



연세대학교 통일연구원  
Yonsei Institute for North Korean Studies

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North Korean Review

**NKR**



**PUBLICATION  
ETHICS**

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# NKR Publication Ethics

## Introduction

NKR, the *North Korean Review*, is committed to meeting high standards of ethical behavior at all stages of the publication process. These guidelines outline the publishing ethics responsibilities of the *North Korean Review*, authors, peer reviewers and editors.

### COPE

NKR strives to conform to the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors as laid out by the Committee on Publication Ethics. COPE is an organization that aims to foster publication ethics and research and publication misconduct and provides resources and advice to this end. In the interest of publication ethics best practice, NKR also keeps abreast of the recommendations industry associations such as the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICJME) and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), leaders of best practice in the medical research field.



### How to Register a Concern

Those with concerns that the research published in NKR has not conformed to these principles should submit their concerns to NKR at [NKReview@yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:NKReview@yonsei.ac.kr) and the appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the regulations below.

## Research Integrity

To avoid confusion of the terms between the authors and the journal and to ensure consent for publishing, NKR requires the authors to sign publication agreement forms which can be found on the website.

NKR values:

- honesty from all parties involved in research submitted for publication consideration,
- adherence to the highest standards of research practice,
- transparency between those involved in publication and research,
- mutual consideration and respect for all those subject to research.

If an ethical problem is suspected, the authors will be required to supply relevant details through which the issue will be investigated. Should concerns arise regarding the ethics to the submitted article such as lack of participant consent or ethical violations, concerns will be forwarded to the author's employer or persons responsible for the research.

## Journal Management & Editorial Process

Editorial independence is important to NKR, and we are committed to this principle not being compromised through any corporate, business, financial or political conflicts of interest where undue influence might foster fear and intimidation or impair impartial judgement. With this in mind, NKR does not use personal characteristics or identity to discriminate against authors, editors, or peer reviewers.

NKR is an academic journal published biannually by McFarland with editorial offices at the Yonsei Institute for North Korean Studies. The cost of publication is covered by NKR's sponsor, the Asia Research Fund. Revenue is also generated through its publications as annual rates are \$125 USD for institutions and \$40 USD for individuals. For an international institution or individual, an additional \$20 is incurred for postage. Some additional revenue is generated via agreements for content provision with JSTOR and Proquest who provide online indexing and access for NKR.

In order to manage the journal efficiently and to better contact the subscribers, NKR has an online website and maintains accounts on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and the like. The journal is available through online journal indexing services such as JSTOR and ProQuest which allow readers to access a digital extension of the printed version. Contact information or further information about the editorial and publication staff or the journal itself can be found on the NKR website.

Editorial board members are selected for three-year terms based on outstanding contributions to the field. Board members are expected to contribute to the journal in terms of research, peer review, and serve an advisory role for ensuring the continued development of the *North Korean Review* and North Korean Studies scholarship in general. The three-year term may be extended based on how involved and active a role the board member has taken in NKR.

## Peer Review

NKR acknowledges that the peer review plays an integral role in upholding a scholarly record and maintains that journals must provide transparent policies for peer review to be read by the subscribers and the readers.

All manuscripts are subjected to a double-blind peer review performed by at least 2 outside reviewers based on NKR' standards and careful consideration is given to:

1. Research Question and Methodology,
2. Originality and Academic Contribution,
3. Structure and Logic of the Argument,
4. Appropriateness of Related Sources and Materials, and
5. Completeness of the Manuscript.

NKR' review regulations divide the peer review decision into three categories; Publish, Revise, and Reject. Criteria for each of these categories is as seen below.

1. Publish: A manuscript that fulfills all of the five review standards as listed above. Such a manuscript that is found during the reading to be in need of only minor rewordings or revisions.

2. **Revise:** A manuscript that fails to satisfy one of the five standards and requires partial or general revision. Should this manuscript, upon editing, address these shortcomings, then it shall be publishable.
3. **Reject:** A manuscript that fails to meet most of the journal's publication standards and the issues may not be addressed without a complete rewriting of the manuscript

Reviewers are expected to give their scholarly opinion on the manuscript by filling out the NKR peer review form that details the above guidelines. The review process typically takes between 6 weeks and 3 months.

All peer review practices will do their best to adhere to COPE's best practices for peer review as pertain to NKR double blind peer review.

