

Vishwakarma University Law Journal,
Department of Law,
Vishwakarma University, Pune.

As a publisher of high-quality research journals, Vishwakarma University Law Journal is committed to maintaining the highest standards of publication ethics and to supporting ethical research practices. In pursuance of the same, the following guidelines are being provided for the stakeholders involved:

Authors:

1. All submitted articles are to contain clear and accurate attribution of authorship.
2. It is the responsibility of the author to ensure that all co-authors who have made a significant contribution are fairly acknowledged.
3. Other individuals who have contributed to the work should also be acknowledged. Articles should include a full list of the current institutional affiliations of all authors, both academic and corporate.
4. Authors are fully responsible for the originality, validity, and integrity of the content of their manuscript and any assistance taken from AI and AI assisted writing technologies will be considered as taking away from the originality of the submission, making the submission ineligible for publication.

Peer Reviewers:

1. All peer reviewers should accept the invitation to review a work only if the paper is relevant to their own expertise and specialty.
2. They must declare any potentially conflicting or competing interests (which may, for example, be personal, financial, intellectual, professional, political or religious), seeking advice from the journal if they are unsure whether something constitutes a relevant interest.
3. They are to report any incident of suspected ethical misconduct.
4. decline to review if asked to review a manuscript that is very similar to one they have in preparation or under consideration at another journal.
5. Reviewers should also submit their review reports within the time prescribed and in a responsible and impartial manner keeping aside their personal views on the subject matter.

Plagiarism:

1. Our relationship with our authors is based on trust, and we publish submitted material in good faith. Submissions are evaluated on the understanding that they are the original work of the author(s), and where any third-party material has been used as a reference proper crediting of the source is expected.
2. However, if a possible breach of ethics is brought to our attention, we will refer the case to the Research Integrity Committee formulated for the purpose, for investigation. We follow the COPE guidelines on responding to whistle-blowers, which includes protecting your anonymity.
3. The wrongful appropriation, stealing and publication of another author's language, or expressions and the representation of them as one's own original work is considered as plagiarism. The paraphrasing of text is also considered as plagiarism, and so is the producing of many papers with same content by the same authors (self-plagiarism).

Consequences of ethical misconduct:

1. The Journal adheres to COPE's Guidelines regarding misconduct and retractions, including the processes set out in COPE's flowcharts. The Journal takes ethical allegations very seriously.

2. If any ethical misconduct is suspected in any submission of our journals, then the editorial board will ensure that a fair and transparent investigation is carried out in the matter.
3. All instances of ethical misconduct are taken very seriously and each such instance is investigated with due care and attention.
4. The consequences for misconduct will depend upon the nature and extent of the misconduct itself and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the editorial board in such instances will be taken after the process of investigation is complete. The author will be given an opportunity to be heard before any final decision is made.
5. In those cases where misconduct is detected, and no reasonable explanation or satisfactory evidence is provided then the author(s)
 - a. may be banned from resubmitting to the journal for a determined period of time.
 - b. In extreme cases, the matter may be taken to the author's institution for their attention.
 - c. If ethical misconduct is discovered in content that has already been published, and if we deem it necessary, the paper may be retracted along with a statement of explanation.
