

Publication ethics and malpractice statement

Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EDITOR(S):

Publication decisions

The editor is responsible for deciding which manuscripts submitted to the journal will be published. Editorial decisions are based on the scholarly merit of the submission, including its originality, significance, clarity, methodological soundness, and relevance to the journal's scope. Manuscripts are evaluated impartially, without discrimination regarding the authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political views. The editor must also ensure compliance with applicable legal and ethical standards, including those concerning libel, copyright, and plagiarism. Manuscripts submitted by authors who engage in unethical publishing practices, such as simultaneous submission to multiple journals, may be declined.

Confidentiality

The editor and editorial staff must treat all submitted manuscripts as confidential and must not disclose any information about them except to the corresponding author and reviewers.

Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Unpublished information or materials contained in a submitted manuscript must not be used by the editor or members of the editorial board for their own research without the author's explicit written consent.

AI Policy for editors

Editors must not input manuscripts, reviews, or decisions into AI tools; all editorial actions and communications must remain entirely human-driven.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF REVIEWER(S):

Contribution to editorial decisions

The peer-review process provides essential guidance to the editor and the editorial board in evaluating manuscripts and making informed publication decisions. It also offers authors constructive feedback to enhance the quality, clarity, and scholarly rigor of their work.

Confidentiality

Manuscripts submitted for review must remain confidential and may only be shared with others as authorized by the editor.

Standards of objectivity

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

Disclosure and Conflict of Interest

Reviewers must keep all information gained through peer review confidential and decline manuscripts where conflicts of interest exist with the authors, their institutions, or affiliated organizations.

AI policy for Reviewers

Reviewers are **not** permitted to upload the submitted manuscripts into any AI tool — not for clarity, nor for analysis — as this may violate the authors' rights and confidentiality.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHOR(S):

Originality and Acknowledgement of Sources

Authors must submit original work and properly cite all sources, ideas, or words derived from others. Influential publications that shaped the research should also be acknowledged. Authors are required to provide the editors with a formal [declaration](https://totalitarianism.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Authors-declaration_2026_b.pdf) of originality.

https://totalitarianism.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Authors-declaration_2026_b.pdf

Multiple or Redundant Publication

Manuscripts reporting the same research must not be published in more than one journal. Simultaneous submission or resubmission of copyrighted material is unethical and prohibited.

Conflicts of Interest and Funding

Authors must disclose any financial or other conflicts of interest that could affect the research or its interpretation. All sources of funding or support must be reported.

GenAI Policy – Use of Generative AI Technology

Use of AI in Writing

Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, DeepSeek) may only be used to enhance the readability and clarity of text. They must **not** be used to generate scientific content, results, interpretations, or conclusions. Authors are fully responsible for all content and must review, supervise, and edit any AI-assisted text.

Mandatory AI Use Declaration

Any use of generative AI must be explicitly disclosed in the manuscript, placed immediately before the references, using a statement such as:

“The authors used [name of AI tool] for [purpose]. The final content was reviewed and approved by the authors, who take full responsibility for it.”

Policy on Images and Figures

The generation or modification of images, figures, or illustrations using AI tools is strictly prohibited.

Misconduct

If conflicts between a published article and the ethical principles of the journal are suspected, they should be reported to the Editorial Board at secretariat@totalitarianism.ro. Published articles may be retracted in accordance with the [COPE Retraction guidelines](#).

The Generative Artificial Intelligence Policy of the Journal

Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives

The journal *Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives* does not exclude the possibility of the responsible use of AI tools by authors, reviewers, and editors. In this regard, in accordance with the recommendations of the European Research Area Forum (April 2025), the current regulations of the European Union, and the practices adopted by reputable institutions in the field of scientific publishing and research (Elsevier, University of Oxford, Sage Publications), the editors of *Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives* provide authors and reviewers with the present publication ethics policy, emphasizing the transparency of the process and the guidance offered to all parties involved.

The journal *Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives* approaches the use of artificial intelligence as follows:

1) Undeclared use of AI programs, encountered primarily for supplementary text editing aimed at improving structure, language, spelling, punctuation, grammar, or translation accuracy. Responsibility for compliance with academic standards and the correctness of the manuscript nevertheless remains entirely with the author.

2) Declared use of AI tools, disclosed from the moment the manuscript is submitted to the editors, especially in cases involving the generation of texts, images, or other content that influences the research methodology, analysis, results, or conclusions. Images generated with the assistance of AI must be appropriately labeled, even when derived from the processing of real photographs. Other situations in which the use of AI tools must be declared include: compiling relevant sources for a given research project; translating texts from locally used languages into internationally circulated languages (where no translation already exists); and generating infographics, tables, and figures. The declaration regarding the use of AI tools

(including the program and model used) must be included in the manuscript upon submission to the journal's editorial office and will be published together with the final material.

3) Prohibited use of AI tools, which may result in: immediate rejection of the manuscript or rejection during the peer-review process; termination of collaboration with reviewers who have used AI tools to generate evaluation reports. Specifically, reviewers are not permitted to upload submitted manuscripts (or even excerpts thereof) to AI software platforms, as this would violate confidentiality, property rights, or data protection legislation. Furthermore, the use of AI tools is not permitted for generating: inaccurate texts or content; data or manuscripts produced through prompts; interviews; falsified statements; fabricated quotations; images based on photographs protected by copyright law; or letters communicating editorial decisions.

Arhivele Totalitarismului/Totalitarianism Archives recommends that authors, editors, reviewers, and all collaborators demonstrate responsibility and critical judgment regarding the use of generative AI, given its technological limitations. It also recommends transparency, through the acknowledgment of interactions with AI programs in the methodology section; awareness of issues such as confidentiality, data protection, and respect for copyright, in accordance with national and European legislation; and caution regarding the use of generative AI in the evaluation process.

As the use of generative AI in research is a relatively recent reality, we intend to update our policies in this area at regular intervals, as new information emerges, in a constant and balanced effort to weigh its advantages and disadvantages.

References

- [1] "Generative AI Policies for Journals," available at Elsevier.
- [2] "Policy for Using Generative AI in Research: Guidelines for Researchers and Professional Staff," University of Oxford.
- [3] "Publication Ethics Policies," Sage Publications.