

# CADERNOS GESTÃO PÚBLICA E CIDADANIA

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### ETHICS AND INTEGRITY IN THE BRAZILIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: CONCEPTUAL CHALLENGES, TRAJECTORIES, AND NEW HORIZONS

#### Guest editors

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**Submissions have been extended until April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Ethics and integrity have emerged as subjects of debate in the scientific community and as central principles in the field of public administration. This development comes in response to the proliferation of analytical and prescriptive models associated with the public governance agenda and, more precisely, with the concept of “good governance.” This concept strongly emphasizes the rule of law and the pressing need to address the multifaceted issue of corruption.

There has been a growing interest in these themes over the last quarter of a century. A simple search for the terms “public ethics,” “ethics in the public sector,” “public integrity,” and “integrity in the public sector” on Google Scholar for the 25 years between 1973 and 1997 yielded 1,917 works. In contrast, for the subsequent period from 1998 to 2022, 35,330 studies were found, a staggering 17.4-fold increase.

As we observe the efforts made by various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to promote international standards of ethics and integrity in the public sector, it becomes evident that there has been a notable surge in recommendations, events, indicators, and working groups dedicated to these subjects. Consequently, think tanks, educational courses, certification programs, and international publications highlighting best practices in this field are proliferating.

In Brazil, courts of accounts and public control agencies have issued standards and directives for promoting good governance, ethics, and integrity. These guidelines are sometimes presented as fundamental principles and, at other times, as models to follow. The federal government is actively investing in the development of systems for normative guidance, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation to support the promotion of ethics and integrity. These systems enable coordinated and harmonious efforts between central and sectoral agencies.

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It is intriguing to witness a noticeable proliferation of recommendations, frameworks, and tools to promote ethics and integrity within the Brazilian public sector, aligning with global trends. However, there appears to be a limited critical discourse surrounding conceptual challenges, methodological constraints, achieved outcomes, and the underlying conflicts and reconciliations of interests and perspectives that have characterized the evolution of ethics and integrity, perspectives that bring the opportunity to explore new horizons.

The central concern lies in the possibility that the increased focus on ethics and integrity and the expansion of structures and initiatives in Brazil may be overshadowed by a culture of scandal, moralism, and the use of reputation and power strategies to combat corruption. Furthermore, due to the contextual factors shaping its legitimacy, this surge may be linked to a limited or distorted understanding of the concept of public governance within the country, as well as the somewhat “magical” attributes associated with good governance, such as normative appeal, positive connotations, consensus-seeking tendencies, and significant conceptual ambiguity.

This point underscores the necessity to recognize that, at a fundamental conceptual level, there are inconsistencies in differentiating between ethics, moral conduct, discipline, and their interrelation with the concept of integrity. The complex interplay among these concepts and their association with the fight against corruption, which has been a motivating factor behind the recent development of ethics and integrity structures and initiatives in Brazil, is inherently intricate.

Notably, the perspective on ethics extends beyond the narrow focus of anticorruption efforts, requiring a broader and more encompassing perspective. In the case of integrity, it is sometimes considered a public value and used as a framework for organizing preventative measures, often lacking a clear connection to ethics. In this context, apart from refining conceptual consistency and precision, it is also essential to recognize the formalistic or ceremonial aspects associated with these phenomena.

This CFP aims to gather studies for an issue of CGPC that promotes high-level research on ethics and integrity within the Brazilian public sector, emphasizing not only scientific rigor but also a focus on its language and practical implications for professionals in both the public sector and the third sector who are directly or indirectly involved in promoting ethics and integrity in public administration. It also explores the relationship of these principles with the prevention and combat of corruption.

Furthermore, this CFP seeks to encourage research and raise awareness about these issues, extending their relevance to the state and local levels of government. Ethics and integrity should not be confined within federative and sectoral boundaries but should be viewed as an ecosystem that connects various actors in society and the state.

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In line with these objectives, the editors invite the submission of unpublished articles, whether theoretical or empirical, that provide an original perspective on classic themes or address cutting-edge questions concerning ethics and integrity within the public sector. These articles should also explore their connections with topics such as governance, control, transparency, corruption, and others. Some suggested topics are listed below:

- Conceptual challenges of ethics and integrity in the public sector.
- Challenges related to formulating, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating policies on ethics and public integrity.
- Dissemination, transfer, and translation of ethics and integrity policies.
- Trajectories and institutional arrangements for ethics and integrity in the public sector in Brazil.
- Ethics and integrity across government sectors and other branches of government (defense, health, environment, public security, finance, public controlling agencies, courts of accounts, public prosecutor's office (or Public Ministry), public ministries, and courts, among others).
- Ethics and integrity in crises, epidemics, pandemics, and other disasters, as well as in prevention, preparation, and response systems for these situations.
- Ethics and integrity in risk management, reporting channels, transparency, control, and accountability.

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- Ethics and integrity at the intersection of Brazil's public and private sectors.
- Ethics and integrity in the context of corruption prevention and combat in Brazil.
- Ethics committees and their role as arrangements that offer support, guidance, education, regulation, and discipline.

## **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Theoretical or theoretical-empirical articles will be accepted, observing the general formatting and other guidelines in the "Articles" section of the CGPC Author Guidelines, available at <https://periodicos.fgv.br/cgpc/autor>.

Submitted papers must not have been published, accepted for publication, or be under consideration for publication in another journal. Suitable works will be submitted to the peer review process. If you have any questions about this CFP, send a message to Temístocles Murilo de Oliveira Júnior, [temuju@gmail.com](mailto:temuju@gmail.com).

Complete information about this CFP and the journal is available at <https://periodicos.fgv.br/cgpc/about/submissions>. If you have any questions about these formats, please contact [cadernosgpc-redacao@fgv.br](mailto:cadernosgpc-redacao@fgv.br).

## **ABOUT CADERNOS GESTÃO PÚBLICA E CIDADANIA (CGPC):**

CGPC is an open-access journal published exclusively online. Paper submissions, double-blind review, and publication are conducted through Open Journal Systems (OJS). CGPC does not charge an APC (Article Processing Charge).

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