



## CALL FOR PAPERS 2024

The Public Sphere Journal at the London School of Economics and Political Science is pleased to announce that submissions for the 2024 issue are now being accepted.

The Journal seeks submissions on the overarching theme, “**Inclusive Governance and Diversity in Policy**”. The title suggests a comprehensive exploration into integrating diverse voices and perspectives in public policy decision-making processes, advocating for holistic and equitable solutions.

The upcoming issue surveys an era marked by rapid socio-political change and escalating demands for social justice. The call for more inclusive governance resonates globally. The complex tapestry of modern societies underscores the importance of diversity in policy-making. Yet, traditional governance structures often inadequately address this necessity. As we venture into an age where the dynamics of race, gender, and class are more interwoven than ever, there is an undeniable urgency to rethink how policies are conceived and executed.

Inclusive governance recognises that policy decisions can be more effective, sustainable, and equitable when diverse voices are at the table. As societies grapple with growing socio-economic, racial, and cultural complexities, the demand for diverse representation in policy-making has never been higher. It challenges traditional hierarchies and advocates for including marginalised or underrepresented groups in decision-making. Moreover, a more representative and holistic approach becomes indispensable as public policy seeks to address issues ranging from economic inequality to systemic discrimination.

Our theme ventures deep into this discourse, inviting insights that can illuminate a path towards a more equitable policy landscape. Join us in shaping a narrative that celebrates diversity and champions inclusivity in public policy.

In this call for papers, we therefore welcome submissions from a wide array of disciplines, focusing on the particular nature of today's problems, including but not limited to the following topics:

- **Historical Examination of Exclusion:** Understanding how traditional policy-making has overlooked diverse voices and the implications for contemporary public policy.
- **Intersectionality in Public Policy:** How different aspects of identity - race, gender, socio-economic status, and others - intersect and influence policy decisions and outcomes.
- **Case Studies of Inclusive Governance:** Exploring global examples where inclusive governance led to innovative and practical policy solutions.
- **Digital Inclusion in Governance:** Evaluating the role of technology in democratising policy-making and its potential pitfalls.
- **The Economics of Inclusion:** Analyzing the tangible benefits of diverse representation in policy-making, from improved GDP growth to better wealth distribution.
- **Grassroots Movements and Policy Influence:** How bottom-up initiatives are shaping top-down policy decisions.
- **Educational Curricula and Inclusive Governance:** The role of education in fostering an understanding and appreciation for inclusive policy-making.
- **Challenges to Implementation:** Delving into the institutional, cultural, and political hurdles in embedding inclusivity into the governance framework.

**Submissions are sought through policy papers, policy briefs or photo essays.**

**Please see the submission guidelines below and send submissions to [spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk).**



## IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for submission: Friday, **20th October 2023** (Midnight BST)
- Notification of acceptance: Monday, **30th October 2023** (Midnight BST)
- Deadline for final paper submission: Monday, **08th January 2024** (Midnight BST)

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

The Public Sphere welcomes submissions contributing to the vibrant debate from advanced students in relevant degree programs, academics and practitioners. Please submit articles to [spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk) by **20th October 2023** including the following:

- The full text of your policy brief, policy paper or photo essay in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx). Please see the 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. Please comply with these policies to ensure your article is considered. 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](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk).**

## STYLE GUIDE FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you wish to submit your article to The Public Sphere journal, please carefully read the following important information. While the journal will try 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](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk) if you do not receive a confirmation email within two weeks of submitting it.

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 5000–6000 words. Please include relevant graphs, data tables, maps, or supplementary material. It should consist of an abstract of a maximum of 300 words.

**Policy Briefs:** Findings of analysis or research that draw implications or recommendations for policy and practice. It should be between 1500–2000 words, including an executive summary.

**Photo Essays:** Photographic work that offers a unique view of 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.

## SUBMISSION PREPARATION CHECKLIST

All articles should be the authors' work, though writing done as part of previous classwork is welcome. By submitting your article, you confirm 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 relevant and accessible to a general population interested in public policy-related fields. The original data should be available if graphs are included in the paper, although submitting it is unnecessary. 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.

As part of the submission process, authors must check off their submissions' compliance with the following items, and submissions may be returned to authors who do not adhere to them.

- The submission has not previously been published, in part or in whole, nor is it before another journal for consideration (or an explanation has been provided in Comments to the Editor).
- All third-party-owned materials have been identified with appropriate credit lines, and permission has been obtained from the copyright holder for all journal formats. Authors acknowledge their responsibility to obtain all permissions before submission.
- All authors qualify as authors and can be listed on the submitted paper.
- Sections, subsections, and citations for figures and photographs have been identified.

## 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 must revise submitted articles before publication. To facilitate the review and the formatting processes, please clearly identify sections and subsections, as well as the citations for figures and photographs.

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