

**REVUE D'ÉCONOMIE
RÉGIONALE & URBAINE**

**JOURNAL OF REGIONAL
& URBAN ECONOMICS**

PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

The RERU is committed to respecting and enforcing standards of ethical behaviour at all stages of the publishing process. For this reason, the Journal makes a point of applying established international standards. To this end, it proposes a strict code of ethics described below and approved by the Journal's stakeholders.

1. Ethical expectations

1.1. Responsibilities of publishers

Editors and associate editors have complete authority and responsibility regarding the articles they accept or reject for publication. They are nonetheless required only to accept a manuscript when they are reasonably certain of its respect of the ethical and quality standards of the Journal. They are required to not have conflicts of interest with the manuscripts they evaluate.

Associate editors are asked to ensure the confidentiality of information provided by the Editor-in-Chief of the journal concerning authors and reviewers. In fact, they must make every effort to ensure the anonymity of the articles evaluated and of the referees taking part in the reviewing process.

Associate editors are required to act in a balanced, objective and fair manner in the performance of their duties, without discrimination based on the gender, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, ethnic or geographical origin of the authors.

Whether in the case of sponsored supplements or special issues, associate editors are required to validate articles accepted for publication solely on their academic merit and without commercial or external influence whatsoever.

Finally, associate publishers must adopt and follow international standards in the event of complaints of an ethical nature or conflict. The opportunity for a response to all complaints

or claims is given to authors. These can be examined at any time of the evaluation or publication process. The Editor-in-Chief of the journal is committed to keeping the documentation associated with such complaints or claims.

1.2. Responsibilities of referees

Referees are expected to contribute to the decision process leading to the publication or rejection of an article.

Referees are asked to help improve the quality of the published article by reviewing the manuscript in an objective and timely manner. They are asked to point out relevant published work which is not yet cited.

Referees are asked to ensure complete confidentiality of information provided by the editor or author, and not to retain or copy the manuscript.

Referees are requested to inform the Associate Editors and the Editor-in-Chief of any published or submitted content that is substantially similar to that under review.

Referees are asked to inform the publisher of any conflicts of interest and to withdraw from the review of the manuscript accordingly. These conflicts can be financial, institutional, collaborative or other, between the reviewer and the author, their research and/or the founders.

1.3. Authors' responsibilities

When submitting a contribution to the Journal, authors agree to participate in the peer review process.

Authors are required to provide a list of references cited in the manuscript and acknowledge any financial support received for the research. They undertake that they do not partake in plagiarism in their work and do not use fraudulent data. All submitting authors must have significantly contributed to the research.

Authors are asked to state their contribution to the submission at the beginning of the manuscript in the form of a free text. Examples of such statements can be found in the RERU Submission Guide.

Authors are required to state that all data in the article are real and authentic. They must make their data associated with the submitted manuscript available to the editorial committee and referees and provide access to this data on request. The funding body or data owner must be informed when the data is not public.

Authors undertake that the manuscript submitted is an original contribution that has not been the subject of any previous publication (other than a working paper) and that it has not been submitted to another academic journal. If it appears that the manuscript may contain overlapping or closely related material submitted or published in another academic journal, authors must provide the Editor-in-Chief with a copy of the manuscript(s) concerned.

Authors undertake to cite all content reproduced from other sources. They must have obtained permission for reproduction from these other sources.

Authors have an obligation to declare any potential conflict of interest for example, where an author has a competing interest (real or apparent) that could be considered or perceived to exert undue influence through their position at any time during the publication process.

Authors undertake to notify the Editor-in-Chief without delay if a significant error in their publication has been identified. An erratum, addendum, or correction notice may then be issued. If deemed necessary, the author or the Editor-in-Chief may decide to withdraw the paper.

1.4. Responsibilities of the journal publisher

Editions Dunod and Armand Colin ensure that practices comply with the standards described above. They undertake to subscribe to the principles set out above.

2. Procedures for dealing with unethical behaviour

2.1. Identifying unethical behaviour

Unethical behaviour may not be limited to the cases described above (part 1).

Unethical conduct may be identified and brought to the attention of the Editor-in-Chief at any time by any person.

The person informing the Editor-in-Chief of such conduct will be required to provide sufficient information and evidence for an investigation to be launched. All allegations must be taken seriously and treated in the same way until a decision or conclusion is reached.

2.2. Investigation of unethical behaviour

Evidence must be gathered while avoiding the spread of allegations beyond those who need to know.

An initial decision should be made by the Editor-in-Chief, who should consult or seek advice from the Associate Editor in charge of the article.

2.3. Minor infractions

Minor misconduct may be dealt with without the need for further consultation with the Editorial Board. In any event, the author should be given the opportunity to respond to all allegations.

2.4. Serious misconduct

In cases of proven serious misconduct, it may be required that the author's employers and/or funders be notified. In such cases, the Editor-in-Chief, in consultation with the publishing house, shall decide whether or not to involve the employers and/or funders in examining the available evidence. The Editor may then organise a further consultation with a limited number of experts.

2.5. Results of the investigation

Depending on the order of seriousness, the procedures below may be applied, separately or together.

Bring to the attention of the author and the referees the case where there appears to be a misunderstanding or misapplication of the standards explained above (part 1).

The drafting of a warning letter informing the perpetrator and the referees of the extent of the misconduct and requesting that steps be taken to ensure that the behaviour does not recur in the future.

Publication of a publicly available editorial note detailing the misconduct.

Writing a letter to the author's hierarchical superior and/or financial sponsor.

Withdrawal of the publication from the journal, informing the indexing services and the publication's readership of the misconduct committed by the author.

Imposing an official embargo on contributions from the author for a defined period.

Reporting the case to a professional organisation or higher authority for further investigation and action.