Special Announcement to Authors:
Effective July 1, 2013

Beginning July 1, 2013, all submissions to SERIEs: Journal of the Spanish Economic Association, including revisions of previously submitted papers, must be accompanied by a Disclosure Statement. This is applicable even when the authors have no relevant interests to disclose. At the time of submission, each coauthor will need to provide a separate Disclosure Statement. Submissions that do not include the statements will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.

This announcement follows the decision of the Spanish Economic Association (SEA) to adopt for its Journal the Disclosure Policy of the AEA, thereby contributing to propagate a standard disclosure policy in economic publishing. A shortened version of this disclosure policy is reproduced below.

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Spanish Economic Association Disclosure Policy

The Spanish Economic Association shares the same policy of disclosure with the American Economic Association. A shortened version of this disclosure policy is reproduced below. You can find a full description of the policy and a list of examples that help to clarify some specific situations at:


An important aspect of research integrity is attention to the possibility of conflicts of interest. A financial conflict of interest occurs when an individual's private interests might lead an independent observer to reasonably question whether the individuals' professional actions or decisions are influenced by considerations of personal financial gain. The existence of such situations implies neither wrong-doing nor inappropriate activity. However, their presence in the research setting can compromise, or be perceived as compromising, the integrity of research findings. For this reason, it is essential that researchers understand how to identify those situations, and how their presence should be disclosed.

Submissions to SERIEs: Journal of the Spanish Economic Association should conform to the following disclosure principles.

(1) When submitting a paper, each author should prepare a separate page entitled “Disclosure Statement” that will be uploaded using the online submission form.

(2) The “Disclosure Statement” of each author in a submitted article should include the following information.

   a. It should state the sources of financial support that the author received for that research. If there are not sources of financial support to declare, that fact should be stated. A disclosure statement in such a case might read: “The author declares
that (s)he has no relevant or material financial interests that relate to the research described in this paper”.

b. It should identify each interested party from whom he or she has received significant financial support, summing to at least $10,000 in the past three years, in the form of consultant fees, retainers, grants and the like. The disclosure requirement also includes in-kind support, such as providing access to data. If the support in question comes with a non-disclosure obligation, that fact should be stated, along with as much information as the obligation permits. If there are no such sources of funds, that fact should be stated explicitly. An “interested” party is any individual, group, or organization that has a financial, ideological, or political stake related to the article.

c. It should disclose any paid or unpaid positions as officer, director, or board member of relevant non-profit organizations or profit-making entities. A “relevant” organization is one whose policy positions, goals, or financial interests relate to the article.

(3) Disclosure is author and paper specific; a specific relationship may be relevant for one of an author’s papers, but not for another. In cases of uncertainty regarding whether to disclose a particular relationship, a guiding principle should be the answer to the question: “Would I or my institution or a reasonable person be embarrassed if I had not disclosed this relationship and it was subsequently discovered by a journalist, colleague or university administrator?” If the answer to this question is “yes”, the relationship should be disclosed.

(4) The disclosures required above apply to any close relative or partner of any author.

(5) Each author must disclose if another party had the right to review the paper prior to its circulation.

(6) The disclosure statement will be available to referees. For published articles, information on relevant potential conflicts of interest will be made available to the public. If the disclosure statement is brief, it will be included in the “acknowledgments” footnote. If the disclosure statement is longer, then disclosure will have two parts: (i) a brief statement summarizing potential conflicts of interest that will be included in the “acknowledgments” footnote; (ii) a more detailed description of the activities and relationships that are the source of a potential conflict of interest. This more detailed account will be available to the public, but only electronically, on the journal’s website.

(7) Failure to disclose relevant information at the submission stage may result in reversal of acceptance decisions. If the paper is already published, the journal reserves the right to post a note on the journal’s website and in its printed version notifying readers that the authors of the paper violated the SEA disclosure policy.
SERIEs
Journal of the Spanish Economic Association
Editor-in-Chief: Guner, N. - Co-Editors: Bagues, M.; Moreno-Ternero, J.D.
ISSN: 1869-4187 (print version)
ISSN: 1869-4195 (electronic version)
Journal no. 13209