

## Introduction

The AIAC Alternative Dispute Resolution Journal (AIAC Journal) is proud to present its fifth edition, continuing its commitment to advancing legal writing and academic discussion in the field of dispute resolution. Published annually and available as an open-access resource on the AIAC website, the AIAC Journal serves as a platform for practitioners, academics, and students to share ideas and engage with the evolving landscape of dispute resolution.

The AIAC Journal is shaped by an in-house editorial team, with submissions reviewed by a peer review board comprising international arbitration experts. Each edition focuses on key developments, practical insights and emerging trends, aiming to contribute meaningfully to the global discourse on arbitration, mediation, adjudication and other Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms.

Over the years, the AIAC Journal has seen steady growth, with last year recording the highest number of submissions and published articles to date. This reflects the growing interest in ADR and the AIAC Journal's role in facilitating meaningful discussions within the community.

We invite submissions from those who wish to contribute to this dialogue and shape the future of ADR through thoughtful, scholarly analysis.

## Scope of Topics

Below is an indicative list highlighting the scope of submissions for this edition of the AIAC Journal:

- International and Domestic Commercial Arbitration;

- Investment Arbitration;
- Maritime Arbitration;
- Statutory Adjudication in the Construction Industry;
- Mediation;
- Domain Name Dispute Resolution and Internet Governance;
- Shariah-based Dispute Resolution;
- Institutional and Rules-Based Arbitration Frameworks;
- Dispute Resolution in Emerging and/or Specialised Sectors;
- Legislative, Policy and Judicial Developments in ADR;
- Cultural, Regional and Comparative Perspectives on ADR; and
- Technological Innovation and Future Trends in ADR/Dispute Resolution.

The submitted articles must deal with issues of interest and demonstrate a high level of analysis; articles of a purely descriptive nature will not be considered for publication. Those which involve an update of developments in a country/region, which may necessarily be descriptive, are acceptable.

Arbitrators, adjudicators, mediators and practitioners are encouraged to submit case analysis on interesting awards or decisions in which they were involved. Contributors will remain responsible for seeking all necessary consent from the parties concerned, including the arbitral institution, and must declare his/her involvement in the case.

## General Conditions of Publication

### 1. Exclusive Submission Policy

All submissions to the AIAC Journal should be original and should not be simultaneously considered by any other publication.

## 2. Indemnity for Liability

Submissions are accepted for publication on the condition that they do not infringe the copyright or any other rights of third parties and that the work does not contain any obscene, offensive, defamatory, or racially prejudiced material.

All submissions will be checked for plagiarism and/or artificial intelligence (AI) usage by the AIAC Journal Team. Infringing, offensive, or plagiarised submissions will be liable for rejection. Submissions with plagiarism and/or AI usage exceeding internal thresholds will be outrightly rejected.

## 3. Copyright Policy

As a condition of publication, the author grants the AIAC an irrevocable, transferable, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to reproduce, publish and distribute their submission(s) in all media platforms, including but not limited to print and any electronic services. The license is granted for the duration of the subsistence of the copyright, including any extensions and/or renewals.

The authors are required to sign and submit the copyright policy and the author's declaration. All submissions must be accompanied by the completion of our Submission Form.

### **Open Access Statement**

The AIAC Journal is committed to open access for academic work. All articles published in the AIAC Journal are freely accessible immediately from the date of publication. There are no author charges before publication, and no charge for any reader for accessing and downloading the AIAC Journal articles for their personal use.

## **Timelines**

The AIAC Journal strives to ensure a speedy and efficient review process. It reserves its discretion to determine the duration of the review. Authors should be prepared to make suitable changes to their articles as required by the AIAC Journal Team before publication. All decisions made by the AIAC Journal Team are final and may not be subject to additional review.

We request all authors to review these terms and conditions before contacting us with any queries.

