

*plaNext—Next Generation Planning*

## **Ethical policy**

This policy summarises the ethical values and principles that should be shared by everyone who is active within plaNext. The policy should be an instrument to decide on ethical issues which arise in the different activities, including initial acceptance of papers, selection of reviewers, and employment of Editorial Board members and other staff. It should also be a basis and stimulus for continued ethical discussion, both within plaNext as publication and editorial board and together with the broader network of AESOP and the AESOP-YA.

### *Core values*

plaNext core values are based on democracy, the equal value of human beings, human rights and freedom and free and open discussion. Equality between men and women and the dissociation from all forms of discrimination are both an issue of quality and a natural part of plaNext core values. Equality and diversity among employees and students also represent important resources for plaNext.

As an international open access journal, plaNext has a particular responsibility for developing and sharing knowledge around planning and other related fields. Disseminated and shared knowledge should be contributed with, and used by, individuals and institutions who support the aforementioned values of plaNext. Through freely disseminated knowledge plaNext seeks to advance free exchange of information and just international collaboration.

Members of the Editorial Board and Referees should:

- collaborate with respect, regardless of sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other social and political beliefs, sexual orientation, disability or age;
- act impartially and honestly, contribute to plaNext impartiality and its political and religious independence;
- handle potentially sensitive personal data, with respect for personal integrity;
- not use plaNext for any personal matters, or any racist and other inappropriate purposes.

Members of the Editorial Board should:

- exercise their leadership and management with respect to the rights of both authors and reviewers;
- contribute to decisions through openness, clarity, and justice;
- conduct the publication process without tolerance for bias, plagiarism, cheating, improper influence and other improprieties;
- reject any contribution to the journal that embrace disrespect of human rights;

- reject any contribution from authors which in any way violate the values of plaNext;
- reject any contribution that fails to explicitly acknowledge human rights violations directly linked to the topics on stake;
- reject any collaboration with institutions and individuals that in any way violate the values of plaNext.

plaNext's collaboration with the surrounding community should:

- be characterised by respect to human rights and integrity;
- take place in such a manner that neither the publication process nor the values of the journal is jeopardised;
- promote democracy and free exchange of information;
- take place in an environment where nobody is subjected to discrimination;
- be established with institutions and individuals who are not complicit with disrespect of human rights.