

NLUO

STUDENT LAW JOURNAL

ISSN 2305-062X

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Student Law Journal of National Law University Odisha ('NLUO SLJ' or 'Journal') invites original, unpublished manuscripts from prospective contributors. These Guidelines set out the categories of submissions the Journal accepts, the manner in which a manuscript must be prepared and submitted, the conditions of originality and exclusivity that apply, the Journal's policy on generative artificial intelligence, and the timelines that contributors may expect. Authors are requested to read them in full before submitting a manuscript.

I. ELIGIBILITY

- a. The Journal accepts original, unpublished manuscripts from students of law and allied disciplines. Academicians, legal practitioners and researchers working in law and allied interdisciplinary fields may be admitted at the discretion of the Editorial Board.
- b. Co-authorship is strictly limited to a maximum of three (3) authors. All co-authors must be prepared to assume responsibility for the integrity of the work and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

II. SCOPE AND THEMATIC AREAS

- a. The Journal is not confined to any particular area of law and extends to national as well as international legal and policy issues. Interdisciplinary, analytical or literary submissions are preferred.
- b. The following broad thematic areas are indicative and not exhaustive:
 - i. Constitutional law, public law and governance.
 - ii. Criminal law, criminology and criminal justice.
 - iii. Corporate, commercial, tax and other private law.
 - iv. Technology, data protection, artificial intelligence and the law.
 - v. Environment, climate change and natural resources.
 - vi. Human rights, gender, child rights and social justice.
 - vii. International law, trade, investment and comparative law.
 - viii. Law and the humanities, including legal history, jurisprudence, philosophy and literature.

- ix. Labour, welfare, health and development.
- x. Dispute resolution, access to justice, legal education and the legal profession.

III. SUBMISSION CATEGORIES AND WORD LIMITS

All limits are exclusive of footnotes.

- a. **Long Article:** 5,000 to 8,000 words.
- b. **Short Article:** 3,000 to 5,000 words.
- c. **Case Comment/Legislative Comment (on a Bill or Act):** 2,000 to 3,000 words.
- d. **Book Review:** 1,500 to 2,500 words.

If a manuscript exceeds the word limit, the author must provide a justification in the cover letter.

IV. FORMATTING AND CITATION STYLE

- a. **Main Text:** The main text of the manuscript must be set in Times New Roman, 12-point font, with 1.5 line spacing and justified alignment.
- b. **Headings:** To ensure uniformity across the Journal, headings must not exceed four levels. All headings must be set in Times New Roman, 12-point font, left aligned, as follows:
 - i. **First-level headings:** bold, numbered with Roman numerals (I., II., III.). The same format applies to the introductory and concluding sections.
 - ii. **Second-level headings:** bold, numbered with capital letters (A., B., C.).
 - iii. **Third-level headings:** bold, numbered with small Roman numerals (i., ii., iii.).
 - iv. **Fourth-level headings:** underlined, numbered with small alphabets (a), b), c)).
- c. **Footnotes:** Footnotes must be set in Times New Roman, 10-point font, with single line spacing and justified alignment. Speaking footnotes should be avoided.
- d. **Margin:** A standard 1-inch margin on all sides must be uniformly retained.
- e. **Citation Standard:** Footnotes must conform strictly to the Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities ([OSCOLA, 5th edition](#)).

V. ABSTRACT AND METADATA REQUIREMENTS

- a. All manuscripts, other than Book Reviews, must be accompanied by an abstract of up to 300 words and a maximum of 5 keywords.
- b. Book Reviews do not require an abstract.

VI. ORIGINALITY AND EXCLUSIVITY

- a. Manuscripts must be original and cannot be under simultaneous consideration with any other publication.
- b. Submissions are subjected to similarity screening and will only be considered for peer review if the overall similarity index is below 10%.

- c. The similarity index should exclude footnotes and the bibliography.
- d. The screening will follow the standard process of vetting through Turnitin.

VII. POLICY ON GENERATIVE AI AND AI-ASSISTED TECHNOLOGIES

- a. **Prohibited Uses:**
 - i. Generation or fabrication of text, empirical data, citations, or case law.
 - ii. Utilizing AI to simulate participant interviews or synthesize qualitative field data.
 - iii. Automated qualitative thematic analysis (e.g., focus group evaluations, qualitative coding).
 - iv. Generating synthetic figures or images presented as primary evidence.
 - v. Generation of peer review reports.
- b. **Permissible Uses (Mandatory Disclosure in Certificate of Originality):**
 - i. Technical copyediting, grammar improvement, and language translation.
 - ii. Source compilation and preliminary literature searching.
 - iii. Preparation of illustrative graphics and data visualizations (subject to full attribution).
 - iv. Synthesizing reference formatting and technical proofing.
- c. Authors remain strictly accountable for the factual integrity and attribution of all AI-assisted outputs.

VIII. ANONYMIZATION AND COVER PAGE SUBMISSION

- a. To ensure an unbiased review process, the main manuscript file must be fully anonymized, containing no author-identifying information. A separate Cover Letter must be submitted simultaneously, containing:
 - i. Full title of the manuscript.
 - ii. Details of each author: full name, institutional affiliation, academic/professional designation, email address, contact telephone number, ORCID ID (if available) and postal address for correspondence.
 - iii. [Certificate of Originality and Copyright Transfer](#) signed by each author.
 - iv. Download the template Cover Letter [here](#).

IX. REVIEW TIMELINE AND PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

- a. **Cut-off Date:** All submissions received on or before March 31st will be considered for publication in the Journal volume released in August of the same calendar year. Submissions received on or after 1st April will be considered for publication in the August volume of the subsequent year.
- b. **Review Turnaround:** Preliminary peer-review decisions are communicated within 60 to 90 days of initial receipt. Authors may then be invited to execute minor or major revisions in line with reviewer feedback.

- c. **Release of Volume:** August of every year.

X. ETHICS POLICY

Our publication ethics policies are designed to ensure accuracy, transparency, and inclusivity. In addition to the mandates of the submission guidelines, we also align with industry best practice guidelines as defined by the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#). We encourage author(s) to familiarize themselves with the policy information on these ethics when preparing articles for submission, and we encourage our journal editors and reviewers to do the same to ensure that submissions being considered for publication meet the ethical standards. Authors will have to make a declaration regarding any 'Conflict of Interest' in the [Certificate of Originality and Copyright Transfer](#).

XI. INDEMNITY FOR LIABILITY

The Journal assumes no liability for any infringement, and the author(s) will bear full responsibility and any associated consequences. Additionally, if the Journal suffers any loss due to the author's actions, the author(s) will be required to indemnify the Journal.

XII. MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

Submit your Manuscript, Cover Letter and Certificate of Originality and Copyright Transfer through the [Google Form](#).