



Original Thinking  
Knowledge Creation  
Codification and  
Knowledge Dissemination  
Critical Thinking



## ETHICS POLICY

The value of a work of research lies in its originality and authenticity. An academic publication is expected to follow certain norms of ethics that assure its validity. Even though there are no universal codes, editors and publishers from different fields of knowledge around the world generally agree upon some basic standards. An author who is publishing ethically will be aware of these challenges and may structure the research as well as its presentation, according to them.

Publishing ethically or not publishing at all –the Ethics Policy of *Elenchus Law Review* stands on this firm foundation. To ensure the novelty of research and the significance of its contribution to the global knowledge base, we adhere to this set of standards. This can be a guiding post to every researcher.

We hope this document of Ethics Policy can help the readers with a clear understanding of the issues with regard to publication of a research paper and how to prevent and resolve them. Let us look forward to meaningful attempts at knowledge creation.

Chief Editor

Elenchus law Review



## Authorship

Authorship is both credit and responsibility. Any individual who has made significant intellectual contribution to the study is considered to be an author.

The following are generally accepted criteria with regard to authorship:

- \* A person who has offered considerable input in conception, design, data acquisition and analysis of the study is to be credited as author(s).
- \* Critical academic intervention in drafting, revising, or finalizing is also authorship.
- \* Individuals whose involvement in the study does not satisfy the criteria of authorship are to be acknowledged as contributors.
- \* The order of authorship should be a joint decision of all the coauthors.

Ghost authorship (where extensive contributions are not acknowledged but paid for commercially or otherwise), and guest or gift authorships (where contributions are not discernible but listed for the purpose of boosting chances of publishing) are unethical.

The very potential of authorship makes it prone to sensitive controversies. Proper acknowledgement of all inputs is essential.

## PLAGIARISM

The commonest form of misconduct in academic research, plagiarism constitutes the act of deliberately using another's work without acknowledgement, credit or permission.

What all can be plagiarized?

- Data
- Verbatim
- Ideas and concepts
- Methods and results
- Paraphrasing

The severity of plagiarism depends upon the extent of copied content, the context/type of material, and referencing of the same. It is obvious that literal copying is not the single way to plagiarize:

- ⇒ Paraphrasing is plagiarism unless the proper reference of the source is missing and the meaning is distorted.
- ⇒ Another unethical practice is text-recycling which is reproducing portions of a different work, changed or unchanged.
- ⇒ "Patchwork copying", mixing up of verbatim from multiple sources, rephrasing wordings and the like deliver similar consequences.

Every study is built upon the foundations of previous research. It is all fine to fix your stand firmly upon previous studies, but credit the foundations properly.

- ◆ If a word or part of a work is literally copied, it should be cited.
- ◆ Acknowledge the influence of others in the research.
- ◆ If the research has benefitted from the concepts and data of another work and person, it demands acknowledgement.
- ◆ Maintaining record of sources from which the work has drawn advantages will help ease your referencing task.

## DATA FABRICATION AND FALSIFICATION

The veracity of research data is a crucial component of authentic research work.

Fabrication of data and results, and recording and reporting of them is a serious misconduct that undermines the validity of the whole study. Manipulation of materials, data, method or processes accounts to falsification.

Any attempt to forge or distort data or interpretation in order to obtain desired results will distort the truth of the research.

These may come under the scope of fabrication/falsification:

- Cooking up of data and materials
- Modification of data in part or whole
- Intentional omission of data
- Distortion of processes of data acquisition and analysis

Avoiding biased and unfair treatment of resources only can lead to original research.

*Elenchus Law Review* is very critical of data manipulations in research work. Submissions to the journal are published only after scrutinizing through the two-tier review process.



*Inspire your readers to turn the pages*



### SIMULTANEOUS, DUPLICATE AND REDUNDANT SUBMISSIONS

- ◆ When a paper is submitted to different publications at the same time, it is simultaneous submission. This may result in simultaneous publication.
- ◆ Duplicate/multiple submission occurs when two or more papers with the same or essentially the same content are submitted separately without acknowledgement.
- ◆ Redundant publication refers to the situation where a single paper is segmented into two or more parts and submitted for publication as independent manuscripts.

Any kind of duplication is a breach of the Ethics Policy of the journal. The output will be inappropriate weightage being attributed to the particular results of study that is essentially distortion of knowledge base.

