

# Instructions for authors submitting to *Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action*

## *Recht der Werkelijkheid*

### Contributions

*Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action* has six types of contributions: articles, essays, reviews, reports, Work in progress and contributions for the Forum section. Contributions can be submitted in Dutch and in English.

An **article** is a scientific contribution of an innovative nature. This can also be a review article on a particular topic based on a methodologically sound literature study. An article should be between 5,000 and 9,000 words. The article is submitted anonymously to the editorial staff and to an anonymous external referent (a double-blind peer review procedure). Based on the internal and external review, the editorial board will decide whether the text is eligible for publication.

An **essay** offers a stimulating contribution to a topical debate. An essay is not peer-reviewed. An essay has a length of 4,000-6,000 words. The editors will decide whether the text is eligible for publication.

A **review** is a discussion of a recently published book or dissertation and is approximately 2,000 words in length. A review has its own title. Immediately after the title, the following is stated: author's name and title of the book under review, place of publication, publisher, the series in which the book appeared, the number of pages and an indication of any indices, appendices, including the price, ISBN. The editors will check this contribution.

A **report** is a discussion of a conference, seminar, study afternoon or similar meeting. A report has a length of 2,000-3,000 words and should contain an in-depth discussion and reflections by the author. The editors will review the contribution. If interested, please contact the editorial secretary prior to submission, stating the angle of the report.

A contribution to **Work in progress** takes the form of an interview setting in which methodological and ethical issues of research projects are discussed. The interview will be conducted by one of the editorial members, featuring perspectives from both junior and senior researchers and spanning 3,000-4,000 words. If you are interested, please contact the editorial secretary.

A contribution to the **Forum** section has a length of 2,000 words. Forum has a debate character in which two authors respond to each other on a particular subject. The contribution must take the form of a brief, forceful defense (or rejection) of a proposition. The editors will evaluate the contribution. For a contribution to the Forum section, please contact the editorial secretary in advance.

## Process description

If you are interested in contributing to the Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action, you can always contact the editorial secretary.

You can submit your contribution by email to the Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action: [rechtderwerkelijkheid@gmail.com](mailto:rechtderwerkelijkheid@gmail.com). We prefer to receive your contribution in Word. Additionally, please ensure that you submit **an anonymous version** of your work.

When the editorial secretary receives the contribution, it will be discussed anonymously at the next editorial meeting. At least one member of the editorial board evaluates the content of the contribution. If the editorial board decides that the contribution can possibly be published, the editorial secretary will share any comments with the author(s) and ask for an adapted version.

If the editorial staff decides that the contribution may be published and it concerns an **article**, the contribution will be assessed by at least one external expert (double-blind peer review). Based on the internal and external assessment, the editors will give their final opinion on whether the contribution can be published. The editorial secretary will share any comments from the editors and referee(s) with the author(s) by e-mail. The author(s) are requested to send the modified version, together with a letter explaining the changes, to the Editorial Secretary. The amended contribution will then be reviewed.

If your contribution is published, we will ask you to provide some additional information for the 'About the Authors' section. Depending on the type of contribution, we may ask for a summary (150 to 200 words) and a number of key words.

Before the contributions are printed, a corrector from 'Boom juridisch' looks at all the contributions. The editorial secretary presents only major changes to the author. This is followed by a proof, which is only submitted to the author(s) if the text contains tables or figures. At this stage, it is explicitly about formatting corrections only. If the author(s) would like to receive an author's copy of the Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action, they can pass on their address to the editorial secretary.

After publication, author(s) can request a pdf version of their contribution from the editorial secretary. The publisher permits publication six months after publication (see also the heading 'open access policy').

## Spelling and layout of the contributions

### *General*

All manuscripts should be submitted with minimum formatting. Please conform to the following instructions:

- Do not use abbreviations unless long repetitions make the text difficult to read.
- Disable automatic hyphenation.

- Only use a tab at the beginning of a new paragraph, which follows on from the previous paragraph. Do not use a tab after a blank line.
- Only use one font and one font size.
- Strange words/names, or in case you want to emphasize something, you can italicize.

## *References in the text and in the notes*

- For referencing, use abbreviated footnote references. The abbreviated reference should consist of the last name of the author(s) followed by the year of publication and the page or pages referenced. Example: De Groot & Elbers 2008, p. 152. In case of more than three authors, only the first author is listed with the addition 'et al.': Van der Velde et al. 2010, pp. 14-17.
- Only use footnotes, no endnotes.

