

Research & Politics

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Research & Politics states unequivocally that diversity and inclusiveness are essential for all aspects of our work. As a general interest journal in political science, virtually all papers that we publish illuminate the operations, prospects, and limitations of democratic or authoritarian forms of government. We believe that diversity and inclusiveness are foundational to any understanding of the aspirations of democracy over its alternatives in advancing justice, fairness, and legitimate government.

Our core values guide our decisions and operations. We purposefully strive to eliminate our own implicit biases, foster inclusion for all ideas, and ensure that those who seek to publish in our journal are treated with fairness and respect. Research & Politics is committed to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion through our publishing practices. This includes,

- Striving to diversify our team of editors and associate editors to reflect the diverse voices of our discipline and our society;
- Empowering diverse perspectives and voices from our contributor community, including those of different genders and gender identities, BIPOC scholars, those from different global regions, those from the LGBTQIA+ community, and those of any identity community especially those that have been historically excluded;
- Publishing research that can enhance our systemic understanding of justice and equity, and injustice and inequity, within social and economic relations, within the built environment, and within local, national and global communities.

As stewards of our journal, we believe that in adhering to these values and practices centered on advancing diversity and inclusion, Research & Politics advances a better and fuller epistemic understanding of our political life, which in turn leads to wider social and political impacts that can help us all realize the essential aspirations of democracy.

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Accepts preprints? Yes

Identity transparency: Double anonymized

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Article types

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Research & Politics strongly encourages replication studies for publication. In addition to the research articles published on the website, *Research & Politics* will be publishing special issues.

Click [here](#) to view the Call for Proposals of Special Issues

3.1 Research Articles

The journal encourages short articles. Articles should normally not exceed 4,000 words including notes and references but excluding figures, tables and images or any supporting material that will appear as supplemental online appendices. The number of notes should not exceed 12. The main criterion for evaluating articles is that they contribute to our systematic knowledge about important substantive, theoretical, or methodological questions. Research articles can be - but are not limited to - articles that:

- Offer new theoretical or normative arguments in a systematic way;
- Analyze original data;
- Re-analyze existing data in a novel fashion;
- Analyze systematically current events;
- Make predictions in politics;
- Update seminal articles with new data;
- Discuss newly collected data and how these can be used to advance our knowledge about important substantive or theoretical questions. It is important to show how this new data set helps by analyzing and discussing an important issue from the current literature.

3.2 Replication studies

In case of replication studies, *Research & Politics* invites authors to consider submitting a paper that is along the lines of one or more of the following replication types:

Theoretical replication: The submitted article argues that the original theoretical model is missing at least one key element. The missing element(s) are addressed and included in the empirical analysis.

Technical replication: The submitted article identifies faults in the original research design or analysis, thereby arguing that the original results might not hold; and/or

Concept replication: The submitted article questions the validity of the original study. An alternative measurement or operationalisation is proposed which yields different substantive results.

Once a replication study has been accepted to begin the review process, two reviewers will be selected and the author of the original manuscript will be notified. The author of the original study will be approached for a rejoinder, which will be reviewed (preferably a shorter paper of 2,000 words max). The General Editor will review the response and will decide if the response will be published alongside the submitted replication study.

3.4 Preregistration

Research & Politics allows authors to **register their studies**, but this is not an obligation. Registration might also be relevant for cases in which existing studies are re-analyzed (ideally by collecting new data, or re-analyzing existing datasets following closely the format of the original study), particularly of research published in this journal. When possible, such studies are reviewed in two stages following the [Registered Reports](#) format. In particular, the first stage of review is conducted prior to the data being collected or, for existing datasets, before the outcomes are observed:

1. On initial submission, authors should:
 - denote in the cover letter that the manuscript is a Registered Report submission and confirm that the data do not exist, or that the outcomes have not been observed.
 - include a full manuscript for the abstract, introduction, and methods without the results and discussion sections.
 - disclose that the methods contain a complete analysis plan of what is to be included in the full article.
2. If the submission passes initial review, then the authors will receive an in-principle acceptance prior to data collection or analysis of the outcomes.
3. For the second stage of review, authors submit a complete manuscript. Reviewers assess the extent to which the authors followed the preregistered design and/or analysis plan, and evaluate non-outcome relevant criteria (e.g., manipulation checks) to confirm whether the research was an effective test of the research question.

3.5 Special Issues

Research & Politics may publish special issues. In the format of this journal, a special issue is a bundle of closely related research papers on a specific topic. Special issues are important to provide a platform for debate, highlighting different perspectives, approaches or methods that can be used to understand important issues in our field.

When published, these articles will be linked on our website, making clear that these focus on a specific topic. Furthermore, there is flexibility, within the possibilities of online-only publishing, to develop new modes of presenting these articles on our website.

The journal will open once per year a call for special issues, typically in Spring. The call will be announced on our website as well as Twitter channel. Important criteria to develop a special issue that fits with the overall mission of the journal and whether the papers as a set stimulate discussion in our field.

