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UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA BOLIVIANA
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REVISTA LATINOAMERICANA DE DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO - LAJED
PUBLICATION ETHICS AND GOOD PRACTICES STATEMENT

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Revista Latinoamericana de Desarrollo Económico (Latin American Journal of Economic Development - LAJED) establishes this Publication Ethics and Good Practices Statement to define the ethical principles and responsibilities applicable to all persons involved in its editorial process, promoting academic integrity, transparency, and the maintenance of the journal's quality standards.

- ❖ **Editorial Team.** For the purposes of this Statement, the LAJED Editorial Team consists of the Editor and the Assistant Editor, who participate in the management, evaluation, and monitoring of the editorial process. Editorial decisions are adopted within this Editorial Team and, when formal communication is required, are formalized by the Editor in accordance with the journal procedures.

Fraudulent or deliberately inaccurate statements by persons involved in the editorial process - members of the Editorial Team, reviewers, and authors - are prohibited because they constitute practices contrary to academic integrity.

LAJED adheres to the guidelines of the **Committee on Publication Ethics** (COPE, <https://publicationethics.org>) for handling ethical issues in academic publishing, as well as to the *Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing* (2022), jointly promoted by COPE, DOAJ, OASPA, and WAME.

2. FOR THE EDITORIAL TEAM

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Editorial Team must act with independence, objectivity, impartiality, and confidentiality, seeking to ensure the quality, relevance, and integrity of LAJED's editorial process.

Objectivity and impartiality. Manuscript pre-screening and editorial decisions must be based exclusively on academic, scientific, and editorial criteria, without discrimination or influence from interests unrelated to the publication process.

Confidentiality. Manuscripts, data, review reports, and any other information obtained during the editorial process must be treated confidentially and used exclusively for

evaluation and editorial management purposes. This information may not be used for personal or third-party benefit or disclosed without the corresponding authorization.

Academic integrity. When relevant similarities, indications of plagiarism, or other possible irregularities are detected, a qualitative assessment will be conducted in accordance with the Editorial Policy and COPE procedures. Automated similarity-detection or AI-generated-content detection tools are auxiliary only, and their results do not, by themselves, constitute conclusive evidence or automatic criteria for acceptance or rejection.

Conflicts of interest. Members of the Editorial Team must disclose and manage any financial, institutional, professional, personal, or collaborative conflict of interest that could affect, or be perceived as capable of affecting, their impartiality. When a member has a conflict of interest regarding a manuscript, that person must refrain from participating in its evaluation and in the corresponding editorial decision.

Peer review. Compliance with the double-blind review model and reviewer independence will be ensured during the internal and external peer review stages, with the aim of preserving the objectivity and quality of the evaluations.

Communications and editorial decisions. Communications with authors will be managed and monitored through LAJED's official channels. Editorial decisions requiring formal communication will be formalized by the Editor in accordance with the journal's established procedures and timeframes.

Appeals and complaints. Authors may appeal an editorial decision by submitting a reasoned written request to LAJED. Complaints concerning conduct or the development of the editorial process will be handled impartially, in accordance with the Editorial Policy, this Statement, and applicable institutional provisions. When an appeal or complaint involves a member of the Editorial Team, the independence mechanism established in Section 6 will apply.

Manuscripts submitted by members of the Editorial Team. When the Editor or Assistant Editor submits their own manuscript to LAJED, that person must refrain from participating in its evaluation and in the corresponding editorial decision. The process will be managed by the other member, provided that no conflict of interest exists. If both are unable to participate, the case will be assigned to an independent person or body in accordance with applicable institutional provisions.

Post-publication measures. Where appropriate, the measures set out in Section 5 of this Statement will be adopted, including corrections or errata, expressions of concern, and retractions, in accordance with COPE guidelines and procedures.

3. FOR REVIEWERS

Reviewers participating in the internal or external peer review stages must act with objectivity, independence, confidentiality, and academic rigor.

Evaluation and recommendation. The internal reviewer will formulate a reasoned recommendation on whether the manuscript should continue in the editorial process, while the external reviewer will issue a recommendation regarding acceptance,

revision, or rejection. These recommendations are inputs to the editorial decision and do not replace the final decision, which rests with the LAJED Editorial Team.

