



STATE RESPONSE AND CAPACITY

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Public Sphere Journal at the London School of Economics and Political Science is pleased to announce that submissions for the 2021 issue are now being accepted.

The Journal is currently seeking submissions related to the theme of **State Response and Capacity**.

The upcoming issue will focus on a variety of topics examining the concept of state capacity from different view-points. A (non-exhaustive) set of points this could cover:

- Challenges to building state capacity at global, national and regional levels such as the presence of (or lack thereof) active civil society, institutions and legal order.
- Perceived trustworthiness and credibility of governments and public institutions and their ability to deliver goods and services
- Crisis management and response
- Public responses to state performance
- Financing state capacity
- The nature and extent of social protections

Submissions are sought in the form of policy papers, policy briefs or photo essays.

To submit, please see the submission guidelines below and send submissions to spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for submission: **Sunday, 20 September 2020** (Midnight BST)
- Notification of acceptance: **Wednesday, 14 October 2020** (Midnight BST)
- Deadline for final paper submission: **8 January 2020** (Midnight BST)

The Public Sphere is a journal of international policy studies produced by postgraduate students at the London School of Economics and Political Science's School of Public Policy. The journal offers contributors and readers an active space to rethink, critically analyse and address important policy problems.

The Public Sphere welcomes submissions that contribute to vibrant debate from advanced students in relevant degree programs, academics and practitioners. In 2020, the Public Sphere is seeking submissions related to the topic of "**State Response and Capacity**". This issue will allow for a focus on a variety of topics linked by the concept of policy-making towards a sustainable future.

Please submit articles to spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk by **Sunday, 20th September 2020** including the following:

- The full text of your policy brief, policy paper or photo essay in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx). Please see specifications for the articles in the style guide below.
- Cover sheet in a separate document containing your contact information (including full name, institution and e-mail address) and a brief biography of yourself (maximum 1-2 sentences; include your year/place of schooling and any relevant experience that bears on the content of your article). No identifying information should be elsewhere on your submission; and
- Any appendices or supplementary material. We strongly encourage you to include any relevant photographs, charts, or graphs within the body of the article itself. Failure to comply with these policies may disqualify your article from consideration. The publisher retains the right to change formatting and typesetting.

There is no submission fee. For further information, please contact spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk.

STYLE GUIDE FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you wish to submit your article to The Public Sphere journal, please read the following important information carefully. While the journal will make every effort to respond to all submissions, it cannot guarantee that all submitters will receive a response. Confirmation of receipt will be made. Please contact us at spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk if you do not receive a confirmation email within two weeks of submitting.

References should follow the Harvard method, as explained here:

<https://onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk/support/information-skills/organising-and-citing-your-references/referencing-styles-harvard>.

SUBMISSIONS

Articles can take the following forms:

- **Policy Papers:** original, research-based articles that fall between 5,000 – 6,000 words. Please include relevant graphs, data tables, maps, or any other supplementary material. It should include an abstract of maximum 300 words.
- **Policy Briefs:** Findings of analysis or research that draw implications or recommendations for policy and practice. It should be between 1,500 – 2,000 words, including an executive summary.
- **Photo Essays:** Photographic work that offers a unique view on a particular challenge, issue, region, or population related to public policy issues. All photographs should include an explanatory paragraph (maximum 300 words) and citations for each photo.

All articles should be the work of the authors, though writing done as part of previous class work is welcome. By submitting your article, you are confirming that your work is your own and not previously published. We encourage submissions from authors who have no previous publications in academic journals.

All articles should be both relevant and accessible to a general population interested in public policy related fields. If graphs are included in the paper, the original data should be available, although it is not necessary to submit it. The original data might be requested for formatting purposes. Since the printed edition is in grayscale, all figures and photographs

should be apt to be changed to grayscale without losing definition. The online edition will be in colour.

EDITORIAL REVIEW PROCESS

All papers selected for submission will undergo review by the Editorial team (consisting of graduate students) and the Advisory Board (consisting of professors or advanced scholars on relevant subjects) of The Public Sphere. Authors should be aware that they will be expected to revise submitted articles prior to publication. In order to facilitate the review and the formatting processes, please clearly identify sections and subsections, as well as the citations for figures and photographs.

The Public Sphere Journal reserves the right to exclude any article from inclusion in final publication at any point in this process. The Public Sphere also maintains the right to edit, delete, or change any aspect of an article at its own discretion. Any major changes will be communicated to the author prior to publication. In addition, The Public Sphere may reproduce, excerpt, or otherwise utilise published material in its future publications, website or events without the explicit consent of the author. The Public Sphere maintains a commitment to protecting the work of its authors and to ensuring that this work is not reproduced unlawfully or without the author's permission by other parties.

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