Policy on Post-Dissemination Corrections

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Corrections made post-dissemination, or in other words, modifications made to an article or an issue already being disseminated, can impact its use and visibility. This document details Érudit's policy for this practice. It is inspired by current practices in the scholarly publishing ecosystem and by standards issued by the Council of Science Editors (CSE), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the National Information Standards Organization (NISO).

1. Post-Dissemination Corrections

1.1 What Are Post-Dissemination Corrections?

⟶ Digital Production Process

Dissemination on Érudit is the final step of a long editorial process. The production files that a journal sends to Érudit must be in their final form (proofread, edited, and formatted). This work cannot be done during the proofreading stage with Érudit, it must be completed beforehand.

As an analogy, sending files to Érudit for dissemination is the equivalent of sending them to a printer to produce the printed version of a new issue.

⟶ Post-Dissemination Corrections

A post-dissemination correction is a modification requested by a journal or an author to an article that is already being disseminated on Érudit.

Once an article is disseminated on Érudit, it is indexed in several research tools and search engines. Researchers, students, and other readers start reading and citing it. If a printed version exists, the digital version of the article must be an exact replica of it.

1.2 What Are the Consequences?

The possible consequences of a post-dissemination correction are significant:

→ Improper Citation

Elements from your article can be cited as soon as it is disseminated. Any modification can create confusion for the reader.

→ Improper Indexation

Indexing tools integrate Érudit's content as soon as it is made available. The frequency at which these tools update their content varies a lot and this is mostly out of our control. It can take a long time before a modification becomes visible, and it is possible that it never shows up on another platform.

→ Additional Delays

Numerous post-dissemination correction requests create significant delays when it comes to disseminating other articles or issues in the production queue.

1.3 What to Do When a Correction Is Absolutely Necessary?

Despite the potential consequences of a post-dissemination correction, that does not mean that an article containing erroneous, or even problematic, content cannot be corrected.

In most cases, the practice of adding **errata** is appropriate, for example, when an error finds its way into an article without affecting its conclusions. This practice consists of adding an erratum to the next issue stating that there was an error in an article in the previous issue.

In some rarer cases, when the content of an article is no longer reliable or presents ethical problems due to the underlying research, a **retraction** is required. This consists of explicitly stating in every format of the article (HTML, PDF, etc.) that it has been retracted, with a link to a retraction notice that details the reason(s) for the retraction.

Note: best practices in ethics and transparency require that any correction to an already disseminated text should be clearly displayed on the article's page.

2. Policy and Procedure

2.1 Érudit's Policy on Post-Dissemination Corrections

In almost all cases, Érudit refuses post-dissemination corrections and prefers the publication of an erratum (or retraction if appropriate) in a subsequent issue.

However, considering their importance for the visibility and the citing of your articles, corrections to the following core metadata are accepted: volume(s), number(s), year(s), title, subtitle, parallel title(s), parallel subtitle(s), citation of reviewed work(s), author(s), and pagination.

A note is added for any modification made. However, for name changes, Érudit makes the necessary modifications based on the author's request.

2.2 Procedure

There is no need to inform us when adding an erratum to a future issue.

To send a request, please contact us at production@erudit.org. Provide as much detail as possible; the following information is necessary: description of the error with a link to the article, the location of the error and the desired correction. Please note that Érudit only accepts requests from editorial teams. Authors should contact the journal.

Following your message, we will provide you with recommendations based on current best practices, as mentioned in this policy, and with an overview of the fees, if applicable. The wait time for a correction depends on the production calendar.

For fees relating to your request, see the table on the following page.

Fees for post–dissemination corrections

Modification to the core metadata for citing the article	Fee applied
Modification made following a name change	No fee
Adding an erratum to an already disseminated issue	Fee applied
Adding an erratum to a future issue	No fee
Adding a retraction notice	No fee

For further information, please contact us at edition@erudit.org.