The journal *Economic Issues* is committed to ensuring that all of the research it publishes has been undertaken in accordance with the highest standards of research ethics. This entails publishing nothing that could damage trust in the journal, in the professionalism of scientific authorship and ultimately in the entire scientific endeavour. *Economic Issues* seeks to maintain the integrity of all the research it publishes by following the rules shown below.

Integrity of Results and Related Issues

The following rules are applied by *Economic Issues* to ensure that readers can be assured of the quality and integrity of the results presented within published research:

- The data (including images) used and presented within the studies must not have been fabricated, manipulated or otherwise misrepresented, in order to support or achieve desired conclusions.
- Upon request, authors must be prepared to send relevant documentation or data in order that the validity of the results can be verified. Relevant documentation can include raw data, samples, records, etc. Sensitive information in the form of confidential proprietary data is excluded from this requirement.

Plagiarism and related issues

The following rules are applied by Economic issues to mitigate the possibility of plagiarism:

- Manuscripts submitted to *Economic Issues* must not also be submitted simultaneously, in full or in part, at any other journal for consideration for publication.
- Submitted manuscripts must not have been published previously (in part or in full), unless the new work is an expansion of previously published work. Where the latter is the case, this must be made clear in the manuscript and the additional contribution to knowledge must be stated explicitly.
- Data, text or theories by others must not be presented as if they were the author's own work ("plagiarism"). Proper acknowledgement of other works must be given, by the provision of full citations to works; including material that is closely copied (near verbatim) and that which is summarised and/or paraphrased. Single quotation marks are to be used for verbatim quotes (please see the *Economic Issues* style guide for further information on citations, quotations, and referencing http://www.economicissues.org.uk/submit.html).
- In order to screen for plagiarism, *Economic Issues* may utilise appropriate software.
- Permissions must be secured by the author for inclusion of any material that is copyrighted.

Authorship of Manuscripts

The following rules are applied by *Economic Issues* to ensure that authors (and other collaborating individuals or organisations) are recognised appropriately for their contribution. These rules are intended to avoid or resolve conflict and misrepresentation at the earliest stage of submission:

- The corresponding author must ensure that all co-authors have given their explicit consent to submit the manuscript to *Economic Issues* **before** the manuscript is submitted.

- If multiple authors are named on a submission to *Economic Issues,* they must have contributed sufficiently to the work to share collective responsibility and accountability for the results.
- When making the initial submission to *Economic Issues,* corresponding authors must ensure that the authorship information, as it will appear in the journal if accepted for publication, is determined and agreed by all authors. This includes the full list of authors, the corresponding author and the list order of authors.
- *Economic Issues* will not accommodate any changes of authorship, or changes in the list order of authors, after the work has been accepted for publication in *Economic Issues.*
- This rule does not apply where revisions requested by referees and the Associate Editor handling the submission result in additional authors contributing to the manuscript, the contribution of a named author being removed from the paper, or a change in the balance of contributions to the paper. In these circumstances, the change requested to the list of authors must be justified and, where appropriate, accompanied by a letter confirming the consent of the authors to any change in name order, or the agreement of an author to have their name removed from the author list.

Research Ethics, Data Protection and Primary Data Collection

Where the research included in a paper submitted to *Economic Issues* has involved primary data collection, or has utilised unpublished datasets not normally available openly to researchers, the authors must have obtained appropriate research ethics approval before conducting the research. Standard research ethics and data protection principles and laws apply:

- The authors of the paper must have ensured that all secondary data used in the research are either from a source permitting free use of the data for research purposes; or that permission has been obtained for the use of closed-access data in published research.
- The authors of the paper must have ensured that all primary data collection activities (surveys, questionnaires, interviews, etc) included in a paper submitted to *Economic Issues* were conducted after appropriate research ethics approval had been obtained for the research activities.

Breaches of *Economic Issues* rules

Where, following an investigation, it is concluded by *Economic Issues* that any of the above rules may have been breached, the corresponding author will be contacted by the Editorial Board and given an opportunity to address the issue. If misconduct is established beyond reasonable doubt, the Editor-in-Chief of *Economic Issues* may take action, including but not limited to the following:

- If the article is still under consideration, it may be rejected and returned to the corresponding author.
- If the article has already been published online, either an erratum may be placed with the article or complete retraction of the article may occur. The reasons for the measure taken will be included in the published erratum or notice of retraction.
- The author's institution may be informed of the facts of the case.