



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY DELHI
(A University of Law Established by Act No.1 of 2008 of NCT of Delhi)
Sector- 14, Dwarka, New Delhi – 110 078

National Law University Delhi Framework for Assessment of Publication
(Adopted /modified from UGC Public Notice no. 1-1/2018(CARE/JOURNAL) dated 16th July,2025)

National Law University Delhi (NLUD) is committed to fostering excellence in legal scholarship, research innovation, and the dissemination of high-quality academic work. In accordance with international best practices in academic publishing and the guidelines provided by UGC dated 16th July 2025 for choosing peer-reviewed Journals by faculty members and students in Higher Education Institutions, the NLUD Policy for academic research related publications aims to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity, editorial transparency, and publication ethics. This policy provides for suggestive parameters for choosing peer reviewed journals and books and also provides for policy on publication ethics and academic integrity. It acts as a guiding document for authors, editors, reviewers, and readers to uphold high-quality standards and ethical practices throughout the publication process, thereby strengthening NLUD's position as a leader in promoting legal research and thought leadership both nationally and internationally.

1. Objectives

The objectives of the *NLUD Policy for academic research related publications* are:

- To establish clear and uniform standards for academic and research publication in the field of law and allied disciplines.
- To ensure strict compliance with the regulations of the University Grants Commission (UGC), the guidelines of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), and all applicable national and international legal and ethical norms governing scholarly publishing.
- To evaluate peer-reviewed journals other than those indexed in Scopus and Web of Science.

2. General Definitions

Academic contribution: It refers to the extent to which the articles published in a journal advance scholarship, influence debates, and contribute to the body of knowledge in their field.

Acceptance rate: It is the percentage of all articles submitted to a journal in a calendar year that are accepted for publication.

AI Generated Content Policy: It refers to NLUD AI Generated Content Policy. (Appendix '1')

Archival policy: It refers to the formal plan a journal has for the long-term preservation and accessibility of its published content, even if the journal ceases operations. It specifies which digital preservation systems or repositories the journal uses (e.g., LOCKSS, Portico, CLOCKSS, National Library archives, institutional repositories).

Article Processing Charges (APC): It is a fee paid by the author, their institution, or funder to make an article open access.

Certified domain: It refers to the journal's website being hosted on a legitimate, verifiable domain that is either but not limited to:

- An institutional domain (for example, .ac.in, .edu, .org tied to a university or research body), or
- A publisher's certified domain (e.g., .tandfonline.com for Taylor & Francis, .springer.com for Springer, .elsevier.com for Elsevier, .sagepub.com for SAGE).

Citation Records: It refers to the documented frequency and context in which articles published in a journal are cited in other scholarly works, policy papers, judicial opinions, or international databases.

Conformity to Journal Scope: It means that articles must align with the journal's stated aims and objectives.

Continuity: It refers to the ongoing, indefinite issuance of a serial or periodical publication, provided under the same title and scope.

Impact factor: The Impact Factor (IF) is a metric developed by Eugene Garfield and calculated annually by Clarivate's Journal Citation Reports (JCR). It measures the average number of citations received in a given year by articles published in that journal during the preceding two years.

Integration with repositories: It means that a journal ensures its articles are archived, indexed, or deposited in recognized national or international repositories or databases, making them easily discoverable, accessible, and preserved for the long term. This may include:

- National repositories- like Shodhganga (INFLIBNET, India), Shodh-Shuddhi, or university institutional repositories.

- International repositories/databases- such as SSRN (Social Science Research Network), Hein-Online, JSTOR, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), PubMed Central, LOCKSS/Portico for archiving.

Non-Periodic: A publication is considered to be non-periodic if it is published at one time, or, at intervals, by volumes, the number of which is generally determined in advance.

Open access: It means free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles.

Periodicity: It refers to the frequency with which a journal is published within a given time frame (monthly, quarterly, biannual, annual, etc.). It shows whether a journal maintains a regular and predictable schedule of publication.

Plagiarism Policy: It refers to the policy related to plagiarism stated in NLUD Policy on Publication Ethics and Academic Integrity.

