



Consiglio Nazionale
delle Ricerche

ITALIAN PAPERS ON FEDERALISM

Online legal journal – CNR-ISSIRFA CNR

Code of Ethics



Code of Ethics of the Journal *Italian Papers On Federalism*

1. Preface

The online legal journal Italian Papers on Federalism (www.IPOF.it) complies with the current guidelines outlined by the “Committee on Publication Ethics” (COPE), as indicated by Article 12, Paragraph 1 of the “Regolamento per la classificazione delle riviste nelle aree CUN 8a, 10, 11a, 12, 13 e 14” (approved by ANVUR “Consiglio Direttivo” Resolution No. 306 of 21/12/2023).

The Director, the Management Committee, the Scientific Committee, the Editorial Committee, the Authors proposing contributions for publication, and the referees working in the evaluation procedures are committed to the ethical principles outlined in this Code.

2. Duties of the Organs of the Journal when evaluating and publishing articles

The Management Committee is solely responsible for the decision to publish articles submitted to the Journal. It is obliged to scrupulously comply with current regulations on copyright infringement, plagiarism and defamation and is responsible for overseeing the ethical aspects of research practices, in accordance with current regulations and this Code.

The Journal encourages independent research, condemns plagiarism and copyright infringement, requires and promotes original contributions based on rigorous data, and undertakes to publish corrections of errors in published articles or to order their withdrawal, with the same procedure established for their publication.

The Journal uses the single-blind peer review procedure as the main method of article selection. It is governed by the “Regulation of the Journal and for refereeing”, in deference to the ethical principles set forth in this Code; exceptions to this procedure are permitted only in the cases expressly provided for in the aforementioned Regulation.

The Management Committee, except in the cases provided for in the Regulation of the Journal and for refereeing, has the support of a referee who does not have a conflict of interest, chosen from a list of scholars from outside the Organs of the Journal. This list is prepared in advance by the Committee itself, after consultation with the Scientific Committee, which identifies the scholars based on the criteria of autonomy, competence and



absence of conflicts of interest. The Director, the Management Committee and referees are responsible for scrupulously supervising the originality of the contributions received.

Contributions are subject to scientific evaluation only, without discrimination of sex, race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, citizenship, sexual orientation, age, and political orientation of the authors. Any violation of this provision will result in the exclusion of the referee from the list of Evaluators that is kept at the Management Committee.

All members of the Organs of the Journal undertake, in the phase before and after the evaluation, not to disclose to third parties information about the content of the article, as well as the timing of the referencing, or not to use for their own research the contents of unpublished articles without the express written consent of the Author.

If the Director, the Management Committee or referees detect on their own initiative or upon report a major problem regarding errors/imprecisions, conflict of interest or plagiarism, reproduction from previously published work without quotation marks and/or mention of the source, falsification of data in a published article, they will promptly notify the Author through the Editorial Committee and take the necessary action to clarify the issue. If, following interlocution with the Author and the necessary verifications, the hypothesized problem is found to be true, the article will be withdrawn and a retraction or Erratum will be published, according to COPE guidelines.

3. Duties of Authors proposing articles for publication.

The Author is required to ensure that the article submitted for evaluation by the Journal is unpublished, scientifically original, and not submitted simultaneously to other journals, volumes, periodicals, unless expressly agreed to by the Management Committee.

Authors are obliged to cite all publications that were influential in the development of the proposed work. Articles must contain sufficient details and references to allow for possible replications pertaining to the subject of the research carried out, which may be published using the same procedure as for the publication of articles. Fraudulent or willfully inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

The article may be subsequently published in other periodicals or volumes only with the express consent of the Management Committee. In the latter case, the reproduced contribution must make express mention of the previous publication in the journal Italian Papers on Federalism.

The Management Committee, also by delegation to the Editorial Committee, shall ask the Authors for necessary corrections and additions based on the evaluation of the referee, who shall in all cases remain anonymous. The Author may make comments on the referees' evaluation, on which the Management Committee will ultimately decide.



Upon submission of the article, the Author agrees that, if it is accepted for publication, all rights of economic exploitation, without limitation of space and with all modalities and technologies currently existing and/or in the future developed, will be transferred to the Journal Italian Papers on Federalism; the Author also gives his or her consent for the open accessibility of the texts, data, images, audio and video contained in the work whose publication he or she has requested.

Literary authorship of the manuscript is limited to those who made significant contributions to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the study. All those who made a significant contribution must be listed as co-authors. If there are other individuals who participated in substantial aspects of the research project, they should be recognized and listed as contributors in the acknowledgments. The referring author must ensure that all relevant co-authors are included in the article, have seen and approved the final version of the article, and agree on submission for publication.

Except as generally provided in Section 5 of this Code, the Author must not be in a conflict of interest situation that could have affected the results achieved, theses argued or interpretations proposed.

Any funders of the research or project from which the contribution submitted to the Journal is derived must be clearly and unambiguously apparent from the article.

If the Organs of the Journal or the referees detect ex officio or upon report the existence of possible conflicts of interest of the Author, they shall promptly report it to the Author through the Editorial Committee, requesting a response on the matter. If, following interlocution with the Author and the necessary verifications, the response is not provided or is inadequate or otherwise sufficient to rule out the presence of a conflict of interest, the Director shall reject the publication of the contribution, notifying the Author of the decision. Should the Author detect, as a result of publication, inaccuracies or errors, he/she is obliged to inform the Journal without delay, which will remove them, through the procedure provided for in the last paragraph of Section 2 of this Code. The Author, moreover, undertakes to cooperate actively with the Journal in order to the good and immediate success of the editing operation. In the latter hypothesis, the Director reserves the right to suspend the online access of the contribution until the changes are completed, following which the words "The article was modified on" followed by the date of the new publication will be indicated in the first note.

4. Duties of referees

Referees perform the anonymous evaluation function in accordance with Article 3 of the Regulation of the Journal and for refereeing and the principles enshrined in this Code.



Referees who have been given an evaluation assignment agree to send the response within twenty days of the submission.

A referee who does not feel adequately qualified to evaluate the contribution or who is in a temporary impediment must notify the Journal immediately; the Management Committee will then make the resulting determinations.

Referees are required to refuse evaluation assignments with respect to which there is a conflict of interest arising from competition, collaboration, or other connection with authors, companies, or entities related to the subject of the contribution being evaluated.

The evaluation of contributions must meet criteria of objectivity and fairness and must be strictly scientific in nature. Under no circumstances is it permitted to direct criticism at the person of the Author.

The referees' comments should be analytically reported on the evaluation form. The referee may also indicate essential bibliographic references that have been overlooked by the Author.

In addition, the referee, where he or she finds any overlaps or similarities of the text received in reading with other works known to him or her, is required to report them without delay to the Journal; the Management Committee will then make the resulting determinations.

The referee may not disseminate the paper received and/or excerpts of it, or make it the subject of discussion with individuals not authorized by the Director of the Journal. No confidential information or otherwise obtained during the evaluation procedure may be used for one's own scientific or personal benefit or for the benefit of third parties.

5. Conflicts of interest

A conflict of interest may exist when an author, referee, the Director, one of the members of the Management Committee or any other person involved in the refereeing and publication process has competitive or collaborative relationships, or other type of connection with authors, companies, or entities related to the subject of the contribution to be published, which may unduly influence their evaluations and decisions. It is up to the Management Committee of the Journal, possibly after consultation with the Scientific Committee, to decide on the management of the conflict, which may also consist of rejecting the request for publication, excluding the person in conflict from decisions pertaining to publication or withdrawing the article already published.