DISTINCTIO

Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement

The journal will conform to the highest standards of academic publishing according to COPE Guidelines on Good Publication Practice. Authors, reviewers, editors, and the publisher are expected to adhere to the following ethical guidelines.

All authors submitting a paper to the journal should ensure that the manuscript they submit was not previously published or considered for publication elsewhere. The journal reserves the right to publish seminal research in philosophy that has been published elsewhere in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. special issues), after reserving all the rights for the pertinent publication. All authors should adhere to the highest standards of academic writing, including clearly citing their sources, stating ideas that have been adopted from another author and maintain a high level of academic integrity overall. The journal reserves the right to desk reject papers that are written from the point of view of any ideology that would aim to promote any kind of hatred, violence or related behaviour to any social group. Any possible conflict of interest should be clearly

stated and avoided if at all possible. If authors use copyrighted materials in their manuscripts, they are obliged to reserve the rights for its usage. Any manuscript that violates the above stated principles will not be considered for publication.

Reviewers should asses the manuscripts sent to them solely on the grounds of scholarly merit and not on grounds of agreement or disagreement (reviewing positively the papers they agree with and negatively the papers they disagree with). The journal uses a double-blind review procedure, if the identity of the author is in any way disclosed to the reviewer, the reviewer is obliged to inform the journal about this and exempt herself from further review of the paper. The reviewers are encouraged to provide helpful feedback about the manuscript along with their assessment of its quality. Reviewers are obliged to use purely scientific jargon and avoid value judgements about the manuscript they review. For example, the reviewers should not say that the manuscript is poorly written, they should list all (or the main) the drawback of the manuscript instead. The review should always

be unbiased, reviewers should disclose any conflict of interest at the beginning of the review. Reviewers should keep their review work confidential and should not disclose any information about the review to third parties.

The journal should evaluate all manuscript solely based on their academic merit, relevance, and originality, regardless of the authors' identity, affiliation, or any other factor. The journal should provide a platform for the exchange of ideas to as many manuscripts as possible. However, in the case of an abundance of submissions, the journal is obliged to select papers for inclusion based only on their quality and adequacy. The journal accepts all philosophical topics for regular issues. However, the journal reserves the right to desk reject a manuscript submitted to a special issue if the manuscript is not related to the topic of the issue. All potential conflicts of interest should be dealt with transparently and fairly. The editors should respect the confidentiality of the review process, not disclosing either the names of the authors or the names of the reviewers of a certain manuscript during the review process. At the end of each volume, the journal should publish a list of reviewers for that volume to improve transparency of the reviews. The publisher should ensure editorial autonomy of the journal and not use the journal to promote any agenda.

Plagiarism policy

The journal strongly discourages any kind of plagiarism and will use the Turnitin software for occasional inspections of the submitted material. Any detected plagiarism will be sanctioned and the publication process of the pertinent manuscript discontinued. The journal also strongly discourages submitting papers written by AI (except in possible thematic special issues). All such papers will be rejected upon the disclosure of such information about the paper (either during initial editorial review or during external review).

Retraction policy

The journal reserves the right to retract any published paper if subsequent evidence shows that any of the ethical guidelines of the journal has been violated. This is especially true for cases of plagiarism and any kind of discrimination. upon retraction, the journal will mark the published paper on the journal website as retracted, remove the pdf file, terminate the DOI link and issue a retraction statement. However, the journal cannot retract papers that contain (un)conscious mistakes of the authors that do not impact on the quality of the

published paper. In extraordinary and justified circumstances, the journal can correct a published paper to exclude minor errors that were noticed after publication.