

Complexity and dynamics of ELF publishing from the editors' perspective

Laura-Mihaela MURESAN
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
muresan.laura@gmail.com

Mariana NICOLAE
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
mariana.nicolae@rei.ase.ro

Research in the domain of English as Lingua Franca (ELF) for international knowledge dissemination has revealed the multi-faceted nature of challenges faced by academics in various non-Anglophone contexts. To our knowledge, however, the perceptions and views of editors, especially those in local contexts where the switch to English-medium publishing has become prevalent more recently, have been less researched.

Building on research carried out so far in Romania, both among academics and journal editors (Muresan & Nicolae, 2015), this study aims to extend the area of investigation, so as to include respondents (journal editors) from other countries where ELF is used for knowledge dissemination. The current paper thus aims to explore if ELF has become the dominant language of research publishing also in other local contexts and if the linguistic and publication policies of journals in the contexts referred to are comparable to those adopted by research journals in Romania. The main instrument used in this qualitative study is a slightly adapted version of the questionnaire used in the survey carried out in Romania, complemented with follow-up interviews, where necessary. The main aims are to explore the editors' perceptions of and views on aspects such as these:

- the quality dimension embedded in the manuscript evaluation process
- the editors' dual role, as 'gatekeepers' and as facilitators of quality enhancement in global contexts
- the complexity and dynamics of writing practices and corresponding changes in journal policies (if any), aimed at addressing author needs identified, so as to promote better compliance with evaluation criteria.

The overall goal is twofold: to complement existing research with considerations on quality ingredients that are key to international ELF research publishing, from the editors' perspective, and to provide new insights into the complexity of ELF writing for publication, for refining curricula and educational processes aimed at improving research writing.

References

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Biodata

Laura-Mihaela MURESAN is Professor of English at the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, where she co-ordinates an interdisciplinary, English-medium Master Programme on Researcher and Teacher Development in Economics (www.edures.ase.ro). She is founder president of the Romanian Association for Quality Language Services QUEST and has coordinated several European projects on quality management in language education (<http://qualitraining2.ecml.at>). Her research interests include academic literacies in multilingual contexts, genre analysis and corpus-based approaches to academic/research writing, as well as the inter-dependence between professional development and quality enhancement in education and research.

Professor Mariana NICOLAE teaches business communication at the Bucharest University of Economic Studies (www.ase.ro). She is passionately creative about teaching, research and academic management, coaching and mentoring, institution building, networking with people and organizations, publishing, travelling to attend conferences and seminars and organizing (inter)national conferences in Romania. She is the head of the Department of Modern Languages and Business Communication and the director of the Master in International Business Communication (www.mibcom.ase.ro). She was a Fulbright senior scholar in 2005 and in May 2013 has been appointed a Fulbright ambassador for higher education institutions. She participated as an expert evaluator in the Framework Programme FP7 of the European Union.