

Title of the Manuscript: Concise, Specific, and Reflecting the Core Argument of the Study (Maximum 20 Words, Garamond 14 pt, Bold)

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Abstract: Write one unstructured paragraph of 200 to 250 words in English covering five moves in this order: (1) the problem and its scholarly context; (2) the objective of the study; (3) the method, including design, research sites, data sources, and analytical technique; (4) the principal findings; and (5) the contribution, implication, or recommendation. Do not use citations, footnotes, tables, abbreviations that are not spelled out, or first-person pronouns. Foreign and local terms are italicised. Garamond 10 pt, justified, single-spaced.

Keywords: three to five terms, separated by semicolons, ordered from the most to the least specific; avoid repeating words already used in the title.

INTRODUCTION

Open with the empirical or normative phenomenon that motivates the study, stated in concrete terms and supported by recent literature. Establish why the issue matters for the field addressed by this journal before narrowing towards the specific case.

Map the state of the art. Group the existing scholarship into two or three streams, state what each stream has established, and identify precisely where it stops. The research gap must follow from this mapping and not be asserted on its own.

Close with the research question, the theoretical or conceptual framework that will be used to answer it, the objective of the article, and the novelty claimed. The introduction normally runs between 1,000 and 1,500 words. Body text is Book Antiqua 12 pt, justified, single-spaced, with a first-line indent of 1 cm. In-text citations follow APA 7th edition and are managed with a reference manager such as Mendeley or Zotero (Islam & Hasan, 2025; Reid, 2024).

METHOD

State the research design and justify it against the research question. For qualitative work, specify the approach, for example case study, ethnography, or normative legal research, together with the reason for the choice.

Describe the research site or corpus, the sampling or selection logic, the informants or documents, and the period of data collection. Give enough detail for another researcher to repeat the study.



Explain the data collection instruments, the analytical procedure, and the strategy used to secure trustworthiness, such as triangulation, member checking, or an audit trail. State the research ethics clearance and the limitations of the method. Method sections normally run between 600 and 900 words.

RESULT

Present the findings only. Interpretation, comparison with previous studies, and theoretical argument belong to the Discussion. Organise the findings under two to four thematic subheadings that answer the research question in sequence.

First Subheading: Written as an Analytical Statement Rather Than a Label

Each subsection opens with the finding stated in a single sentence, followed by the supporting evidence: interview excerpts, document extracts, statutory provisions, or quantitative results. Direct quotations from informants are set in italics and attributed by code or pseudonym.

Every table and figure is referred to in the text before it appears, and each is accompanied by one or two sentences that draw out what the reader should notice in it.

Table 1. Title of the Table, Placed Above the Table, Book Antiqua 11 pt, Bold, Centred

No.	Column Heading	Column Heading
1.	[Category or variable]	[Description of the finding, written in phrases rather than full sentences]
2.	[Category or variable]	[Description of the finding]
3.	[Category or variable]	[Description of the finding]

Source: [author elaboration, year] or the full reference of the source of the data.

Tables use horizontal rules only, with no vertical rules and no shading. Table text is Book Antiqua 11 pt, single-spaced. Tables are numbered consecutively and never inserted as images.

[Insert Figure 1 here. Figures are embedded in the document, not linked, at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, and remain legible when printed in greyscale.]

Figure 1. Title of the Figure, Placed Below the Figure, Book Antiqua 11 pt, Bold, Centred

Source: [author elaboration, year].

DISCUSSION

Begin with a synthesis of the findings expressed as a proposition, not as a repetition of the results.

Position the findings against the literature reviewed in the introduction. State explicitly which studies the findings confirm, which they qualify, and which they contradict, and explain why. This is where the novelty of the article is demonstrated rather than merely claimed.

Draw out the theoretical implications, then the practical or policy implications. Acknowledge the limitations of the study and indicate the direction of further research. The discussion normally runs between 1,500 and 2,500 words.

CONCLUSION

Write the conclusion as continuous prose of one to three paragraphs, without numbering and without subheadings. Answer the research question directly, state the contribution of the article, and close with a concrete recommendation. Do not introduce new data or new citations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Acknowledge the institutions, funders, and individuals who contributed to the research, including grant numbers where applicable. Delete this section if it does not apply.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

State the contribution of each author, for example: conceptualisation, methodology, data collection, formal analysis, drafting, review and editing, supervision. All listed authors must have approved the final manuscript.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Declare any financial or non-financial interest that may be perceived to influence the work, or state that the authors declare no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

References follow APA 7th edition, are arranged alphabetically with a hanging indent of 1 cm, and are generated with a reference manager. A minimum of 30 references is expected, of which at least 80 per cent are peer-reviewed journal articles published within the last five years. Every entry must correspond to an in-text citation and must include a DOI where one exists. Retracted, predatory, and non-verifiable sources are not accepted. The four entries below illustrate the required formats and should be deleted before submission.

- Islam, M. S., & Hasan, A. S. M. M. (2025). Rethinking UNCLOS dispute mechanisms: Jurisdiction, sovereignty, and reform pathways through case law insights. *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, 25(4), 539–574. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10784-025-09690-0>
- Reid, A. (2024). Cultural adaptation and integration: Islam in Southeast Asia. In *Southeast Asian Islam* (pp. 189–207). Routledge India.
- Rekola, A., & Paloniemi, R. (2022). Politics of knowledge use: Epistemic governance in marine spatial planning. *Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning*, 24(6), 807–821. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1523908X.2022.2060807>
- Trialfhianty, T. I., Quinn, C. H., & Beger, M. (2025). Engaging customary law to improve the effectiveness of marine protected areas in Indonesia. *Ocean & Coastal Management*, 261, 107543. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2025.107543>

TECHNICAL CHECKLIST (DELETE THIS SECTION BEFORE SUBMISSION)

- Page: A4, margins 2.54 cm on all sides, single column, single-spaced, no page numbers inserted manually.

- Title: Garamond 14 pt bold, maximum 20 words. Author names Garamond 12 pt bold; affiliations and e-mail Garamond 10 pt.
- Abstract: 200–250 words, English, one paragraph, Garamond 10 pt, followed by three to five keywords.
- Body text: Book Antiqua 12 pt, justified, first-line indent 1 cm. Main headings Book Antiqua 13 pt bold and capitalised; subheadings 12 pt bold italic in title case.
- Structure: Introduction, Method, Result, Discussion, Conclusion, References. Numbered headings are not used.
- Length: 6,000–9,000 words including references, unless agreed otherwise with the editor.
- Tables and figures: numbered consecutively, referred to in the text, horizontal rules only, source stated beneath.
- Citations and references: APA 7th edition, generated with Mendeley or Zotero, minimum 30 entries, DOI included.
- Language: manuscripts are submitted in academic English and proofread before submission.
- Similarity: maximum 20 per cent as measured by Turnitin, with no single source exceeding 5 per cent.
- Ethics: the manuscript is original, has not been published elsewhere, and is not under review by another journal.