

## **DOUBLE-BLIND PEER REVIEW PROCEDURE**

The AGATHÓN Journal reviews an anonymous review of the contribution of one or more Authors by two Referees. The procedure is organized by the following stages:

- In agreement with the Scientific Committee and the Editorial Board, the Scientific Director establishes the topic of the new issue of the Journal and the forms of the Call for Papers, which will be published on the Journal's website and sent via e-mail to the Scientific Community concerned.
- Authors, who intend to publish their contributions, present an abstract according to the forms indicated in the notice; the contents of the contribution should consider studies and research coherent with the theme of the Call.
- The Editor in Chief eliminates specific identifying elements of the Authors and submits the abstracts anonymously to the Editorial Board to be evaluated according to the following criteria.  
For Research & Experimentation proposals, through the criteria of: originality (what is being expressed for the first time and for whom); essay and research references (the background of the study), relevance to theme, subjects involved, financing; results (analytical aspects and proposals for discussion); limitations of research and significant developments; cultural, practical and/or socio-economic implications, wherever present.  
For Essays & Viewpoint proposals through the criteria of: object and aim of the proposed article; originality (what is being expressed for the first time and for whom); methodological approach; essay and research references that reveal the background of the study; analytical aspects and proposals for discussion.
- The result of the evaluation is forwarded to the Authors according to the forms indicated in the Call. The Authors of abstracts accepted must submit the complete manuscript in Italian or English within the deadline stated in the Call; the referral process begins after the correct and complete reception of the material to be submitted to the Referees.
- The evaluation procedure is performed through a “double-blind peer review”, during which the contribution to be examined is sent to two different Referees. The Authors never know the name of the Referees who have examined their work. The Editorial Coordination and the Scientific Director of the Journal identify, for each contribution submitted, the Referee's report to their specific competence. In the contribution sent to the Referees all references that may attribute the authorship to the Author (any notes, bibliographical references, location, search links, etc.) are deleted. Referees at the same time receive an evaluation sheet of the contribution to be filled in, which includes: evaluation criteria, acceptance options (with minor changes, major changes) or unsuitability to the publication, final score, comments for Authors, notes for the Editor, and reasons for any refusal.
- The proposal contribution should be obtained unanimously by both Referees, both in the case of acceptance or refusal; in the event of a discrepancy between the two opinions, the contribution is sent to a third Referee, whose evaluation will enable to obtain over-all decision (2 out of 3) which will be decisive for the decision on the publication. The Referees who, together with the acceptance of the contribution, also provided comments and notes, help with their advice to improve the subject of the assessment.
- The Evaluation and Guidelines of the Referees are communicated to the Author or Authors who proceed to the final writing of the contribution according to the format requested by the Direction of the Journal. The final decision is the Scientific Director.
- The list of Referees who collaborate in the Journal will be inserted in the first issue of the following year in which the referral activities were carried out (without specifying the number of the Journal and for which articles) as a thank you for the collaboration provided and as a form of transparency with respect to the procedure adopted.