

EDITORIAL POLICY
OF THE JOURNAL *ARHEOLOGIJA I PRIRODNE NAUKE*
(*ARCHAEOLOGY AND SCIENCE*)

The journal *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* is dedicated to topics in the areas of: archaeology, architecture, history of arts, anthropology, archaeozoology, archaeobotany, geophysics, computer engineering and similar scholarly disciplines.

The journal *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* started to be published in 2005 as a periodical publication issued by the Centre for New Technologies Viminacium and the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade.

The journal *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* publishes original papers that have not been published previously: original scientific articles, scientific reviews, excavation reports, book reviews, critical reviews.

Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science) is an Open Access journal.

Articles can be submitted in English, German or French. If the paper is written in English, summary can be in Serbian (for authors from Serbia) or English (for international authors), while articles submitted in German or French need to have a summary in English.

Papers for *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* have to be submitted to the editorial secretary and must be formatted in accordance with the Guidelines/Submission instructions for authors.

The Journal *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* is issued once a year.

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Editorial Board is responsible for deciding which articles submitted to *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* will be published. The Editorial Board is guided by the Editorial Policy and constrained by legal requirements in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to decide not to publish submitted manuscripts in case it is found that they do not meet relevant standards concerning the content and formal aspects. The Editorial Staff will inform the authors whether the manuscript is accepted for publication within 120 days from the date of the manuscript submission.

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The Editor and the Editorial Staff must not use unpublished materials disclosed in submitted manuscripts without the express written consent of the authors. The information and ideas presented in submitted manuscripts shall be kept confidential and must not be used for personal gain.

The journal *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* applies the system of *double-blind* peer review. Editors and the Editorial Staff shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that the reviewers remain anonymous to the authors before, during and after the evaluation process and the authors remain anonymous to reviewers until the end of the review procedure.

Papers prepared for publishing should be submitted to the editorial secretary between 01 to 30 June for the volume that will be published the by the end of the current year.

The Editorial board meets after the submission of all papers. At the first meeting, reviewers are selected and assigned manuscripts for review.

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A submitted manuscript should contain sufficient detail and references to permit reviewers and, subsequently, readers to verify the claims presented in it. The deliberate presentation of false claims is a violation of ethical standards. Book reviews, critical reviews, and other professional articles are reviewed as well and the

decision on their acceptance or rejection is made by the Editorial Board based on reviews.

Authors are exclusively responsible for the contents of their submissions and must make sure that they have permission from all involved parties to make the data public.

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Please note that all submissions are thoroughly checked for plagiarism. Any paper which shows obvious signs of plagiarism will be automatically rejected and authors will be temporary permitted to publish in *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)*.

In case plagiarism is discovered in a paper that has already been published by the journal, it will be retracted in accordance with the procedure described below under *Retraction policy*, and authors will be temporary permitted to publish in *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)*.

Conflict of interest

Authors should disclose in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might have influenced the presented results or their interpretation.

Fundamental errors in published works

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal Editor or publisher and cooperate with the Editor to retract or correct the paper.

By submitting a manuscript the authors agree to abide by the *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)*'s Editorial Policies.

REVIEWERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Reviewers are required to provide written, competent and unbiased feedback in a timely manner on the scholarly merits and the scientific value of the manuscript.

The reviewers assess manuscript for the compliance with the profile of the journal, the relevance of the investigated topic and applied methods, the originality and scientific

relevance of information presented in the manuscript, the presentation style and scholarly apparatus.

Reviewers should alert the Editor to any well-founded suspicions or the knowledge of possible violations of ethical standards by the authors. Reviewers should recognize relevant published works that have not been cited by the authors and alert the Editor to substantial similarities between a reviewed manuscript and any manuscript published or under consideration for publication elsewhere, in the event they are aware of such. Reviewers should also alert the Editor to a parallel submission of the same paper to another journal, in the event they are aware of such.

Reviewers must not have conflict of interest with respect to the research, the authors and/or the funding sources for the research. If such conflicts exist, the reviewers must report them to the Editor without delay.

Any selected referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the Editor without delay.

Reviews must be conducted objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. Reviewers should express their views clearly with supporting arguments.

Any manuscripts received for review must be treated as confidential documents. Reviewers must not use unpublished materials disclosed in submitted manuscripts without the express written consent of the authors. The information and ideas presented in submitted manuscripts shall be kept confidential and must not be used for personal gain.

PEER REVIEW

The submitted manuscripts are subject to a peer review process. The purpose of peer review is to assist the Editorial Board in making editorial decisions and through the

editorial communications with the author it may also assist the author in improving the paper.

To every paper submitted to editorial board of *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* two reviewers are assigned. Reviewers could be members of the Editorial Board, associates of the Institute of Archaeology or eternal associates, with the same or higher scientific degree as the author(s), competent in the field of the manuscript's topic. The suggestions on who the reviewers should be are made by the Editorial Board, and adopted by the Editor-in-Chief.