Publishing Timeline: It refers to the declared and actual time taken by a journal from manuscript submission to final publication, including the stages of peer review, revision, acceptance, copy-editing, and online/print release.

Subscription based policy: A subscription-based policy means that access to a journal's content is restricted to paying subscribers (individuals or institutions, like universities and libraries). Only subscribers can read or download articles, unlike open access journals where content is freely available.

Transparent review process: It means that the journal clearly communicates its peer review system (single-blind, double-blind, or open review), timelines, reviewer selection practices, and criteria for decision-making. It should make this information publicly available on its website and consistently apply it.

3. Publication Ethics and Academic Integrity Policy

It refers to the NLUD Policy on Publication Ethics and Academic Integrity as provided in Appendix '2'.

4. AI Content Generated Policy

It refers to the NLUD AI Generated Content Policy as provided in Appendix '1', which guides the responsible use of AI tools in academic publications.

5. Journal Publishing Measuring Chart

NLUD is committed to promote high-quality research and one of the major requirements for faculty members and students in National Law University Delhi is dissemination it through high quality publications in academic journals. To achieve the goal UGC via public information F. No.:1-1/2018(CARE/JOURNAL) dated 16 July 2025 has provided suggestive parameters for choosing peer- reviewed of Journals by faculty members and students in Higher Education Institutions. However, with the discontinuation of UGC-CARE list, National Law University Delhi on the recommendations of suggestive parameters by UGC prepared Non-Predatory Journal Evaluation Criteria for Journals publications to ensure that faculty members, researchers and students publish their work in recognized and high-impact journals. The key objectives of parameters are:

- Ensuring quality and authenticity of research publications.
- Preventing publication in predatory or unethical journals.
- Enhancing global visibility and recognition of research.
- Encouraging publication in indexed and high-impact journals.

6. Guidelines and Checklist for selecting the Journal & Books

Category 1: Journal Preliminary Criteria

S No	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
1.1	Journal Title	Is the title unique, scholarly, and relevant to the domain?	
1.2	ISSN Number (Print and/or Online)	Is the journal registered with a valid ISSN (from ISSN India or international agency)?	
1.3	Periodicity and Continuity	Does the journal follow a regular publication schedule (quarterly, biannual, etc.)?	
1.4	Contact and Publication Details	Are full publisher details, physical address, and editorial contact clearly listed?	
1.5	Transparent Review Policy	Is the peer review process clearly mentioned and followed (single/double-blind, duration, etc.)?	
1.6	Website on a Certified Domain	Is the journal hosted on a secure (.org/.edu/.ac/.in) domain with HTTPS and professional layout?	
1.7	Integration with National/International Repositories	Is the journal included in ONOS, DOAJ, ShodhGanga, or international archives?	

1.8	Archival Policy	Does the journal archive past issues systematically (LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, IRs, etc.)?	
1.9	Indexation in Reputed Databases	Journal is indexed in recognized and reputable databases (e.g., Scopus, Web of Science, PubMed, DOAJ, UGC-CARE, EBSCO, etc.).	
Total Score for Category 1:/45			

Category 2: Editorial Board and Review Quality

S No	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
2.1	Editorial Board Details	Are the names, designations, affiliations, and academic profiles of the editorial board members clearly listed on the journal's website?	
2.2	Editorial Board Composition	Does the board include subject experts, reputed scholars, and professionals from national and international institutions?	
2.3	Efficient Editorial/Review Process	Is the peer review process rigorous, transparent, timely, and based on expert reviewer feedback? Is there adherence to timelines?	
Total Score for Category 2:...../15			

Category 3: Journal Editorial Policy

S No	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
3.1	Aims, Objectives, and Scope	Are the aims and objectives of the journal clearly defined? Is there a well-articulated scope relevant to current research trends?	
3.2	Subject Areas	Does the journal list specific academic disciplines/fields it caters to, avoiding overly broad or vague coverage?	
Total Score for Category 3:/10			

