



EBCRI Journal Policies

The EastBridge Centre for Research & Innovation (EBCRI) is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity, transparency, and accessibility in scholarly publishing. Our policies are designed to support rigorous research, ethical practices, and open dissemination of knowledge in education and related fields. These guidelines apply to all submissions, publications, and interactions with the EBCRI journal. Authors are required to adhere to these policies throughout the submission and publication process.

Below are the key policies for the EBCRI journal. For inquiries, contact us at admin@ebcri.org

1. Open Access Policy

EBCRI is fully committed to open access publishing, ensuring that all research is freely available to readers worldwide without subscription barriers. Our goal is to maximize the dissemination and impact of scholarly work in education, management, IT, business, communication, and media.

- **Licensing:** All articles are published under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0). This allows users to share, copy, distribute, and transmit the work for any purpose, provided the original authors and source are credited.
- **Accessibility:** Articles are immediately available upon publication. EBCRI encourages authors to share their work on platforms like ResearchGate, Academia.edu, and Google Scholar.
- **Archiving:** EBCRI deposits all articles in repositories such as Zenodo, PubMed Central (for relevant subjects), and DOAJ-indexed archives to ensure long-term preservation.
- **Waivers:** EBCRI offers fee waivers for authors from low-income countries or those facing financial hardship. Contact the editorial office for eligibility.

EBCRI supports the Budapest Open Access Initiative and aligns with Plan S principles to promote equitable access to knowledge.

2. Publication Ethics

EBCRI adheres to the highest ethical standards, following the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) guidelines. We expect all parties: authors, editors, reviewers, and publishers to uphold integrity in research and publication.

- **Authorship:** Authors must contribute significantly to the work and approve the final manuscript. Ghost authorship, guest authorship, or gift authorship is prohibited. Changes to authorship post-submission require editorial approval.
- **Conflicts of Interest:** Authors must disclose any financial or personal relationships that could influence the work. Editors and reviewers must recuse themselves from decisions involving conflicts.



- Human and Animal Rights: Research involving human participants must obtain informed consent and approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRB). Animal studies must follow ARRIVE guidelines and ethical standards.
- Data Integrity: Authors must ensure data accuracy and availability. Fabrication, falsification, or selective reporting is unacceptable and may result in retraction.
- Post-Publication Corrections: Minor errors are corrected with an erratum. Significant issues lead to expressions of concern or retractions, following COPE flowcharts.
- Complaints: Concerns about ethics are investigated promptly by the editor-in-chief, with potential escalation to [COPE](#).

Violations may result in rejection, retraction, or blacklisting. EBCRI promotes ethical research to advance educational scholarship.

3. Peer Review Process

EBCRI employs a rigorous double-blind peer review process to ensure the quality and validity of published research. All submissions are evaluated for originality, significance, and methodological soundness.

- Initial Screening: The editorial team checks for completeness, plagiarism, and fit with journal scope within 1 week of submission.
- Assignment: Suitable manuscripts are assigned to 2-3 independent reviewers (experts in education, management, IT, business, etc.) within 2 weeks.
- Review Timeline: Reviewers provide feedback within 4 weeks. They assess clarity, rigor, and contribution to the field.
- Decision: Editors synthesize reviews and decide: Accept, Minor Revision, Major Revision, Reject. Authors receive detailed feedback.
- Revisions: Revised manuscripts are re-reviewed if significant changes are made. Final decisions are made within 6-8 weeks.
- Appeal: Authors may appeal rejections within 2 weeks, providing new evidence.

EBCRI uses tools like Turnitin for plagiarism detection. Reviewers are anonymous, and editors ensure fairness.

4. Copyright Policy

EBCRI respects intellectual property while promoting open access. Authors retain copyright but grant EBCRI rights to publish and distribute.

- Author Rights: Authors retain ownership and can share their work on personal sites, repositories (e.g., ResearchGate, SSRN), or social media, provided the original publication is cited.
- License: Upon acceptance, authors grant EBCRI a non-exclusive license to publish under CC BY 4.0, allowing reuse with attribution.