All papers are reviewed by using the *double-blind* peer review system: the identity of the author is not known to the reviewers and vice versa.

Reviewers shall send their reviews within the period of 30 days after the receipt of the manuscript. Reviewers are not paid for this work.

If a reviewer requires a revision of a manuscript, authors shall send a revised version with changes made in accordance with the reviewer's suggestions within the period of 30 days. In case they consider the revision request unfounded, the authors should send their arguments explaining why they did not make the required revision. The same timeframe applies to revisions of manuscripts that are not written in accordance with the author guidelines.

The decision of acceptance of the paper is made by the Editorial Board of *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)* by majority vote based on the peer reviews and the evaluation of the authors' revision or their arguments, if they did not make changes to the manuscript.

After the final decision on the content of a volume is made, manuscripts are sent for editing and proofreading, and then to a graphic designer, who is responsible for computer layout, design and prepress. Before printing, the authors will have the opportunity to proofread their paper twice in the PDF format. The final approval for printing is given by the Editor-in-Chief. The whole volume should be sent to the printing press by 30 November.

The reviewers selected by the Editorial Board, receive a peer review form with questions that they should answer. The purpose of the questions is to indicate all aspects that they should consider in order to make a decision on the destiny of a paper. In the final part of the form, reviewers are supposed to write their opinion and suggestions how to improve the paper. The identity of reviewers is unknown to authors, before, during and after the review procedure. The identity of authors is unknown to reviewers before, during and after the review procedure (until the paper is published). It is suggested to authors to avoid formulations that could reveal their identity. The Editorial Board shall ensure that before sending a paper to a reviewer, all personal details of the author (name, affiliation, etc.) will be deleted and that all measures will be undertaken in order to keep the author's identity unknown to the reviewer during the review procedure.

The choice of reviewers is at the Editorial Board's discretion. The reviewers must be knowledgeable about the subject area of the manuscript; and they should not have recent joint publications with any of the authors.

All of the reviewers of a paper act independently and they are not aware of each other's identities. If the decisions of the two reviewers are not the same (accept/reject), the Editor may assign additional reviewers.

During the review process Editor may require authors to provide additional information (including raw data) if they are necessary for the evaluation of the scholarly merit of the manuscript. These materials shall be kept confidential and must not be used for personal gain.

The Editorial team shall ensure reasonable quality control for the reviews. With respect to reviewers whose reviews are convincingly questioned by authors, special attention will be paid to ensure that the reviews are objective and high in academic standard. When there is any doubt with regard to the objectivity of the reviews or quality of the review, additional reviewers will be assigned.

PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Anyone may inform the editors and/or Editorial Staff at any time of suspected unethical behaviour or any type of misconduct by giving the necessary information/evidence to start an investigation.

Investigation

- Editor-in-Chief will consult with the Editorial Board on decisions regarding the initiation of an investigation.
- During an investigation, any evidence should be treated as strictly confidential and only made available to those strictly involved in investigating.
- The accused will always be given the chance to respond to any charges made against them.
- If it is judged at the end of the investigation that misconduct has occurred, then it will be classified as either minor or serious.

Minor misconduct

Minor misconduct will be dealt directly with those involved without involving any other parties, e.g.:

- Communicating to authors/reviewers whenever a minor issue involving misunderstanding or misapplication of academic standards has occurred.
- A warning letter to an author or reviewer regarding fairly minor misconduct.

Major misconduct

The Editor-in-Chief, in consultation with the Editorial Board, and, when appropriate, further consultation with a small group of experts should make any decision regarding the course of action to be taken using the evidence available. The possible outcomes are as follows (these can be used separately or jointly):

- Publication of a formal announcement or editorial describing the misconduct.
- Informing the author's (or reviewer's) head of department or employer of any misconduct by means of a formal letter.

- The formal, announced retraction of publications from the journal in accordance with the Retraction Policy (see below).
- A ban on submissions from an individual for a defined period.
- Referring a case to a professional organization or legal authority for further investigation and action.

When dealing with unethical behaviour, the Editorial Staff will rely on the guidelines and recommendations provided by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE): <http://publicationethics.org/resources/>.

RETRACTION POLICY

Legal limitations of the publisher, copyright holder or author(s), infringements of professional ethical codes, such as multiple submissions, bogus claims of authorship, plagiarism, fraudulent use of data or any major misconduct require retraction of an article. Occasionally a retraction can be used to correct errors in submission or publication. The main reason for withdrawal or retraction is to correct the mistake while preserving the integrity of science; it is not to punish the author.

Standards for dealing with retractions have been developed by a number of library and scholarly bodies, and this practice has been adopted for article retraction by *Arheologija i prirodne nauke (Archaeology and Science)*: in the electronic version of the retraction note, a link is made to the original article. In the electronic version of the original article, a link is made to the retraction note where it is clearly stated that the article has been retracted. The original article is retained unchanged, save for a watermark on the PDF indicating on each page that it is “retracted.”

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