

VIOLATION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is an important component of scientific activity. Compliance by authors with the requirements of academic integrity is the key to the successful development of a scientific publication, increasing its citation rate and expanding the circle of readers.

According to the provision of subparagraph 31 of paragraph 1 of Article 58 of the Law of Ukraine “On Higher Education”, scientific and pedagogical, scientific and pedagogical workers are obliged: “to observe academic integrity in the educational process and scientific (creative) activities and ensure its observance by higher education applicants”.

Violations of academic integrity that may be detected during the editorial and publishing process are:

- academic plagiarism – publication (partially or fully) of scientific (creative) results obtained by other persons as the results of one’s own research (creativity) and/or reproduction of published texts (published works of art) by other authors without indicating authorship;

- self-plagiarism – publication (partially or fully) of one’s own previously published scientific results as new scientific results;

- fabrication – fabrication of data or facts used in the educational process or scientific research;

- falsification – deliberate change or modification of already existing data related to the educational process or scientific research;

- fraud – providing knowingly false information about one’s own educational (scientific, creative) activities or the organization of the educational process; forms of fraud include, in particular, academic plagiarism, self-plagiarism, fabrication, falsification and copying by authors (clause 4 of Article 42 of the Law of Ukraine “On Education”);

- providing or receiving by a participant in the editorial process or an offer to provide (receive) funds, property, services, benefits or any other benefits of a material or intangible nature to distort the publication process and make a positive decision on the publication of the article;

- biased assessment of the work submitted for publication – deliberate overestimation or underestimation of the results, content of the research, by reviewers or editors;

- making changes to the text of the submitted manuscript without agreement with the authors.

All statements about violations of academic integrity must be submitted to the editor-in-chief. If reviewers or editors will comment on the potential violation of academic integrity, and authors will be asked to provide an explanation. If the explanation is satisfactory and the problem is the result of an error or misunderstanding, the problem can be resolved. If not, the manuscript will be rejected or withdrawn, and the editorial board may impose a ban on publication of such author(s) in the collection for a certain period of time.

In the case of published plagiarism or double publication in multiple journals, an announcement will be made explaining the situation.

If the allegations concern authors, the review process and publication of their submission will be stopped until the end of the said process. An investigation will be conducted even if the authors withdraw the manuscript.

If the allegations concern reviewers or editors, they will be replaced in the review process during the ongoing investigation of the case.

For violations of academic integrity, authors, reviewers and/or editors may be held to the following academic liability:

1. Refusal to publish with notification of the institution – the main affiliation of the author or reviewer regarding the violation of academic integrity revealed during the editorial process.

2. Deprivation of the editor, reviewer of the right to participate in the work of the editorial board of the publication.

The procedure for considering violations of academic integrity by authors, editors, reviewers of the scientific collection “Culture of the Word” provides for the participation of the head of the relevant institution or department of the scientific or educational institution where the author (s) accused of the violation works, as well as the editor-in-chief, the responsible editor of the issue, employees of the founding institution.

Each person in respect of whom the question of violating academic integrity / not observing academic integrity has been raised has the following rights:

- to familiarize himself with all materials of the inspection regarding the establishment of the fact of violation of academic integrity, to submit comments on them;

- to provide oral and written explanations in person or through a representative or to refuse to provide any explanations, to participate in the study evidence of a violation of academic integrity;

- to know the date, time and place and to be present during the consideration of the issue of establishing the fact of a violation of academic integrity and bringing it to academic responsibility;

- to appeal the decision to bring it to academic responsibility to the body authorized to consider appeals, or to the court (clause 8 of Article 42 of the Law of Ukraine “On Education”).

Violations of academic integrity do not include an “honest mistake” or differences of opinion.