## Dhaxalreeb - Blind Peer-review Process (updated January 2025)

We have a pool of volunteers who renew their commitment each year to blind peer-review articles in their areas of expertise. As an interdisciplinary academic journal, it is not feasible to maintain a permanent list of reviewers due to the wide range of different category of submissions we receive.

We publish two issues per year. One is managed by the journal's regular permanent editors, who nominate an internal Issue Editor(s), and the other is a themed issue overseen by an invited Guest Editor(s) who acts as the Issue Editor(s). Therefore, each issue has a designated official Issue Editor (IE). Current call is a themed guess edited issue, and our IE is Clare Bath - www.redsea-online.org/dhaxalreeb/people/clare\_bath.

The review process we follow is as follows:

- 1. An article is received, either through an unsolicited submission (for regular issues) or by invitation of the IE (mainly for themed issues).
- 2. The IEs conduct a quick checklist to ensure the article meets basic requirements, such as quality, originality, copyright, and suitability for the theme (if applicable). They share a summary of their proposal during the editorial board's regular meetings and decide whether to proceed with the review process.
- 3. If the article is accepted for review, the IEs assess the pool of yearly volunteers to identify two suitable reviewers. If necessary, they quickly call for additional volunteers with expertise in the subject area.
- 4. The article text is anonymized and sent to the two selected reviewers, who are unaware of each other's identities.
- 5. The reviewers evaluate the article and summarize their comments using a standard template, providing one of the following decisions:
  - A) fully accept,
  - B) conditionally accept with minor suggestions,
  - C) conditionally accept with substantial revisions, or
  - D) not accept with justification.
  - A reviewer provides usually a list of recommendations even if the article is refused.
- 6. The IEs reconcile the review process, where they make a final decision based on the reviewers' recommendations (e.g., if both reviewers refuse, the article is rejected; if both propose acceptance, the article is accepted; in case of disparities, the IEs make a decision to reconcile).
- 7. The IEs communicate the decision and the reviewers' comments to the author(s), who are then invited to revise the article accordingly if it is accepted.
- 8. The final edited of the article is read by the IEs, who may provide additional suggestions for one more (1:1) review cycle.

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