Avoiding the following is crucial for an original research work:

- Submitting a paper currently under review with another journal.
- Submission without disclosure of previous submission or publication details.
- Unacknowledged translations of a work published in another language.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest is a relevant objection where financial or other personal considerations of authors potentially prejudice the research process and output.

Direct or indirect beneficiary relationships such as employment, grants, sponsorships, paid expert testimony, research contracts, etc. undermine the objectivity of the work if they are not truthfully disclosed.

To be credible in every sense, a research work should reveal conflicts of interest underlying it.

Taking note of the following will help:

- Institutional and academic affiliations of the authors are to be declared.
- Declaration of funding sources will add to the integrity of the paper.
- The responsibility of the accuracy of data rests upon the authors.
- The publication will include the disclosed details in order to maintain transparency.

### ETHICS CHART

*Please refer our ‘The Elenchus Ethics Chart’ in the next page to be sure that your submissions qualify our Ethics Standards.*

# Elenchus Law Review do not appreciate

- ◆ PLAGIARISM
- ◆ DATA FABRICATION  
AND FALSIFICATION
- ◆ SIMULTANEOUS  
SUBMISSION
- ◆ DUPLICATE  
SUBMISSION
- ◆ REDUNDANT  
SUBMISSIONS
- ◆ UNDISCLOSED  
CONFLICT OF  
INTEREST
- ◆ TRADE OF  
AUTHORSHIP

ETHICS CHART	CAREFUL OF THESE HURDLES..	HAVE A CLEAR LOOK: WHAT IS..	YES, THESE ARE THE ISSUES..	THIS WAY OUT OF THE MESS:
	Authorship	Considerable intellectual input in conception, data acquisition, analysis and drafting	<p>Not awarding authorship to all the potential contributors</p> <p>Listing people who have no role in the research or submission without permission of a contributor.</p>	<p>Go through the definitions of authorship provided by the journal</p> <p>Give proper credit to all the authors and contributors</p> <p>Avoid disputes through discussions among the contributors</p>
	Data fabrication and falsification	Data and results are manipulated for obtaining particular results	<p>Modification of already existing data</p> <p>Intentionally omitting related data</p> <p>Framing non-existential data and materials</p> <p>Distortion of processes and analysis of available resources</p>	<p>All the data acquired as part of the research should be presented in the original form.</p> <p>No additions or omissions are to be entertained</p> <p>Records of the raw data are to be maintained with the author(s) and should be made accessible if asked for by editors</p>

CAREFUL OF THESE HURDLES..	HAVE A CLEAR LOOK: WHAT IS..	YES, THESE ARE THE ISSUES..	THIS WAY OUT OF THE MESS:
Plagiarism	Deliberately using another’s work without acknowledgement, credit or permission	Unacknowledged use of:  Data  Verbatim  Ideas and concepts  Methods and results  Paraphrasing  Patchwork copying  Text-recycling	Refer the detailed Ethical policy document of the journal and understand the scope of plagiarism.  Track and acknowledge every single source from which the research work has benefitted  Use accurate and unambiguous referencing; stick on to the recommended Citation Style of the journal  Do not compromise upon the content of the original source while citing it
Conflict of interest	Financial or other personal affiliations of author(s) bringing biases into the research process and output	Financial relationships of the author such as employment, grants, sponsorships, paid expert testimony, research contracts etc.  Any other personal inclinations of the author with institutions or persons	Declare institutional and academic affiliations along with the submission  Openly disclose any financial funding sources behind the research work or those the research work is intended to benefit  Author should take responsibility of all the data and interpretations presented in the work



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	Simultaneous, Duplicate and Redundant submissions	Replication of a research work by submitting it in whole or part simultaneously to different publications, resulting in inappropriate weightage being attributed to the particular results of study	<p>Submission of the same paper to different publications at the same time</p> <p>Submitting two or more papers with the same or essentially the same content</p> <p>Segmentation of a single paper into many and submission as independent manuscripts</p> <p>Translations without acknowledging details of the original work</p>	<p>Do not submit a paper already submitted, currently under review or published in another journal</p> <p>Disclose all the previous submissions, presentations, and publications, in part or whole</p> <p>Acknowledge original work in case of translations</p>