

# Publication ethics

## 1. Scientific integrity statement

*CIT. Journal of Computing and Information Technology* (CIT) is committed to maintaining the highest level of ethical conduct. The journal strictly adheres to and promotes ethical publishing standards to ensure high-quality scientific publications and public trust in scientific knowledge.

We encourage editors, reviewers, and authors to adhere to the COPE ([Committee on Publication Ethics](#)) guidelines and core practices on ethical behaviour.

All authors will be asked to sign a statement of scientific integrity before submitting a manuscript for consideration in CIT confirming that:

- The submission to CIT has NOT been previously published, in whole or in part, in print or electronic form;
- Once the manuscript has been accepted for publication in CIT, it may NOT be withdrawn;
- The submission to CIT has NOT been, nor it will be, submitted to another journal for review while it is being processed by CIT;
- The submission is accompanied by a contribution form (a brief description of the submission's contributions to be used for editorial purposes and the description of each author's contribution);
- The submission does not infringe or violate any other copyright or other rights relating to another work;
- All necessary permissions, licences, and clearances have been obtained for the submission;
- All authors stated in the manuscript fulfil the authorship criteria and there is no one else who should be the author of the submitted manuscript but is not listed as an author;
- The corresponding author accepts responsibility for submitting the manuscript on behalf of all co-authors. After submitting this manuscript by the corresponding author, changes in authorship or the order of authors listed will NOT be accepted.

## 2. Evaluation of the articles

All submitted manuscripts will undergo an initial review by a managing editor that includes the following:

- Plagiarism check
- Aims and scope of the journal
- Quality of the English language
- Scientific quality

- Compliance with the author guidelines (general guidelines, structure of the manuscript, technical requirements).

The managing editor may consult an editor of the journal before reaching an initial decision about the submission. If the manuscript passes the initial review, it will be appointed to an editor of the journal, who will oversee the peer review process.

### **3. Integrity check during peer review**

As part of the review process, reviewers are required to complete a review form that addresses scientific integrity in several places. If they express doubts, the reviewers need to provide the relevant evidence.

### **4. Authorship and acknowledgements**

The submission to CIT needs to be accompanied by a contribution form (a brief description of the contributions of the submission to be used for editorial purposes and the description of each author's individual contribution).

To qualify for authorship of the submitted manuscript, each of the listed authors should have made substantial intellectual contributions to both the research and its preparation. In particular, an author should be involved in activities related to the following categories:

1. substantial contribution to the conception, research, data collection and analysis/interpretation;
2. involvement in the preparation/revision of the submitted manuscript;
3. participation in the approval of the publishable version of the manuscript;
4. providing an appropriate explanation of any issues that may be raised regarding the accuracy and scientific integrity of the submitted manuscript.

It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all authors of the manuscript fulfil the above authorship criteria and that there are no other persons who could claim to be (co-)authors of the submitted manuscript before submitting the manuscript.

By submitting the form, the corresponding author assumes responsibility for ensuring that all co-authors of the submitted article have been properly identified. No one else should have contributed in a meaningful and substantial way to the intellectual content of the article. No changes in authorship or order of authorship will be accepted after submission of the manuscript by the corresponding author.

List of authors should include all individuals who contributed substantially to the study design, experimental work, data collection, or interpretation of results and who wrote or critically revised

the manuscript and approved the final version. Full names followed by current institutional addresses and e-mail addresses are mandatory.

Submissions from persons other than one of the authors will not be considered.

## **5. Dealing with academic misconduct**

Submissions with ethical implications will be reviewed by the editor for scientific integrity. The editor will review the submission for plagiarism and other forms of scientific misconduct before deciding on appropriate action. The editor will also prepare a report on the investigation. The Editor-in-Chief will make a final decision on the allegation of academic misconduct.

The following sanctions may be enforced:

- Rejection of the manuscript
- Ban on submission to the journal for 1–5 years
- Prohibition from working as an editor or reviewer.

The investigation report and possible sanctions will be sent to the authors.

Forms of scientific misconduct may include:

- Plagiarism
- Manipulation of citations
- Copyright infringement
- Falsification
- Fabrication
- Conflict of interest
- Duplicate submission
- Redundant publication

**All allegations of misconduct are taken very seriously by the CIT editorial team.**

### **5.1. Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the adoption of another person's ideas, methods, figures, results, or text without citing the source in order to present them as one's own work.

Self-plagiarism occurs when an author reuses significant portions of their own previously published work without appropriate citation, effectively presenting it as new and original material. This can include copying and pasting text, duplicating figures, or reusing results from earlier publications.

The use of generative AI in the writing of a manuscript, in the creation of images or graphic elements of the paper or in the collection and analysis of data must be disclosed by the author, indicating which AI tool was used and how.

To ensure the originality of the published material, all submitted manuscripts are checked for plagiarism and self-plagiarism using the plagiarism detection software Similarity Check.

Submitted manuscripts are stored in the Similarity Check database for possible further comparison. Manuscripts found to be plagiarised are rejected and the authors may be subject to other sanctions. In the case of published articles, a correction or retraction may be made. Authors may not use the words, figures, or ideas of others without citing the source. All sources must be cited where they are used, and reuse of wording must be minimised and indicated or cited in the text.

## **5.2. Manipulation of citations**

Citation manipulation is the use of citations in a manner that involves inaccurate citation or omission of citations, falsification of citations, or excessive citations. CIT requires authors to use the IEEE referencing style. Providing the DOI identifier, if available, is mandatory. Authors must also provide a list of references. Excessive self-citation or over-citation involves the excessive citation of one's own or others' work with the aim of increasing the number of citations.

## **5.3. Copyright infringement**

Copyright infringement occurs when a copyrighted work is used in whole or in a substantial part without permission.

## **5.4. Falsification**

Falsification is the alteration of research results, i.e. the modification of actual research data so that the results benefit the researcher. It includes the subsequent alteration or omission of methods or results.

## **5.5. Fabrication**

Fabrication implies the production of data or research results, whereby the researcher invents data and research results.

## **5.6. Conflict of interest**

A conflict of interest is any influence on the author, editor, or reviewer that could affect their judgement or decisions regarding the preparation or publication of a manuscript (personal or

academic relationships or competition, professional or financial gain, religious, ideological, or political principles). Authors, editors, and reviewers are responsible for declaring any potential conflict of interest.

### **5.7. Duplicate submission**

Duplicate submission is the submission of the same or a very similar manuscript to two or more journals.

### **5.8. Redundant publication**

Redundant publication means that a manuscript is divided into several parts that are submitted separately to different journals.

## **6. Corrections and retractions**

### **6.1. Corrections**

If errors are found in published articles, the publisher will publish corrections as soon as possible. If it is necessary to correct an error or omission, a correction notice will be issued that has been approved by all authors of the original article in question.

### **6.2. Retractions**

A retraction will be issued if a serious error discredits the results of the article or if there has been serious misconduct in the publication. The decision to retract an article will be made by the Editor-in-Chief. The editor will issue a notice of retraction.