



Protect Climate, Earth and Environment

## **Ethics and Policy Statements of Journal of Geointerface**

The *Journal of Geointerface* is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards in all aspects of the publication process. As an open-access, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to advancing research in Earth System Science, we adhere to the principles of academic integrity, transparency, and accountability in publishing. Our ethical practices are informed by guidelines established by leading organizations such as the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) (core practices and guidelines).

### **Editorial and Peer Review Process**

The journal employs a blind and dual peer review process. Editors, reviewers, and authors are required to uphold the principles of confidentiality, impartiality, and respect throughout the review and decision-making process.

### **Authorship and Contributions**

All authors listed on submitted manuscripts must have made significant intellectual contributions to the work and take responsibility for its content. A CRedit (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) statement must accompany each submission. Authors are expected to ensure the originality of their submissions and appropriately cite sources. Plagiarism, fabrication, and falsification of data are strictly prohibited.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Authors, reviewers, and editorial board members must disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may influence their participation in the review or publication process. The journal takes appropriate measures to manage and resolve such conflicts to maintain the integrity of the publication process.

### **Data Transparency and Reproducibility**

Authors are encouraged to provide sufficient detail and access to data to enable reproducibility of research findings. Any restrictions on data availability must be clearly stated at the time of submission.

### **Ethical Compliance in Research**

The journal requires authors to comply with ethical standards in research involving sensitive environmental issues. Authors must provide evidence of ethical approvals and adherence to applicable laws and guidelines.

### **Misconduct and Corrections**

Instances of research or publication misconduct, including plagiarism, duplicate publication, or unethical research practices, are taken seriously. The journal reserves the right to retract or correct published articles if misconduct or significant errors are identified post-publication.

## **Open Access and Copyright Policy**

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## **Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion**

The journal actively promotes diversity and inclusion in its editorial practices, encouraging contributions from researchers across the globe irrespective of nationality, race, gender, or institutional affiliation.

This ethics statement reflects the commitment of the *Journal of Geointerface* to fostering a culture of ethical publishing and contributing to the advancement of knowledge in Earth System Science for societal benefit.

## **Peer-Review Policy Statement for the *Journal of Geointerface***

The *Journal of Geointerface* is committed to maintaining the highest standards of peer-review integrity, as outlined by the guidelines of the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](https://wwwCOPE.org/). The peer-review process ensures that all submissions are evaluated rigorously, fairly, and transparently to uphold the quality and credibility of published research. The following policy governs our peer-review process:

### **1. Initial Assessment**

Each submission is reviewed by the Chief Editor or an Associate Editor (the handling editor), who assesses its suitability for the journal in terms of scope, quality, and originality. Manuscripts deemed inappropriate may be rejected at this stage without external peer review.

### **1. Blind Peer Review**

Manuscripts that pass the initial assessment are sent for single-blind peer review to at least two expert reviewers. Reviewer identities remain anonymous to authors, but not vice versa.

### **2. Reviewer Feedback**

The handling editor communicates the reviewers' comments and recommendations to the corresponding author, unless the manuscript is rejected outright. It is the corresponding author's responsibility to share this feedback with all co-authors.

### **3. Revision and Final Decision**

The revised manuscript is evaluated by the handling editor to determine whether the revisions satisfactorily address the reviewers' concerns. Based on this assessment, the handling editor makes the final decision to accept, request further revisions, or reject the manuscript. The corresponding author is notified promptly of the decision.

## **Ethical Standards**

In adherence to COPE guidelines, the *Journal of Geointerface* follows these principles:

- **Unbiased Evaluation:** Submissions are judged on their scientific merit.
- **Confidentiality:** All details of the peer-review process, including manuscript content and reviewer identities, are kept confidential. Manuscripts and peer-review data are not shared outside the review process or used for personal research.
- **Timely Processing:** Editors and reviewers will process manuscripts promptly.
- **Allegations of Misconduct:** Allegations of misconduct by authors, reviewers, or editors are investigated thoroughly, following COPE guidelines.
- **Editorial Independence:** If the Chief Editor or an Associate Editor submits original research, its peer review is delegated to another editorial board member to ensure impartiality.
- **Post-Publication Corrections:** If an article's main arguments or conclusions are incorrect, the journal will issue a correction notice.
- **Use of Technology**

The *Journal of Geointerface* ensures that the submission and peer review process maintains confidentiality and integrity. Data, files, or information from unpublished manuscripts will not be uploaded to public platforms.

For any concerns or inquiries regarding our ethical policies, please contact us:

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