



Peer-Review Statements

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All papers published in the IWPOSPA Law, Economic and Management Proceedings have undergone a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the quality, relevance, and scientific integrity of the published works. The review process was administered by the editorial committee of the proceedings and conducted by independent experts in the fields of maritime transportation, ferry transportation systems, logistics, transportation management, economics, and maritime law. Each submitted manuscript was evaluated based on its originality, methodological rigor, technical quality, relevance to the conference themes, clarity of presentation, and contribution to the advancement of knowledge and professional practices in shipping, inland waterway transport, and ferry transportation services. Reviewers provided constructive feedback and recommendations for improvement, which were addressed by the authors prior to final acceptance. The peer-review process adhered to recognized academic and ethical standards, ensuring impartiality, confidentiality, and objectivity throughout the evaluation stages. Only manuscripts that successfully met the required scholarly criteria were accepted for publication in these proceedings. This review process contributes to the dissemination of high-quality research and practical insights that support the sustainable development, safety, efficiency, and governance of maritime and ferry transportation sectors.

1. REVIEW PROCEDURE

All manuscripts submitted to the *IWPOSPA Law, Economic and Management Proceedings* were subjected to a **double-blind peer-review process** to ensure academic quality, originality, and relevance to the conference themes related to shipping, maritime transportation, inland waterway transport, ferry transportation, economics, management, and transportation law.

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The review procedure consisted of the following stages:

1. **Initial Screening**, The Editorial Committee conducted a preliminary assessment of each submission to verify its compliance with the conference scope, formatting requirements, ethical standards, and originality criteria.
2. **Assignment to Reviewers**, Manuscripts that passed the initial screening were assigned to at least **two independent reviewers** with expertise relevant to the manuscript's subject area. The identities of both authors and reviewers were concealed throughout the review process.
3. **Peer Review Evaluation**, Reviewers evaluated the manuscripts based on several criteria, including:
 - Relevance to the conference themes;
 - Originality and novelty of the research;
 - Methodological rigor and validity;
 - Quality of analysis and discussion;
 - Clarity of presentation and organization;
 - Contribution to knowledge and professional practice in maritime and ferry transportation sectors.
4. **Revision Process**, Authors were required to revise their manuscripts in accordance with reviewers' comments and recommendations. Revised submissions were re-evaluated by the editorial team and, when necessary, by the original reviewers.
5. **Final Decision**, The final publication decision was made by the Editorial Committee based on the reviewers' recommendations and the extent to which the authors addressed the required revisions.

Only manuscripts that successfully met the scientific and editorial standards of the conference were accepted for publication in the *IWPOSPA Law, Economic and Management Proceedings*. The peer-review process was conducted in accordance with recognized principles of fairness, confidentiality, objectivity, and academic integrity.

2. QUALITY CRITERIA

Reviewers were instructed to evaluate submissions according to the following quality criteria:

1. **Relevance and Scope**, The extent to which the manuscript aligns with the aims, scope, and thematic areas of the conference, particularly in the fields of shipping, maritime transportation, inland waterway transport, ferry transportation, law, economics, and management.
2. **Originality, Novelty, and Timeliness**, The degree to which the research demonstrates original contributions, innovative perspectives, and relevance to current developments and challenges within the field.
3. **Methodological Rigor and Scientific Soundness**, The appropriateness and reliability of the research design, methods, data collection procedures, analysis techniques, and the validity of the results and conclusions.

- 4. **Research Ethics and Professional Standards**, Compliance with applicable ethical principles, research integrity requirements, and professional standards relevant to the discipline and subject matter.
- 5. **Quality of Presentation and Communication**, The clarity, coherence, accuracy, and organization of the manuscript, including the effective use of language, figures, tables, and other supporting materials to communicate the research findings.

3. KEY METRICS

<i>Total submissions</i>	56
<i>Number of articles sent for peer review</i>	56
<i>Number of accepted articles</i>	24
<i>Acceptance rate</i>	42.85%
<i>Number of reviewers</i>	8

All submitted manuscripts underwent an initial editorial screening and were subsequently evaluated through a double-blind peer-review process. The acceptance rate reflects the conference's commitment to maintaining high academic and professional standards in the fields of maritime transportation, ferry transportation, shipping, law, economics, and management.

4. COMPETING INTERESTS

Neither the Editor-in-Chief nor any member of the Scientific Committee involved in the editorial process has any competing interest regarding the publication of the papers included in these proceedings.

All reviewers and editors were required to declare any potential conflicts of interest. In cases where a conflict of interest was identified, the reviewer or editor concerned was excluded from the evaluation and decision-making process for the affected manuscript. The peer-review process was conducted in accordance with the principles of transparency, fairness, impartiality, and academic integrity.

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