Category 4: Journal Quality Criteria

S No	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
4.1	Academic Contribution	Does the article present a clear research motivation? Does it advance existing knowledge in the field? Does it demonstrate original thinking or innovation? Is it relevant for policy application, theoretical enrichment, or practical implementation? Are references current and scholarly?	
4.2	Conformity to Journal Scope	Articles must align with the journal's stated aims, scope, subject areas, and target audience.	
Total Score for Category 4:/10			

Category 5: Journal Standards – Content Evaluation Table

	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
5.1	Bibliographic Data & Literature Citation	Accuracy and consistency in referencing style (BlueBook, OSCOLA, APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.), and inclusion of recent and relevant citations.	
5.2	Citation Record	Frequency of citation of the journal's articles in established databases like Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar, etc.	
Total Score for Category 5:/10			

Category 6: Research Ethics

S No	Criteria	Description	Score (1-5)
6.1	Plagiarism Prevention	Adherence to plagiarism-check standards (e.g., similarity score below 10–15%), with use of software like Turnitin or iThenticate.	
6.2	AI Generated Content Policy	The journal provides clear, responsible guidelines for acceptable use of generative AI tools (writing, data, images, etc.) in line with UGC/COPE.	
Total Score for Category 6:/10			

Parameter for Evaluation of the Journal

- **Score Range:** Each category has a maximum score (1–5 scale for each sub-criterion).
- **Total Weightage:** Journals – 100 points
- **Evaluation Result:**

Score Range (Journals) Overall Marks	Interpretation
100-80	Excellent: High quality, reputed, credible
79-60	Very Good: Acceptable and reliable
59-50	Good: Limited visibility
49-30	Average: Adequate but limited recognition
29-10	Weak: May lack credibility, limited or low visibility
9-1	Very Weak: May be unreliable, questionable, or predatory

- To be considered for qualification, journals must achieve a minimum overall score of 60 marks.
- This ensures that only journals categorized as Good or above are recognized as credible for evaluation purposes.

II- Books and Edited Chapters

S No	Parameter	Criteria	Score (1–2)
1	Publisher Reputation & ISBN	International/Nationally reputed academic publishers with ISBN	
2	Peer Review/Editorial Process	Peer-reviewed book or strict editorial screening	
3	Author/Editor Credentials	Single Author; Second Author, Third Author	
4	Scholarly Contribution	Significant original research or synthesis repetitive/basic	
5	Citation/Academic Usage	Frequently cited in academia; rarely cited	
6	Book's Scope and Relevance	Clear academic focus, matches subject need; general/non-academic	
7	Chapter Quality (for Edited Volumes)	Chapters individually peer-reviewed, strong contributions; uneven quality	
8	Publication Ethics and Integrity	Copyright, originality, referencing properly maintained; sloppy or plagiarized or below	
9	Innovation and Theoretical/Practical Impact	Introduces new theories, methods, or debates; minimal impact	
10	Accessibility and Distribution	Widely available (libraries, online platforms, repositories); obscure distribution	

Parameter for Evaluation of the Books

- **Score Range:** Each category has a maximum score (1–5 scale for each sub-criterion).
- **Total Weightage:** Books – 50 points (approx. customizable).
- **Evaluation Result:**

Score Range (Books) Overall Marks	Interpretation
50–46	Excellent: Highly credible, authoritative academic book
45–36	Very Good: Reliable, well-regarded, with strong academic value
35–25	Good: Generally reliable but may have minor limitations
24–15	Average: Adequate but may lack depth, detail, or reach
14–10	Weak: Low academic value, limited reliability
9–1	Very Weak: Unreliable, not recommended for referencing

- To be considered for qualification, books must achieve a minimum overall score of 36 marks.
- This ensures that only books categorized as Good or above are recognized as credible for evaluation purposes.



