

Submission Guidelines

Dear authors,

If you are interested in submitting a text to Verfassungsblog, please follow the guidelines below. Blog posts that align with our guidelines are easier to edit.

Usually, this also speeds up the publication process.

Since we receive a very high number of submissions, we might ask you to adjust your submission to our guidelines if it does not yet comply with them.

Style

Blog posts are a genre of their own. Here's a guide on how to write one:

<https://verfassungsblog.de/how-to-write-a-blog-post/>

In a nutshell:

- Make sure that you have a clear and sharp thesis that you set out in the first paragraph.
- In the following paragraphs, you contextualise and justify that thesis and defend it against expected objections.
- Avoid passive voice and long sentences.
- Don't assume background knowledge.
- For our German authors: If a noun can be replaced by a verb, please do so and avoid "Nominalstil".

Structure

Length

- We recommend 1,500 words.
- If the post goes beyond 2,000 words, we will probably ask you to shorten it.

Title and Subtitle

Please use a short, suggestive title (50 characters max) that should entice the curiosity of your readers, and a more conclusive and descriptive subtitle (100 characters max), both capitalised.

- No punctuation or dashes in titles.
- No formatting in italics or bold.
- Avoid titles that sound like newspaper headlines ("The European Union reforms its...").
- The combination of title and subtitle should look good as an entry in your publication list (e.g. "Blinded by Legality: The Venice Commission's Change of Heart on Restoring the Rule of Law in Poland").

Subheadings

- Please use subheadings at regular text intervals to aid with readability.
- No (enumerated) deeper levels of structure (A., B., C.; I., II., III., etc.).
- Please keep subheadings short and without punctuation.
- Do not start your text with a subheading.

Sources

Reference Style

As a general rule, we ask you to use hyperlinks and to hyperlink the DOI of scholarly publications when available. Please make sure that the source is open access and the link is not broken.

If you analyse a judgment, please refer to the respective paragraph or page in parentheses. You do not have to add a hyperlink to each parenthesis.

We only permit footnotes in exceptional cases where hyperlinks are not an option. In that case, please place a period at the end of each footnote and do not use italics.

Pictures, Diagrams, etc.

If you find the use of enhancing pictures, diagrams, graphs, etc. necessary, please make sure and assure us that the copyright allows use and reproduction of the material in an Open Access publication licenced under CC BY-SA.

Use of AI

We have asked ChatGPT how to ask authors to disclose AI assistance, and this is what it came up with:

“If you have used any artificial intelligence or AI-assisted technologies in the writing process of your submission, you must disclose that to us and, if we decide to accept the piece, to the readers.”

So, yes, please do!

Typography

- Please always use double quotation marks (regardless of AE or BE), except for quotes within quotes.
- Please use curly (“smart”) quotes, not straight (“dumb”) ones (so-called double prime). Same goes for apostrophes (don’t instead of don't).
- Please use hyphens (-) to connect words, and en dashes (–) with spaces before and after for emphasis, interruptions, or in place of parentheses or colons, and no em dashes (—).
- Please use italics for emphasis, not bold.
- Please italicise judgments, Latin expressions, and *Fremdwörter*. Names are not italicised.
- Avoid bullet points.

Submission

If you wish to submit an article, please send it as a text document to *submission@verfassungsblog.de*.

If you wish to communicate in an end-to-end-encrypted way, please use the address

confidential@verfassungsblog.de with the public key

AFF2B613802DADC3A55D5E05750233EEE76AB2F2.

Before publication, we will ask you for a licence-free picture and a short bio (1-2 sentences) for your author's profile. Please include only your affiliation, not your degrees or publications.

We do not publish authors who had an advisory role in the matter they are writing about, for example, as a lawyer or in another capacity. If you are unsure whether there is a conflict of interest, please disclose your role before submitting.

Publication

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