For more information about a proposal, please see our guidelines below.

After acceptance, the Guest Editor as well as one of the Research & Politics Editors will guide the special issue. The same procedures and guidelines apply as for research articles for the review process or any other issues arising.

Special Issue Guidelines:

A proposal for a special issue includes the following elements:

1. Name and affiliation of the proposed Guest Editor who is willing to serve next to one of our R&P Editors as Associate Editor for the special issue. There can be a maximum of three Guest Editors involved in making a special issue.
2. Short CV of the proposed Guest Editor including major publications and editorial experience.
3. Description of the main topic and focus of the special issue embedded in the current literature of this topic.
4. A motivation for why a special issue would be relevant to our readers, and to what extent the special issue will promote novel findings and new insights. There should also be a brief motivation for why a special issue would be a better way of presenting these findings and insights needs to be included.
5. List of papers to be included with full author information, including their affiliation and a clear and informative abstract.
6. A clarification about how these papers stimulate discussion but indicating how these papers highlight different perspectives, approaches or methods that can be used to understand the topic at hand.
7. Indication of the time-frame of submission and when papers will be ready to be submitted.

Proposals will be discussed by the Editors, who decide on whether they favor a specific proposal.

Other important guidelines:

1. If the initial proposal is accepted, the Editors will ask for a more detailed proposal, in which also more information is shared about authors and their possible papers, the time-line and some other more operational issues. At this stage also possible comments from the Editors of R&P need to be included in the proposal.
2. The Guest Editor will work closely with our Editorial Office and one of our Editors. Each Special Issue will be assigned an Editor of Research and Politics. The Guest Editor will serve as an Associate Editor. The R&P Editor will need to approve all decisions recommended by the Guest Editor.
3. Reviewing will be done according to the R&P policy and submission rules. Furthermore, Guest Editor is expected to adhere to the R&P editorial policy as well as the reviewing process including turnaround times.
4. It is R&P policy that a Guest Editor does not submit her/his own paper for consideration in the special issue at hand.
5. The Editors of R&P reserve the right to reject a contribution to the special issue, even after the review stage, if it is not of acceptable standard.

3.6 Rejoinders and comments

1. Comments on an article published in R&P or elsewhere

If there is a paper reacting to an article published in R&P or elsewhere, the author(s) of the original article is/are invited to consider a comment. The author(s) will be informed the moment the reacting paper is received. However, the author will not be a formal reviewer or directly determine the decision whether to publish.

If the author(s) of the original paper decide(s) to submit a response, this is also reviewed as it needs to meet scientific standards and contain sufficiently interesting material to merit publication. Upon publication of a response, the discussion is closed. Any further discussion must be done elsewhere.

2. Secondary or replication work on previous research

In the case of secondary or replication work on previous research, the submitted article will be regarded as an original contribution (**Article**). Unless it is explicitly addresses the methodological issues with the original paper and replication, the work will be treated as a new submission. If the replication concerns a specific paper, the authors of the work discussed are informed and invited to comment (see our policy under point 1).

If the article concerns a specific literature, scholars in that field are not informed. In that case we will follow the following procedure:

- i. When a comment from the author(s) whose work is being discussed is received, the comment is reviewed and sent to the authors of the original contribution with the invitation to respond.
- ii. This comment (**Comment 1**) may be published after reviewing. If the author of the original contribution would like to respond, we review this **Comment 2**. The commenting author as well as the authors of the original article can comment during reviewing but they are not included in a decision about the paper. When published the discussion will be closed.
- iii. Further discussion can be done elsewhere. Only **Article, Comment 1** and **Comment 2** are published.

IMPORTANT: Comments must be scholarly, understandable to outsiders, and of sufficient general interest to merit publication. Research & Politics reserves the right to make editorial suggestions and reject if we cannot reach agreement.

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Abstract

Please include an unstructured abstract of 200 words between the title and main body of your manuscript that concisely states the purpose of the research, major findings, and conclusions. If your research includes clinical trials, the trial registry name and

URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract. Submissions that do not meet this requirement will not be considered.

For clinical trials, the trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract.

Keywords

Please include a minimum of 6 keywords, listed after the abstract. Keywords should be as specific as possible to the research topic.

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 - **All persons eligible for authorship must be included at the time of submission (please see the authorship section for more information).**
- Contact information for the corresponding author: name, institutional address, phone, email

- Acknowledgments section
- Declaration of conflicting interest
- Funding statement
- Ethical approval and informed consent statements
- Data availability statement
- Any other identifying information related to the authors and/or their institutions, funders, approval committees, etc, that might compromise anonymity.

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- log file(s): output with results from the software that has been used for the analysis;
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- 1. The author must:*
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Identity transparency: Double-anonymized

Reviewer interacts with: Editor

Review information published: None

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