

PUBLICATION ETHICS AND PUBLICATION MALPRACTICE STATEMENT FOR REGION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, DEVELOPMENT (RED) SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

The Region, Entrepreneurship, Development (RED) Scientific Conference is committed to high standards of academic publishing and therefore expects all contributors (Organizing and Programme committee, researchers, authors, reviewers, publishers) to follow the principles set by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE): Guidelines on Good Publication Practice, with particular emphasis on:

- Reliability in all aspects of research,
- Accountability for the research,
- Honesty in developing, reviewing, and communicating research.

The Organizing and Programme Committee are responsible for deciding which articles, based on peer reviewers' opinions and decisions, will be accepted. All submitted articles will be evaluated for their intellectual content without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic or citizenship origin, or political philosophy of the authors. All information related to submitted papers and authors will be kept confidential and available only to the committee heads.

Any concern regarding publication ethics or complaints against the Conference, editorial, or peer-review team will be handled appropriately by the Organizing Committee. Concerns should be addressed to red@efos.hr

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Articles submitted for publication must comply with accepted methodological, ethical, and technical standards of scientific writing, as well as the conference's Author Guidelines.

All data presented in the articles must be accurate, reliable, and authentic. Authors must ensure that the article contains sufficient detail and appropriate references to enable others to replicate the research where applicable.

Authorship

Authorship should be limited to individuals who have made significant intellectual contributions to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the research and to the writing of the manuscript.

The corresponding author is responsible for ensuring that:

- all appropriate co-authors are included
- all co-authors have reviewed and approved the manuscript prior to submission

Contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be acknowledged appropriately.

Originality, Plagiarism, and Citation

Authors are required to submit only original articles. Any use of the work or ideas of others, whether quoted directly or paraphrased, must be clearly and accurately cited. Plagiarism in any form, including self-plagiarism and unethical borrowing of content, is unacceptable.

Plagiarism detection tools are used to verify the originality of articles. If plagiarism is identified, the corresponding author will be notified, and the article will be rejected.

By submitting an article to the conference and conference proceedings, authors confirm that:

- the work has not been published previously, except in the form of a preprint, abstract, academic thesis, published lecture, or registered report,
- the article is not under consideration for publication elsewhere,
- the publication of the article is approved by all authors and, where applicable, by the authorities responsible at the institution where the research was conducted,
- if accepted, the article will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in any language or medium, without the written consent of the copyright holder.

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If an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in their published work, they are obliged to promptly notify the Organizing committee and cooperate with the Organizing committee in issuing corrections, clarifications, or retractions, where appropriate. If concerns regarding errors or inaccuracies are raised by a third party, authors must provide evidence supporting the validity of the work or submit corrections in a timely manner. The Organizing committee reserves the right to retract a publication if serious issues cannot be satisfactorily resolved.

Disclosure and conflicts of interest

All authors must disclose any financial or non-financial relationships or circumstances that could be perceived as influencing the interpretation of the research results.

Generative Artificial Intelligence

Authors should explicitly acknowledge use of large language models (LLMs). In their acknowledgement, they should describe how and for what part of the article the tools were used. If the use of generative AI is revealed after the article has been submitted, the Organizing Committee will reject the article without possibility for corrections.

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Review Process

Each submitted article undergoes a double-blind peer review by at least two independent reviewers. The identities of both authors and reviewers are kept anonymous throughout the review process in order to ensure impartiality and objectivity.

Through constructive and objective feedback, reviewers also contribute to improving the quality, clarity, and scientific value of submitted manuscripts. Reviewers should accept review invitations only if they have sufficient expertise in the subject area of the manuscript and are able to complete the review within the agreed timeframe (typically 3–6 weeks).

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Reviewers who feel unqualified to assess the article or anticipate that they will be unable to provide a timely review should promptly notify the organizing Committee and decline the invitation, allowing alternative reviewers to be appointed.

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Confidentiality

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professional advantage or for any purpose other than providing an objective review, unless explicitly authorized by the Organizing Committee.

Acknowledgment of sources

Reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors and notify the Head of the Organizing Committee of any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under review and other published or submitted works of which they are aware. Any claims of prior publication should be supported by appropriate references.

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Reviewers must disclose any potential conflicts of interest arising from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships with any of the authors, institutions, or organizations associated with the article. Reviewers should not evaluate articles in which such conflicts exist. Any privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review must remain confidential and must not be used for personal advantage.

Reviewers do not recommend, without specific justification, that authors cite their own publications.

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