Confidentiality. Manuscripts, evaluation forms, review reports, and any information obtained during the peer review process must be kept strictly confidential and used exclusively for evaluation purposes. This information may not be disclosed or used for personal or third-party benefit.

Expertise and conflicts of interest. Reviewers should accept an evaluation only when they have the necessary expertise and specialization and can meet the established deadlines. If a reviewer identifies a conflict of interest, considers that they lack the appropriate expertise, or cannot complete the review in a timely manner, they must inform the Editorial Team and, where appropriate, refrain from continuing with the evaluation.

Manuscript integrity. Any relevant similarity, possible plagiarism, duplicate publication, fabrication or falsification of information, or other irregularity identified during the evaluation must be promptly reported to the Editorial Team.

Use of artificial intelligence. Reviewers must not upload manuscripts, parts of manuscripts, or review reports to publicly accessible generative artificial intelligence tools because of confidentiality obligations and applicable intellectual property rights. They also may not use such tools to evaluate the scientific content of the manuscript or to generate the review report. Critical thinking, expert evaluation, and original judgment are the exclusive responsibility of the human reviewer.

When AI-assisted tools are used for limited auxiliary tasks, such as improving the wording of a previously drafted report, this use must be disclosed to the Editorial Team and must not involve entering confidential or identifiable manuscript content into such tools.

4. FOR AUTHORS

Authors must act with integrity, transparency, and responsibility regarding content submitted to LAJED and must comply with the journal's editorial policies.

Authorship and contributions. All persons identified as authors must have made substantive contributions to the work and approved the version submitted to LAJED. Contributions that do not justify authorship should be appropriately acknowledged where applicable. The order of authorship will be agreed upon by the coauthors and should reflect, in accordance with disciplinary practices, the nature and magnitude of the contributions made by each author.

Generative artificial intelligence tools may not be listed as authors or coauthors of manuscripts submitted for evaluation or of articles published in LAJED. Authorship entails responsibilities that can only be assumed by human beings, including accountability for the content, disclosure of conflicts of interest, and management of copyright.

Originality and editorial exclusivity. The manuscript must be original, must not have previously been published as a peer-reviewed article, and must not be simultaneously

under consideration by another journal. Prior dissemination as a preprint or working paper is permitted provided it is expressly disclosed to LAJED in accordance with the Editorial Policy. As part of the submission process, the responsible author must complete and sign LAJED's Good Practices Commitment.

Attribution and use of third-party materials. Ideas, data, arguments, and other content from external sources must be properly cited and attributed. Sources of tables and figures taken from other works must be identified in the corresponding caption. The use of information, tables, figures, or other third-party materials without proper attribution or, where applicable, without the necessary authorization constitutes an ethical breach and may result in rejection of the manuscript.

Research integrity. All forms of fraud or scientific misconduct are prohibited, including fabrication, falsification, or improper manipulation of data, information, results, or evidence. Generative artificial intelligence may also not be used to fabricate, falsify, or manipulate data, results, or scientific images in a way that distorts the evidence. The use of AI for permitted auxiliary tasks must be disclosed in accordance with the Editorial Policy.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism is understood as the unattributed appropriation of ideas, words, data, or results belonging to others. Suspected cases will be assessed qualitatively in accordance with the Editorial Policy and COPE procedures. When substantial plagiarism or another serious form of misconduct is confirmed, the manuscript may be rejected or, if already published, retracted.

Funding and conflicts of interest. Funding sources, relevant relationships with funding entities and, where applicable, the manuscript's connection to a broader project must be transparently disclosed.

All potential conflicts of interest related to the research must also be disclosed, including financial interests, institutional relationships, ties to organizations whose interests may be affected by the results, and any other relevant interest from the previous 36 months. If no conflicts exist, it must be expressly stated: "The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest."

The existence of a conflict of interest does not in itself imply rejection of the manuscript. Any relationship, agreement, or restriction that could influence the research, interpretation of results, access to data, or publication of the work must be fully and transparently disclosed. The Editorial Team will determine the appropriate manner for managing each situation.

Errors and corrections. If an author identifies an error or omission in the manuscript during the editorial process, it must be promptly reported to LAJED. When the error is detected after publication, the author must likewise report it so that the Editorial Team can evaluate and determine the corresponding measure in accordance with the corrections and retractions policy established in Section 5.

