

## Controls for editing and evaluating a scientific article in accordance with the requirements of Regulation No. 1082 related to plagiarism prevention

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### Abstract:

Editing scientific articles is subject to many controls that must be respected, especially the aspect related to attribution, citation and documentation, not to mention controls related to the subject matter of the article in itself to gain its scientific value, and to be far from any practice that contradicts the ethics of scientific research. The importance of this study lies in shedding light on the methodological controls for editing articles in a way that values and advances scientific research. The study has reached many results, the most important of which is the need to stringency in evaluating research work and the need to rely on strict criteria for its evaluation.

**Key words:** scientific article, Plagiarism, article editing, evaluation criteria.

### المخلص:

تخضع المقالات العلمية لدى تحريرها للعديد من الضوابط التي لا بد من احترامها خاصة الشق المتعلق بالإسناد والاقتراس والتوثيق، ناهيك عن الضوابط المتعلقة بموضوع المقال في حد ذاته ليكتسب قيمته العلمية، ويكون بعيد عن أي ممارسة منافية لأخلاقيات البحث العلمي، وهنا تكمن أهمية هذه الدراسة فهي تسلط الضوء على الضوابط المنهجية لتحرير المقالات على النحو الذي يثمن ويرتقي بالبحوث العلمية، وقد توصلت الدراسة للعديد من النتائج أهمها ضرورة عدم التهاون في تقييم الأعمال البحثية وضرورة الاستناد إلى معايير صارمة لتقييمها.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** مقال علمي، السرقة العلمية، تحرير مقال، معايير التقييم.

### Introduction:

Works that are issued by higher education institutions have been subjected by the Algerian legislator to a legal system of their own, which often takes into account the nature of the works issued from it. Some of these works are administrative in the form of administrative decisions, some of them are scientific, and others are pedagogical according to the authority or body from

which they were issued. Nevertheless most of these works reflect the academic freedom, that is constitutionally guaranteed, enjoyed by the users of institutions of higher education, the legislator restricted them with many legal controls in order to preserve the goals entrusted to this type of institution to achieve. Perhaps the most prominent of these texts we have is Regulation No. 1082 of December 27, 2020<sup>1</sup>, which specifies the rules related to plagiarism, and other texts besides ways of combating it. However, the problem that arises is: What are the legal controls that scientific articles in the field of humanities and social sciences are subject to?

In order to answer this problem, an analytical approach is acquired to help theorizing and analyzing the legal provisions on combating plagiarism. Moreover, highlighting the competent authorities to evaluate this type of article in accordance with legal regulations, following the following division:

The first search: controls for editing a scientific article

The second search: controls for evaluating a scientific article

### **The first topic: controls for editing a scientific article**

The process of editing scientific articles requires the use of scientific research methods and tools that are suitable with the nature of the subject of the study chosen by the researcher to delve. In view of Regulation No. 1082 related

to the prevention of plagiarism, it is found that the primary focus is on the processes of attribution and documentation, specifically the necessity of attributing every idea or information held by the author as an argument to confirm his hypothesis or point of view to its original author. If the author does not respect this Regulation, he will be considered a perpetrator of plagiarism. Moreover, at every stage of the research during the preparation of the scientific article, he will be compelled to respect these ethical guidelines, which will be set forth in more details in the requirements below:

#### **First requirement: First-stage settings for editing a scientific article**

At this stage the topic of the article is chosen and a title is set for it. After that a problematic that fits this title is formulated, and it often consists of two or more variables<sup>2</sup>. At this stage, care should be taken not to research an over consumed in time, and many scientific works have already been written in it. The researcher will be vulnerable to plagiarism because the ideas will inevitably be similar to the extent that it is difficult to prove that they belong to the researcher alone.

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<sup>1</sup>-Decision No. 1082 of December 27, 2020, which sets the rules for the prevention and control of plagiarism.

