# **RJM Ethics and Malpractice Statement**

The publication of an article in **Romanian Journal of Mechanics (RJM)** represents a process of continuous cultivation of scientific knowledge, favoring communication between scientists for publishing high quality, innovative papers covering a broad range of subject areas in the field of Theoretical, Applied and Experimental Mechanics.

**RJM** is one of the publicatinos of the **Romanian Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (SRMTA)**. The **SRMTA** society is an association of scientists, researchers, professors, directors, managers, and Romanian engineers from various fields of applied and theoretical mechanics.

As is normal for a good publication, all parties involved in the act of publishing (the author, the journal editors, the peer reviewer and the publisher) have to agree upon standards of expected ethical behavior. The ethics statements are headed by **Scientific Editorial Board of Romanian Journal of Mechanics**, which takes its duties of guardianship over all stages of publishing because is guided by the best practice guidelines of the **Committee on Publication Ethics** (**COPE**) (<a href="http://publicationethics.org/">http://publicationethics.org/</a>), the Directory of Open Access Journals and the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association.

#### **DUTIES OF AUTHORS**

### **Standards for authors**

The paper should have been written in an ethic and responsible manner and should comply with the relevant legislation. The authors should present their results clearly, objective, unambiguously, honestly and without falsification of data, fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable. Their results should be able to be confirmed by others.

## **Originality and Plagiarism**

The multiple forms of plagiarism are unacceptable.

Authors should adhere to publication requirements, so the work must be original and not be published elsewhere in any language. Work should not be submitted concurrently to more than one publication unless the editors have agreed to co-publication, parallel submission of the same manuscript is unacceptable. If the authors have used the work and/or words of others that these have been appropriately cited or quoted.

## Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication

An author should not publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal. Parallel submission of the same manuscript to more than one journal constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

# **Acknowledgement of sources**

Applicable copyright laws and conventions should be followed. Copyright material (e.g. tables, figures, formulas or extensive quotations) should be reproduced only with appropriate permission and acknowledgement. The authors should ensure that they have proprely acknowledged the work of their collegues. Proper acknowledgment of the work of others must always be given.

### Authorship of a manuscript

The meaning of the order of authors on a paper can be significant for the contribution to the conception, execution, or interpretation of the study. The authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant part of the research publication, should therefore accurately reflect individuals contributions to the work.

The criteria for authorship and acknowledgement should be agreed at the start, in cases where major contributors are listed as authors while those who made less substantial, or

purely technical, contributions to the research are listed in an Acknowledgement section or listed as contributors.

All those person implicates in formuled the paper have seen and approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

# Hazards and human subjects

If the work involves procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the authors must clearly identify these in the paper.

#### Disclosure and conflicts of interest

All authors should disclose in their manuscript any tehnichal, financial or other subjective/objective conflicts of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. It is recommanded that potential conflicts of interest should be disclosed at the earliest stage possible.

# Fundamental errors in published works

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal's editor or publisher and cooperate with them to either retract the paper or correct the paper.

# Paper submission and modification issues

As part of the submission process, authors are required to check off their submission's compliance with all of the following items, and submissions may be returned to authors that do not adhere to these guidelines.

Authors need to register with the journal prior to submitting or, if already registered, can simply log in and begin the five-step process. on RJM site:

### http://journals.srmta.ro/index.php/rjm/about/submissions

After a paper is submitted, the journal editor screens the manuscript and decides whether or not to send it for full peer review. After reviewing paper, the reviewer submits reviews like comment and recommendation to the editors (accept without any changes, accept with minor revisions, revise and resubmit or reject the paper).

# **DUTIES OF EDITORS**

An editor is guided by the policies of the journal's Editorial Board and may confer with reviewers in making the publication decision.

In cases of scientific fraudulent publication or plagiarism, the editors will take all appropriate measures to clarify the situation and to amend the article in question. The editors are responsible for publication of papers in optimal and timely conditions.

#### Fair play

An editor should evaluate manuscripts for their intellectual content without regard to the author's race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship or political philosophy of the authors.

### Confidentiality

The editors and any editorial staff must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers or the publisher, as appropriate.

## Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in an editor's own research without the express written consent of the author. In case of any conflict of interest, the editors should require members of Scientific Editorial Board to disclose relevant competing interests and publish the obtained corrections.

So, the Editorial Board takes reasonable responsive measures when ethical complaints are presented concerning a submitted or published manuscript. In cases of suspected misconduct, they can follow the COPE flowcharts, available at

http://publicationethics.org/files/Full%20set%20of%20flowcharts.pdf;

#### **DUTIES OF REVIEWERS**

#### **Contribution to editorial decisions**

The editors of **Romanian Journal of Mechanics** use *double blind peer review process* for reviewing papers, to ensure that high quality paper will be published. After a paper is submitted, the journal editor screens the manuscript and decides whether or not to send it for full peer review. After reviewing paper, the reviewer submits reviews like comment and recommendation to the editors (accept without any changes, accept with minor revisions, revise and resubmit or reject the paper).

#### **Promptness**

Any invited referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor and excuse him/herself from the review process, so that alternative reviewers can be contacted.

# Confidentiality

Any manuscripts received for review must be treated as confidential documents. They must not be shown to or discussed with others except as authorized by the editor.

## Standards of objectivity

Reviews should be conducted objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. Referees should express their views clearly with appropriate supporting arguments.

### **Acknowledgement of sources**

Reviewers should identify cases in which relevant published work referred to in the paper has not been cited by the authors in the reference section. They should point out whether observations or arguments derived from other publications are accompanied by the respective source. Reviewers will notify the editor of any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other published paper of which they have personal knowledge.

## Disclosure and conflict of interest

In cases of conflicting feedback, the journal editor may choose to send the paper to a third reviewer before arriving at a decision. Finally, journal editors or the journal's editorial board consider the peer reviewers' reports and make the final decision to accept or reject the manuscript for publication.

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in a reviewer's own research without the express written consent of the author. Privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage. Reviewers should not consider evaluating manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies or institutions connected to the papers.

### **Bibliography**

https://rjts-am.utcluj.ro/