



## CODE OF ETHICS



### RETICULA

*Ecological networks, greening and green infrastructure in land and landscape planning*

**Code of ethics of RETICULA journal**, in accordance with the current guidelines adopted by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) <http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines>

**The Editor, Editorial Board, Scientific Committee, Reviewers, and Authors are familiar with and agree to the following ethical requirements.**

#### **Duties of the Editor, the Editorial Board and the Scientific Committee.**

**Fairness:** the Editorial Board evaluates articles proposed for publication based on their technical and scientific content, without discrimination because of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, ethnic origin, nationality, scientific, academic or political orientation of the Authors.

**Confidentiality:** the Editorial Board, the Editor and the members of the Scientific Committee are obliged not to disclose any information about the proposed articles to anyone other than the Author, the reviewers and the Editor.

**Conflict of interest and disclosure:** the Editorial Board, Editor and members of the Scientific Committee agree not to use the content of an article submitted for publication in their own research without the written consent of the Author.

**Publication decisions:** The decision whether to publish a proposed article rests with the members of the Editorial Board, together with the Editor. If the Editorial Board discovers or receives reports of errors, conflicts of interest, or plagiarism in a published article, it will promptly notify the Author and take the necessary steps to clarify the matter, including publishing a retraction if necessary.

The Editorial Board, after hearing the opinion of the Scientific Committee, decides on the in-depth theme of each year's monograph issue.

The Editor and the Editorial Board are responsible for the review and revision process of articles submitted to RETICULA by authors. In terms of the specific content of the journal, the most common problems may be plagiarism, submission of non-original results without accurate citations, claims of authorship of papers, and duplicate/duplicate submissions. The exact rules for some of the most common situations are described above. For other cases, please refer to the International Standards for Scientific Publication (COPE).

## **Duties of Reviewers**

**Timeliness:** a selected Reviewer who does not feel qualified to review the assigned article, or who knows that he or she will not be able to complete the review within the required timeframe, must notify the Editorial Board immediately and refrain from participating in the review process for that specific case.

**Confidentiality:** any article sent for review should be considered confidential; therefore, such texts should not be discussed with other people.

**Objectivity:** peer review must be conducted objectively. It is not acceptable to criticise or insult an Author. Reviewers must express their opinions transparently and with clear and documented arguments. Reviewers must provide adequate justification for their judgements.

**References to texts:** the Reviewer undertakes to give precise bibliographical references to fundamental works that may have been overlooked by the Author; the Reviewer must also draw the attention of the Editorial Board to any similarities or overlaps between the text submitted for review and other works of which he or she is aware.

**Conflict of interest and disclosure:** all information obtained during the peer review process must be considered confidential and may not be used for any other purpose. Reviewers are required not to accept for review articles in which they have a conflict of interest arising from competitive, collaborative or other relationships with the Author and/or their home institution.

RETICULA is based on a peer review process that ensures the scientific quality, originality and integrity of published papers. The whole process depends on the cooperation of all parties and the ethical and responsible behaviour of the reviewers involved.

The detailed rules for some of the most common situations are described above, for others we refer to the International Standards for Scientific Publication (COPE).

## **Duties of Authors**

**Originality and plagiarism:** Authors must ensure that their contributions are original and, where the work and/or words of other Authors are used, that these are appropriately paraphrased or quoted verbatim and that reference to the work of other Authors is always made.

**Indication of sources:** Authors are obliged to cite all publications that had an influence in defining the proposed article.

**Authorship of the work:** The authorship of the work must be correctly attributed and all those who have made a substantial contribution to the conception, organisation, execution and revision of the research underlying the article must be listed as co-Authors; if other persons have participated substantially in some stages of the research, their contribution must be explicitly acknowledged; in the case of multi-Authored contributions, the Author submitting the text to the journal must declare that he/she has correctly indicated the names of all other co-Authors, that he/she has obtained their approval of the final version of the article and their consent to its publication in RETICULA.

**Conflicts of interest and disclosure:** Authors are required to declare explicitly that there

are no conflicts of interest that could have influenced the results obtained or the interpretations proposed; Authors must also declare the funding bodies, if any, of the research and/or project from which the article originates.

**Errors in published articles:** if an Author finds significant errors or inaccuracies in his/her article, he/she is required to notify the Editorial Board immediately, providing all necessary information so that the necessary corrections can be made at the end of the article.

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Signature RS/RP