

APPROVED

By Resolution No. 17 of 2 April 2019 of the Presidium
of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences

Policy of Publication of Scientific Journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences

Scientific journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (*Acta medica Lituanica*, *Biologija*, *Chemija*, *Energetika*, *Filosofija*, *Sociologija*, *Geologija*, *Geografija*, *Lithuanian Journal of Physics*, *Lituanistica*, *Menotyra*, and *Žemės ūkio mokslai*) (further, the journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences) are prepared and published in accordance with the norms of ethics established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Copyright and Related Rights, other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, and the best practice of academic publishing. The policy shall apply to the editorial boards of the journals, to the authors and reviewers of the published papers, and to the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (the publisher).

1. Policy of Ethics

- 1.1. Editorial boards of the journals, the authors and reviewers of the papers, and the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (the publisher) shall observe high professional and ethical standards.
- 1.2. The journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences publish only original papers that have not been previously published elsewhere. In the case of a suspected or proven research transgression, unfair publication, or plagiarism, as well as identification of misleading presented in a paper, editorial boards and the publisher shall take all appropriate measures to clarify the situation and rectify the error. This shall be done by information on the error or by total dissociation from unfairly prepared and submitted manuscript.
- 1.3. All individuals who have significantly contributed to the research and writing of the paper shall be included in the list of authors and share collective responsibility for research results.

- 1.4. Research papers submitted to the journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences shall be reviewed by at least two reviewers selected by the editorial board from the experts in the relevant field. If the reviewers disagree in their conclusions regarding the suitability of a paper for publication, the editorial board shall appoint a third reviewer and, upon receiving their opinion, make the final decision regarding the publication or rejection of the paper.
- 1.5. Information on the identities of the reviewers shall be concealed from the authors.
- 1.6. The authors shall take into account the reviewers' error-related remarks and other motivated opinions.
- 1.7. Reviewers shall alert the editor-in-chief or the chair of the editorial board of their suspicions of plagiarism, or if a submission to be reviewed partially coincides with paper (papers) already published, or resembles it (them) to a great extent.
- 1.8. Reviewers shall ensure the confidentiality of the papers reviewed. They shall not discuss the papers reviewed, nor distribute their copies, nor retain the copies of these papers in any format.
- 1.9. Editorial boards shall check all submissions for originality and authorship in the *CrossCheck* system.

2. Policy for the Prevention of Conflict of Interests

- 2.1. Possible conflicts of interest: financial, intellectual property-related, personal, ideological, academic, and others.
- 2.2. Conflicts of interest occur when a well-founded assumption exists that issues unrelated to research may influence the neutrality and objectivity of a research paper or its review procedure. The chair of the editorial board or the editor-in-chief of a journal shall be notified in advance of possible conflicts of interest, irrespective of their possible impact on research.
- 2.3. Authors and reviewers of submitted papers shall disclose any conflicts of interest capable of influencing research results or their interpretation, including the sources of funding of research and preparation of the paper (if applicable).
- 2.4. The main author of a research paper, authorised by the co-authors to submit the manuscript and maintain contacts with the editorial board of the journal and with the publisher, shall be responsible for the disclosure of all possible conflicts of interest by all the co-authors. In

the case of failure to declare a submission-related conflict of interest and of its subsequent identification, the submission may be rejected and not published.

3. Copyright Provisions

- 3.1. By submitting a manuscript of a research paper to a journal of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, the author confirms that they are authorised by the co-authors and warrants, on their own behalf and that of the co-authors, that:
 - 3.1.1. they retain the right to enter into this agreement and to grant the rights foreseen in it to the publisher without violating any other obligations;
 - 3.1.2. the paper is original and does not violate any rights of the authors or of any third parties;
 - 3.1.3. the paper has not been published in any other publication and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere;
 - 3.1.4. the paper does not contain illegal information, disinformation, or any data the publication of which would violate confidentiality or secrecy obligations.
- 3.2. Submitted papers shall comply with the requirements established for a research publication and shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements regarding the structure of the paper, citation, bibliographic references, the summary, and other aspects approved for each particular journal of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (see Instructions to Authors).
- 3.3. The journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences shall publish research papers free of charge, both in print and online. The authors shall be not financially remunerated for the publication of their research papers.
- 3.4. Copyright on research papers published in the journals of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences shall be owned by the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences for an unlimited period of time and in the territories of all countries.
- 3.5. If publication of a journal of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences is terminated or suspended, the existing electronic archive of the particular journal shall be kept and freely accessible online.