

Instructions for authors by the Vietnamese Journal of Legal Sciences (VJLS)

When submitting your paper to *VJLS*, please ensure its conformity to the guidelines below. Please do not hesitate to contact the Editorial Board if you have any queries.

1. General guidelines

- The *VJLS* is a peer-reviewed open access journal, specializing in wide-ranging areas of law and legal studies. It accepts only academic papers.
- The submitted papers shall be original and unpublished work.
- Authors are advised that their submission to this journal implies the work is original and has not been previously published or submitted elsewhere for publication, with the exception of being part of a thesis, an abstract, or an extended abstract not exceeding 1,000 words in conference proceedings or similar events.
- No submission fees are charged. Authors are not entitled to royalties for publication.
- Articles shall be submitted in Times New Roman 12 points (for main text) and 9 points (for footnotes), and all line spacing shall be single spaced.
- Submitted papers should be 5,000 – 8,000 words in length, including footnotes. Exception is granted to papers commissioned by the Editorial Board. Contributions to ‘Book (or Conference) reviews’ sections should not exceed 4,000 words.
- The submitted papers shall not be plagiarized and free from grammatical, spelling and other errors.
- All manuscripts shall be written in English. All documents reproduced shall be given in the language of the original with translation provided, if necessary. Both US and UK spellings are allowed but consistency throughout the paper is strongly encouraged.
- Manuscripts shall be submitted in electronic form.
- Each manuscript shall be submitted with the authors’ names, institutions of origin, addresses, and e-mail addresses.
- All contributions are anonymously peer-reviewed. Authors are notified about the acceptance or rejection of their papers within three months since the day their paper has been received by the editorial board.

2. Style specifications

a. Parts of paper

Title Page

The title page should contain:

1. A short informative title containing major keywords. The title should not contain abbreviations; the full names of the authors;
2. The author's institutional affiliations where the work was conducted, with a footnote for the author’s present address if different from where the work was conducted;
3. OrCID: [Find more information here](#);
4. Author Contribution and Conflict of Interest Declarations;

5. Acknowledgements

Title

In the paper title, capitalize the first letter of the first and last word and all the nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, and subordinating conjunctions. Suggesting a short title for inclusion on running heads by the author is desirable.

All financial support for the work in the paper is listed in the first footnote, the reference to which is placed at the end of the title.

Abstract

Please include a brief abstract of no more than 300 words. The abstract should be one paragraph in length and should not be divided into sections, nor should it contain abbreviations or footnotes.

Key words

Please include up to eight key words in alphabetical order, separated by commas, no capitalization of key words, except for proper nouns or conventionally capitalized terms.

Text section headings

Section headings should be brief and self-explanatory. Enumeration of section heads is desirable.

Figures and tables

Tables and figures should be numbered consecutively (in Arabic numerals) and uploaded as a separate file. The approximate position of tables and figures should be indicated in the manuscript. All tables must have explanatory legends. Please include original source of table/figure if not your own. All citations of figures and tables in text must be in numerical order.

Quotations

All quotations from other sources should be given in double quotation marks with an appropriate reference. A reference to a published source should include the page where the cited text first appears; a reference to an archival manuscript should contain all relevant information (the archive's name, collection, inventory, file and the sheet number on which the original text appears).

Lengthy quotes (four lines or more) should be displayed and indented, with a line space above and below. In quotations, all omissions should be marked with points of ellipsis in parentheses; all comments and explications should be given in square brackets.

Footnotes

Footnotes should be numbered in consecutive order throughout the text. The footnote number, in superscript, at the end of the sentence or quotation should be placed after the punctuation. Footnotes should be placed at the bottom of the page on which they are cited.

Since November 2024, all reference sources should be cited in footnotes following the APA Manual of Style, 7th edition.

Acronyms, use of italics

All non-English words should be in italic script, and along with all non-English names, they should be spelled with accents and diacritical marks included. Anglicized words (ad hoc, per cent, a priori, coup d'etat, per capita, etc.) should be Roman with no accents. Define acronyms

the first time they appear in the Abstract as well as the first time they appear in the body of the paper, written out as part of the sentence, followed by the acronym in parentheses.

Conflict of interest statement

During the submission process, authors will be required to furnish a statement detailing any potential conflicts of interest. If the authors have no conflict of interest to declare, they must also state this in this section.

Acknowledgements

Contributions from anyone who does not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed, with permission from the contributor, in an Acknowledgements section. Financial and material support should also be mentioned.

b. Permissions

The author is responsible for obtaining permission in writing to quote copyrighted material (including figures and tables). Authors are personally responsible for ensuring that all information, quotations, dates and names given in their papers are correct.

All figures (illustrations) should be supplemented with references to their provenance and copyright holder.

c. References

Full details of references should be provided in a section under the heading *References* at the end of the manuscript.

- References conform to the **APA Manual of Style, 7th edition**.
- Ensure all footnotes with academic works align with full APA citations provided in the reference list and are accompanied with the DOI link if available. Non-academic sources, like internet articles, website links, cases, and any non-academic sources **must not** appear in the references and should be cited exclusively in footnotes following the APA Manual of Style, 7th edition.
- References to works that are themselves of historical significance should have the date of first publication in the text and the list of references, with a supplementary note if page references are made to a later edition.
- English title translations of foreign works should be given in square brackets, in lower case, e.g., *Quốc hội* [Parliament].