National Law University Delhi
(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

**AI-GENERATED CONTENT
POLICY**

National Law University Delhi
Sector-14 Dwarka, New Delhi

AI-Generated Content Policy

Preamble

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT, Copilot, Gemini, Claude, and others has reshaped academic research and publishing. While these tools offer efficiency in drafting and analysis, they raise serious concerns about authorship integrity, originality, citation accuracy, plagiarism, data security, and intellectual property. Their probabilistic and opaque functioning often introduces bias, error, and non-compliance with scholarly norms of attribution.

In line with the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Principles of Transparency and Best Practice and the UGC framework, the National Law University Delhi (NLUD) adopts this AI Content Generated Policy to regulate the ethical, transparent, and accountable use of AI tools in all NLUD journals and publications, safeguarding academic integrity and institutional responsibility.

Objectives of Policy

- To ensure academic integrity and intellectual accountability in all NLUD publications.
- To prevent misuse of AI-generated content that may lead to plagiarism or fabrication/falsification of data.
- To create a disclosure-based framework for the ethical use of AI in academic writing, in line with UGC guidelines for all academic and research-related publication activities.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All manuscripts, articles, case notes, book reviews, and editorials submitted to NLUD journals.
- Authors, co-authors, peer reviewers, and editorial board members involved in content creation or review.
- Visual or textual content, including images, graphs, charts, and data generated by AI.

Definitions

1. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tool:** It shall mean software systems, platforms, or models, including but not limited to Large Language Models (LLMs) and Generative AI, that are capable of producing, analyzing, or transforming text, images, data, or other content in response to user input.

2. **Generative AI:** It refers to AI systems designed to generate new content such as text, images, figures, data visualizations, or translations, based on patterns in pre-existing datasets.
3. **AI Assistance:** It means any contribution by an AI tool in the preparation of a manuscript, including drafting, editing, summarizing, translating, formatting, generating figures, or aiding literature searches.
4. **AI Use Statement:** It shall mean the formal disclosure included within a manuscript specifying whether AI tools were used, the identity and version of the tool, the purpose for which it was used, and the assurance that all substantive intellectual contributions remain the work of the author(s).
5. **Authorship:** It shall mean the human intellectual contribution to a scholarly work that encompasses conceptualization, critical analysis, interpretation, and accountability for the entirety of the content. Authorship shall not be attributed to AI tools.
6. **Disclosure:** It refers to the mandatory declaration by the author(s) regarding the use of AI tools in any stage of manuscript preparation, editing, or presentation.
7. **Originality:** It means that the manuscript reflects the author's own intellectual contribution and independent scholarly effort, and is not plagiarized, fabricated, or derived from unacknowledged sources, including AI-generated or AI-replicated content.
8. **Plagiarism:** It includes the presentation of another's work, ideas, data, or expressions as one's own without proper attribution, whether the source is human-authored or AI-generated.
9. **Manipulation:** It refers to the deceptive alteration, fabrication, or misrepresentation of data, text, images, or references through any means, including AI tools, with the intent of misleading readers.
10. **Confidential Data:** It means any unpublished manuscript, reviewer report, research dataset, personal data, or sensitive information that is protected by institutional, ethical, or legal obligations, and which must not be disclosed or processed using third-party AI systems.

Rules to regulate AI Generated Content

Rule 1. Authors shall mandatorily disclose any use of AI tools in manuscript preparation, specifying the tool used, its purpose (e.g., grammar correction, summarization), and affirming that the intellectual content is their own. Non-disclosure shall constitute academic misconduct and may lead to rejection or retraction.

Rule 2. Authorship shall rest solely with human contributors. Authors remain fully responsible for the originality, validity, and integrity of the work. Generative AI shall not be identified as an author or co-author. All co-authors shall assume collective responsibility for the accuracy, integrity, and approval of the final submission. No liability shall attach to the AI system.

Rule 3. Generative AI may be used only for support functions including:

- (a) language and grammar enhancement;
- (b) idea generation or structuring outlines;
- (c) classification and summarization of literature (subject to author verification);
- (d) translation and multilingual support (with independent validation);
- (e) metadata preparation such as abstracts, keywords, or references (with manual accuracy checks);
- (f) generation of figures or illustrations provided they are transparently disclosed, accurately labeled, and do not misrepresent original data.

