

Call for Papers, 2025  
London



The Public Sphere Journal at the London School of Economics and Political Science is pleased to announce that submissions for the 2025 issue **are now open**.

The Journal seeks submissions on the overarching theme of **"Navigating Global Shifts: Migration, Instability, Demographic Challenges, and Policy Innovations"**. The title suggests a comprehensive exploration into integrating diverse voices and perspectives in public policy decision-making processes, advocating for holistic and equitable solutions.

This theme explores migration through the lens of evolving insecurities—economic, social, and environmental—and their profound demographic impact at the global level. In an era marked by instability and conflict, it examines how shifting demographics intersect with challenges such as economic inequality, war, social fragmentation, and environmental crises, including climate-induced displacement. This exploration not only illuminates the complexities of shifting populations but also underscores the policy need for building state capacity to implement comprehensive, forward-looking strategies that prioritize equity, security, and sustainability.

The discourse prioritises understanding migration as both a response to and a driver of systemic change, emphasizing the importance of inclusive, adaptive, and forward-thinking policies. By integrating diverse perspectives, the discussion seeks to illuminate pathways toward fostering resilience, sustainability, and equity amid the uncertainties of our time.

Our theme ventures deep into this discourse, inviting insights that can illuminate a path toward a more innovative policy landscape. Join us in shaping the policy of the future on the global issue of immigration.

Below is a **non-exhaustive list of suggested themes:**

1. **Economic migration:** Examine how migration responds to economic disparities, the use of remittance by immigrants and their effects on the country of origin economy, the ways labour markets adapt to shifting demographics and how they include immigrants.
2. **Social consequences:** Exploring the effects of immigration on social structures and vision of society, the ways and the extent to which immigration can influence social dynamics, the influence of immigration on the political debate and the society's vision on them.
3. **Climate change-fueled migration:** Analyze climate-induced migration, cross-border crises, and policies for managing displacement due to environmental challenges.
4. **Policy innovation:** Investigate adaptive governance strategies, regional agreements, and ethical frameworks for future migration challenges.
5. **Theoretical and global perspectives:** Exploring frameworks and comparative analyses of migration, drawing lessons from historical and global trends.

**Submissions are sought through policy papers, policy briefs or photo essays.** Their specifications are as follows:

- *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.

**Ensure** that your **Submission Package** includes the following:

1. It is *the full text* of your policy brief, policy paper or photo essay *in the Microsoft Word format* (.doc or .docx). For template specifications and references style, please follow the *Harvard guide*, as explained here: <https://onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk/support/information-skills/organising-and-citing-your-references/referencing-styles-harvard>.
2. It has a *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; including your year/place of education and any relevant experience that bears on the content of your article). No identifying information should appear elsewhere on your submission, and
3. Any *appendices or supplementary material*. We strongly encourage you to include any relevant photographs, charts, or graphs within the body of the article itself

**Also ensure Submission Compliance** under the following:

- a) All submissions must be their *authors' original work*. All contributing authors qualify as authors and should be listed on the submitted paper. Considering AI guidance, the author's work should include his words only and not those of an AI. Writing done as part of previous classwork is welcome if previously unpublished manuscripts. *By submitting your work, you attest that your work is your own and has not previously been published, in part or in whole, nor is it before another journal for consideration.*
- b) *Previous publications are NOT a criterion for selection*. Submissions from authors without previous publications in academic journals are encouraged. However, all articles should be relevant and accessible to a general population interested in public policy and related fields.
- c) The *original data* for included graphs and figures (if any), though not required for the submission, *must be available upon request*. The original data might be requested for formatting purposes.
- d) All *third-party-owned materials* must be *identified* with appropriate credit lines, and *permission* must be obtained from the copyright holders. *Authors acknowledge their responsibility to obtain all permissions before submission.*

- e) Ensure that *sections, subsections, and citations* for figures and photographs have all been *identified and verified before submission*.
- f) Although the online edition will be in colour, the printed edition is in grayscale. Thus, all figures and photographs should be *grayscale compatible*.

To be considered, the submissions must be mailed to: [spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk) by 5th January, 2025 (23:59 GMT). Only compliant submissions would be eligible for the peer review process. The publisher, however, retains the right to change formatting and typesetting.

Approved Manuscripts would be notified on 12th January, 2025, and all amendments, if any, must be submitted by 5th January, 2025 (23:59 GMT). *THERE IS NO SUBMISSION FEE WHATSOEVER.*

While the journal will try to respond to all submissions, the response is not guaranteed. However, 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 submission.

### Dates at a glance

Deadline for Submission

Sunday, 5th January, 2025 (23:59 GMT)

At: [spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk](mailto:spp.publicspherejournal@lse.ac.uk)

Notification of Acceptance

Thursday, 12th January, 2025

All approved papers will undergo a **blind peer-review** by the Public Sphere Editorial team, comprising the LSE School of Public Policy Students, and the Advisory Board, consisting of Professors and Senior Fellows from various LSE Departments. Please be aware that if you must revise your submission before publication; then, to facilitate the review and the formatting processes, you must *identify and make the sections and subsections, including the citations for figures and photographs, explicit. Please be aware that if you are required to revise your submission before publication, you must clearly identify and label all sections and subsections, including explicit citations for figures and photographs, to facilitate the review and formatting processes.*

The **Public Sphere** Journal reserves the **right** to exclude any article from the final publication at any point in this process. The Public Sphere also maintains the right to edit, delete, or change any aspect of an article at its discretion. *All significant changes would be communicated to the author before publication.*

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- *Would retain the copyright.* The journal would maintain the right of first publication and would procure a Creative Commons Attribution Licence that would enable anyone to share the work with the acknowledgement of the work's authorship and initial publication in this journal.
- Could enter into an *additional contractual arrangement for the non-exclusive distribution* of the journal's published version of the work, e.g. to post it to an institutional repository or publish it in a book. All such arrangements would, however, require an acknowledgement of its initial publication in this journal.

**The Public Sphere** is a journal of International Policy Studies from the **School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science**. It offers contributors and readers an active space to rethink, critically analyse and address complex policy problems. Thus, all contributors must endeavour to augment this space.

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