

# **STUDIUM**

## **The Journal of BA, MA, and PhD Students in History**

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Scientific journal edited by the Faculty of History, Philosophy, and Theology, “Lower Danube” University

## **PEER REVIEW PROCEDURE**

The quality control process for papers published in STUDIUM is based on similar procedures used by prestigious foreign and Romanian academic journals.

The peer-review procedure is the analysis and critical assessment of scientific manuscripts by expert reviewers that are not members of the journal’s editorial board.

The peer-review procedure aims to increase the scientific quality of published papers by:

- Selecting for publication only those papers which are worthy and relevant for the topic and research interests of the journal;
- Rejecting papers which are inadequate in terms of quality or are irrelevant for the journal’s profile;
- Increasing the quality of published articles by following the critical assessment done by independent specialists.

### **Peer-review stages**

#### **Preliminary stage**

All received papers are assigned a number, which is used throughout the procedure so as to secure the impartiality and the confidentiality of the review. In a maximum of 7 days the author will receive a confirmation message with information regarding the peer-review process and the assigned number.

During this stage the editorial board verifies that the author has sent an unpublished paper or a paper that is not being reviewed by another Romanian or foreign academic journal. It also checks if the paper respects the provisions of the Romanian Law (206/2004) regarding the good conduct in scientific research.

#### **Editorial Board Peer-Review**

This stage refers to the evaluation of manuscripts by members of the editorial board, so as to identify and select the papers which can be included in the scientific directions of our journal.

This analysis is done on two dimensions:

- content: the paper covers a topic included in the field of historical sciences, it is an original paper, it has a substantial scientific content, it does not have major deficiencies of logical structure and/or scientific construction etc.
- form: the paper respects the journal house-style and has all other compulsory elements (keywords, abstract).

## **Expert Peer-Review**

The expert peer-review is done by two readers, members of the Romanian and/or international scientific community, experts in the particular areas in which the papers are included. The readers are selected from among the collaborators who agreed to participate in the peer-review process.

The review is done by means of a standard form, which the experts receive together with the paper. They assess the paper in a mutually agreed period of time, taking into account the following criteria:

- scientific quality (scientific basis, originality etc.)
- relevance and impact (relevance and originality of sources, clarity and accuracy of argumentation, expected impact).

The readers will not be involved in the peer-review process if they cannot evaluate the manuscript in the given time or if they acknowledge, from the text of the reviewed paper, any kind of incompatibility with the person(s) whom they think is the author.

The Expert Peer-Review stage is completed with the readers' making specific remarks related to the form and content of the reviewed paper and by giving one of the following three grades:

- accepted for publication without any changes;
- accepted for publication, pending specific changes;
- rejected.

If there are major differences between the grades of the two reviewers the editorial board will employ a third expert. The author will be presented these expert recommendations, preserving the full confidentiality between them and the reviewers.

After the author resubmits his/her paper, it will be forwarded to the same reviewers, who assess the opportunity of publishing the paper.

The final decision regarding the publication of a specific paper belongs to the Editorial Board.