

Editorial Policy

for the Annals of West University of Timisoara – Physics

I. General context

I.1. The Annals of West University of Timisoara – Physics (hereby AWUTP, Analele Universității de Vest din Timisoara – Seria Fizică) is the journal edited by the Faculty of Physics, West University of Timisoara, Romania. AWUTP publishes **original papers, presenting new results, not published or considered for publication anywhere else**, obtained in the fields of Materials Science, Theoretical and Computational Physics, Applied Physics, Medical Physics.

II. Publication frequency

II.1. The Annals of West University of Timisoara – Physics is published in electronic format only, one volume per year.

III. Open Access Policy

III.1. The Journal is an Open Access journal that allows a free unlimited access to all its contents without any restrictions upon sharing to all users. Authors who publish with this journal retain all copyrights and agree to make the submitted article available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 DEED International license.

IV. Article processing charges

IV.1. The journal does not have article processing charges (APCs) nor article submission charges.

V. Acceptance of papers

V.1. The journal welcomes only papers written in English, and the authors are encouraged to have their manuscript reviewed for language before submission.

V.2. The Editorial Board will consider for publishing only those manuscripts that have not been published or simultaneously submitted for publishing elsewhere. The submission has to be approved by all of the authors and they have to agree to the copyright policy after the manuscript is accepted for publication. The manuscripts to Annals of West University of Timisoara - Physics are to be sent via email to: awutp@e-uvv.ro.

VI. Peer review process

VI.1. AWUTP uses single-blind review system for all papers. Each submission will be initially assessed by the Editor and verified for originality by Similarity Check. Papers that pass the preliminary assessment will be subjected to the single blind peer review process, being sent by a member of the Editorial Board to two reviewers. The reviewers are selected solely according to whether they have the relevant expertise for evaluating a manuscript. They must not be from the same institution as the author(s) of the manuscript, nor be their co-authors in the recent past. No suggestions of individual reviewers by the author(s) of the manuscript will be accepted.

VI.2. Under normal circumstances, the review process takes at least four weeks. The total period from the submission of a manuscript until its publication takes an average of 3 months. During the review process the Editor-in-Chief may require authors to provide additional information (including raw data) if they are necessary for the evaluation of the manuscript. These materials shall be kept confidential and must not be used for any other purposes.

VI.3. The corresponding author will be notified by the Editor by email when a decision for publication is made, and the authors will be asked to answer all the reviewers' questions and comments and to take into account the suggested revisions when preparing the final version of the manuscript. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final.

VII. Resolving inconsistencies

VII.1. In the case that the authors have serious and reasonable objections to the reviews, the Editorial Board makes an assessment of whether a review is objective and whether it meets academic standards. If there is a doubt about the objectivity or quality of review, the Editor-in-Chief will assign additional reviewer(s).

VII.2. Additional reviewers may also be assigned when reviewers' decisions (accept or reject) are contrary to each other or otherwise substantially incompatible.

VII.3. The final decision on the acceptance of the manuscript for publication rests solely with the Editor-in-Chief.

VIII. Author Responsibilities

VIII.1. Authors warrant that their manuscripts are their original works, that they have not been published before, and are not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Parallel submission of the same paper to another journal constitutes a misconduct and eliminates the manuscript from further consideration. The work that has already been published elsewhere cannot be reprinted in the AWUTP.

VIII.2. Authors are exclusively responsible for the contents of their submissions. Authors affirm that the article contains no unfounded or unlawful statements and does not violate the rights of third parties.

VIII.3. Authors must make sure that their author team listed in the manuscript includes all and only those authors who have significantly contributed to the submitted manuscript. If persons other than authors were involved in important aspects of the research project and the preparation of the manuscript, their contribution should be acknowledged in the Acknowledgments section.

VIII.4. It is the responsibility of the authors to specify the title and code label of the research project within which the work was created, as well as the full title of the funding institution. In case a submitted manuscript has been presented at a conference in the form of an oral presentation (under the same or similar title), detailed information about the conference shall be provided.

VIII.5. Authors are required to properly cite sources that have significantly influenced their research and their manuscript. Parts of the manuscript, including text, equations, pictures and tables that are taken verbatim from other works must be clearly marked, e.g. by quotation marks accompanied by their location in the original document (page number), or, if more extensive, given in a separate paragraph.

VIII.6. When authors discover a significant error or inaccuracy in their own published work, it is their obligation to promptly notify the Editor-in-Chief and cooperate with him/her to retract or correct the paper.

VIII.7. By submitting a manuscript the authors agree to abide by the Editorial Policies of AWUTP.

IX. Editorial responsibilities

IX.1. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for deciding which articles submitted to the journal will be published. The decisions are made based exclusively on the manuscript's merit. They must be free from any racial, gender, sexual, religious, ethnic, or political bias. When making decisions the Editor-in-Chief is also guided by the editorial policy and legal provisions relating to defamation, copyright infringement and plagiarism.

IX.2. Members of the Editorial Board including the Editor-in-Chief must hold no conflict of interest with regard to the articles they consider for publication. Members who feel they might be perceived as being involved in such a conflict do not participate in the decision process for a particular manuscript.

IX.3. The information and ideas presented in submitted manuscripts shall be kept confidential. Information and ideas contained in unpublished materials must not be used for personal gain without the written consent of the authors.

IX.4. Editors and the editorial staff shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that the authors/reviewers remain anonymous during and after the evaluation process in accordance with the type of reviewing in use.

IX.5. The Editorial Board is obliged to assist reviewers with additional information on the manuscript, including the results of checking manuscript for plagiarism.

X. Reviewers' responsibilities

X.1. Reviewers are required to provide the qualified and timely assessment of the scholarly merits of the manuscript. The reviewer takes special care of the real contribution and originality of the manuscript. The review must be fully objective. The judgment of the reviewers must be clear and substantiated by arguments.

X.2. The reviewers assess manuscript for the compliance with the profile of the journal, the relevance of the investigated topic and applied methods, the scientific relevance of information presented in the manuscript, the presentation style and scholarly apparatus.

X.3. The reviewer must not be in a conflict of interest with the authors or funders of research. If such a conflict exists, the reviewer is obliged to promptly notify the Editor-in-Chief. The reviewer shall not accept for reviewing papers beyond the field of his/her full competence.

X.4. Reviewers should alert the Editor-in-Chief 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 considered in the manuscript. They may recommend specific references for citation, but shall not require to cite papers published in AWUTP, or their own papers, unless it is justified.

X.5. The reviewers are expected to improve the quality of the manuscript through their suggestions. If they recommend correction of the manuscript prior to publication, they are obliged to specify the manner in which this can be achieved.

X.6. 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.

XI. Disclaimer

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