Rule 4. Generative AI shall not be used to create or alter core arguments, empirical data, results, or interpretations that require human scholarly effort. It shall not fabricate, manipulate, or falsify research data, methodologies, or citations.

Rule 5. All manuscripts must reflect the author's own intellectual contribution. Authors remain responsible for ensuring that AI-assisted content does not plagiarize, replicate, or derive unlawfully from copyrighted or proprietary material. AI-assisted content must be reviewed, validated, and integrated by the author to uphold originality and academic rigor.

Rule 6. The final manuscript shall be the product of human scholarly effort. AI shall not substitute for human judgment. All authors must approve the final version and accept accountability for its content.

Rule 7. Authors must uphold publication ethics in all AI-assisted work. Generative AI shall not be employed in violation of data privacy, confidentiality, or human subject protections. Any use of AI for simulation, modeling, or hypothesis generation concerning human subjects must be ethically justified and documented.

Rule 8. The use of AI tools, including their name, version, and scope, shall be disclosed within the manuscript in the acknowledgements, methodology, or a dedicated "AI Use Statement."

Rule 9. Authors bear responsibility to ensure that AI-assisted content is free from plagiarism, including inadvertent reproduction of text or ideas derived from AI systems trained on copyrighted sources.

Rule 10. AI translation may be used only with human verification by a proficient author or qualified translator. Authors remain responsible for accuracy and must disclose such use in the manuscript.

Rule 11. AI-generated visuals shall be clearly labeled and disclosed in the caption or methods. They shall not misrepresent data, deceptively enhance or erase features, or infringe intellectual-property rights.

Rule 12. Authors, editors, and reviewers shall not upload unpublished manuscripts, confidential datasets, or personal data to public or third-party AI systems without prior authorization and legal/institutional compliance.



National Law University Delhi
(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

**POLICY ON PUBLICATION
ETHICS AND ACADEMIC
INTEGRITY**

National Law University Delhi
Sector-14 Dwarka, New Delhi

Policy on Publication Ethics And Academic Integrity

Preamble

NLUD Policy on Publication Ethics and Academic Integrity is promulgated by National Law University Delhi to establish and maintain the highest standards of publication ethics and academic integrity in all scholarly works submitted to and published by National Law University Delhi. These regulations aim to prevent and address instances of plagiarism, research misconduct, conflicts of interest, and other unethical practices in scholarly publishing, thereby fostering a culture of trust and accountability within the academic community in alignment with international practices.

These rules are applicable to:

1. all individuals, including authors, reviewers, and editors associated with the National Law University Delhi.
2. any individual not associated with National Law University Delhi but making a submission or other contribution for any journal, newsletter, research project or book chapters, etc., at National Law University Delhi;
3. academic submissions, including course assignments, dissertations, thesis etc.

Chapter 1: Definitions

Rule: 1 For the purpose of these Rules and Regulations, the following definitions shall apply:

- a) **Academic Integrity:** The commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage in academic and research endeavours.
- b) **Authorship:** Authorship refers to the recognition of individuals who have made a substantial intellectual contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the research study. It requires accountability for the content, agreement on authorship order, and consent for publication.

- c) **Author:** An individual who has -
- i. made substantial intellectual contributions to the study conception and design, data acquisition, analysis, and interpretation
 - ii. drafted the manuscript or made critical revision for important intellectual content
 - iii. agreed to be responsible and accountable for the accuracy and integrity of all aspects of the submission
 - iv. the ability to grant final approval of the version to be published.
- d) **Conflict of Interest:** A situation in which an individual's financial or non-financial interests could potentially bias their judgment or actions in the publication process.
- e) **Falsification:** Falsification refers to the intentional alteration, omission, or misrepresentation of research data, materials, or processes with the purpose of misleading readers. This includes-
- Altering datasets to produce desired outcomes.
 - Manipulating images, figures, or graphs to distort findings.
 - Misrepresenting methodology, analysis, or results.
- f) **Fabrication:** It involves making up data, results, sources, or citations and presenting them as authentic. This includes-
- Inventing data that was never collected.
 - Citing non-existent sources or legal cases.
 - Reporting fictitious experiments or observations.
- g) **Misconduct:** Any violation of ethical principles and standards in research and publication, including but not limited to plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, manipulation, misrepresentation of data, and canvassing in any form during the peer review process.
- h) **Plagiarism:** The act of presenting someone else's work or ideas as one's own, without proper attribution or permission. This includes verbatim copying, paraphrasing without citation, and using others' ideas without acknowledgement. It also includes self-plagiarism.

