**ETHICAL STANDARDS APPLIED BY THE JOURNAL**

Editorial team of the journal takes care of the high quality of published materials and takes action against neglecting of publication standards in the journal. All parties involved in the publishing process: the author(s), the editors of the scientific journal, the reviewers of the scientific work and the publisher are required to comply with ethical standards in scientific publications.

The following principles have been elaborated on the basis of the COPE Committee on Publication Ethics recommendations published in the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors, COPE Ethical Guidelines for Peer Reviewers and the development of Best Practices in Review Procedures in Science.

**OBLIGATIONS OF THE EDITORIAL TEAM**

**Decision on publication**

The editor-in-chief is responsible for all materials published in the journal. The decision to accept or reject a given scientific work is based on its importance, originality and transparency, as well as on the validity of research and their reference to the subject area of the journal.

**The principle of fair play**

The manuscripts are evaluated on the basis of their quality and meaning for a scientific journal, regardless of the origin of the author of the work, his/her nationality, ethnicity, political views, gender, race or religion.

**Confidentiality**

The editors of the journal are obliged to maintain the confidentiality of information obtained at each stage of the work publication process, with the exception of information disclosed by the scientific journal.

**Disclosure and conflict of interest**

The information obtained in the publication process may not be used by editorial or reviewers without the express written consent of the author.

**Commitment and cooperation in investigations**

The editors will take appropriate action in case of suspicion or allegation of incorrect behavior, both in relation to published and unpublished works.

**OBLIGATIONS OF REVIEWERS**

**Participation in making editorial decisions**

The reviewers support the editor-in-chief in making editorial decisions in the publication process.

**Punctuality**

A reviewer should agree to review only those works for which he/she has appropriate knowledge, enabling to issue an appropriate opinion at a given time.

**Confidentiality**

The reviewer is obliged to maintain the confidential nature of the scientific review and not to disclose any details about the work and the review.

**Objectivity standards**

Reviews should be an objective and constructive evaluation of the reviewed work. Expressing offensive or degrading comments about authors is inappropriate.

**Confirmation of the source**

Reviewers should identify published works that have not been referenced by the author. Any similarity to the work of other authors should be reported to the editor-in-chief.

**Disclosure and conflict of interest**

The information obtained in the process of reviewing the scientific work cannot be used for the benefit of the own reviewer. The reviewers are obliged to inform the editor of all possible conflicts of interest (the reviewer cannot remain in a business relationship or in close personal relations with the author of the reviewed work).

**OBLIGATIONS OF THE AUTHORS**

**Access and storage of data**

The author should keep an accurate record of the source data related to its publication and may be asked to provide access to this data for use in the publishing process.

**Originality and plagiarism**

The author should confirm that the work submitted for publication is original. The quoted content should be quoted in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is treated as unethical and unacceptable behavior.

**Multiple, unnecessary or parallel publications**

The author should confirm that the work submitted for publication has not been published and is not subject to the verification / evaluation process in another journal. Submission of the same publication in more than one journal is unethical and unacceptable.

**Confirmation of sources**

The author should cite publications that have influenced his work in the right way. Information obtained in private may not be used without the express written permission of the author.

**Authorship of the work**

Authorship should be limited to people who have had a significant share in the creation, implementation and interpretation of the work. The author is obliged to indicate all co-authors contributing to the publication and to obtain their consent for publication.

**Disclosure and conflict of interest**

The author should disclose information about the sources of financing of the publication, the contribution of scientific and research institutions, associations and other entities, and declare any potential conflicts of interest.

**Basic errors in published works**

The author should immediately notify the editor if he notices significant errors in his publication. In cooperation with the editor-in-chief and publisher, an errata, annex, rectification or withdrawal of the publication should be published.