

JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW (JICL)
PUBLICATION ETHICS AND PUBLICATION MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

JICL adheres to the COPE *Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors* and the *Code of Conduct for Journal Publishers*. What follows are some of the key points, adapted from the Statement found at <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-exercise-science-and-fitness/policies-and-guidelines/publication-ethics-and-publication-malpractice-statement-jes>

Duties of Editors

The editors are responsible for all editorial decisions and should strive to constantly improve the journal to meet the needs of academia and the legal profession, have processes in place to assure the quality of the articles they publish, maintain academic integrity, and, uphold freedom of expression.

- Articles submitted for publication consideration will be assessed purely on merit: relevance, accuracy, clarity and originality, guided by the published policies of the journal;
- Article submissions are considered without any form of discrimination;
- The decisions to edit and publish articles are not determined by any policy of the government or any other agency outside the journal itself;
- The Chief Editors have full authority over the entire editorial content of the journal and the timing of the publication of that content.

Confidentiality

- All article submissions will be treated in confidence and no information about them will be disclosed to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.
- The editors and editorial board members will not use unpublished information disclosed in a submitted article for their own research purposes without the author's explicit written consent, nor will they use such information for their personal advantage.
- An editor will recuse themselves from considering any article submission if they have a conflict of interest, and, would ask another editorial board member to be responsible for the evaluation process.

Publication decisions

- Articles submitted to the journal will be reviewed by suitably qualified peer-reviewers, in addition to being reviewed by editors.
- The editors in chief will decide on publishability of any article, based on merit, and having regard to reviewers' comments and such legal requirement regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism.

Involvement and cooperation in investigation

- The editors will take responsive measures when ethical concerns are raised with regard to an article under publication consideration, or any time after it is published. If proved to be well-founded, the journal will publish a correction, retraction, expression of concern or other appropriate information about an article which has already been published.

Duties of Reviewers

The journal is committed to maintaining a robust review process to ensure that articles that are published in the journal reach a high international standard. It respects the autonomy of the reviewers and ensures that the review process is beneficial to the authors.

- Peer reviewers assist editors in making editorial decisions and assist authors to improve their submission.
- Peer reviewers, including those who decline to review a submission, must respect the confidentiality of the manuscript that they have undertaken to review.
- Peer reviewers must act objectively in assessing any submission and provide clear observations with a view to improving them.
- Peer reviewers will especially draw the attention of the author to any published work that have not been cited and the need to acknowledge any reliance placed on previously published material. They should advise the editors of any substantial similarity to or overlap with any published material or unpublished material of which they have personal knowledge.
- A peer reviewer should inform the editors of any conflict of interest and decline to review the submission.
- A peer reviewer (including one who declines to review) must not use material disclosed in the submission for their own research, without the express consent of the author, and, must keep confidential any privileged information obtained through the peer review.

Duties of Authors

JICL encourages established and young researchers to publish articles of comparative or/and international significance. Authors, in return, have a duty to ensure that the work they submit to the journal comply with well-established journal publication standards.

- Authors have a duty to ensure that their article submission is an original work, suitably acknowledging their reliance on the work/words of others. Plagiarism in any form is unethical and unacceptable.
- Authors should disclose any conflict of interest that might affect the results or interpretations in their article submission, such as commercial sponsorship, receipt of educational grants, professional relationships and affiliations.
- A manuscript will be considered for publication on the understanding that it is an unpublished article, that is, it has not been previously published in substantially similar form or with substantially similar content and that it is not under consideration by any other journal.

- Authors retain copyright in the words used, but upon submission of material for publication, grant Sweet & Maxwell a licence to publish the submission in print and/or digital formats. Sweet & Maxwell retains copyright in the design, format and layout of all material published in JICL.
- Authors who send published articles in JICL to other publishers or media must include a reference to the publication of the article by the Journal of International and Comparative Law and Sweet & Maxwell.
- A person identified as a joint author of an article must have made a genuine academic contribution to it by way of, for instance, to preparatory and research work, to the drafting or revising the manuscript, and must have agreed to the submission of the final product for publication consideration. Any person who has not made such a substantial contribution should not be listed as a joint author, but their assistance should be suitably acknowledged. It is the duty of the corresponding author to ensure that these principles are complied with.
- Authors are obliged to meaningfully participate in the peer review process. They should consider comments of the peer reviewer and respond to any queries in a timely manner and take those comments in finalising their submission.
- Where an author finds any significant errors or inaccuracies in their published work, it is their duty to inform the journal editors promptly and request the publication of a correction or retraction.

Duties of the Publisher

While editorial decisions are taken by the editorial board, the publishers will assist the editorial board in their endeavour to uphold high standards of journal publication.

- The publisher shall work closely with the editors to take reasonable measures to prevent the publication of any paper affected by plagiarism other misconduct, and, where a work affected in such manner has already been published, to publish a clarification or retraction of the article.

Access to Journal Content

JICL is available in print as well online. The dedicated website of the journal www.jicl.org.uk provides updated information on the journal's availability through publisher's online databases as well as through other organizations.

- The publisher is committed to the permanent availability and preservation of scholarly research in partnership with relevant organizations and maintaining its own digital archive.
- In consultation with the editors of the journal, authors are encouraged to share their publications with a wider readership through legitimate providers of access to academic work.
- The JICL will maintain its own journal website www.jicl.org.uk which will provide full information about the journal, its work and policies.