<sup>2</sup>- Razyouq Lilia, methodology for preparing a scientific article, the magazine of the researcher for the mathematical and social sciences, special issue, Al-Jelfa University, 2019, p. 496

Therefore, when selecting a writing topic, the researcher must be aware of the latest developments on the national and international scene, and in all fields, whether religious, social, legal, political or economic<sup>3</sup>, to be the source of his ideas. He must also follow the latest developments at the level of official journals to follow the new legal systems and to learn about the recent trends of the legislator. He must also be aware of the topics of published scientific events that are organized at the level of higher education institutions. They often seek to search for specific topics that have not been previously researched, in order to reach a genuine scientific product that is diverse and of scientific value<sup>4</sup>.

After selecting the topic to be studied, the researcher sets a title for the topic, but under certain conditions, the most important of which is that it should not be taken from any other work, whether published or not, scientific or pedagogical. Besides, the title should be comprehensive, concise, clear and innovative, clearly expressing the subject of the study and the problem that the researcher wanted to address<sup>5</sup>.

If the subject of the study, for example, focuses on how to prevent and protect the citizen from the health crisis that Algeria is suffering from (Covid 19), the title: Maintaining public health in exceptional circumstances between the role of the State and the citizen, the researcher must have combined two variables:

- The role of the State in maintaining public health in exceptional circumstances
- The role of citizens in maintaining public health in exceptional circumstances.

After setting the title, the researcher then moves to formulate the appropriate problem, which must inevitably be linked to the title, through which the appropriate division of the topic is determined, according to the number of variables contained in both the title and the problem, so that the plan is double or triple<sup>6</sup>.

In order to prepare the plan, the researcher must strive to control the sub-headings and headings in order to be innovative and not taken from other scientific documents. According to the aforementioned Decision No. 1082, the quotation in

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<sup>3</sup>- -Omar Marzouki, Determinants of Choosing a Subject of Scientific Research in the Field of Human and Social Sciences, Al-Wahat Magazine Research and Studies, No. 4, 2009, p. 33.

<sup>4</sup>- - Boukhmis Souhaila, Chiaoui Wafa, digitization as a mechanism for combating fraud and achieving quality at Algerian universities. Algerian Journal of Legal, Political and Economic Sciences, No. 56 (special), 2020, p. 108.

<sup>5</sup>--Steps of Writing Scientific Research in Humanitarian Studies, Al-Bayan Center for Studies and Planning, Al-Bayan Center for Studies and Planning, Iraq, 2017, p11.

<sup>6</sup>--Mohammed Sarhan Ali Al-Mahmoudi, Curricula for Scientific Research, third edition, Dar Al-Kutub, Sana'a, 2019, p. 87

the headings and attribution to the researcher, rather than to the owner, is considered to be a plagiarism. Therefore, scientific research approaches should be used to adjust titles because each approach corresponds to a special type of titles, such as the comparative approach, the descriptive approach, the historical approach, and the analytical approach<sup>7</sup>.

For instance, if we choose the topic of legal protection for very confidential administrative documents and select the analytical method, the appropriate titles would be as follows:

First: The limits of legal protection for highly confidential administrative documents

A - Personal scope

B - Subject scope

Second: The legal implications of the legal protection of very confidential documents

A - For the state (not compromising the security and stability of the state)

B - for the public servant (disciplinary and penal liability)

If the descriptive approach is to be used, the headings should be:

First: The concept of highly confidential administrative documents

A- Definition of highly confidential administrative documents

b- The nature of highly confidential administrative documents

Second: Mechanisms for protecting highly confidential administrative documents

A- Preventive mechanisms (administrative, structural and electronic protection)

B - Remedial mechanisms (criminalization and punishment)

It is worth noting that in order for a researcher to move to the second stage of the preparation of scientific research, they must have the capacity and the ability to carry out research. This will not be possible until they are organized, and this is evident in the scientific material that they deliberately collected and arranged in a logical order according to the reached plan<sup>8</sup>.

### **Second requirement: Phase II controls to edit a scientific article**

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<sup>7</sup>-Danouni Sara Meryem, Difficulties and Challenges in Editing a Scientific Article, Functional Language Journal, Issue Eight, 2018, p. 279.

