SciELO Program - Ethics and Good Practices in Research Communication Office (SciELO Ethics)

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The SciELO Program's research communication in open science follows norms and recommendations for ethical and responsibility standards in the production of research communication objects that apply to all SciELO Network collections. Communication objects include manuscripts submitted to the SciELO Preprints server and SciELO journals, articles approved and published by SciELO journals, research data submitted to the SciELO Data repository and books published in the SciELO Books collection.

Editors from journals, publishers of scholarly books in the SciELO Books collection, SciELO Preprints and SciELO Data should continuously update and improve compliance with ethical standards and best practices in research communication to maximize the ability to identify misconduct in the production of communication objects and prevent their publication.

In order to assist and support the editors of journals, academic publishers, SciELO Preprints and SciELO Data, the **Ethics and Good Practices in Research Communication Office (SciELO Ethics)** was established as a support body for the SciELO Program Advisory Committees in matters related to ethics.

SciELO Ethics will act only when requested by a complaint, whether from a reader, author, reviewer, editor, or journal maintainer, or from the coordinators of the SciELO Network Collections, and will have the following functions:

- Suggest preventive, educational, and punitive actions regarding research communication integrity.
- Develop and publish guidance material on good practice in carrying out and communicating research.
- Propose or stimulate actions aimed at preventing scientific misconduct and disseminating good practices in research communication.
- examine allegations of research misconduct or its communication in journals from the SciELO Network collections, in scholarly books from the SciELO Books collection, in preprints from SciELO Preprints or data files from SciELO Data.

SciELO Ethics will have a coordinator, appointed by the SciELO Program Advisory Committees with a 5-year office term, reappointment allowed. The mandate

guarantees independence in conducting the process and making decisions. The coordinator will also sit on the SciELO Program Advisory Committees.

When there is a demand, the coordinator must appoint to the corresponding Advisory Committee an Evaluation Committee, which will be composed of:

- Coordinator,
- Representative of the SciELO Program management,
- Three SciELO editors from the involved area in question (at least 1 of whom is a member of the respective Advisory Committee),
- *ad hoc* external advisors may be appointed.
- All decisions taken must be supported by appropriate legal advice and be based on the following documents:

COPE, *et al*. **Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing**. Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA), World Association of Medical Editors (WAME). 2019. Available from: <https://publicationethics.org/node/39286>

SciELO. **Guidelines on Best Practices for Strengthening Ethics in Scientific Publication**, 2018. Available from: <https://wp.scielo.org/wp-content/uploads/Guide-to-Best-Practices-for-Strengthening-Ethics-in-Scientific-Publishing.pdf>

SciELO. **Criteria, policy and procedures for admission and permanence of scientific journals in the SciELO Brazil Collection**, 2022. Available from: <https://www.scielo.br/media/files/20220900-scielo-brazil-criteria-en.pdf>

The coordinator will have the role of presenting the detailed report for consideration by the corresponding Advisory Committee, which will have full decision-making powers.