Core Practices](#) and the [Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing \(Version 4\)](#), developed by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA) and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME).

The central element of any ethics of scientific research activity is the researcher's responsibility for his work, but especially for its results. The scientific researcher must justify the act of research, justify the usefulness and validity of the results obtained, try to bring a benefit to society through his research.

All parties involved in the publishing process (Authors, Reviewers, Editors and Publishers) are expected to agree on the following ethical principles.

I. Principles underlying the Ethics and Malpractice Statement

The Ethics and Malpractice Statement for *Perspectives of Law and Public Administration Journal* is based on the following principles:

a) Transparency. Transparency will be ensured during all stages of acceptance, review, editing and publication of scientific papers. The principle of transparency requires that all persons involved provide useful, substantive, comprehensive and reliable information. Authors will be notified of the details of the review procedure. The changes requested from the authors or the refusal of publication will be duly justified.

b) Integrity. Integrity in scientific research is ensured by respecting values such as: *honesty, responsibility, verifiability* and *validity of knowledge*. *Honest behavior* involves conducting research impartially, avoiding conflicts of interest, and transparently declaring financial grants, all bibliographic sources and avoiding plagiarism. *Responsibility* implies that all actors involved in the research process assume the consequences of their actions, direct or indirect. *Verifiability* involves ensuring the credibility of the research through the public presentation of the procedures for collecting, processing and interpreting the primary data, so that the research process can be understood by any other researcher. *Validity of knowledge* is achieved when the research results correspond to the research objectives, questions or hypotheses and are useful to society.

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without being disadvantaged by the system they work in or by government or institutional censorship and discrimination. The *Perspectives of Law and Public Administration Journal* applies the principles of the [Bonn Declaration on Freedom of Scientific Research](#) adopted at the *Ministerial Conference on the European Research Area* on 20 October 2020 in Bonn.

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Editorial actions. Failure to comply with the above obligations may result in proportionate editorial action, including rejection of a manuscript, correction or retraction of a published article, notification of relevant institutions or funders where appropriate, and temporary restrictions on future submissions in serious or repeated cases.

III. Ethical responsibilities of the reviewers

Peer review process. Manuscripts that successfully pass the initial editorial screening are evaluated through a *double-blind peer review* process. Each manuscript is reviewed by at least two independent external reviewers with expertise in the relevant field. The identities of the authors are not disclosed to the reviewers, and the identities of the reviewers are not disclosed to the authors. On the basis of the reviewers' reports, a manuscript may be accepted, accepted subject to minor revisions, returned for major revisions, or rejected. Manuscripts requiring major revisions may be returned to the reviewers for further evaluation. The final decision on publication is made by the Editor-in-Chief.

Status and selection of reviewers. Reviewers serve on a voluntary basis. The Editor-in-Chief selects at least two independent external reviewers with appropriate expertise for each manuscript. Reviewers who accept an invitation should normally submit the completed Evaluation Form within three weeks of receiving the manuscript. Reviewers should decline an invitation if they cannot complete the review within the requested period, if the manuscript falls outside their expertise, or if an actual or potential conflict of interest could affect their independence.

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Objectivity of the evaluation. When conducting their reviews, reviewers are asked to do so as objectively as possible, refraining from engaging in personal criticism of the author(s). They are encouraged to express their views clearly, explaining and justifying all recommendations made.

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IV. Ethical responsibilities of the editors

Final decision on publication. The Editor-in-Chief has ultimate responsibility for deciding whether a manuscript submitted to *Perspectives of Law and Public Administration Journal* should be published. The decision is based on the reviewers' reports, the journal's editorial policies, the requirements of this *Ethics and Malpractice Statement* and applicable law. The Editor-in-Chief may consult members of the Editorial Board or reviewers where appropriate.

Editorial independence. Editorial decisions are based on scholarly merit, relevance to the journal's scope, the quality and integrity of the research, and applicable ethical requirements. Decisions must not be influenced by commercial considerations or other improper interests.

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- clients of the author (as a practitioner of some legal professions) or cases in which he was directly involved;
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Failure to disclose a relevant conflict of interest may result in proportionate editorial action, including rejection, correction, expression of concern or retraction, and, where appropriate, notification of relevant institutions.

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Editor-in-Chief
Professor *Cătălin-Silviu SĂRARU*