



# Peer-Review Statements

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All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the Ecofluence 2024- IBA IEA Conference on Economics and Public Policy during Dec 5-7 2024 in Indus Business Academy Bangalore. These articles have been peer reviewed by the members of the Review 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 two reviewer(s) independently. To ensure the reviewers are not over-burdened, each reviewer was allotted maximum of three papers only.

The process began with the submission of the papers for presentation in the conference. submissions were first screened for generic quality and suitability. The members of the conference advisory committee were involved in the initial screening. Those passing the test were accepted for presentation at the conference. Once the conference was over, there was another round of screening checking for suitability for publication. This was done by members of the conference advisory committee. After the initial screening, they were sent for peer review by matching each paper's topic with the reviewers' expertise, taking into account any competing interests. A paper could only be considered for acceptance if it had received favourable recommendations from the two reviewers. The reviewers were told to suggest either acceptance, or acceptance with minor or major revisions or reject outright. Since the advisory committee had already gone through the papers twice and knew the identity of the paper authors, they opted out to be part of the review committee. Hence, a different team was assigned to review the papers.

Authors where the reviewers either suggested rejection or acceptance subject to major revisions, 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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## 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. They were asked to rate on multiple parameters on a scale of 1-5, 5 being highest rating and 1 the lowest. The parameters are indicated below. Further, the reviewers were asked to give their qualitative comments so that the authors could benefit from their suggestions

1. Pertinence of the article’s content to the scope and themes of the conference;
2. The clarity in the objectives of the research work;
3. The robustness, relevance and depth of the review of literature
4. Soundness and the rigour of the methodology
5. The depth, robustness and rigour of the analysis, discussion and results;
6. Linkages between objectives and the conclusions so that the paper proceeds to meet the objectives rather than treating objectives and conclusion as independent
7. Referencing style too was given a weightage
8. Adherence to the ethical standards and codes of conduct relevant to the research field;
9. Clarity, cohesion, and accuracy in language and other modes of expression, including figures and tables.
10. The overall structure of the paper too was looked into

In addition, all of the articles have been checked for textual overlap in an effort to detect possible signs of plagiarism by the publisher. The anti-plagiarism software Turnitin and Viper were used to test this.

## 3. KEY METRICS

<i>Total submissions</i>	106
<i>Number of articles sent for peer review</i>	44
<i>Number of accepted articles</i>	21
<i>Acceptance rate</i>	19.81%
<i>Number of reviewers</i>	36

## 4. COMPETING INTERESTS

Neither the Editor-in-Chief nor any member of the Conference Committees declares any competing interest.

While there are papers whose authors are affiliated to the organization of the Editors or members of the committee, the editors and the members of the committees had no role in preparation of the papers neither as a co-author nor in any other role.

While the conference was organized jointly with Indian Economics Association (IEA), there was no financial contribution or obligation involved except for the name of IEA being used in conference collaterals. IEA functionaries were not involved in the review process of the proceedings of the conference.

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