

EDITORIAL ETHICS, GOOD PRACTICES AND ANTI-PLAGIARISM

AGER's Board of Editors maintains a strong commitment to the scientific community in ensuring that the highest ethical and quality standards are met in the work it publishes. In order to regulate these aspects AGER highlights a series of basic principles:

AGER:

1. Seek to meet the needs of all those involved in the editorial process, in the most complete and ethical manner possible, establishing mechanisms, periodically reviewed, to ensure the quality of what is published.
2. The review system used for the articles will be external and anonymous by peers (*double blind peer -external- review*), using systems that guarantee the confidentiality of the process, the protection of the identities of authors and reviewers and also of the contents that are dealt with throughout the editorial process. In addition, only qualified personnel will be selected who are responsible, expert in the subject matter of the work, who do not present a conflict of interest and can carry out fair, impartial and constructive evaluations.
3. The editorial decisions, which will be motivated, will be based on the importance, originality, validity of the study, affinity to the thematic line of the journal and compliance with the guidelines for authors and will not be affected by reasons of nationality, ethnicity, political beliefs, race, religion or institutional affiliation of the author.
4. Expresses its strict respect for gender equality and, consequently, will ensure the use of non-sexist language in published works.
5. It has an agile and effective e-mail communication system, this being the mechanism to be used so that authors can appeal their editorial decisions. In the same way, it allows any interested party to communicate with the Editorial Board and present a congratulation, complaint, suggestion, correction, clarification, etc. Respect will be taken care of as quickly as possible.
6. It regularly and demonstrably uses systems to detect possible plagiarism in the texts it receives. For this purpose, AGER means:
 - 6.1. **Plagiarism:** the reuse of other people's ideas, processes, results or words without the explicit recognition of the original authors of the ideas, processes, results or words and of the sources from which they originate.
 - 6.2. **Self-plagiarism:** the reuse by authors of substantial parts of their own previously published work, without indicating appropriate references.
 - 6.3. **Scientific fraud:** the manifest fabrication, manipulation or distortion of data or results in order to reach preconceived conclusions.

AGER monitors these practices by submitting each manuscript to plagiarism detection software. Likewise, it is used as a redundancy tool for direct searches in Google of key phrases suspected of having been plagiarized or self-plagiarized.

The actions against these practices promoted by *AGER* are the following:

- a) The manuscript will be rejected immediately.
- b) The journal may consider the future publication of any manuscript proposed by the authors of articles previously rejected on the grounds of plagiarism, self-plagiarism or scientific fraud to be unfeasible.
- c) If plagiarism, self-plagiarism or scientific fraud have been detected after the definitive publication of an issue, the article in question will be removed from the table of contents and the files will be definitively removed from the journal's website.
- d) The Editorial Board reserves the right to contact the plagiarized authors and the organizations and institutions to which they belong, in order to give an account of the facts and their circumstances.

REVIEWERS:

1. They must carry out the evaluation requested of them in an honest, constructive and quality manner, within the stipulated deadlines, trying to handle the material sent with confidentiality.
2. They will not misuse the unpublished material they receive.
3. Reveal any conflicting interests before reviewing a work.
4. Report any information relating to the originality, plagiarism, repeated publications, etc. of the material received and/or possible misconduct in connection with the research that the material describes.

AUTHORS:

1. They are required to conduct themselves in an integral, ethical and responsible manner that declares and procures publication.
2. Each and every one of the authors interested in publishing in our journal must certify their express conformity with this declaration of ethical editorial conduct and good practices, ticking the corresponding box on the checklist for the preparation of submissions (file called: "[Authorship declaration](#)").
3. Make sure to submit original texts and adapted to the guidelines for authors of the journal and undertake to take the necessary steps to ensure an anonymous peer review.
4. Declare that your submissions have not been previously published, submitted, are not and will not be submitted for consideration by any other journal while under evaluation at *AGER*.
5. They shall ensure that they do not infringe the intellectual property rights of any material used in their texts that is foreign to their authorship. They will also be responsible for all the effects of the opinions reflected in their works.