<sup>8</sup> - Amer Ibrahim Kandaliji, Imene Al-Samarrai, Quantitative and Qualitative Scientific Research, Dar Al-Yazuri, Amman, Jordan, 2018, p. 21.

In this the writing and editing phase in which the researcher often quotes information, data and ideas from references and sources they have collected in advance<sup>9</sup>.

In this regard, they must avoid committing any kind of fraud mentioned in the text of Article Three of the aforementioned Regulation related to the prevention of plagiarism, which is limited to the following points :

-Avoid quoting in whole or in part directly or in the sense of ideas, information, text, paragraph or excerpt from a published article, books, magazines, studies, reports or websites without mentioning its original source.

-Avoid quoting excerpts from a document without placing it between two commas, and without mentioning the original owners.

-Avoid using private data without specifying its source.

-Avoid using evidence or inferences without mentioning their source.

-Avoid including maps, pictures, graphs, or statistical tables without mentioning their source.

Here, we deduce that a lot of the citing, even if it is in accordance with the ethics of scientific research, reduces the chances of the researcher's personality to appear in his research, which prevents the researchers from grasping his opinion or the way he presents his ideas. Thus, it is skilful to quote for the purpose of comparison, opposition, confirmation or negation in a reasonable size and appropriate place<sup>10</sup>, in a way that allows him to exercise his academic freedom without restriction, to gain access to various knowledge, studies and research<sup>11</sup>.

### **The second topic: controls for evaluating a scientific article**

Subjecting research work to specific and unified controls helps researchers to perform their basic and various duties, especially scientific and technological research, education, training, framing and work to spread scientific culture<sup>12</sup>, and

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<sup>9</sup> - Ammar Bouhoush, Researcher's Guide to Methodology and Writing University Theses, National Book Foundation, second edition, Algeria, p.

<sup>10</sup>- Rafik Al-Islam Al-Madani, Introduction to the Preparation of the Research, Publishing House Al-Koutoub Al-Ilmiya, Beirut, Lebanon, 1971, p. 15.

<sup>11</sup>- Mohammed Massaad Yakout, The Crisis of Scientific Research in Egypt and the Arab World, Universities Publishing House, Cairo, Egypt, 2007, p. 31.

<sup>12</sup>- See the text of Article 4 of the decision dated August 2, 2016 specifying the modalities for evaluating the annual activity of the permanent researcher, Official journal No. 68 dated November 27, 2016.

eventually reach the degree of excellence<sup>13</sup>, which is often subject to a grading network determined in advance by competent authorities, and whether

the researcher is a student, research professor, permanent researcher, hospital researcher professor, or part-time researcher<sup>14</sup>, they are all subject to periodic and continuous evaluation that includes<sup>15</sup>:

-The status of the progress of research projects, and technological development that are in the process of implementation .

- Patents.

-National and international publications.

-National and international interventions.

-Published books and each activity in order to evaluate the search results.

It is worth noting that putting research work through evaluation contributes to raising the scientific, cultural and professional level of higher education institutions as one of the components of the educational system. Besides, it contributes to the growth, development, dissemination and transfer of scientific and technological research in addition to transferring knowledge<sup>16</sup>. It also informs the concerned parties of the evaluation rules and methods<sup>17</sup>.

### **The first requirement: the authorities concerned with evaluating a scientific article**

The scientific article is seen as one of the research works carried out by researchers. This article is usually short in terms of the number of pages compared to dissertations, theses, pedagogical publications and books, although it is similar to them in terms of content and methodology in which they were edited .

Scientific articles are often present in the works of doctoral students, research professors, and permanent researchers. They fall under the title of articles

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<sup>13</sup>- See the text of Articles 52 and 53 of Executive Decree 08-130 of May 03, 2008, which includes the Basic Law of the Research Professor, Official journal No. 23 of May 04, 2008.