## **Authorship and Contribution**

In order to give credit to all deserving authors and contributors, NKR follows the guidance from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) which states that: "Authorship credit should be based only on: (1) substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and (3) final approval of the version to be published. Conditions 1, 2, and 3 must all be met. Acquisition of funding, the collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not justify authorship."

## **Intellectual Property and Plagiarism**

As noted in the publication agreement for NKR, if an author submits an article to the journal, the Author grants the Publisher, McFarland & Company, Inc., the right to publish the article in print and electronic edition of NKR, and to grant permission for subsidiary rights to the article. Further, NKR will show copyright for the entire issue in the Publisher's name for the protection of the Author and Publisher. Should the Author desire to do so, the Author will be responsible for registering the article's copyright with the Copyright Office.

NKR acknowledges that there are different types of plagiarism depending on the extent, content, and intention. If there are cases of major plagiarism where large parts of an article are copied without attributing the original author, it will be retracted. NKR expects that all articles submitted by authors are their own original research, have not been published elsewhere, and takes the position that, by submitting an article, the author has understood and abided by that policy.

## **Duplicate and Redundant Publication**

Duplicate or redundant publication, or 'self-plagiarism', occurs when a work, or substantial parts of a work, is published more than once by the author(s) of the work without appropriate cross-referencing or justification for the overlap. This can be in the same or a different language.

We do not support substantial overlap between publications, unless:

- it is felt that editorially this will strengthen the academic discourse; and
- we have clear approval from the original publication; and
- we include citation of the original source.

We expect our readers, reviewers, and editors to raise any suspicions of duplicate or redundant publication, by contacting the managing editor at [NKReview@yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:NKReview@yonsei.ac.kr).

When authors submit manuscripts to our journal, these manuscripts should not be under consideration, accepted for publication or in press within a different journal, book or similar entity. However, deposition of a preprint on the author's personal website, in an institutional repository, or in a preprint archive shall not be viewed as prior or duplicate publication.

## Research with Subjects

Approval for research involving humans or animals should be obtained from relevant ethics committee(s) and should conform to international ethical and legal standards for research. Authors are also expected to respect human participants' right to privacy, and to gain any necessary consent to publish before submitting to NKR.

## Conflicts of Interest and Funding

NKR acknowledges that a conflict of interest may arise during any process of the publication including research, peer review, and decision making. We identify with PLOS journals' interpreted conflict of interest which states, "A competing interest is anything that interferes with or could reasonably be perceived as interfering with, the full and objective presentation, peer review, editorial decision-making, or publication of research or non-research articles submitted to a journal. Competing interests can be financial or non-financial, professional, or personal. Competing interests can arise in relationship to an organization or another person."

If a conflict of interest arises among authors, reviewers, editors, journals, and publishers, it will be appropriately managed by the editor in chief and the managing editor. When an undisclosed conflict of interest is suspected, the editor in chief and managing editor will contact the authors and express their concern. The authors then will supply relevant details and if the conflict of interest is found so serious as to affect the data through fabrication or flaws, the editor will retract the article.

## Libel, Defamation, and Freedom of Expression

Freedom of expression is critical to us as an academic journal but publishing false statements that harm the reputation of individuals, groups, or organizations is not acceptable. The NKR editor, in conjunction with the editorial board, will address allegations of libel in any of our journal issues.

## Retractions, Corrections, and Expressions of Concern

Post-publication debates are available for the *North Korean Review* through letters to the editor. The phone number, fax address, and emails for the editors are available on the 'Contact Us' page on the online website. Retracting the publication will be considered if there is a clear manifestation of unreliable information due to misconduct, plagiarism, and unethical research. Retractions and corrections will be made whenever necessary on the publication both offline and online. The article in question will be clearly identified and be published as soon as possible to minimize the effects of unreliable information.

## Complaints and Appeals

All complaints against the journal, its staff, editorial board, or publisher will be forwarded to the editor in chief, the managing editor, and the editorial board. Once forwarded, all information regarding the complaint will be shared among them, and an investigation will be executed if the complaints are found to be valid. The investigation will follow COPE practice and any actions or sanctions deemed necessary will be reported to the registrant and the pertinent parties according to the findings and judgement of the journal. Those who have been found in violation of the ethics standards of NKR will have the right to appeal the decision and provide evidence to prove their innocence.

