

## **Editorial: Towards a culture of indexing scientific journals**

**Cristian, Rivas-Castillo<sup>1</sup>**

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6827-1462>

Universidad Politécnica de Nicaragua UPOLI

At present the information is no longer regarded as inert or static, but as dynamic, because it is produced as human thought, in this sense, the information must be a patrimony of society, thus, UNESCO constantly holds international forums to encourage the creation of national and international public policies on scientific information.

Consequently, this need to bring information to society has led man to create tools, that allow information to be found, used, stored, and studied. Within the great variety of information that can be found on the web, there is scientific information, however, it must be understood that science being a social construct has its own channels of “communication, rites, values, rules, and ethical principles” (Lopez & Cordero, 2005, p. 57) this process is called scientific publications and are the basis for the transfer and dissemination of scientific knowledge.

Thus, as information systems emerged in the 1970s, the first country to develop them was the United States with the emergence of Medline in medical sciences, subsequently, other information systems were developed in various parts of the world, like the EUDISED in Europe, in Spain the international bibliographic bulletin was developed with UNESCO funding, and in Latin America the REDUC was developed, which was an effort to integrate the knowledge of the entire region.

For this reason, this process of inclusion of scientific publications in information systems is called indexation, Padula (2019) conceptualizes indexation as a “list, which usually indicates a location according to different quality criteria and facilitates its consulting” (p. 25). In this sense, the fact that a publication or scientific journal is indexed means that it denotes quality and has been typed in some national, regional or international database.

In this sense, the indexation of journals or scientific publications in index, repositories or databases of high impact is vital for the reputation and scope of the documents published in these, however, for the inclusion of journals in some of these systems it is necessary that certain quality criteria are met, which will be subject to the type of site to be indexed.

However, the general criteria for evaluating information systems include the quality of information, the formal characteristics, the use made of information and the scientific quality of the content, in the first approach mentioned it is examined that the journals have an editorial body which must be identifiable in its platform, as well as, clearly established the guidelines for the authors, the evaluation process, translation of abstracts into a different language that the origin and the use of key words, in the second approach it is necessary that

---

<sup>1</sup>Maestrante en Relaciones Internacionales por la Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, México. Licenciado en Derecho por la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua. Ex becario CONACYT, México. Coeditor de la Revista Ciencia Jurídica y Política. Investigador en temas de políticas públicas, participación ciudadana y derecho internacional. Correo Electrónico: Castillocris25@yahoo.com. <https://portalderevistas.upoli.edu.ni/index.php/5-revcienciasjuridicasypoliticas/article/view/639>

journals comply with the periodicity that has been imposed, also that, they carry a revision out peer view, have an external scientific committee and use the appropriate channels to know the editorial decisions, the third approach assesses that authors who carry out publications are external to the publishing entity, as well as a high scientific content.

Subsequently, once the editors assess whether they meet the general requirements for indexing their publications, it is time to select the database that best suits the journal's theme, however, it is necessary to know that there is a classification of the information systems, ranging from the basics such as library catalogues to the complex as the high impact databases (Scopus, Scimago Journal and Web of Science).

In this sense, it is recommended to carry out the process of indexing by stages, the first one is to include the journal in Catalogues of libraries (CCUC, UOC, WorldCat), Directories of journalistic publications (Dialnet, DOAJ, Sherpa/ Romeo, Dulcinea, REDALYC, DRJI, REDIB) and Academic Social Networks (Google Scholar, Mendeley, Research Gate, Publoms) in the second stage the journal should be indexed into the journal's thematic area database, in the third stage it is recommended to include the journal in prestige index that allow to evaluate and to measure the impact of the journal (MIAR, CIRC, ERIH, Latindex), and last it is recommended to include the journal in databases of high impact (Scopus, Web of Science, Journal Citation Report, Scimago Journal Rank).

Certainly, the inclusion of scientific journals in any databases mentioned above, will allow first to evaluate the work carried out by the editorial board, it will also evaluate if the journals gather the international standards and to increase the visibility and impact of the journal. On the other hand, it will make it possible for international and renowned authors to publish their research in the journal.

For the above mentioned, it is necessary that any organization that is dedicated to the periodic publications of journals prioritize indexation, to increase the scope and visibility of the work done, in this sense, the School of Legal and Political Science is committed to the dissemination and quality of scientific information has implemented in the last months a project of indexation of its journals, with the aim to satisfy the needs of researchers and the international scientific community.

In this regard, since the year 2018 the Journal of Legal and Political Science through its editorial team has been making efforts to achieve the indexation of the journal in repositories, libraries, directories, index, and evaluation systems, obtaining as a result the recognition of the journal in 18 databases at the international level among which stand out (Erihplus, Copernicux Index, Miar Journal Factor Impact, LatinRey, Eurasian Scientific Journal Index, Europub, among others).

The inclusion of the Journal of Legal and Political Science in these databases confirms the commitment of the School of Legal and Political Sciences of the Polytechnic University of Nicaragua to disseminate quality scientific information on issues related to Law and Politic.

First, PhD Gorjón Gomez and Master Valdes- Espinosa address an innovative and important topic for the discipline of alternative methods of conflict resolution, such as "Creativity" in

mediation, which will make it possible to address conflicts in a different way and will therefore lead to innovative and agile solutions.

Following this line, Master Sequeira Pérez presents an article in which a comprehensive legal analysis is made on the principle of separability of the arbitration clause in the interpretation and modification of contracts, the author establishes the importance of this principle of law in the search to the solutions to contractual problems.

On the other hand, PhD student Palomino Perez developed an investigation in tax law in which he studied in a comparative way the duty to contribute and the right of non-self-incrimination in the relation to the duties that the individual has in front of the public treasury in Spanish legislation.

Likewise, it is presented the article prepared by Master Manzanares Garmendia in which a topic of importance for society in general, as is the “Sustainable Development”, the author analyses the complexity of creating Public Policies that holistically incorporate existing approaches to Sustainable Development.

Finally, this edition presents a study in which the legal figure of “local legal protection” is analyzed in the political constitution of the state of Guanajuato, Mexico. This research is carried out by PhD Olguin Torres, highlights the importance for democratic systems and recognition of mechanisms that favor the effective protection of violated rights.

## **References.**

- Padula, Danielle. (2019). *Indexación de revistas: estándares básicos y por qué son importantes*. LSE Impact of Social Sciences.
- López, O., & Cordero, A. (2005). Un intento por definir las características generales de las revistas académicas electrónicas. *Razón y palabra*.