<sup>14</sup>- The evaluation of the research activities that he was invited to undertake is carried out according to a research contract attached to the book of burdens, which was licensed by his original institution and represented in the topics of research projects, scientific objectives, the annual work program and the timetable associated with it and the modalities for follow-up and implementation of projects, see the fifth Article of Executive Decree 21-144 of On April 17, 2021, specifying the conditions for practicing part-time scientific research and technological development activities and their reward, Official journal No. 30 dated April 22, 2021

<sup>15</sup>- See: Articles 28 and 29 of Executive Decree No. 08-131 of May 03, 2008, which includes the Basic Law concerning the Permanent Researcher, Official journal No. 23 of May 04, 2008.

<sup>16</sup>- See the text of Article 3 and Article 23 of Law No. 99-05 of April 04, 1999, which includes the Higher Education Directive Law, Official journal No. 24 of April 07, 1999.

<sup>17</sup> - See Article 16 of Law 15-21 of December 30, 2015 containing the directive law on scientific research and technological development, Official journal No. 71 of December 30, 2015.

published in well-written scientific journals, or interventions that took part in scientific events, articles that were published in collective works, or even reports that were prepared in field studies. Regardless of the objective for which it was prepared, they all share the same characteristic in terms of the size and scientific value. With different scientific articles, the scientific authority concerned with its evaluation differs, and they are, respectively:

-the reviewer: He is the expert responsible for evaluating the articles submitted for publication - and working at the level of the scientific committees of the refereed scientific journals - according to specific criteria found on the platform of these journals (ASJP).

-The examiner: He is the expert who is appointed as an examiner by the legally competent scientific bodies. He is responsible for evaluating the scientific articles that are part of the discussion file for the doctoral student, in addition to the doctoral thesis ‘

-The expert: He is a member of the scientific committee of the scientific event. His task lies in evaluating the submitted interventions and determining whether they are valid for participating in the scientific event in terms of form, methodology and subject matter.

### **The second requirement: Criteria for evaluating a scientific article**

In recent times, the formal criterion has become of great interest to researchers due to the implications of not respecting it, which may often lead to the rejection of their scientific and pedagogical works, even if they are of a scientific nature and have scientific value. Hence, it was necessary to shed light on this criterion to determine the basic points on which it is established, which are often in the form of templates that are prepared in advance by scientific bodies in order to edit research work in them<sup>18</sup>, so that all works are formally despite the difference of the topics treated in it. Generally speaking, the formal criterion often focuses on the limits of pages, the type and size of the font, the quality of tabulation or division used in editing, the number of words, and others.

In the formal criterion, it is noted that the methodological one is often combined with it in the template used by the scientific body. Consequently, it is found that it focuses on the summary and the elements to be respected in it, as well as the introduction and its main elements such as importance, objectives, problematic, the method used and the plan. Furthermore, the conclusion and its

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<sup>18</sup>- See: Souhaila Boukhmis, Yazid Bouhalit, Research Work Evaluation Methodology, an intervention delivered at the National Forum on Teaching Methods at the University between the Necessities of Digitization and Requirements for Quality Achieving, Environmental Legal Studies Laboratory, University of 8 May 1945 Guelma, on April 11, 2021, p. 3 and beyond.

elements as a necessity to contain the findings and recommendations; then the margins, whether they are at the bottom of each page or placed at the end of the article. Finally there is the list of references, which is arranged according to the criteria that are set in the template and predetermined.

The researcher's respect for and literal adherence to the formal criterion, as well as to the methodological one, makes his work objectively acceptable for evaluation and free from any formal rejection regardless of the body that subjected it to the evaluation. The objective criterion stands on the legal basis and the arguments that the researcher focuses on to prove or negate his point of view regarding an updated legal system. Additionally, it assesses to what extent the researcher is able to analyze and deepen the study of legal phenomena, then linking them to legal and material facts, as well as his ability to extract legal results that contribute to solving the legal problem on which the research work is based.

