

# **Peer-Review Statements**

Widyasari Widyasari<sup>1\*</sup>, Popy Novita Pasaribu<sup>2</sup>, Bambang Karyadi<sup>3</sup>, Alma Indah Oktariani S<sup>4</sup>, Nurman Hakim<sup>5</sup>

1,2,3,4,5 Ibn Khaldun University Bogor, Indonesia

\*Editor-in-Chief of the 2<sup>nd</sup> IICASS. Email: iicass@uika-bogor.ac.id

All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ibn Khaldun International Conference on Applied and Social Sciences (2<sup>nd</sup> IICASS) during 28 – 29 August 2024 in *Swiss-Belcourt Hotel, Bogor, Indonesia*. These articles have been peer reviewed by the members of the *Reviewer Committee* and approved by the Editor-in-Chief, who affirms that this document is a truthful description of the conference's review process.

#### **1. REVIEW PROCEDURE**

The reviews were *double blind review*. Each submission was examined by 2 (two) reviewer(s) independently.

The conference submission management system was https://conference.uika-bo-gor.ac.id/index.php/2ndIICASS/

The submitted papers underwent an initial screening process to ensure that they met the basic quality standards and were relevant to the conference's scope and objectives. During this stage, each submission was carefully evaluated for general quality, clarity, and alignment with the topics of interest. Once a paper passed this preliminary assessment, it was then forwarded for a more rigorous peer review. This involved selecting reviewers whose expertise closely matched the specific subject matter of the paper. In addition, any potential conflicts of interest were considered to maintain the integrity and impartiality of the review process. Each paper was evaluated by two independent reviewers, and only those that received favorable feedback from both were considered for acceptance. The final decision was based on the reviewers' recommendations, which covered the paper's originality, methodological soundness, and contribution to the field. Without approval from both reviewers, a submission could not move forward in the acceptance process.

Authors of a rejected submission were given the opportunity to revise and resubmit after addressing the reviewers' comments. The acceptance or rejection of a revised manuscript was final.

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W. Widyasari et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the 2nd Ibn Khaldun International Conference on Applied and Social Sciences(IICASS 2024)*, Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research 871, https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-38476-299-6\_1

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Efforts to improve the peer review process were a key focus in ensuring both fairness and quality in the evaluation of submissions. One of the primary measures implemented was the recusal of reviewers from handling papers authored by individuals with whom they had a close relationship, such as colleagues, collaborators, or co-authors on previous work. This step was taken to avoid any potential conflicts of interest and to maintain objectivity in the review process.

Additionally, conscious efforts were made to reduce unconscious bias throughout the peer review process. Reviewers were selected based on their expertise in the specific subject matter of the papers, and steps were taken to anonymize both the authors and the reviewers whenever possible. This double-blind approach aimed to minimize the influence of personal, institutional, or reputational biases. Furthermore, reviewers were provided with guidelines to help them focus on the merits of the research itself—such as its methodology, originality, and relevance to the field—rather than external factors. Through these initiatives, the peer review process was made more transparent, impartial, and rigorous, ultimately contributing to the selection of high-quality, impactful research for the conference.

#### 2. QUALITY CRITERIA

Reviewers were instructed to assess the quality of submissions solely based on the academic merit of their content along the following dimensions:

- 1. Pertinence of the article's content to the scope and themes of the conference;
- 2. Clear demonstration of originality, novelty, and timeliness of the research;
- 3. Soundness of the methods, analyses, and results;
- 4. Adherence to the ethical standards and codes of conduct relevant to the research field

In addition, all submitted articles underwent a thorough plagiarism check to ensure originality and academic integrity. We used advanced plagiarism detection software to identify any textual overlap with previously published works. The accepted threshold for similarity was set at 20%, meaning that any submission exceeding this percentage was flagged for potential plagiarism. If a paper's similarity score was found to be above the 20% limit, the authors were promptly notified and required to revise their manuscript accordingly. They were instructed to rework the sections with high overlap and ensure proper citation of any referenced material. This rigorous process helped to maintain the originality of the research, upholding the conference's commitment to ethical academic standards. By enforcing these guidelines, we aimed to minimize plagiarism and promote the dissemination of novel and authentic contributions to the field.

### **3. KEY METRICS**

Total submissions 22

*Number of articles sent for peer review* 22

Number of accepted articles 22

Acceptance rate 100%

Number of reviewers 11

## 4. COMPETING INTERESTS

**Conflict of interest for editors:** Editors must avoid any conflict of interest with authors or reviewers. If a conflict of interest arises, editors should recuse themselves from the review process for the concerned submission.

**Conflict of interest for reviewers:** Reviewers must disclose any potential conflict of interest before agreeing to review a manuscript, including personal, financial, or professional connections with the author or research. Reviewers should not review manuscripts where there is a clear conflict of interest.

**Conflict of interest for authors:** Authors should disclose any financial or other conflicts of interest (if any) that could influence the results or interpretation of their work.

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