The European Food and Feed Law Review (EFFL) Author Guidelines

I. Submission Process

Thank you for your interest in publishing in the European Food and Feed Law Review (EFFL). Before you submit, feel free to contact the editors to discuss whether your topic is a good fit for EFFL. We also welcome unsolicited submissions; please email them directly to the Executive Editor effl@lexxion.eu. Submitting a manuscript doesn't guarantee publication.

Exclusive Submission Requirement

By submitting to EFFL, you confirm that the manuscript is not currently under review by another publisher, journal, or online platform.

You are permitted to keep a pre-peer review version of your manuscript on platforms such as SSRN while it is being reviewed by us. **Once the manuscript is officially published in EFFL, however, you must remove all other versions of the manuscript from all online platforms.**

II. Quality Standards, Editorial Review, and Publication Terms

Quality Requirements

We only accept submissions of exceptional quality. Authors are fully responsible for the factual accuracy of their work.

For a manuscript to be published, it must meet these criteria:

- **Distinguish itself from existing scholarship.** You must comprehensively footnote and reference your work to clearly show how it contributes to the current discourse.

- **Add substantial value.** Your submission must significantly contribute to food and feed law scholarship.
- **Be original.** The manuscript must not be published or pending publication elsewhere.

AI Usage Policy

Manuscripts wholly, substantially, or substantively generated by AI, machine learning, or similar tools will not be published in Lexxion journals. Authors are permitted to use AI for translation, language smoothing, format editing, or to aid in research, but must acknowledge this in a footnote. AI cannot be listed as an author or co-author.

It is the author's responsibility to verify the accuracy and integrity of *all text, visualisations, references and information* generated or obtained through the use of AI tools.

Manuscripts containing fictitious, hallucinated, incorrect, or non-existent citations will be rejected. In cases of serious or repeated violations, or where deliberate misconduct is established, the journal reserves the right to impose additional sanctions, including restrictions on future submissions.

Content Standards

Articles must engage with existing legal literature and court decisions, even when you are challenging established positions. Country reports and case notes can be more factual and focused. Submissions on recent developments do not require as many references as those on established topics.

Please ensure that your manuscript is fully finalised before submitting the post-review final version, as content changes (including the addition or deletion of footnotes) cannot be accommodated once the manuscript has been typeset. Authors will have the opportunity to review the typeset proof of their manuscript. At that stage, only corrections to formatting, spelling, or grammar will be accepted. Only one round of proof review is permitted, unless otherwise advised by the journal editor.

III. Review Process

Peer Review

All articles undergo a **blind peer review** process. They are evaluated for accuracy, quality, novelty, and relevance to food and feed law.

Simplified Review

Country reports, case notes, opinions and book reviews follow a streamlined peer review process.

Decision Outcomes

Possible review decisions are:

- Desk rejection (rejection without peer review; no resubmission possible)
- Reject after peer review (no resubmission possible)
- Revise and resubmit (major revisions)
- Minor revisions (conditional acceptance pending minor revisions)
- Accepted

Keep in mind that most papers require some revision before being accepted. All authors, regardless of their position or status, must respect the feedback from the reviewers and the editorial team.

Peer Review Duration

The duration of peer reviews depends on numerous factors, for example, the type of submission, topic specificity, current submission volume, reviewer availability, etc.

IV. Format and Style

Reference Style: Use the **OSCOLA 5th edition**, supplemented by the guidelines below. Find the Complete OSCOLA Style Guide here.

Language: Please use British English.

Compliance: Submissions that do not comply with these standards will be returned to the authors for revision.

Editorial Discretion: The journal editor has the final authority on all matters relating to layout and style.

1. Format and Length

- **Articles:** 4,000–8,000 words (including footnotes). We will consider longer articles on a case-by-case basis.

- **Case Notes:** 2,000–3,000 words (including footnotes). Notes should cover European Court rulings, not national judgments (which go in Country Reports). If a judgment is not yet final, please indicate that. The structure should include a headline, background facts, judgment summary, and author commentary.

- **Country Reports:** 1,000–3,500 words (including footnotes). They should focus on national legal developments with a clear relevance to food and feed law. The approach should be factual but may also include critical and personal commentary.