5. POST-PUBLICATION CORRECTIONS AND RETRACTIONS POLICY

LAJED is committed to maintaining the integrity of the published scholarly record. When problems are identified in articles that have already been published, the Editorial Team will act in accordance with COPE guidelines and procedures, applying, as appropriate, the following measures:

- **Correction or erratum:** For minor errors (typographical errors, isolated data errors, omissions in acknowledgments) that do not substantially affect the interpretation of the results. A correction notice linked to the original article is published.
- **Expression of Concern:** When there are indications of integrity problems (questionable data, possible misconduct) but the evidence is not yet conclusive and the investigation is ongoing. An expression of concern linked to the article is published.
- **Retraction:** When scientific fraud, substantial plagiarism, fundamental errors that invalidate the conclusions, or serious ethical violations are confirmed. The retracted article remains accessible on the platform with a visible retraction notice and an explanatory statement, in accordance with the principle of preserving the scholarly record.

Post-publication actions will be communicated transparently to the authors and, where appropriate, to the reviewers involved and to readers, while respecting applicable confidentiality obligations.

6. PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

Any person (author, reviewer, reader, or member of the academic community) may report possible research or publication misconduct related to manuscripts under evaluation or articles published in LAJED through the official email address lajed@ucb.edu.bo.

The Editorial Team will assess allegations following the procedures established in COPE flowcharts, which address situations such as suspected plagiarism, fabrication or falsification of data, disputed authorship, duplicate publication, possible undisclosed use of generative artificial intelligence, undisclosed conflicts of interest, and breaches of confidentiality in the peer review process.

Allegations will be handled confidentially. LAJED will acknowledge receipt and, where appropriate and within applicable confidentiality limits, inform the complainant of the conclusion of the procedure. Persons involved will have the right to respond to the allegations before a final decision is adopted.

When an allegation involves one member of the Editorial Team, that person must refrain from participating and the case will be managed by the other member, provided there is no conflict of interest. When the allegation involves both members or the independence of the procedure cannot be guaranteed, the case will be assigned to an independent person or body in accordance with applicable institutional provisions.

7. ETHICAL OVERSIGHT IN RESEARCH

For research involving human participants, sensitive personal data, or other procedures subject to ethical or legal requirements, authors must indicate whether the research received approval from an ethics committee, identifying the committee, approval number, and date. When formal approval was not required under applicable rules or institutional procedures, authors must disclose and justify that circumstance.

For research involving surveys, interviews, or other sources containing personal information, authors must declare that informed consent was obtained where applicable, or justify an exemption in accordance with applicable rules. They must also describe anonymization, confidentiality, or data-protection measures used where relevant.

8. REFERENCES AND NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK

This Publication Ethics and Good Practices Statement is based on the following sources:

1. Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”. Reglamento de Publicaciones (R-P), approved by Board of Directors Resolution No. 144/2024 of December 20, 2024.
2. Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”. Reglamento de Propiedad Intelectual (R-PI), December 2024.
3. COPE (2024). Position Statement on Authorship and AI Tools. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.24318/cCVRZBms>
4. COPE, DOAJ, OASPA, WAME (2022). Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing, Version 4. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.24318/cope.2019.1.12>
5. COPE. Retraction Guidelines. Available at: <https://publicationethics.org/retraction-guidelines>
6. COPE. Flowcharts for handling a case of misconduct. Available at: <https://publicationethics.org/guidance/seminar-and-webinar/handling-case-misconduct>
7. ICMJE (2026). Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals. Available at: <https://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>
8. Zielinski, C., Winker, M. A., Aggarwal, R., Ferris, L. E., Heinemann, M., Lapeña, J. F., Jr, Pai, S. A., Ing, E., Citrome, L., Alam, M., Voight, M., & Habibzadeh, F. (2023). Chatbots, generative AI, and scholarly manuscripts: WAME recommendations on chatbots and generative artificial intelligence in relation to scholarly publications. *Colombia medica* (Cali, Colombia), 54(3), e1015868. <https://doi.org/10.25100/cm.v54i3.5868>
9. Elsevier (2025). The use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the review process for Elsevier. Available at: <https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies-and-standards/the-use-of-generative-ai-and-ai-assisted-technologies-in-the-review-process>
10. Scopus. Content Policy and Selection. Available at: <https://www.elsevier.com/products/scopus/content/content-policy-and-selection>