



EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES

AUTHOR GUIDELINES

The European Journal of Legal Studies (EJLS) accepts submissions in the fields of comparative law, European law,¹ international law, and legal theory. We particularly welcome contextual, interdisciplinary, and critical approaches to scholarship in these fields. EJLS accepts three standard submission formats: (1) general articles, (2) New Voices articles, and (3) book reviews (see specific guidance below). All submissions must be formatted in conformity with the [EJLS Style Guide](#). Before sending a submission to us, please read the [EJLS Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement](#).

The journal is committed to the promotion of linguistic diversity and accepts submissions in any language, subject to the competence of the editorial board.² Authors writing in languages other than English are requested to provide an abstract in English at the time of submission. EJLS also welcomes the broadest possible range of writing styles and seeks to promote scholarship from all academic cultures.

¹ 'European law' is understood in broad terms, including both the European Union and Council of Europe systems.

² We have previously published articles in Dutch, German, English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, and Spanish. We welcome submissions in both these and other languages, including 'non-European' languages, and shall endeavour, as far as possible, to find competent reviewers with the requisite language skills.

In light of the journal's open access policy, no publication fees are charged and all content is made freely available, with due acknowledgment of copyright, to download, copy and print as PDFs. By submitting your work for review to EJLS, you commit to refraining from submitting or publishing that work in any other journal, volume, platform or website, regardless of type and nature, for the entire duration of the review and publication process. In the event of rejection of the submission, this obligation shall be terminated. In the event of acceptance for publication of the submission, you will be asked to sign a Copyright License Agreement which provides for limited exceptions to this commitment. Where relevant, we also encourage authors to consider including a territorial/First Peoples' acknowledgement in their work.³

I. GENERAL ARTICLES

General articles submissions should fall into one or more of the fields of comparative law, European law, international law, and legal theory. Articles focusing on a single national jurisdiction will be rejected. Submissions should be between 9,000 and 12,000 words (including footnotes), formatted in conformity with the [EJLS Style Guide](#), and include a short abstract (150-200 words), a list of keywords, and a table of contents. Articles must be anonymised and should be sent as Word files together with a title page (containing author name(s), email(s), affiliation(s), [ORCID iD](#), and any acknowledgments) to submissions.ejls@eui.eu.

All submissions are subject to an initial 'desk' review conducted by our Managing Editors. Submissions which fail to meet all of the formal requirements set out above (word length, subject matter, etc), as well as basic substantive criteria, will be rejected at this stage. Descriptive, 'report-style' submissions will also be rejected. At the sole discretion of the Managing Editors, authors may exceptionally be invited to resubmit their articles. If an author is invited to

³ For guidance, see <https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory>.

resubmit, this does not constitute a guarantee that a submission will subsequently either be sent out for review or published in EJLS.

All submissions which meet our basic formal and substantive requirements will then be sent out for double-blind peer review involving at least two reviewers. Our reviewers will rate the quality of general articles submissions in the following areas:

1. Research question and methodology
2. Contribution to the literature
3. Argumentation
4. Structure
5. Language

Submissions will not be rejected solely on language grounds, though language editing may be suggested. Reviewers will also comment on formatting and referencing. EJLS strongly encourages authors to cite early career researchers and to reflect regional, gender, and linguistic diversity in their citations.

Reviewers may recommend rejection or acceptance, usually subject to major or minor revisions. Submissions may go through two or three rounds of review until the reviewers are satisfied with the changes made. Final acceptance is subject to the approval of the relevant Head of Section and the Editor-in-Chief. Approved submissions will then be forwarded to our Executive Editors for copyediting and formatting. Submissions may go through several rounds of editing at this stage. Once finalised, general articles may be published “Online First” and subsequently included in the next issue of EJLS, subject to timing and other constraints.

EJLS accepts submissions that were previously published as working papers. Authors must inform the Managing Editors if their submission was previously published as a working paper, failing which the submission may be identified as a case of plagiarism and rejected. If the submission is accepted for publication,

authors should, as far as possible, replace any online versions of the working paper with the finalised article as it appears in EJLS.

II. NEW VOICES ARTICLES

New Voices articles are short-form pieces enabling early-career scholars to put forward innovative ideas, build their academic profile, and expand their publication record. This novel format encourages authors to present an original argument in a direct, concise fashion. Early-career scholars might, for example, use the New Voices format to summarise the core arguments from a conference paper or doctoral thesis. We particularly welcome submissions that engage with topical issues and/or seek to challenge conventional ideas or assumptions. EJLS defines ‘early-career scholars’ as LLM, JD, PhD. (or equivalent, e.g. JSD) students and postdoctoral researchers who defended their doctoral thesis within the last five years. Those who are not currently affiliated with an academic institution must be within five years of graduating from their highest academic degree to date. Authors must set out how they meet this definition at the time of submission. Ambiguous cases shall be decided by the Managing Editors.

New Voices submissions should be between 4,000 and 5,000 words (including footnotes), formatted in conformity with the [EJLS Style Guide](#), and include a short abstract (150-200 words), a list of keywords, and a table of contents. The submission guidelines and review procedure are otherwise the same as for general articles (see above).

III. BOOK REVIEWS

EJLS publishes book reviews (including audiobooks) in the fields of comparative law, European law, international law, and legal theory. Before submitting a review, please contact the Editor-in-Chief (ejls@eui.eu) to discuss the book’s suitability and the timing of submission. We especially welcome submissions that review books written by early-career researchers and authors belonging to marginalised groups. We will also do our best to assist in acquiring a copy (either digital or physical) of the book in question. Book review submissions are reviewed by two members of the executive team, who may request major or

minor revisions to be made. Once these have been satisfactorily addressed, submissions are passed on to our Executive Editors for copyediting and formatting. Finalised book reviews may be published Online First and subsequently included in the next issue of EJLS, subject to timing and other constraints.

Book reviews should be between 1,500 and 3,000 words in length and should be formatted in conformity with the [EJLS Style Guide](#). The review should briefly contextualise the book within the broader academic literature and provide an overview of its content and structure, highlighting the most important claims made. The review should also critically assess whether the book achieves its stated goals and whether its arguments are convincing. The review might also reflect on how the book's ideas might be developed further or applied elsewhere. Generally speaking, authors should aim to achieve a roughly equal balance between summary of the content and critical assessment.