2. Presentation

- **Title:** Use headline capitalisation (capitalise all words except conjunctions). The title should be a maximum of 3 lines (150 characters with spaces). Subtitles are permitted, with a combined maximum of 200 characters.

- **Author Details:** In the first asterisk footnote (*) after the author's name, include the full name(s), position/role, institution and location, and email address of all authors.

(Example on the following page)

Example:

Article Title

Sarah Thompson*

……

*Dr Sarah Thompson, Senior Lecturer in International Law, University of Edinburgh Law School, Edinburgh, UK. For correspondence: <s.thompson@ed.ac.uk>.

3. Abstract

All article submissions must include a short, italicised abstract. It should be 5-6 sentences (around 200 words) and should not contain footnotes.

4. Keywords

Authors should include 3–5 keywords immediately below the abstract or, if no abstract is provided, immediately below the author's name.

5. Headings

Use headline capitalisation for all headings. They should be structured as follows:

- **H1:** Roman numerals (eg, ‘I. Introduction’)
- **H2:** Arabic numerals (eg, ‘1.’)
- **H3:** Lowercase letters (eg, ‘a.’)
- **H4:** Lowercase Roman numerals (eg, ‘i.’)

The heading should be a maximum of 3 lines in the final typeset layout.

6. Tables, Figures, and Formulae

Articles may contain **no more than 5** tables and figures, and Country Reports may contain **no more than 2**. Each table or figure should be a maximum of 3/4 page long and **must not contain footnotes**. The sources of the data or of the figures should be indicated in a footnote where they are first mentioned in the text.

Please submit all tables and figures in separate high-resolution graphics files (.jpg, .png, etc.) and in greyscale. Be sure to include a clear, descriptive title. In the main text, indicate their ideal placement using '[TABLE X]' or '[FIGURE X]'. Number them clearly and with minimal formatting; avoid using merged cells or vertical text.

Due to formatting and layout considerations, we cannot guarantee that tables and figures will appear exactly where specified. They may appear on different pages or in an Annex following the main text.

Lexxion journals are aimed at legal professionals; therefore, the use of mathematical formulae should generally be avoided. Where possible, authors should explain concepts in plain text rather than using formulae. Where the use of a formula is strictly indispensable, authors should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Formulae should be presented on a **single line**. Stacked (built-up) fractions are not allowed. Use the solidus (/) instead of built-up fractions (e.g. a/b).
- **Superscripts and subscripts** are permitted. Nested (second-level) superscripts and subscripts are also not permitted.

V. Citation and Referencing

General Rules

- Use footnotes for all references; do not include a bibliography or in-text citations.
- Follow the **OSCOLA 5th edition** style.
- Place footnote numbers outside of (after) punctuation marks.

Footnotes are for references and brief comments only and may be no longer than 75 words. Longer comments, even if ancillary or digressive, should be incorporated into the body of the text or omitted.

Footnotes cannot be placed anywhere inside a table, including in its title, or in the titles or descriptions of figures.

EU Court Citations

Preferred format: Case reference | *short name* | [Court collections year] volume and page | paragraph number

OR

Case reference | *short name* | [year] ECLI number | paragraph number

Examples:

Case C–280/00 *Altmark* [2003] ECR I-7747 paras 88-90.

Case C-579/16 P *FIH Holding* [2018] ECLI:EU:C:2018:159.

Case E-12/11 *Konkurrenten.no AS* [2011] EFTA Ct. Rep. 266.

- The case name should be italicised.
- For unreported judgments: include judgment date and 'not yet reported' (n.y.r.).

Example:

Joined Cases T-80/06 and T-182/09 *Budapest Erőmű* [13.02.2012] not yet reported para 57.

Online Sources

- Include 'http://' or 'https://' before a website address
- State the date on which the source was last verified. Check all URLs before submission and note this in the first footnote, for example: 'All websites accessed 31 January 2026,' OR include the date of most recent access immediately after each URL, using the format: 'accessed 31 January 2026.'

AI Citation

Cite generative AI as prescribed in OSCOLA 5th edition under 3.7.13 'Generative artificial intelligence'.

Example:

ChatGPT, response to 'Explain how artificial intelligence works', OpenAI (16 July 2023)

Please contact the Executive Editor with any questions about these guidelines.