

**INTERNATIONAL ROAD SAFETY RESEARCH JOURNAL (IRSRJ)**

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR INAUGURAL EDITION: SUBMIT PAPERS BY 31 AUGUST 2019

# **About ThinkNiti**

## ThinkNiti is an independent non-profit and non-governmental organisation that aims to redefine the way in which laws and policies are drafted in India.The organisation aims to work with policy makers and legislators to ensure that the laws and policies in India reflect the ground realities and touch the lives of the people to whom they seek to affect.

## ThinkNiti has been started by Nishant Bhaskar and Vishwam Jindal, who have successfully been conducting the World Health Organization (WHO) Legal Development Programme on Road Safety in India since 2017. They have also been working with the State Government of Punjab on road safety laws and policies.

# **About IRSRJ**

## ThinkNiti endeavours to create an accessible forum for intellectual discourse and shape the discussion of the most important and relevant issues pertaining to road safety through a meticulous scholarship selection and editing process.

## IRSRJ is an open-access peer-reviewed digital publication in English language aimed at promoting multi-disciplinary research and dialogue on safer mobility. As an initiative to widen the horizons on contemporary road safety issues, the journal invites submissions that provide high-quality legal, scientific, psychological, technical and social analysis of issues on safer mobility.

## IRSRJ is a platform that will engage students, researchers, engineers, government agencies, policy makers, corporate decision makers, safety professionals, psychologists, social scientists, and public health professionals to share their scholastic inter-disciplinary research on mobility issues.

# **Submission Guidelines**

## All authors are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

### Submissions must contain content that is both original and unpublished, and not pending for review before any other publisher or publication. Submissions must accompany declaration by the author(s) that the submission is completely original and has neither been published nor submitted for publication elsewhere. A suggested format for this declaration is available on [www.irsrj.com](http://www.irsrj.com).

### All submissions will be reviewed and the editorial board shall have complete discretion on whether to proceed further with the publication or not.

### Plagiarism of any kind is unacceptable and submissions found to be plagiarised will be rejected.

### Submissions should be in Microsoft Word (or similar) format.

### The first page should contain the following information:

#### Title of the submission - the title should be in font size 16, bold, fully capitalized and centred.

#### Name of the Author(s), Institutional affiliation and Email address – all of these should be centred underneath the title in Times New Roman font size 16 and italicized.

### Headings within the submission must be font size 14 in Times New Roman.

### Submission body must be in Times New Roman font size 12, line spacing 1.5 and the “justified” alignment with 1 inch margins on all sides of the page.

### All endnotes must be in Times New Roman with font size 10.

### Word Limit:

#### **Articles**: 800-1500 words

#### Submissions in this category are expected to deal with the theme comprehensively, examine the available literature more deeply and offer an innovative reassessment of the current interpretation of that theme. Preferable, but not mandatory, would be that themes of contemporary importance are chosen.

#### **Book Reviews**: 400-700 words

#### This category will focus on reviewing titles that deal with topics concerning road safety, human errors and crashes, traffic crashes and related calamities, methods of accident investigation, accident evaluations, post-trauma scenario, etc.

#### **Opinions and Essays**: 400-700 words.

#### Essays and opinions are more concise in scope. Dealing with a specific issue, they argue that the issue should be conceptualised differently. They are more engaging and make for a concrete argument.

#### **Legislative and Case Comments**: 600-800 words

#### This is an analysis of any contemporary judicial pronouncement, whether in India or elsewhere. It must study and examine the series of cases in which the decision in question was given, and comment upon the implications of that ruling on that particular branch of law to which it pertains.

### Wherever case laws, statutory materials or other resources are referred, appropriate links must be provided in the endnotes or the text itself.

### Submissions should have been ‘spell-checked’ and ‘grammar-checked’.

### The endnotes must contain bibliography, references, suggestions and findings.

# **Where to submit?**

## Please send in your submissions to submit@irsrj.comby 31 August 2019 with the title in the subject line. The author(s) are requested to submit a short bio (of not more than 200 words) with their submissions.

# **What is acceptable in the submissions?**

## The submissions can have photos, diagrams, bar graphs, tables, etc in colour. Visual representation of any facts, interpretations, or analysis is allowed. As an author you need to ensure that the necessary reproduction rights (and other intellectual property rights) have been obtained from the rights holder (where applicable). IRSRJ will not be liable for any intellectual property violations. Please ensure that the permission you have secured is for the life of the work.

## No audio-video submissions are acceptable. However, any audio or video recordings can be promoted by the journal separately through social media. Please ensure that the recordings are directly relevant to the topic.

## A maximum of two authors can collaborate for any submission. If there are more than two authors, prior permission should be sought from the Editorial board of the IRSRJ.

## Submissions should be accompanied with a short Abstract of 200 words that will outline the main questions or themes addressed in the submission. It should draw upon the following themes:

### The overall purpose of the study.

### Research problem investigated.

### The basic design of the study undertaken.

### Major findings or trends found as a result of your analysis.

### A brief summary of your interpretations and conclusions.

## Authors should provide upto five keywords with their submissions.

## Acknowledgements Policy:

### Authors are required to identify and list contributors responsible for specific parts of the project and give credit to them for their work. It can include authors, non-authors, funding sources, editing services, or even administrative staff.

