

# *Journal of Law and Public Policy*

## Book Review Guidelines

1,000–2,000 words\*

Potential reviewers are required to express their interest by filling this [google form](#). If selected, the Book Review section editor will invite the author to submit their review. But please read the below guidelines before writing to us with an expression of interest.

\*Note: The word limit mentioned is exclusive of references.

### **BOOK SELECTION**

The book selected for reviewing should respond to original interdisciplinary scholarship at the interface of law and public policy. It should also be concerned with issues of public interest, with a strong focus on socio-economic and political contexts. Potential reviewers are encouraged to go through the indicative [list of books](#) and select a title among these to express interest in reviewing it. Alternatively, they can also indicate a title not part of the list but published within the last 3–5 years.

Please note that submitting an article, even on the invitation of the section editor, does not guarantee publication. Book reviews will undergo internal review by the section editor and will be published only if it meets the qualitative criteria set by the journal. The final decision will be at the discretion of the *JLPP* editorial board.

## HOW TO WRITE A BOOK REVIEW?

- *Essentials of review*: The review should be the author's own interpretation of the chosen book and should be informed by evidence rather than opinions. The review should also clearly state the central arguments of the book, delving into the main ideas and objectives the book grapples with.
- *Audience and author details*: The review should specify the potential audience for the book and any surrounding literature on the subject. It can be useful to state whether the author has previous expertise and scholarship on the subject or is just starting out in the field.
- *Accessibility*: Key concepts should be explained to make the book review accessible to a wide range of readers such as policymakers, faculty, students of law and public policy, and other members of the civil society.
- *Analytical focus*: The review should make analytical arguments and justify the book's relevance in the domain of law and public policy. These could include effectiveness of the stated objectives of the book, the soundness of the methods used, and appropriateness of the contents of the book. As it may not be possible to cover every aspect of the book, the reviewer may choose a few central arguments to analyse.
- *Criticisms*: Constructive criticisms on the strengths of the book and possible limitations may be discussed and duly substantiated. Reviewers should follow the norms of academic writing by sticking to the contents of the book and holding back on any personal remarks on the author.
- *Final objective*: The review should expand on the book's contribution to contemporary debates in the field and situate it in existing discourse. It should also enable a reader to take a call on whether they should read the book.