## *Tables, figures and quotations*

- Tables and figures should be understandable independently. The title should make clear what information the table or figure provides.
- Please incorporate tables and figures into the text numbered as follows: 'Table 1 [tab] title table'. Do not add tables and figures as appendices after the text.
- Place quotations of less than 40 words between double quotation marks in the running text. Format a quotation over 40 words as a block quotation: start on a new line, indent the entire quotation, and do not use quotation marks.

## *List of references*

- Given that the footnotes contain only an abbreviated reference, a bibliography with full references to the publications cited, ordered alphabetically, should be included.
- Each source in the bibliography starts with the abbreviated reference from the footnotes (bold and without page number), followed by the full reference with all bibliographic data.
- The full reference to a book includes the initials and last name of the author(s). Then give the title of the work (in italics), followed by the place of publication and a colon. Next, give the name of the publisher and the year of publication.
- The full reference to a contribution in a book includes the initials and last name of the author(s) of the contribution. Then, between single quotation marks, give the title of the contribution, followed by a comma and the word "in:". Next, place the initials and last name of the editor(s), with the addition '(ed.)'. Following that are the title of the book (in italics) and place of publication, followed by a colon. Finally, give the name of the publisher, the year, and the beginning and end pages of the contribution referenced.
- The full reference to a journal article includes the initials and last name of the author(s). Then, between single quotation marks, give the title of the article, followed by the name of the journal (in italics). Next, list the volume of the journal

(in parentheses), the year of publication, and the issue number. End with the beginning and ending page of the article. For journals that number each of their articles, this publication number can be placed after the year, replacing the volume and issue number.

- Do not use tab, bullet points or numbering in the bibliography.

Examples:

**Pieterman 1990**

R. Pieterman, *De plaats van de rechter in Nederland 1813-1920*, Arnhem: Gouda Quint 1990.

**Pieterman, Hanekamp & Baak 2005**

R. Pieterman, J.C., Hanekamp & J.M. Baak, 'Overgewichtbeleid is onaanvaardbaar', *Medisch Contact* (60) 2005, afl. 48, p. 1944-1947.

**Vroege 2022**

B. Vroege, 'De EU als wapenleverancier. De Europese Vredesfaciliteit in context', *NJB* 2022/686, p. 808-814.

**Van Waarden 2010**

F. van Waarden, 'Governing global commons: Public-private protection of fish and forests', in: J. Swinnen, J. Wouters, M. Maertens & A. Marx (red.), *Private standards and global governance. Legal and economic perspectives*, Cheltenham: Edgar Elgar 2010, p. 12-26.

## Copyright Regulations

By submitting your contribution, you agree to the following arrangement. The copyright rests with the author. The 'Vereniging voor de Sociaalwetenschappelijke bestudering van het Recht' (VSR) has the right to publish the contribution digitally via the internet. The author indemnifies the publisher and the VSR against all claims of third parties regarding the content, title and form of the work. The publisher is, to the exclusion of all others, irrevocably authorized by the author to collect the copyright fees due from third parties as referred to in Art. 17, par. 2 1912 Copyright Act and the Royal Decree of 10 June 1974, ex Art. 16b 1912 Copyright Act (as well as stipulations that might amend or supplement these regulations) and/or to take legal action to that end. The Association for the Social Scientific Study of Law will receive 50% of the net proceeds resulting from this.

## Ethics and AI

Recht der Werkelijkheid places great importance to authors reflecting, where appropriate, on issues concerning ethics and artificial intelligence (AI). As an author, it is essential to be mindful of common ethical issues, such as providing careful information and minimizing risks for participants in the research, as well as ensuring secure data storage. Additionally, we ask you to be transparent about the use of (generative) AI tools

and other algorithms. If ethical or AI issues are involved, please explicitly mention them in the methods section or in a footnote and explain how you have addressed them. Any review by an ethics committee can also be mentioned here.

The Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action also seeks to avoid potential conflicts of interest regarding funding. Those who have received external research funding for their research (or who have been involved in external funding) for a (future) contribution to the Journal of Empirical Research on Law in Action, should state this in a footnote with a brief explanation of the nature of their involvement.

## **Open Access policy**

Boom legal strives for maximum access to scientific publications. Therefore, the publishing house contributes proactively to the development of Open Access. BJu is a Green Open Access publisher, which means that the author can archive the final pdf of his/her publication in the repository of the academic institution where the author works and in an independent repository such as that of SSRN. Six months after publication by the publisher, publication is allowed, also on the author's personal website. The BJu website provides more information on this subject:

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