### In academic writing, the information presented in the acknowledgment section should be kept brief. And it must only mention the people directly involved with the project. Personal acknowledgements are not allowed.

### Authors are also required to identify the source(s) of funding for the research.

### The acknowledgement will contain the following elements:

### Full name of the individuals who are being thanked.

### A brief statement as to what kind of help the author has received from each individual, group of people, scholarship etc.

# **PEER REVIEW:** IRSRJ will follow a single blind peer review process (reviewers know the authors’ identities, but the authors do not know the reviewers’ identities) to uphold the quality and validity of all the submissions.

## The Editorial Board will have the final authority in accepting or rejecting a submission.

# **RESPONSE FROM IRSRJ**

## Authors will receive an automated acknowledgement email once they make their submissions.

## The Editorial Board will review the submission and inform the author(s) within five weeks if their submission will be published or not. If the Editorial Board is not proceeding with publication, the author(s) may submit their submission to another publisher or publication.

## If the Editorial Board is proceeding ahead and publishing the submission, it would email the author(s) with their suggested amends and comments within two weeks (after informing the author(s) about their decision to publish).

# **INAUGURAL EDITION**

## The inaugural edition of IRSRJ will be published in December 2019 at [www.irsrj.com](http://www.irsrj.com).

## The advisory board and editorial board of IRSRJ will be constituted before 31 August 2019. IRSRJ’s interim editorial comprises the four individuals below:

### **Nishant Bhaskar** – Nishant has worked as publishing editor for several online publications managing both writers and projects. He has successfully implemented editorial standards for both style and quality used by writers and editorial teams.

### **Vishwam Jindal** - Vishwam is an editor with India Law Journal and has previously served as an editor to Journal of NLU Delhi and the Development Researcher. He regularly speaks at numerous conferences and his research papers have been published in books, journals, magazines and compendiums.

### **Soumya Shekhar** – Soumya is an independent legal research professional and experienced associate with a demonstrated history of having worked in the legal services industry.

### **Nikita Saha** – Nikita has authored several articles while working as a legal correspondent and contributor with leading publications and online legal news portals.

## The process of registering IRSRJ and obtaining an ISSN number is ongoing..

# **ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATION**

## Authors are expected to conduct their research – from research proposal to publication – in accordance with the best practices and codes of conduct of relevant professional bodies and/or national and international regulatory bodies. Some ethical matters to consider when publishing are:

### Authorship of the submission needs to be limited to those who have made a significant and direct contribution to the submission under review in terms of conceptualisation, design, experimental implementation, and data analysis and interpretation.

### The authors need to ensure that they have written an entirely original piece of work and if the works of others have been used, they are appropriately cited.

### An author shouldn’t in general publish manuscripts which discuss essentially the same research in more than one journal. However, the following do not come within the ambit of prior publication – publication in the form of an abstract, publication as a thesis, and an electric preprint.

### Authors can be expected to provide a public access to the raw data used or referred in their submission for editorial review.

### Proper acknowledgment of sources used is a must.

### All submissions need to include a disclosure of all such relationships that could present a potential financial or other conflicts of interest.

### If an author discovers a significant error in the published work, the author is obligated to inform the journal editor in order to either correct or retract the submission.

### For the editors, it’s imperative that they evaluate the suitability and validity of the submissions for the journal, including: quality of the work; whether it meets the aims and scope of the journal; and the originality of the work. Editors also need to ensure the prompt handling of the whole review process.

### Reviewers should point out the relevant publications not cited in the submission and point out similarities with previously published works. They also shouldn’t review submissions which present any kind of conflicts of interest. Submissions received for review should be treated as confidential documents and not shown or discussed with others without authorization from the editors. Authors should expect to receive reviewer reports in a prompt manner. Reviewer misconduct (breach of confidentiality, delay of peer review, plagiarism, or conflicts of interest) will not be tolerated.

## Authors must identify and declare any personal circumstances or interest that could be viewed as inappropriately influencing the interpretation of reported research results. Therefore, a ‘Declaration of Interest’ should be submitted by each author in this regard. If there is no conflict of interest, please state "The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest."

# **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DETAILS**

## IRSRJ requires publishing rights from the participating authors to publish and disseminate research articles. By signing a Creative Commons License agreement with IRSRJ, the authors would retain the original copyright to the submission but grant an unconditional and irrevocable license in their work to IRSRJ. This license would grant IRSRJ the right to reproduce, publish, distribute and make available to the public the work. The authors agree not to assign any reproduction rights to other publishers or any third parties.

## IRSRJ is committed to protecting authors’ rights and defending their work and reputation. Authors can contact the Editorial Board in cases of any infringement or plagiarism.

## The authors shall indemnify IRSRJ fully against all claims, demands, suits, liabilities, costs, expenses (including reasonably incurred legal fees), damages and losses suffered or incurred by IRSRJ arising out of a third party claim against IRSRJ (or any of the members on its editorial board or advisory board) for infringement of the third party’s intellectual property rights resulting from IRSRJ’s use of the work.

# **Use of inclusive language**

## Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Submissions should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that their writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

# **Contact Us**

## For any queries, you can reach us at submit@irsrj.com or call on 91-9013748497(Nishant Bhaskar) or 91-9958867718 (Vishwam Jindal).