

# Colombo Law Review 2026

## Author Guidelines

Manuscripts may be submitted to the **Colombo Law Review 2026**, under any of the following categories:

1. **Law Review Articles** (5000-8000 words)

Full-length scholarly articles that engage in an analysis of legal doctrine, theory, policy, or reform. Articles are expected to advance an original argument and make a clear contribution to legal scholarship.

2. **Commentaries** (1500-2000 words)

Concise critical reflections on contemporary legal issues, emerging legal developments, or ongoing scholarly debates. Commentaries are expected to present an analytical or normative perspective as opposed to a merely descriptive overview.

3. **Case Reviews** (1500-2000 words)

Critical analyses of landmark (and preferably recent) judicial decisions. Case reviews are expected to go beyond a mere summary of the case and engage in an assessment of aspects such as the court's reasoning and the decision's implications for the development of the law.

4. **Book Reviews** (1500-2000 words)

Critical analyses of recently published books of legal or interdisciplinary relevance. Submissions are expected to go beyond a mere summary of the book and instead assess its contribution to legal scholarship by situating it in relation to existing literature and discourse.

- Manuscripts must be submitted to the following email address together with the Author Declaration Form **on or before 22 June 2026**: [colombolawreview@law.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:colombolawreview@law.cmb.ac.lk)
- The Editorial Board reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the acceptance of manuscripts and publication.

### General Specifications

- Submissions are welcome from all fields of law, including interdisciplinary work, provided that law remains the primary focus.
- All submissions are expected to demonstrate a clear connection to Sri Lankan law or, if the focus is on foreign law, clearly articulate its relevance to the Sri Lankan context.

- **Word Count<sup>1</sup>:**
  - Law review articles- 5000-8000 words
  - Commentaries - 1500-2000 words
  - Case Notes- 1500-2000 words
- **Abstract:** An abstract of 250-300 words should be included at the beginning of the manuscript.
  - Up to 5 keywords can be included at the end of the abstract.
- **Anonymisation:** Two versions of the manuscript must be submitted:
  - One version should be anonymised to allow for successful double-anonymised peer review. Author names, affiliations, acknowledgements/contribution statements, and references to the author's previous publications in a manner that would reveal the identity of the author should be excluded.
  - The second should be the full, non-anonymised version of the manuscript.
- **Academic Integrity:** Authors are expected to adhere to the highest academic standards applicable to academic research, writing and publication.
  - **Originality:** The submission must be the author's original work which has not been published or be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.
  - **Intellectual Property:** Any copyrighted material or other content owned by a third party should not be included without obtaining the required permissions.
  - **Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI):** Any substantive use of GenAI (e.g., for drafting, translating, transcribing) must be disclosed in a short statement at the end of the submission.
  - **Conflicts of Interest and Funding:** Authors are expected to disclose any funding received for the research and declare any conflicts of interest separately, via the author declaration form (see Annex 1).
  - **Ethics Approval:** If the authors' research involves dealing with human participants, personal data, or other sensitive information, ethics approval must be obtained from a relevant body. Obtaining necessary ethics approval is the responsibility of the authors.

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<sup>1</sup> The word count for each category of manuscript excludes footnotes and the bibliography.

## Formatting Guidelines

- **Page Layout:** A4 size, 2.5 cm margins, double spaced, justified, pages numbered
- **Font:**
  - **Title:** Times New Roman, 16pt, Bold
  - **Headings:** Times New Roman, 14pt, Bold, Italicised
  - **Body:** Times New Roman, 12pt
  - **Footnotes:** Times New Roman 10pt
- **File Type:** Microsoft Word (.docx)
- **File Name:** Submissions must be renamed as “Author Surname\_Short Title\_Date”

## Language and Referencing

- Submissions should follow British English spelling and language conventions.
- Capitalisation should be consistent throughout the submission. Only the first word in a sentence and proper nouns should have their first letter capitalised.
- Abbreviations must be set out in full when being introduced for the first time.
- Submissions should adhere to OSCOLA (Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities) 4<sup>th</sup> edition for all citations and the bibliography.
- Footnotes should be limited in quantity and informational/source-based rather than discursive.
- A bibliography should be included at the end of the submission.

**Annex 1: Author Declaration Form**

**Colombo Law Review - 2026**

**Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**Author Declaration**

**Type of Manuscript:** Article/Commentary/Case Review/ Book Review

**Title of Manuscript:**

**Word Count:**

**Name of Author/ Authors:**

**Email Address:**

**Contact Number:**

I/We confirm that this manuscript has been authored by me/us and is my/our original work.

I/We take responsibility for the content of this manuscript, including the use of copyrighted or other protected material and the obtaining of proper ethical clearance where applicable.

I/We agree to submit this manuscript for anonymised review and to revise the manuscript in accordance with suggestions from the reviewers and editors, except for valid reasons that I/we may provide.

I/We understand that we are expected to adhere to the author guidelines issued by the editorial committee and that the manuscript may be rejected for failing to adhere to these guidelines.

I/We understand that the editorial committee may reject my/our manuscript at any stage in the review process if I/we have not adhered to applicable ethical standards for research and academic publication.

I/We consent to the publication of the manuscript (as revised through the review process).

(Author/s signature) .....

(Date).....