

## **Promoting the 3Rs in scientific writing and publishing**

Sonja von Aulock, Editor in chief, ALTEX – Alternatives to Animal Experimentation

Many scientists working in the broad field of biomedicine can contribute towards protecting animals and promoting the 3Rs, even when their research is not primarily about replacing, reducing or refining animal experimentation. Such contributions can include planning a research project based on a thorough literature search that encompasses non-animal approaches and considers the 3Rs, choosing to use materials that do not involve animal suffering where possible, seeking to improve the welfare of animals used for research beyond minimum guidelines, documenting research according to best practice, reporting research according to guidelines that help to ensure the results can be evaluated and replicated by others, critically evaluating own research and pointing out its limitations, looking for potential applications of results in the 3Rs field, publishing relevant research in journals promoting the 3Rs, and considering and advocating these points when reviewing articles for journals, ethical boards and funding.

The journal ALTEX has gained a high level of recognition in the field of alternative methods and beyond. It promotes the 3Rs by stringent selection of articles based on their potential 3R impact, by requiring and checking that any animal experimentation is reported according to the ARRIVE guidelines, by raising awareness on the use of materials whose production involves animal suffering, by implementing a critical and unbiased peer-review process, and by publishing all its content open access to make it available to all interested parties.