It is worth noting that on the basis of the formal and methodological criteria adopted in the evaluation, any expert can evaluate a research work. While evaluating the objective criterion can only be assessed on an objective basis by

the expert who can extract the faults, slippers, and plagiarism if any<sup>19</sup>; not only because he's the most competent and capable of evaluating, nor has experience in the field, but simply because he's a specialist.

In this regard, article 5 of Regulation No. 1082 of 27 December 2020, defining the rules for the prevention and control of plagiarism, emphasizes the need to rely on the criteria of specialization for the evaluation of scientific work as a preventive mechanism that limits practices contrary to the ethics of scientific research<sup>20</sup>. Therefore, scientific bodies, whether a scientific committee for a scientific demonstration, a scientific committee for a scientific journal with a reading, a scientific committee for a department, a scientific council for a college, an institute, or a doctoral committee, must take into consideration the criterion of specialization in evaluating the works presented at their level.

### **Conclusion:**

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<sup>19</sup> - Souhaila Boukhmis, and Chiaoui Wafa, Digitization as a Mechanism for Combating Fraud and Achieving Quality in Algerian Universities, Ibid., p. 109

<sup>20</sup>- see:

- Article 5 states: Taking into account the regulatory provisions related to doctoral training and the organization of research activities, the scientific bodies in higher education and scientific research institutions shall: Respect for the specialization of each research professor or permanent researcher when assigned to supervise research activities and work, and to set up discussion committees and expertise among the specialized competencies in their field of science. "

- Souhaila Boukhmis, how to write a scientific article based on a legal text. Study day on academic research methodology in the social sciences, Algeria. Environmental Legal Studies Laboratory, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of 8May 1945, Guelma, February 4, 2020, p. 15



The publication of scholarly articles in a national or international journal is one of the most important requirements for a doctoral student to discuss his thesis, or for a professor researcher to obtain a university qualification or professorship.

Accordingly, all students and professors pay great attention to this matter by preparing and writing scientific articles in accordance with formal and objective controls, along with the need to respect the scientific honesty, which was emphasized by Regulation No. 1082 of December 27, 2020, which sets out the rules related to the prevention of plagiarism and how to combat it .

Digging further into this study led us to some results, including:

Regulation 1082 came to prohibit all forms of plagiarism associated with relying on the work of others in preparing articles even if that was with their consent. For instance preventing a professor or permanent researcher from using students' works and notes to publish scientific articles in journals and periodicals. Or assigning them to undertake scientific works to be adopted in a scientific article in his name. Or prevent the researcher from including the name of another researcher in order to help publishing the scientific article based on his scientific reputation without actually participating in the accomplishment of this work .

The suspension or withdrawal of the publication of an article is the penalty prescribed in case a plagiarism is proven by the author of the article due to his failure to respect the rules of citation, marginalization, and violation of the scientific integrity in application of Article 28 of Regulation 1082 .

Subjecting research work to evaluation according to controls based on respect for specialization and objectivity, contributes to raising the scientific, cultural and professional level of higher education institutions.

The tremendous number of articles sent on a daily basis by students and professors wishing to be published in well-written scientific journals, poses challenges for the latter. We therefore propose the following:

-There should be no complacency in the evaluation of research work and the need to rely on rigorous evaluation criteria.

-The need for scientific journals to expedite arbitration and respond to the author with acceptance or rejection.

-The need to submit the article to a competent arbitrator in the same field of research, so that arbitration can be conducted in an objective and fair manner.

-The necessity of decreasing the many formalities that burden the researcher, as he became more interested in them than in the article, which created administrative bureaucracy of another type. In addition to the frequent rejection of articles because of their formality despite their scientific value .

Scientific research is the characteristic and feature of every diligent. Moreover, everyone's desire to obtain scientific degrees is an undeniable demand and goal, but what we condemn is the attempt of some to obtain these degrees in a record time by disrespecting the rules of scientific honesty. Therefore, activating Regulation No. 1082 related to plagiarism by university institutions is the best solution to limit this phenomenon.

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