



NLIU LAW REVIEW

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LAW REVIEW



GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

A. Types of Submissions Accepted by the NLIU Law Review:

Manuscripts on any topic of contemporary legal relevance meeting the below mentioned criteria:

- Articles = 5000-10000 words
- Case notes = 2000-5000 words
- Legislative Comments = 1000-3000 words
- Book reviews = 1000-3000 words

The word limit is inclusive of the abstract, and exclusive of footnotes.

B. General Submission Guidelines:

- Submissions should be accompanied with a covering letter including the name of the author, email ID, mobile number and the name of the author's institution.
- Submissions must be in electronic form sent via email.
- Submissions must be made to **lawreview@nliu.ac.in** before **23:59 hrs, 30 June, 2020**.
- The manuscript itself should not contain any information that can be used to identify the author. These details must only be mentioned in the covering letter.
- All submissions must be in (.docx) format. They must be word processed and compatible with Microsoft Word 2007 and above.
- Manuscripts submitted to the journal must not be written by more than 2 authors.
- Manuscripts must include an abstract of 250-300 words (included in the word limit). The abstract must highlight the structure and the essence of the manuscript.
- Manuscripts not in conformity with these guidelines may be rejected at the sole discretion of the editor.

C. Style Guidelines:

- Title [Times New Roman, 13 points, 1.5 line spacing, Bold, All Caps, Centre Aligned]
- Author [High Tower Text, 13 points, 1.5 line spacing, Italics, All Caps, Centre Aligned]
- Abstract [Times New Roman, 11 points, Single line spacing, Italics, Justified]

- Heading Level 1 [Times New Roman, 12 points, 1.5 line spacing, Bold, Small Caps, Centre Aligned]
- Heading Level 2 [Times New Roman, 12 points, 1.5 line spacing, Italics, Capitalize each word, Centre Aligned]
- Heading Level 3 [Times New Roman, 12 points, 1.5 line spacing, Italics, Capitalize each word, Left Aligned]
- Main Body [Times New Roman, 11 points, 1.15 line spacing, Justified, 1 inch margins on all sides]
- Footnotes [Times New Roman, 9 points, 1 line spacing, Justified]

D. Citation Standards:

- **Citations must strictly conform to the standards laid down in OSCOLA 4th edition (The Oxford University Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities).**
- Submissions must use only footnotes as a form of citation.
- Speaking/substantive footnotes are discouraged.

E. Parameters for Evaluation:

I. Plagiarism Check

Plagiarism check is the first level of scrutiny every manuscript shall go through and it shall be conducted in two stages. Each manuscript shall strictly conform to the plagiarism guidelines and any instance of plagiarism* over and above the permissible limit shall make the manuscript liable for immediate rejection. The final discretion in this regard rests solely with the editors.

- A manuscript having no footnotes shall be rejected at Stage I of Plagiarism Check since it does not meet the minimum criteria of the Law Review.
- Any manuscript having more than three instances of plagiarism shall be rejected.
- A maximum of 3 instances* of plagiarism shall be permitted, provided they do not affect the essence or the originality of the article. The discretion to determine this rests solely with the editors.
- If the manuscript conforms to other requirements of the Law Review, and has not more than three instances of plagiarism which do not affect the essence of the manuscript, the editors may send it back to the author(s) for modifications.
- Paraphrasing as well as verbatim usage of content without appropriate citation of authorities shall qualify as plagiarism.
- Any instance of plagiarism in the Introduction or Conclusion of the manuscript is a ground for immediate disqualification of the manuscript.

- Secondary plagiarism (i.e. plagiarism of the sources relied on) is a ground for immediate disqualification of the manuscript.
- The citation format (OSCOLA 4th edition) must be strictly adhered to by the author(s). If the manuscript conforms to the other requirements of the Law Review, the editors may send it back to the author(s) for modification of footnotes.

**Note: An instance of plagiarism may be a part of one sentence, one sentence or maximum of two sentences and the discretion to determine an instance or/and the number of instances shall solely rest with the editors.*

II. Content Review

Manuscripts which are not rejected at the stage of Plagiarism Check undergo Content Review. The Content Review is conducted in two stages wherein the manuscripts which are fit for publication *as is*, or do not require significant changes are shortlisted for peer review. The manuscripts are evaluated in Content Review on the following five parameters:

a. Grammar and Language

The language of the manuscript must be crisp and concise. A direct statement or argument would be preferred over an indirect one and minimum use of passive voice is recommended. Author(s) must be familiar with the usage of a term used in the manuscript. The author(s) may be marked down for unnecessary repetition, long-winded sentences and irrelevant rhetoric.

b. Structure and Logical Coherence

The manuscript must be logically sound and appropriate for the objective it seeks to achieve. Author(s) may be marked down for arguments based on incorrect premises or presumptions, the lack of a clear structure or the lack of a proper logical flow.

c. Contribution to Existing Literature

If the topic of the manuscript is one which has been written about extensively in the past, the author(s) must consider what the contribution of the manuscript to the discussion is. Merely quoting precedents would be inadequate. On the other hand, writing in a more innovative manner would be more appreciated.

d. Contemporary Relevance

Manuscripts are expected to include recent developments on the topic. A manuscript dealing with trending societal issues and legal issues that have not been given the attention they deserve would be contemporarily relevant. The topic may also be one that has faded from public memory but has reemerged for some reason. The relevance of the particular topic should be highlighted by the author(s) in the introduction.

e. Referencing and Research

The manuscript must reflect in-depth, and not just superficial, research. The author needs to be aware of what citation is required in the circumstances, when to cite (and when not to cite) and the relevance of that citation.