Peer-Review Statements

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All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the *Safar Conference* during *16 September* in *Žilina*. These articles have been peer reviewed by the members of the *Scientific Committee and other affiliates* 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 *at least 2* reviewer(s) independently.

The conference submission management system was: Meteor Springer Nature.

The submissions were first screened for generic quality and suitableness. 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.

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.

Some articles were desk-rejected without entering the review process because their quality or scope was unsatisfactory.

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, impact 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;
5. Clarity, cohesion, and accuracy in language and
6. other modes of expression, including figures and tables.

In addition, all of the articles have been checked for textual overlap in an effort to detect possible signs of plagiarism by the publisher.

3. KEY METRICS

Total submissions	26
Number of articles desk-rejected	8
Number of articles sent for peer review	18
Number of accepted articles	16
Acceptance rate	61.54%
Number of reviewers	10

4. COMPETING INTERESTS

Neither the Editor-in-Chief nor any member of the Scientific Committee declares any competing interest.

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