

**Ivan Oransky, MD**  
**Co-Founder, Retraction Watch**

Dear Dr Oransky

Following report on allegations of unethical behavior by a group of Iranian researchers that have been highlighted in your website dated January 4th, 2018 (<http://retractionwatch.com/2018/01/04/elsevier-knew-author-faked-reviews-kept-accepting-papers-year>), the Physics Society of Iran (PSI) strongly condemns this misconduct and believes the majority of Iranian physics community is free from such digressions.

PSI has always been very sensitive to plagiarisms and in this regard has established a dedicated ethics committee since 2004. PSI also issued a code of ethics that is publicly available from its website ([http://psi.ir/upload/psi/70/MANSHUR\\_AKHLAGHY.pdf](http://psi.ir/upload/psi/70/MANSHUR_AKHLAGHY.pdf), in Farsi) and attempts to control misbehavior within its community by increasing awareness by wider education and raising the issues in conferences at the national level. The ethics committee of PSI also submits detailed reports on each case to the PSI board of directors which in turn follows up the case with the authorities of the relevant universities to take serious measures against the faculty members involved.

**Mohammad Reza Ejtehadi, PhD**  
**Professor of Physics,**  
**President of Physics Society of Iran (PSI)**