- Third-Party Material: Authors must obtain permissions for figures, tables, or excerpts from copyrighted works and acknowledge sources.
- Transfer: No formal transfer form is required; acceptance implies license agreement. EBCRI does not charge for copyright processing.
- Infringement: Suspected violations are investigated, potentially leading to retraction.

EBCRI encourages authors to deposit preprints in repositories like Zenodo or ORCID.

5. Plagiarism Policy

EBCRI maintains a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism to uphold academic integrity. All submissions are screened for originality.

- Detection: All manuscripts are checked using Turnitin or iThenticate upon submission. Similarity above 15% (excluding references) triggers review.
- Types of Plagiarism: Includes verbatim copying, paraphrasing without citation, self-plagiarism, and duplicate publication.
- Consequences: Minor issues (e.g., uncited quotes) require correction. Major violations result in rejection, retraction, and notification to the author's institution.
- Author Responsibilities: Authors must cite all sources and declare any prior publications. AI-generated content must be disclosed.
- Appeals: Authors can appeal findings within 10 days, providing evidence.

EBCRI promotes ethical writing and offers resources on proper citation via our Resources page.

6. Data Sharing Policy

EBCRI encourages data sharing to enhance transparency and reproducibility in educational research.

- Requirement: Authors must make underlying data available upon request or deposit in repositories like Zenodo, Figshare, or Dryad. Datasets should be cited in the article.
- Exceptions: Sensitive data (e.g., human subjects) may be exempt with justification and ethical approval.
- Format: Data should be in open formats (e.g., CSV, Excel) with metadata and DOI if possible.
- Timeline: Data should be shared at publication or upon acceptance.
- Compliance: Non-compliance may delay publication. EBCRI supports FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable).

Authors are encouraged to include a Data Availability Statement in their manuscript.



7. Article Processing Charges (APC)

The EastBridge Centre for Research&Innovation (EBCRI) operates as an open access journal, charging a modest Article ProcessingCharge (APC) to cover the costs of publication, including editorial services, hosting, and indexing,while ensuring global accessibility of research. These fees support our mission to maintainhigh-quality, open access publishing in education and related fields.

- APC Rates: Indian authors are charged INR 1,500 per article. International authors are charged USD 30 per article. These fees fund journal operations, ensuring sustainability and broad dissemination.
- Waivers: Full waivers (100%) are available for authors from low-income countries, as defined by the World Bank classification, or those facing financial hardship. Authors may apply for a waiver by contacting the editorial office at info@ebcri.org during submission.
- Payment Methods: Payments are accepted via debit/credit card, wire transfer, or online platforms such as PayPal or Razorpay, Pay Solutions and Alipay . An invoice will be provided upon article acceptance.
- No Additional Fees: EBCRI does not charge for color figures, additional pages, or copyright processing, ensuring transparency in costs.

EBCRI is committed to minimizing financial barriers to publishing, promoting equitable access to scholarly communication for researchers worldwide.

8. Indexing and Abstracting

EBCRI is committed to visibility and discoverability of published research.

- Current Indexing: EBCRI is indexed in Google Scholar, Semantic Scholar, and DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals).
- DOI: All articles receive a DOI via Crossref for citation and tracking.

Authors can promote their work on platforms like ResearchGate, Academia.edu, and SSRN.

9. Complaints and Appeals Policy

EBCRI welcomes feedback to improve our processes and welcomes complaints or appeals in a fair and transparent manner.

- Complaints: Submit via email to info@ebcri.org or the contact form. Include details of the issue (e.g., review process, ethics violation).
- Timeline: Acknowledgment within 3 working days; resolution within 4 weeks.
- Appeals: Authors may appeal rejections within 2 weeks, providing new evidence. Editorial decisions are final but reviewed by the editor-in-chief.
- Confidentiality: All complaints are handled confidentially, following COPE guidelines.

EBCRI strives for fairness and ethical publishing.

For more details or updates, visit the EBCRI website or contact the editorial team.