

## Plagiarism Policy

At MAT Journals, we take plagiarism very seriously and are fully committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and originality in scholarly publishing. Plagiarism in any form is strictly unethical and unacceptable. To uphold these standards, every submitted manuscript undergoes a thorough plagiarism screening to ensure that the content is both original and properly attributed to its sources.

### What Constitutes Plagiarism?

Plagiarism occurs when an individual presents another person's work, ideas, or data as their own without proper attribution. This can take several forms, including but not limited to:

1. **Direct Plagiarism:** Copying text, ideas, or research findings from another source without proper citation or acknowledgment.
2. **Self-Plagiarism:** Reusing one's own previously published work or substantial parts of it without appropriate citation. This includes republishing the same content across multiple journals.
3. **Mosaic Plagiarism:** Paraphrasing or piecing together ideas, phrases, or sentences from various sources without proper attribution.
4. **Source-Based Plagiarism:** Misrepresenting sources, such as citing a source incorrectly or fabricating references, which misleads readers about the true origin of the ideas or research.

### Plagiarism Detection Process

**Submission Screening:** All submitted manuscripts are checked for plagiarism using advanced plagiarism detection software. This screening is done before the manuscript is sent out for peer review to ensure the content is original.

**Threshold:** Manuscripts with more than a certain percentage of plagiarized content (as determined by the journal's policy) will be flagged and returned to the authors for correction, revision, or outright rejection depending on the severity.

### Consequences of Plagiarism

If plagiarism is detected at any stage either during submission, peer review, or after publication the following actions will be taken:

**Minor Overlap:** If the similarity index is low and appears to be the result of unintentional oversight, the manuscript will be returned to the authors for revision and proper citation.

**Significant Overlap:** Manuscripts with substantial plagiarized content will be outright rejected. Authors will be informed of the reason for rejection and may be barred from submitting to the journal in the future.

**Post-Publication Plagiarism:** If plagiarism is identified after publication, MAT Journals will take immediate action, which may include issuing a correction, retracting the paper, and notifying the author's institution.

## **Author Responsibilities**

- Authors must ensure that their work is entirely original, and any content derived from other works is properly cited and credited.
- Authors should correctly attribute all ideas, data, and research findings taken from other works. This includes citing their own previously published work (self-citation) to avoid self-plagiarism.
- If the work involves collaboration, all contributors must agree to the final version of the manuscript, and appropriate credit must be given to all involved parties.

## **Reviewer and Editor Responsibilities**

- **Plagiarism Monitoring:** Reviewers and editors are encouraged to flag any suspicious similarities or overlapping content they notice during the review process.
- **Ethical Evaluation:** Editors are responsible for ensuring that all submissions meet the ethical standards for originality and for addressing any allegations of plagiarism.

## **Reporting Plagiarism**

If any individual (authors, reviewers, editors, or readers) suspects or identifies plagiarism in any work published by MAT Journals, they are encouraged to report it immediately to the editorial office. All allegations will be thoroughly investigated following COPE guidelines, and appropriate action will be taken.