## **Submission Guidelines**

All submissions must include the following:

- i) A cover letter
  - Indicating the name and designation of the author,
  - The title of the submission,
  - Contactable e-mail address of the author.
  - His/Her/Their academic qualifications, affiliated professional or academic institutions.
  - A statement that the submission of the article to the AIAC Journal is exclusive.
- ii) The manuscript/paper
  - In MS Word format;
  - Along with an abstract of not more than 300 words;
- iii) The Submission Form, inclusive of the signed copyright policy and author's declaration.  
([HERE](#))

## Submission Procedure

Submissions must be sent to [journal@aiac.world](mailto:journal@aiac.world).

Submissions made through any other mode or not complying with the guidelines shall not be entertained.

Citations must conform to the [Oxford University Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities \(OSCOLA\)](#).

Co-authoring of papers among individuals of the same or different institutions is permissible.

The manuscript must not contain any mention of or reference to the author's name, affiliation or credentials. Such information must be restricted to the cover letter.

The AIAC Journal shall consider only one submission made by a single author.

## Categories of Submission

The AIAC Journal accepts submissions in the following categories:

- Long Articles: 6000 words (minimum) to 10,000 words (maximum).
- Short Articles: 3000 words (minimum) to 5000 words (maximum).
- Case Analysis: 2000 words (minimum) to 4000 words (maximum).

All word limits are inclusive of footnotes, but exclusive of the abstract.

The AIAC Journal is flexible on the word count depending on the quality of the submission.

## Review Policy

The AIAC emphasises that the submission of an article does not automatically constitute acceptance and publication. The AIAC Journal Team reserves the right to disapprove articles that do not meet its standards without further need for explanation.

The AIAC Journal Team shall contact only the authors of the manuscripts/papers which have been shortlisted for publication.

The AIAC Journal Team shall have the discretion to consult with the members of the independent peer review board in the process of evaluating the submissions. Should the AIAC Journal Team deem it necessary, the review of submissions may be double-blinded.

Submissions which have been shortlisted upon initial evaluation may be returned to the authors for further revision.

Revised papers must be submitted to the AIAC Journal Team within the prescribed timeline. Any paper that does not comply with the timeline, without a justifiable reason, shall be rejected.

Any communication from the AIAC Journal Team shortlisting a submission after initial evaluation does not guarantee its final publication.

## Organisation and Formatting Guidelines

### 1. General Outline

The general format of the paper shall be as follows:

- Title
- Abstract (with at least five keywords)
- Introduction

- Body
- Conclusion
- Figures (with captions) and tables (with captions)
- Acknowledgements

## 2. Paper Dimensions and Font Details

- The document shall be in A4 size, with margins set at 2.5 cm (top and bottom); 3 cm (left); and 2 cm (right).
- The document must be word-processed and in Times New Roman.
- The title of the paper should be in font size 14; the main text should be in font size 12; and the footnotes in font size 10.
- A one-line gap (specifically 1.5 spacing) must be maintained between all paragraphs and headings.

## 3. Format Considerations

- The name, affiliation and other details of the author must be confined to a separate cover sheet in order to expedite independent evaluation procedures.
- The following style of headings must be consistently used throughout the article:

### 1. First-level heading

#### A. *Second-level heading*

##### (a) Third-level heading

##### i) *Fourth-level heading*

- Figures and tables must, to the extent practical, be inserted close to where they are first mentioned, and each figure and table shall have a corresponding caption. The captions for figures shall be placed below the associated figure, while captions for tables shall be placed above the associated table.

- All paragraphs must begin with a one-inch indent.
- Unless widely recognised, abbreviations and acronyms should be spelt out in full upon their initial appearance within the article.
- Dates must be written in “day-month-year” format.
- Place quotes embedded within a sentence using double quotation marks (“ ”). When a quotation is found within another quotation, use single quotation marks (‘ ’).
- Paragraph numbering must begin sequentially from “1.” When making references within the manuscript, please refer solely to paragraph numbers.
- All hyperlinks must be in black and must not be underlined.
- Bullets are not allowed in the body of the text.