- i) **Publication Ethics:** The set of principles and guidelines that govern the integrity of the scholarly publishing process, ensuring transparency, fairness, and accountability among authors, editors, and reviewers.
- j) **Retraction:** The action of withdrawing a published article from the scholarly record due to significant errors, misconduct, or ethical violations.
- k) **Reviewer:** An expert appointed by the Editorial Board based on their subject expertise, academic qualifications, and publication record to evaluate the scholarly merit, validity, and ethical compliance of submitted manuscripts.
- l) **Submission:** A manuscript or other scholarly work including research papers, articles, case comments, blogs, assignments, dissertation, thesis presented to National Law University Delhi for potential publication.

Chapter 2: General Principles of Publication Ethics

Rule: 2 National Law University Delhi is committed to upholding academic and research integrity and adheres to the highest standards of publication ethics.

Rule: 3 All individuals involved in the publication process are expected to acquaint themselves with and adhere to these Rules and Regulations.

Rule: 4 The Publication Ethics and Academic Integrity Committee of National Law University Delhi (hereinafter, referred to as "PEAIC") shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation and enforcement of these Rules and Regulations.

Rule: 5 National Law University Delhi reserves the right to take appropriate action in cases of suspected or confirmed violations of publication ethics and academic integrity.

Rule: 6 These Rules and Regulations may be amended or updated by the PEAIC as deemed necessary. In cases where these regulations do not cover a specific event or situation, the Editorial Board shall have the discretion to make a decision based on the general principles and intent of these Rules, as well as by reference to best practices and guidelines issued by recognized bodies such as the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

Chapter 3: Governance and Editorial Structure

Rule: 7 Each journal published under the aegis of the National Law University Delhi (NLUD) shall have an Editorial Board comprising faculty members of NLUD, student editors (where applicable), and external subject experts of recognized standing in their respective fields.

Rule: 8 The Editor-in-Chief shall have primary responsibility for all editorial decisions. The Editor-in-Chief oversees the quality assurance process and will be the final decisions authority in all matters.

Rule: 9 Academic/Managing/Associate Editors oversee manuscript submission and review workflows, coordinate with reviewers, guide the journal's academic vision, maintain quality standards, and ensure compliance with the publication's ethical and editorial policies.

Rule: 10 Peer reviewers shall be selected based on their subject expertise, academic credentials, and professional standing. All reviewers must adhere to principles of impartiality, confidentiality, and independence, and shall not participate in the review of any manuscript where a conflict of interest exists.

Chapter 4: Authorship and Author Responsibilities

Rule: 11 Authorship shall be granted only to individuals who meet the defined criteria for authorship. Ghost authorship, guest authorship, and gift authorship are strictly prohibited.

Rule: 12 All authors are responsible for ensuring the originality, accuracy, and integrity of their submissions.

Rule: 13 Co-authorship shall be restricted to a maximum of three authors per manuscript unless the Editorial Board, upon written justification, permits otherwise in exceptional, multidisciplinary works.

Rule: 14 Authors must ensure that their submission does not infringe on any third person's copyright or any other rights, nor does it contain anything defamatory,

slanderous, libellous, obscene, or any other unlawful content. Authors shall be solely responsible for any legal violations arising from their submissions.

For all publications submitted to National Law University Delhi, the author is required to submit a declaration to respective centre running the journal or research projects. The centre is required to maintain a record of such declarations that may be inspected whenever required.

Rule: 15 Authors must only submit real and unfabricated data that is original.