## Image Manipulation, Falsification, and Fabrication

Research data collected or presented as images and modified can sometimes misrepresent the results obtained or their significance. NKR recognizes that there may be legitimate reasons for modifying images, but authors are expected to avoid modifying images where this leads to the falsification, fabrication, or misrepresentation of their results.

## Fraudulent Research and Research Misconduct

Misconduct may include plagiarism, duplication or redundant publication, conflict of interest, and other issues laid out in Cope's guidelines. NKR takes allegations of misconduct seriously during all processes of publication. Once an allegation is submitted by a whistleblower, the editor in chief and the managing editor will be alerted and all information regarding the case will be shared among them so that they can execute an investigation effectively in accordance with COPE Guidelines on Good Publication Practice if need be. Sharing of information will allow the editors to compare different versions of the work, collaborate in investigating the case, and compare the explanations by the author.

## Transparency

NKR adheres to COPE's Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing and encourage authors and reviewers to understand and enact these same principles.

To improve transparency and reproducibility of research, NKR will make all data gathered and utilized during the publication of the article available in the journal. If self-led research is conducted and an article addressing it is published, all information of the research will be made available.

## Data and Supporting Evidence

Transparency and openness of data, code, and other associated research materials are important to NKR. We expect authors to maintain accurate records of their supporting evidence necessary so that others may understand, verify, and replicate new findings, and to supply or provide reasonable access to this supporting evidence. Where appropriate and where allowed by employer, funding body or others who might have an interest, we encourage authors to:

- deposit data in a suitable repository or storage location, for sharing and further use by others; and
- describe where the data may be found in a Data Availability Statement which authors should include in their publication.

NKR aims to provide authors with the ability to connect supporting data with their manuscripts, either on our own platform or through third party services.

## Integrity of Record

NKR maintains a record of the existence of everything we publish with information (metadata) describing each publication. If our content is deemed not to comply with the laws of a sovereign nation, we make every effort to ensure the metadata remain accessible within that jurisdiction. Where we are obliged to alter the publication record in any way, such as in the case of research misconduct leading to retraction of a publication, we preserve the academic record as far possible. See the Retractions, Corrections and Expressions of Concern herein for information about how we do this.

These same principles are adhered to in our marketing, and NKR does not modify or manipulate the academic record's representation in our marketing activities.

## NKR Publication Ethics

When any product of our journal (article, issue, or journal) is subscribed to, we supply it only in its totality to the customer, who may not alter its content in any way that is inconsistent with the licensing terms under which it was published.



# Ethical Business Practices

## Censorship

NKR will not condone nor engage in censorship. Our journal is subordinate to Yonsei University which, as a leading research and teaching institution in East Asia, is fully committed to freedom of speech and expression. Our objective is to disseminate research as widely as possible, and to serve the academia worldwide. NKR fully supports COPE's Statement on Censorship.

## Marketing Communications

NKR actively uses social media in the promotion of our journal. These are powerful tools for disseminating content and engaging new readers. These efforts are never intended to jeopardize the integrity of the content or of the academic record. All those engaged in the operation of our social media channels are expected to familiarize themselves with relevant social media policies and best practice in media use. Colleagues are also expected to apply these policies and this guidance when using external influencers during a social media campaign.

## Advertising

NKR occasionally advertises academic content related to our scope in a limited and appropriate manner. Where present, advertising must:

- be independent from editorial decisions on what we publish,
- be clearly distinct from content.
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We reserve the right to reject or remove any advertising where we have concerns it contravenes these Research Publishing Ethics Guidelines or our Code of Ethics.

## PR / Media

Academic colleagues, who are involved in media or publicity, are recommended to familiarize themselves with and follow the International Public Relations Association's Code of Conduct and observe these standards for NKR related press releases or other media communications. We try to keep all parties informed when we solicit or encourage media activities concerning one of our authors, editors, or publishing partners.

## Contact Us

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### North Korean Review

<https://www.northkoreanreview.net/>

Kim Dae Jung Library, 3F,  
5-26 Sinchon-ro 4 gil, Mapo-gu  
Seoul, 121-818  
South Korea

### Editor-in-Chief

Yongho Kim

### Managing Editor

Lonnie Edge

+82-01-4665-1867 Phone

+82-02-338-6729 Fax

ARF  
The Asia Research Fund



연세대학교 통일연구원  
Yonsei Institute for North Korean Studies



North Korean Review



McFarland

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This document will be updated  
periodically to reflect new  
developments and evolving best  
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