

ECO SECRETARIAT

EDITORIAL POLICY

ECO ECONOMIC JOURNAL

ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

11/5/2021

The present document is a draft version of the Editorial Policy of ECO Economic Journal. It is for discussion by Members of ECO Editorial Board.

EDITORIAL POLICY OF ECO ECONOMIC JOURNAL

Purpose

The Regional Planning Council Meeting of ECO, at its 19th Meeting, which was held on 12 – 14 January, 2009 in ECO Secretariat (Tehran, Iran) requested to publish the ECO Economic Journal.

ECO Economic Journal is a regional journal devoted to economic research and economic development strategy related to the core activity areas of ECO, including:

- *Trade and Investment,*
- *Transport and Communications,*
- *Energy, Minerals and Environment,*
- *Agriculture and Industry,*
- *Human Resources and Sustainable Development, and*
- *Tourism*

The Journal's content is aimed at (i) policy makers in the governments of the ECO Member States, (ii) academia and (iii) sector-based industries.

The Journal accepts submissions of original researches that analyze, among others, the issues of development of (a) regional economic strategies, (b) regional policy making, (c) policy planning, and (d) sector-based economic policy support through rigorous analytical economics in the aforementioned core activity areas of ECO.

ECO Economic Journal aims to publish evidence-based robust analytical works. In this regard, methods should be carefully described and data adequately cited.

Audience

The primary audience of the ECO Economic Journal includes scientist-economists; academia and think tank institutions involved in economic research activities. The primary audience is for collecting feedbacks on articles, upon publication, as well as manuscripts for publishing.

The peripheral audience of the ECO Economic Journal embraces broad ECO regional user. That is in view of a broader institutional mandate of the ECO as a regional international Organization.

Abstracting and Indexing

The ECO Economic Journal operates under auspices of the inter-governmental framework of Economic Cooperation Organization. It means that, prior to publishing articles and other analytical products in the ECO Economic Journal, the latter's content should be approved by both, the full-fledged Members of the ECO Editorial Board and by the Members of the ECO Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research (EPSCER). In the meantime, groundwork, which had been started in the past by the Member (from Pakistan) of the ECO Editorial on acquiring the ISSN index Code in the framework of the IsDB science citation indexing, should continue.

Editorial Board

There are currently three Members of ECO Editorial Board who have been nominated by their relevant governments. Of those three, one will act as the Editor-in-Chief responsible for the overall oversight of the ECO Economic Journal. The Editor-in-Chief will establish the Terms of reference of the ECO EB-EEJ. Membership in the Board may not be limited to three; it may rather expand based on official nominations from the Member States.

Principles and criteria in selecting articles for ECO Economic Journal

The main principles guiding the ECO Economic Journal are:

- *Principle of transparency*
- *Principle of best practice for scholarly publications.*

Among the multiple criteria for selecting articles and analytical papers for publication in the ECO Economic Journal are the following:

- 1) *ECO-specific research content;*
- 2) *Science-based and evidence-proven accuracy of research findings;*
- 3) *Author should be from an ECO Member State, and*
- 4) *Compliance with ethics in publishing in the ECO Economic Journal.*

Ethics in publishing

Ethics in publishing in the ECO Economic Journal requires that utterly critical information, negative judgment or analyses results that are not in the interest of ECO or its policies will be avoided.

Declaration of interest

No declaration of interest is required.

Submission declaration and verification

ECO Economic Journal does not explicitly require that an article or an analysis has not been published previously. Author may submit an article or an analysis paper with the clear indication of the Journal where the said article has previously been published. In this regard, submissions to ECO Economic Journal will only be accepted from authors of ECO Member States.

Peer review

ECO Economic Journal avails of a simplified anonymized review process. This procedure applies to online submissions outside ECO. For those, all contributions will initially be assessed by editor.

For those submissions that will be submitted upon the recommendations of the Members of the ECO Editorial Board, or upon reference given by the ECO National Focal Points (ECO-NFPs) for Economic Research, initial assessment for suitability for the Journal will be waved off by the Editor.

All submissions that have been submitted online or via official diplomatic channels will be directly forwarded to the Members of ECO Editorial Board, specifically assigned for review.

Minimum of two Members of ECO Editorial Board will assess the scientific quality of submissions.

The Editor is responsible for the final confirmation in regard of acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final.

Posting

Posting of articles on ECO's official information portal will be free of charge. Posting takes place upon approval of articles by the Members of the ECO Editorial Board, or as otherwise decided by the same Board.

Posting is for the content of ECO Economic Journal that may include such formats as articles, analytical papers, science-driven essays, evidence and practice-based analysis papers. Case studies will also be accepted for posting as long as they contribute to the debate and comprehension of issues of broader regional significance. Debate-based articles with no major research component are not accepted.

Use of inclusive language

English language (American or British) is used in publications of ECO Economic Journal. The Journal may consider accepting papers/articles/manuscripts in other UN-admitted international languages such as Russian. Likewise, it may also accept submissions in Persian. For harmony in articles that reflect the specificities of the ECO's regional development and activities, an "ECO Glossary of Terms" will be posted as part of Editorial Policy so that authors may use those in their submissions.

Author contributions

Author contributions will be free, unless the ECO Editorial Board may decide otherwise.

Authors will be required to provide author statement files. Without such files, submissions will not be accepted.

Open access

The ECO Economic Journal provides open access to its products. From this perspective, ECO Economic Journal is a free e-learning platform designed to act as a science laboratory for regional scientist-economists, government, academia, industries, and researchers.

Submission

There is no submission fee. The ECO Economic Journal has its support center located in the premises of the ECO Secretariat. The support center deals with all technical issues as pertinent to submissions, such as development of templates for submission of articles, manuscripts, papers; providing online feedback to authors on technical matters other than the content.