Rule: 16 All authors should have read and be familiar with the reported work and should ensure that publications follow the principles set out in these Rules and Regulations. Authors will be expected to take joint responsibility for the integrity of the research and its reporting in most cases.

Rule: 17 Authors must properly acknowledge their sources and provide appropriate references in the prescribed manner. Any information obtained through private means must be included in the manuscript only after explicit written permission from the concerned third party.

Rule: 18 Authors are obligated to disclose any potential conflicts of interest that could influence the interpretation of their work at the earliest possible time.

Rule: 19 Authors must promptly notify National Law University Delhi if they discover any fundamental errors in their published work and cooperate with the journal in rectifying said errors.

Rule: 20 A manuscript can only be submitted to National Law University Delhi if it is not simultaneously under consideration by any other publication venue.

Chapter 5: Submission Process and Conditions

Rule: 21 Submissions must conform to the guidelines provided by National Law University Delhi. Submissions not conforming to these guidelines may be returned or rejected.

Rule: 22 By submitting a manuscript, the author(s) grant National Law University Delhi the necessary rights for publication if the manuscript is accepted.

Rule: 23 Authors may request the addition or removal of author(s) after submission, acceptance, or publication by providing a detailed explanation for the change and a signed statement of agreement from all involved parties. The Editorial Board reserves the right to approve or reject such requests.

Rule: 24 National Law University Delhi reserves the right to reject submissions if they do not align with the mandate of the journal.

Rule: 25 All submissions should undergo a preliminary assessment by the respective Editorial Board to ensure they meet the basic criteria for consideration.

Rule 26: All submissions shall undergo a blind peer review (single or double) process, and the corresponding transparency data must be regularly updated on the respective website.

Rule 27: To prevent conflicts of interest, any individual involved in the peer review process in any capacity shall be prohibited from making submissions. The final decision-making authority shall rest with the Editor-in-Chief or Managing Editor, who shall ensure full compliance with all applicable rules.

Chapter 6: Plagiarism, Falsification, Fabrication

Rule: 28 All submissions prior to peer review will undergo thorough duplication-checking and anti-plagiarism checks, which may include the use of AI-based tools.

Rule 29: All submissions to any journal of National Law University, Delhi, including calls for papers or research projects, must not exceed a 10% plagiarism threshold and a 10% AI-generated content limit. This requirement applies equally to all individuals affiliated with National Law University, Delhi, in any capacity, including submissions made to external journals or publications.

Rule: 30 Plagiarism in all its forms including self-plagiarism is unethical and unacceptable.

Rule: 31 If a manuscript is found to contain plagiarism, National Law University Delhi reserves the right to take action, including but not limited to:

- Publishing an erratum or corrigendum
- Retracting the article
- Taking up the matter with the head of the department or dean of the author's institution and/or relevant academic bodies or societies
- Taking appropriate legal action
- Refusing future submissions from the author(s)

Rule: 32 All authors must ensure accuracy in reporting and maintain original data and records for verification if requested.

Rule: 33 Any proven case of falsification or fabrication will result in immediate rejection of the manuscript.

Chapter 7: Misconduct Review Process

Rule: 34 Allegations of research misconduct will be taken seriously and will be handled in a fair and thorough manner by the PEAIC following the procedure set by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

Rule: 35 Upon receiving an allegation of misconduct, PEAIC will conduct an initial assessment to determine if the allegation warrants further investigation.

Rule: 36 If an investigation is deemed necessary, PEAIC may appoint a subcommittee or an external expert to conduct the investigation.

Rule: 37 The author(s) against whom the allegation is made will be provided with an opportunity to respond to the allegations and present evidence.

Rule: 38 The investigation will be conducted confidentially, and all parties involved will be expected to maintain confidentiality.

Rule: 39 Based on the findings of the investigation, the PEAIC will decide on the appropriate course of action, which may include those listed under plagiarism consequences, as well as other measures deemed necessary.

