

ESP

Across Cultures

ESP Across Cultures International journal on English for Specific Purposes

PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

ESP Across Cultures is a **double-blind peer reviewed international journal** that respects the following ethical code whose requisites are shared by all those involved: the chief editor, assistant editor, editorial board, referees and authors.

EDITORS AND EDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The editors and members of the Editorial Board are either university professors or experts in their field, and their affiliations are indicated on the [journal's website](#).

○ *Decisions concerning publication*

The chief editor of *ESP Across Cultures*, together with the assistant editor, and with the collaboration of the editorial board, are responsible for deciding whether or not to publish contributions. Such decisions are the result of periodic exchanges between the chief editor and the assistant editor, and with members of the editorial board, as well as systematic consultations with referees who may not necessarily be members of the editorial board.

○ *Editorial process in selecting papers*

Each September the chief editor and assistant editor publish a call for papers in authoritative academic websites such as Linguist List. The chief editor and assistant editor select the abstracts submitted that best fit in with the scope of the journal and ask the authors to submit a paper. Each submitted paper is then sent to two anonymous referees who are normally expected to send their reports to the chief editor within two months of receiving the submission.

○ *Policy of non-discrimination*

The chief editor, assistant editor, editorial board and referees evaluate contributions on the basis of their content without discrimination of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political orientation of the authors.

○ *Confidentiality*

The chief editor, assistant editor, editorial board and referees are bound not to reveal information on the contributions to be published to other persons who are not the referees or the chief editor or assistant editor.

- *Anonymity*

The chief editor, assistant editor, and editorial board must not reveal the identity of the referees to the author, or the identity of the author to the referees.

REFEREES AND REFEREES' RESPONSIBILITIES

ESP Across Cultures is a double-blind peer reviewed journal. Peer-review is critical to maintaining the high-standard of publication and referees must provide objective judgements, and suggestions to authors.

- *Selection of referees*

The referees are selected by the editors among authoritative experts.

- *Contributing to editorial decisions*

Peer-reviewing is a procedure that is of vital importance in allowing the chief editor, assistant editor, editorial board and referees to make decisions concerning the contributions to be published and offers authors the opportunity to improve and enrich their contributions.

- *Respecting time limits*

A referee who does not feel up to evaluating the proposed contribution or who is unable to respect the deadline required for refereeing must inform the chief editor as soon as possible.

- *Confidentiality*

Referees pledge not to discuss the contribution they are required to review with other persons, except in cases of explicit authorization from the chief editor.

- *Objectiveness*

Referees must carry out their peer-review objectively and must provide adequate grounds for their evaluation.

- *Indicating bibliographical references*

Referees must provide the bibliographical references of fundamental works that may not have been mentioned by the author.

- *Similarities between contributions*

Referees must inform the chief editor if there are similarities between the contribution being reviewed and other publications known to the referees.

- *Conflict of interest and divulgation*

Referees must consider as confidential all information gleaned during the peer-review process. Referees are also required not to accept peer-review contributions where there may be a conflict of interest due to previous relationships of collaboration or competition with the author and/or the institution to which the author belongs.

AUTHORS AND AUTHORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The yearly call for papers is published on the journal website and made available through academic channels.

○ *Publication fees*

Since there is no charge for online access, the costs of running the journal will be borne by the contributors themselves. Contributors will be asked to pay a fee for their contribution to be published only if it is deemed worthy of publication by the referees following the double-blind reviewing process. Payment will range between a minimum of 210 euros and a maximum of 300 euros, on the basis of the GDP ranking of the country of affiliation according to the [Global Finance website](#) as follows:

- Country ranking 1st to 50th: 300 €
- Country ranking 51st to 100th: 270 €
- Country ranking 101st to 150th: 240 €
- Country ranking from 151st onwards: 210 €.

In the case of a paper written by two or more contributors coming from different affiliations, only the ranking of the country with the lower GDP will be taken into consideration. Payment is to be made per contribution irrespective of the number of contributors. In other words, a single-authored contribution and a co-authored contribution have the same cost. Naturally, no charge will be made for any contribution that is not considered worthy of publication.

○ *Responsibility for content*

The author is the only person responsible for the content of his/her publication.

○ *Originality and plagiarism*

The author pledges to have written an original work in all of its parts and to have cited all the scientific publications used in that contribution, for text, images, illustrations, etc.

Research already published in other journals and self-plagiarism is not allowed, in the same or in a different language, unless it is felt that editorially this will be of significant interest to the academic community; there is clear approval from the original publication; and citation of the original source is included.

○ *Citing sources and financial support*

Authors must indicate correctly the bibliographical references mentioned in the contribution and pledges that they will obtain the authorizations necessary to reproduce such sources if need be. The received financial support for the research must always be stated.

○ *Authorship of the contribution*

The author must explicitly indicate the names of all the persons that have helped significantly in the exploration, organization, and realization of the research on which the contribution is based.

If the contribution is written by more than one author, the author who sends the text to the chief editor must guarantee that there is the consent of the co-authors to publish the contribution in the journal and that all co-authors have significantly contributed to the research.

○ *Errors in published articles*

Should authors become aware of an error or of a major inaccuracy in the contribution that has already been published, they must inform the chief editor immediately and provide all the necessary information so that the correction can be made.

PUBLISHER AND PUBLISHER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The publisher (Edipuglia srl) selects the journals that it publishes according to its own publishing policy and declares its sources of finance. It is committed to editorial independence, and strives in all cases to prevent this principle from being compromised through conflicts of interest, fear, or any other corporate, business, financial or political influence. Our editorial processes reflect this commitment to editorial independence.

○ *Policy of non-discrimination*

The publisher does not discriminate against authors, editors or peer reviewers based on personal characteristics, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political orientation of the authors.

○ *Preventing misconduct*

The publisher – together with the editors – takes all reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred; in no event shall a journal or its editors encourage such misconduct, or knowingly allow such misconduct to take place. The publisher supports the editors and peer reviewers in investigating and acting on any suspected cases of manipulated or fraudulent peer review;

○ *Originality*

The publisher requires its publications to be original, written in accordance with authorship rights and not submitted at the same time for evaluation to other journals.

○ *Publication standards*

The publications are required to meet high standards in terms of care in preparing the texts. The publisher also promotes and checks on the use of peer reviewing as a means for selecting the articles, it favours independence in research, and condemns any breach of copyright and plagiarism. It also requires and promotes original contributions based on rigorous data, liaising with the Ministry of Education, University and Research, as well as with ANVUR (the National Agency for the Evaluation of the University System and Research), CUN (the National University Council) and CRUI (the Rectors' Conference of Italian Universities).

Moreover, it interacts with scholars and researchers on topics linked to the diffusion and valorization of research, also in the form of open access.

○ *Errors, plagiarism, and publishing an erratum*

If the publisher notices or is notified about errors or imprecisions, or a conflict of interest or plagiarism in a published article, it must immediately inform the editors, the editorial board and the author, and must take any action necessary in order to clarify the issue and, if need be, it can withdraw the article or publish an *erratum*.

○ *Access*

ESP Across Cultures is an Open Access journal. Every issue is available for consultation and downloadable on the journal's website (<https://edipuglia.it/rivista/espacrosscultures/>).

○ *Electronic backup and preservation of content*

In order to guarantee continuous and long-lasting access to the content of the journal, the publisher guarantees a regular backup and the migration towards new formats or new software, where necessary.