PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

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Publication ethics pertains to all actors: authors, reviewers and editors that are involved in scholarly publishing. It is aimed at enhancing the quality of the journal and assisting authors, reviewers and editors in dealing with ethical issues. Its sole purpose is in providing guidance with the aim of bettering scholarly publication practices.

The following duties outlined for authors, reviewers, and editors of *Libellarium* are based on the COPE Code of Conduct for Journal Editors.

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Authors should present an accurate account of their original research as well as an objective discussion of its significance. Contributions will follow the journal's submission guidelines available at journal's website (<u>Submissions Preparation Checklist and Author Guidelines</u>).

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Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to conception, design, execution or interpretation of the reported study. Others who have made significant contribution must be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be named in an Acknowledgement section. Authors also ensure that all the authors have seen and agreed to the submitted version of the work and their inclusion of names as co-authors.

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If at any point of time, authors discover a significant error or inaccuracy in the work submitted to and published by *Libellarium*, the error or inaccuracy must be reported to the editors.

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Peer review assists the editors in making editorial decisions and through the editorial communications with the author may also assist the author in improving the paper. The reviewers do not known the authors identity, as any identifying information will be taken from the document before review. Reviewers' comments to the editors are confidential and before passing on to the author will be made anonymous. The names of the reviewers remain strictly confidential, with their identities known only to the Editor-In-Chief and Deputy Editor-In-Chief.

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