Chapter 8: Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Management

Rule: 40 Authors have the responsibility to disclose all potential conflicts of interest to National Law University Delhi at the time of submission. This includes both financial and non-financial interests but not limited to personal, academic, or other professional conflicts that could potentially influence the objectivity of their work.

Rule: 41 Reviewers and Editors are required to disclose any conflicts of interest that could bias their review of a manuscript and should recuse themselves from reviewing if such conflicts exist at any point during the review process if they arise

Rule: 42 Editors are also required to disclose any relationships that may cause a potential conflict of interest and request a recusal from editorial decisions where necessary. Submissions made by editorial team members shall not be accepted for publication in the Journal.

Rule: 43 If an author fails to disclose a conflict of interest, National Law University Delhi may take action, including retraction of the article or issuing a letter of concern or reprimand.

Chapter 9: Retraction, Correction and Withdrawal

Rule: 44 A published article may be retracted if there is clear evidence of:

- Major errors that invalidate the findings and conclusions.
- Research misconduct, such as plagiarism, fabrication, or falsification of data.
- Unethical research practices.
- Undeclared conflicts of interest that would have significantly impacted the publication decision.

Rule: 45 The decision to retract an article will be made by the PEAC after careful consideration and investigation. The decision of the PEAC will be final.

Rule: 46 A notice of retraction will be published, clearly identifying the retracted article and the reasons for retraction. The retraction notice will be linked to the original article online and will be clearly marked as retracted in all electronic versions.

Rule: 47 In cases of retraction, National Law University Delhi may inform relevant academic institutions and professional bodies.

Rule: 48 Corrections shall be issued when minor factual, typographical, or formatting errors are identified that do not affect the validity of research findings, including author name misspellings, affiliation updates, or reference corrections. Such corrections will be published in the earliest possible issue, linked to the original article, and the corrected version shall record the date and nature of changes made.

Rule: 49 Authors may request withdrawal of a manuscript prior to publication only under justified circumstances such as discovery of significant errors, ethical concerns, or duplicate submission. Post-publication withdrawal shall be permitted solely in exceptional cases where legal or ethical issues necessitate removal from public access. In all such cases, a formal Withdrawal Notice shall be issued, stating the reason for removal while preserving the bibliographic record.

Chapter 10: Open access, Copyright and Licensing

Rule: 50 All journals published by National Law University Delhi (NLUD) shall follow an open access publishing model. Articles will be made freely and permanently available online immediately upon publication without subscription or access charges. Readers may read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full text of articles, and use them for any lawful purpose. NLUD shall encourage the widest possible dissemination of research outputs to promote accessibility, academic exchange, and societal impact.

Rule: 51 Authors shall grant NLUD a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license to publish, reproduce, and distribute the work in any format, including print and digital, and to archive it in institutional or subject repositories. Authors must ensure that their work does not infringe upon any third-party copyright, trademark, or proprietary rights.

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Chapter 11: Author and Reviewer Training

Rule: 55 National Law University Delhi may conduct workshops and training programs on ethical publishing practices, including guidelines on authorship, plagiarism, conflict of interest, and responsible research conduct.

Rule: 56 Authors and reviewers are encouraged to undergo regular training on publication ethics, plagiarism avoidance, peer review best practices, and responsible research conduct. It is recommended for them to familiarize themselves with best practices and guidelines in publication ethics, such as those provided by COPE.

Rule: 57 National Law University Delhi may provide resources and materials on its website to educate authors and reviewers on publication ethics and these regulations.

Chapter 12: Reporting and Review Mechanism

Rule: 58 Suspicions of ethical concerns, malpractice complaints, or conflicts of interest should be reported to the PEAC or the Chairman of PEAC. Contact information will be readily available on the journal's website.

Rule: 59 All reported concerns will be treated with confidentiality and will be reviewed in a timely and responsible manner by the PEAC.

Rule: 60 The PEAC shall submit an annual report on publication ethics issues and resolutions to the appropriate authority within National Law University Delhi.

Rule: 61 The policies and processes outlined in these Rules and Regulations shall be reviewed after every three years by the PEAC to ensure their continued relevance and effectiveness.