



Call for contributions to an eBook, edited by Universidade Aberta, Portugal, on the theme:

"Plagiarism and academic integrity in the information society"

Asking ourselves about the phenomenon of plagiarism is a demanding challenge, since its fields of practice are diverse in nature. The word 'plagiarism', whose etymology refers to the abduction of slaves or children in ancient Rome, took on another meaning until it focused on intellectual, literary, and especially academic theft.

In the literature, plagiarism is characterized not only by the difficulty in establishing the limits from which it is assumed as such, but also its definition may sometimes be subtle or unclear. Other notions such as intertextuality, quotation, imitation or influence, share characteristics of plagiarism, whose boundaries are difficult to identify. The plagiarist, initially a thief of children, becomes a thief of words, placing literary criticism before a new problem: the originality or not of the literary work.

The internet has provided new challenges:

- access to a multitude of sources of information;
- copy-paste replaced the query of paper documents in libraries;
- the advent of methods of detection (software) - the digital openness that allows plagiarism gives you, at the same time, the means to fight it.

The mobilization of universities and the scientific community is increasing, both in academic and scientific research contexts and in academic work, where procedures for reporting irregularities are encouraged.

One explanation for this growing concern may be the greater perception of this community regarding the dimension of the phenomenon: plagiarism not only weakens knowledge but also prevents it from flourishing.

The unthinking act of plagiarism impairs our writing, weakens our creations, threatens our ability to create, and compromises the richness of our diversity of thought. In short, it constitutes an affront to the serious intellectual work that we must develop and encourage.

In this sense, researchers, teachers and others interested in this subject seek to examine the phenomenon, its causes and consequences, and suggest measures, trying to approximate the tenuous borders that differentiate plagiarism from other similar concepts, such as intertextuality and citation.

This call for contributions provides an opportunity for reflection on the complex subject of plagiarism, not only in order to counteract and combat this crime, but above all, to try to understand the phenomenon in its many facets: legal, ethical, social, among others.

For the eBook "Plagiarism and Academic Integrity in the Information Society", original and unpublished texts in Portuguese, English or Spanish are accepted, with a suggested dimension between 2,000 and 5,000 words, until July 30, 2019 that addresses (not exclusively) the following topics:



- organizational incentives to promote the originality of academic work;
- strategies to promote academic integrity;
- use and comparison of plagiarism detection tools;
- challenges faced by publishers to ensure the integrity of submitted works;
- academic integrity in national and international research projects;
- contract cheating.

All texts submitted will be subject to peer review, with the scheduled publication date being the first quarter of 2020.

Relevant dates:

Paper submission: July 30, 2019

Review Results Returned: November 15, 2019

Final Paper Submission: December 30, 2019

Publication: first quarter of 2020

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This call for contributions is an initiative of the Working Group for the Promotion of Originality of the Universidade Aberta, Portugal (Ana Novo, Ana Nobre, João Simão and Pedro Pereira).