

Transparent AI Review Charter (TARC)

AI Governance Review (AIGR)

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1. Purpose and Governing Authority

The Transparent AI Review Charter (TARC) defines the ethical, procedural, and governance standards for all AI-augmented peer review conducted by the AI Governance Review.

This Charter is issued under the authority of The Center for Ethical AI and operates in strict compliance with the Governed Data Boundary Policy (GDBP). Where conflicts arise, the GDBP supersedes all review procedures.

TARC governs how review is conducted, documented, audited, and disclosed. It does not alter editorial authority, which remains exclusively human.

2. Scope of Application

This Charter applies to:

- a) All manuscripts submitted to AIGR.
- b) All AI systems are engaged in review, evaluation, auditing, or integrity monitoring.
- c) All human editors, reviewers, and governance personnel are overseeing the process.

3. Foundational Principles

Transparency

Every review interaction must be traceable, documented, and attributable to a declared system or editor.

Augmentation, Not Automation

AI systems support analysis. They do not issue acceptance, rejection, or publication decisions.

Data Boundary Integrity

All review activities operate within the constraints defined by the GDBP. No retention, training, or external transmission is permitted.

Human Accountability

Final editorial judgment, dispute resolution, and ethical responsibility rest solely with human editors.

4. Review Architecture

Each submission is evaluated by a Hybrid Review Council consisting of:

- a) Multiple independent AI review systems operating in isolation.

- b) A minimum of two human editors from the AIGR Editorial Board.

AI systems are assigned distinct analytical roles such as:

- a) Logical coherence and structure assessment.
- b) Ethical, bias, and neutrality analysis.
- c) Methodological and technical validation.
- d) Literature grounding and citation integrity.
- e) Governance telemetry, drift, and integrity monitoring.

System identities and roles are disclosed publicly in aggregate and at the article level.

5. Review Workflow

Submission Intake

Manuscripts are received through a secure portal, encrypted, and hashed for governance tracking.

Automated Pre-Screen

Integrity checks are performed to detect plagiarism, validate authorship, and ensure baseline quality thresholds are met.

Parallel AI Review

Approved submissions undergo independent AI evaluations under non-retention conditions.

Governance Consolidation

Review outputs are aggregated into structured scorecards and integrity indicators.

Human Editorial Gate

Editors review all AI findings, apply editorial judgment, and issue a decision: Accept, Revise, or Reject.

Governance Logging

All review activity is recorded in the Governance Ledger for audit and transparency purposes.

6. Scoring and Threshold Use

Quantitative scores and integrity metrics inform editorial deliberation but do not automatically determine outcomes. Threshold breaches trigger additional human review, not automatic rejection.

Metrics are reviewed periodically to prevent metric fixation, bias amplification, or false assurance.

7. Ethical Safeguards

- a) All AI reviewers operate without access to author identity unless explicitly authorized.
- b) All review environments comply with the GDBP non-retention mandate.
- c) Inter-model variance and drift are monitored and audited regularly.
- d) Any system exhibiting integrity drift is suspended pending remediation.

8. Peer Review Declaration

Every published article includes a Peer Review Declaration stating:

- a) That Transparent AI-Augmented Review was conducted.
- b) Which AI systems were involved?
- c) Confirmation of non-retention and non-training.
- d) Affirmation of final human editorial authority.

9. Governance Oversight and Reporting

The Editorial Governance Board conducts:

- a) Quarterly internal compliance audits.
- b) Annual transparency reporting on AI reviewer performance, drift, and corrective actions.
- c) Formal review of disputes, appeals, or ethical complaints within 30 days.

10. Amendment and Version Control

Material changes to this Charter require approval from the Editorial Governance Board. All revisions are versioned, dated, and archived. Historical versions remain publicly accessible.