INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPLES FOR PREVENTING FROM THE CASE OF „GHOSTWRITING” IN THE space&FORM JOURNAL

To counteract the cases of "ghostwriting" and "guest authorship" editors of the space&FORM journal introduce rules that should be disclosed in the form of an attachment to the publication:

1. The editors require the authors to disclose the individual contributions of the co-authors in the publication (with their affiliation and contribution - who is the author of the concepts, assumptions, methods, etc. used in the preparation of the publication), with the mail responsibility for the author submitting the article;
2. All the detected cases of "ghostwriting" and "guest authorship" as a manifestation of scientific misconduct will be unmasked, including notification the relevant entities (institutions employing authors, scientific societies, associations of scientific editors, etc.);
3. The editors require disclosure of information about the sources of research used for publication, the contribution of scientific and research institutions, associations and other entities that should be included in the bibliography or footnotes;
4. The editors will document all manifestations of scientific misconduct, especially violations of ethics obligatory in science.

The rules were prepared in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education published by the Polish Scientific Bibliography at: https://pbn.nauka.gov.pl/static/doc/wyjasnienie_dotyczace_ghostwriting.pdf, where it was given among others:

The reliability in science is one of its qualitative foundations. Readers should be sure, that the authors of the publication in a transparent, reliable and honest way present the results of their work, regardless of whether they are its direct authors, or whether they used the help of a specialized entity.

The proof of the ethical attitude of a researcher and the highest editorial standards should be transparency of information on entities contributing to the publication (contribution substantive, factual, financial, etc.), which is a manifestation of not only good manners, but also social responsibility.

The opposite examples are “ghostwriting” and “guest authorship”.

The "ghostwriting" is when someone made a significant contribution to the publication, without revealing their participation as one of the authors or without mentioning his role in the acknowledgments included in the publication.

The “guest authorship” ("honorary authorship") occurs when the author’s participation is negligible or nonexistent, and yet it is the author / co-author of the publication.